Greetings Third Baptist Church Family,

This year, 2014, has been an exhilarating and engaging one. Serving as the 16th Pastor of Third Baptist Church has been a wonderful first year. I am excited about what the future holds for us as a Church. We have been extremely blessed by the generosity God has shown us by bringing us into a place where one not only talks about ministry. It is being lived! To God, be the glory for the great things He has done!

With the vision of “transforming the world one disciple at a time, by the living of our faith,” God has given us fresh energy to pursue the massive vision. We are Building 4 Life, and nothing is more important to God than the future of His people. Therefore, we must remain focused and faithful in our fellowship. Each of us must commit himself/herself daily to ensure that God’s purpose for Third Baptist Church continues to be our driving force. Then, we might experience the next level that awaits us. God has not finished what He has begun, and the idea of going higher excites me!

From a ministry perspective, we hosted, for the first time, the Community and Police Forum. This event was a Community Forum that allowed residents of Hampton to discuss with local law enforcement the challenges and opportunities for community policing. The Riverside Health Senior Forum was also held. In addition, an Ash Wednesday Worship Service was conducted. God blessed us to receive forty-eight new persons into our fellowship from July 2013 - December 2014. Then, too, six were baptized. We celebrate, and we look forward to God leading and guiding our growth and progress into the future. Ministry is always exciting, but quite often, it becomes more of an activity as opposed to an adventure. The accomplishments we have achieved in the past should cause us to stop and celebrate. However, they should never paralyze us from seizing the opportunities that lie before us.

I believe that God has GREATER in store for us as a Church. However, in order for the GREATER to be realized, we must be willing to seize the moment. Effective ministry hinges on the ability to seize the moment, and as we close out 2014, let us set our sights on GREATER. We must be poised to become even more relevant, significant, and impactful within our community. With that tremendous opportunity comes greater responsibility. God is providing the community of faith with huge opportunities to alter the course of people’s lives; we must take up the mantle of ministry. Our ministry focus, in this year, has been one of getting to know each other, Pastor and People. However, in the coming year, we must get to know ourselves even better.

God is calling us to embrace 2015 as The Year of Ascension! In this upcoming year, God is calling each of us to climb higher in our relationship with Him, our relationship with each other, and our relationship with the Church. If we are going to fulfill the calling upon us as a Church, then, everything we have to do needs to be evaluated to determine if it reflects the highest expression of honor to God. The year, 2015, is where we go higher in our worship, our work, and our witness. However, in order for that to happen, each one of us needs to do his/her part. The Apostle Paul said it best when he stated, “forgetting those things which are behind me, I press toward the mark of the high calling which is in Christ Jesus.”

Let me challenge you to seek the Lord for what is required of you as we prepare for 2015: as we “transform the world one disciple at a time, by the living of our faith.”

In His Power,

John F. Kenney, Pastor
The Twenty-third and Twenty-fourth Issues of THE IMPACT are dedicated to Mr. John Louis Chadwick, Jr. for his faithfulness, loyalty, fellowship, financial support, and dedicated service to Third Baptist Church.
Mr. Ivan Breon Courtney

Loyal, Faithful Member

CONSTANT – PERSEVERE – PERSIST – STEADFAST! These words express an ongoing continuing course of action. They also define, quite well, the behavior of one of the most cherished, treasured, and respected Church family members.

Mr. Ivan Breon Courtney surrendered to Christ at the age of fourteen years old — seventy-three years ago at Wine Street Baptist Church. He is considered to be the longest continuing Active member of the Church family.

As a youth, Ivan enjoyed attending Sunday School on a regular basis and continues this practice in his senior years. He is regular in attendance at other services of the Church as well.

Mr. Courtney has always loved children and enjoys the privilege of encouraging them to be morally strong and to love the Lord. Consequently, when the Church asked, he agreed to serve as Scout Master to the young males of Third Baptist Church. Troop 66 became a viable force which grew to include youth from across the Peninsula. His former scouts continue, even now, to seek him out to show their respect and acknowledge appreciation for the fun-filled camping trips and lessons learned during their pleasurable scout experiences. This behavior from “his boys” gives the former scout master considerable pleasure and much satisfaction for a service given and well remembered.

Through active participation, Ivan Breon Courtney has served his Church in other ministries as well. He was a member of the Trustee Board Ministry for thirty years, and for a period of time, held the position of Chairperson of the Trustee Board Ministry; in addition, he was a member of the Peninsula Trustee Council. Currently, he is a Trustee Emeritus (recommended by the Trustee Board and elected unanimously by the membership of Third Baptist Church). Mr. Courtney has been loyal in his involvement and service in the choirs (Sanctuary, Senior, Mass, Concert, Men’s, and Adult). Indeed, his participation in the Music Ministry is noteworthy. Additionally, he has served diligently in the Brotherhood Ministry, Birthday Club Ministry, A Night’s Welcome, Vacation Bible School, Bible Study, Christmas Program for Foster and Community Children, regular attendance, and very generous and gracious financial support. He also willingly serves other ministries upon request.

Then, too, Mr. Courtney is active in the community. He has been a member of the Beau Brummell Social and Civic Club for forty-four years. During this tenure, his participation has included Chairperson of the Kitchen Committee, member of the Social Committee, member of Anniversary Committees, and member of the Youth Committee. He has donated money to purchase bicycles for children at Christmas and other times of the year. Assisting in a program for certain boys, he helped to prepare and serve breakfast on scheduled Saturdays. Donations of food and finance have been contributed to prepare Thanksgiving and Christmas baskets for “needy” families. Being a financial contributor, he has donated to the United Negro College Fund, Cancer Society, Heart Fund, American Red Cross, and other charitable and educational organizations. He has also assisted in election campaigns and at voting precincts.

Mr. Ivan Breon Courtney is the son of the late Deacon Vernon M. Courtney and Mrs. Myrtle B. Courtney (Mother of Third Baptist Church).

He proudly celebrates fifty-nine years of marriage to Mrs. Geraldine Jordan Courtney. They have one child, Michele, and two wonderful grandchildren.

Special accolades to you, Mr. Ivan Breon Courtney, for your unfaltering service to the Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, as well as to Third Baptist Church.

Keep on keeping on!
This year, two high school graduates were the recipients of the 2014 Third Baptist Church Scholarship. Cooperative, energetic, considerate, conscientious, and charismatic, they have been very actively involved in Church, school, and community activities. Without a doubt, each personality has left indelible “footprints” through positive character, academic excellence, creative talents, and dedicated service to the Church, school, and community.

**Deja Briana Spratley**

Ms. Deja Briana Spratley has been an active participant in Church activities, beginning at the age of three. Her involvements have included Sunday School, Children’s Choir, Vacation Bible School, Youth Sunday Participant, Usher Board Ministry, Drama Club, A Night’s Welcome, Christmas Program for Foster and Community Children, Youth Ministry, Newsletter Ministry, 128th Church Anniversary Committee, 130th Church Anniversary Committee, Culinary Ministry, and Women’s Day Participant.

Having graduated from Menchville High School on June 8, 2014, Deja is attending Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond Virginia.

One of the policies established by the Scholarship Committee was each applicant must write a short biographical essay, including how Third Baptist Church has influenced his or her life. Ms. Spratley commented:

*Being able to say that I’m graduating with honors is a privilege, honor, and a blessing. To me, it means that I have worked hard, studied even harder, and have been prayed for as well. I know the countless nights spent huddled over my notes, the many English papers written and re-written, and the abundance of tests taken have all contributed tremendously. I also know that I always had someone praying for me. When my grandfather passed away last year, I really began to understand and feel the true power of prayer. With these past four years of high school, especially my senior year, I needed nothing more than prayer. The grades have never been more important, and my desire for success has never needed to remain at its highest. At times, the path to getting a college education has seemed scary, unpleasant, and even downright discouraging. However, every Sunday, when one of my Church members would ask me about my up and coming future plans, I knew that I had people in my corner - just there to cheer me on and to do my best. Being surrounded with such positive energy, love, and support made this brand new step in my life that less intimidating. If there is anything that my Church has taught me, it’s that with God, anything is truly possible.*

*By keeping that mindset, I was able to apply to the university of my choice, Virginia Commonwealth University. I was accepted in the freshman class of 2014, where I will be majoring in social work. In my opinion, I think there was no bigger influence in deciding my major than Third Baptist Church. I have been up and down when it came to deciding in what I should major. However, thankfully, just being a participant of this Church has shown me what I really want to do with my life. At first, I wanted to start with criminal law. Then, I switched to early childhood education. After careful consideration, I finally landed on Social Work. This decision wasn’t easy to come by, but now that I look over the experiences that this Church has given me, I realize that this really was the only choice for me from the very beginning.*

*When I think of social work, I think of people helping others who may not have a fair chance at a nice or normal living situation or just giving that helpless person a sincere helping hand because no one else will. These are the things that I see myself doing in the future. These are the things that I want to do for other people, and Third Baptist Church has helped me to see that tremendously. One of my favorite programs that Third Baptist Church offers is the Foster Care Christmas Program. This is one of my favorite programs simply because it combines my favorite holiday, and we as a Church, are able to help kids of all different ages have a nice and memorable holiday. I love the feeling of talking to the kids, seeing their faces, and just interacting with them. Through that program, I felt as if I were able to give compassion, empathy, and motivation to people who not only needed it, but wanted and appreciated it. Even participating in caroling at the Riverside Convalescent Center to spread Christmas cheer and helping out with the Elementary Sunday School Class from time to time have all shown me that I don’t have just the skills, but also the desire to professionally help people in everyday life. I have been able to strengthen my ability to help, uplift, and genuinely care for the well-being of others through being a member of this Church. I know that what I have learned here has driven me in the past, and it will continue to drive me in my bright and up and coming future.*
Andrae’ McGowan

Mr. Andrae’ McGowan has been an active participant in Church activities for many years. His involvements have included Sunday School, Youth Ministry, Usher Board Ministry, Youth Sunday Participant, Vacation Bible School, 130th Church Anniversary Committee, and Sound System Technology Ministry.

Having graduated from Hampton Christian Academy in June 2014, Andrae’ is attending Richard Bland College of William and Mary, Petersburg Virginia.

Mr. McGowan commented on how Third Baptist Church has influenced his life.

Hope, faith, and generosity are some of the things that I have learned from my many years at Third Baptist Church. To say that I am thankful to have Third Baptist as a part of my life would be an understatement. I have been blessed to be surrounded by people who believe in my dreams and potential in the Church. Thanks to the members of Third Baptist Church, I have been able to find my identity in God and have been taught to be not just a better person, but a better upright, God-fearing young adult.

God places people into your life, some that will make you better or worse. However, Third Baptist Church is an environment where its members want to do nothing more than see its youth succeed in life. Because of them, I have been given that chance. Having the relationship with God that I do now would not have been possible without Third Baptist Church. I am extremely grateful for all of the opportunities, experiences, and memories that I have built within the congregation.

As I go off to college, I plan to do nothing more than make my Church family proud as I carry the teachings of God’s Word into the world. “Be strong and courageous, do not be terrified or afraid because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you. He will never leave you nor forsake you.” (The quoted paraphrase was taken from Genesis 26:34, Joshua 1:5-6, Deuteronomy 1:29, and Hebrew 13:5.)

Ms. Deja Briana Spratley

Ms. Deja Briana Spratley graduated from Menchville High School, Newport News, Virginia in the Class of 2014.

Throughout the course of her high school career, Deja was involved in numerous school activities. She was on the varsity track and field team (both indoor and outdoor), the archery team, the marching band color guard team, and even the Interact Volunteer Club. While engaged in these activities, Ms. Spratley managed to prioritize and keep her grades in check as she maintained her status in the Early College Program. She earned all A’s and B’s.

Although the Early College Program was a definite highlight in Deja’s senior year, it was not the only one. At the beginning of the year, she was inducted into the National Honor Society on October 14, 2013. Then, in December, she was graced with a once-in-a-lifetime chance to tour the “hot spots” in London, England, to perform on live television for the London New Year’s Day Parade, and to share the experience with her best friends from school. This was only possible because of her Church family with their willingness to participate in her chili sale, bake sale, plant sale, fruit fundraiser, and plenty of donations. Another major highlight occurred when she participated in the 2014 Penn Relays which were held in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in April. Ms. Spratley contributed to her team by being the first leg for the 4 X 100 meter relay. Then, to top it all off, Deja graduated on June 8, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. at the Hampton Convocation Center. She graduated with honors, an Early College Program hood, a National Honor Society Medallion, an Honors tassel, and an Honors stole.

Ms. Spratley was accepted into Virginia Commonwealth University. This is where she will be studying social work, which she has found encompasses some of her most marketable skills and passions. Over the course of the year, Deja has done a lot, been to a lot of places, and has experienced a lot. Deja stated, “Going through it all, I am more than excited and ready to start the next chapter in my life marked COLLEGE.”
To God, all glory is given! How wonderful it is to know God is forever near.

Yes, the Omnipotent One was definitely present throughout the events provided during the two days of Celebration for the 133rd Anniversary of Third Baptist Church.

The first event was held on Saturday, April 10, 2014, from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. It was the Gathering of Families Celebration. Although flowing rain kept the attendees inside the Church, they did not allow it to dampen their spirits or keep them from delicious food, great fun, and warm fellowship.

Food was accessible in abundance. Preparers manned their stations with gusto. In spite of the rain, the Grilling Team (Men's Ministry), under the protection of a tent, grilled tasty, juicy hamburgers and “super” hot dogs. The Culinary Ministry provided an assortment of foods and condiments.

One of the highlights was a Dessert Bake Contest. It was amazing! There were over twenty-two members who submitted tasty, homemade cakes and pies. Everyone who sampled the variety of desserts determined the winners of the bake-off. The winners from each category are listed below:

**Cake Winners**
1st Place – Mrs. Frances Pryor  
2nd Place – Mrs. Geraldine Cheek  
3rd Place – Master Christian Jackson

**Pie Winners**
1st Place – Mrs. Shelia Sutton  
2nd Place – Mrs. Frances Pryor  
3rd Place – Mrs. Julia Lynch

Another highlight was the entertainment and enjoyment provided by the Sunday School Ministry for the children through Easter egg hunts, egg coloring stations, and “Kenya” (the clown and friends) painted faces and created balloon designs.

Because of the collaboration of several ministries, the event was memorable and pleasurable.

On Sunday, April 11, 2014, during the Morning Worship Service at 11:00 a.m., the next events were celebrated. The 133rd Anniversary of Third Baptist Church and Resurrection (Easter) Sunday were memorialized. How wonderful it was that God had blessed the attendees (the members, their gathering families, their friends, and their guests) to share and fellowship on this auspicious occasion!

Reverend John F. Kenney, Pastor of Third Baptist Church, rendered a dynamic and uplifting sermon. The melodious selections that were sung by the Mass Choir added immensely to the occasion.

Truly, to God, all glory is given!

Special commendations are extended to the Gathering of Families Committee: Mrs. Pamela Thomas Monroe, Chairperson; Ms. Michelle Carter; Mr. John L. Chadwick, Jr.; Mrs. Gloria Johnson; Rev. John F. Kenney; Mrs. Shelia McAllister; Mr. Herman B. Sawyer; Mrs. Elizabeth Smith; Mr. Lokie Stephenson; Minister Bryant Williamson; and Mrs. Shawn Winfield.

Appreciation is accorded to each person who assisted in making the two days of Celebration successful.

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**A FATHER’S LOVE**

Psalm 103:13 (NIV) describes what God the Father feels toward us:

“As a father has ___________ on his children, so the LORD has ___________ on those who fear him.”

Directions: Match the biblical children to their father, using the clues by the father’s name. Then write the corresponding letter on the line to complete the Bible verse above.

- Shem, Ham and Japheth = M
- Solomon = O
- Jonathan = I
- Jesus = C
- Rachel and Leah = S
- Isaac and Ishmael = P
- John the Baptist = N
- Jacob and Esau = A
- Cain, Abel and Seth = O
- Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah, Issachar, Zebulun, Joseph, Benjamin, Dan, Gad, Naphtali, Asher and Dinah = S

God: “This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased.”

Adam: God gave him another son because his older killed the younger.

Noah: His sons were blessed and told to multiply and replenish the earth.

Abraham: God promised he would be a father of many nations.

Isaac: His older son sold his birthright, and his younger son tricked Isaac and received the blessings for the firstborn.

Laban: He had two daughters; the older was tender-eyed and the younger very beautiful. Both married Jacob.

Jacob: Two wives and two handmaids gave him 12 sons and a daughter.

Saul: His son was David’s best friend.

David: He had many children, but one was known for his wisdom, for having many wives and for building God’s temple.

Zechariah: His son, a cousin to Jesus, was born to be a messenger of repentance.
Enthusiastic, energetic, inquisitive, and gregarious are just a few of the words that depict Anaya Monroe and Caleb Kenney. Please welcome them, reporters with inquiring and investigating minds, to the Newsletter Staff. Yes, they have Inquiring Minds, and they will find YOU!!

Anaya Jonae Monroe

Anaya Jonae Monroe, age 15, is an active participant in school, community, and Church activities. Presently, Anaya is in the 10th grade and attends Nansemond High School in Suffolk, Virginia. She is in the Advanced Studies Program and is seeking an Advanced Diploma. Her favorite subject is economics and finance. In addition, she has successfully completed the requirements to be recognized as a Microsoft Office Specialist for Office Word 2007. She has also held membership in FBLA (Future Business Leaders of America).

Her community involvement is very impressive. She is a 2014 Junior Volunteer of the Children's Hospital of the King's Daughter where she has completed 34 volunteer hours and obtained her CPR (Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation) certificate. In addition, she is affiliated with Girl Scouts; Anaya is an At-large member of Service Unit 731 and Troop 330.

There are other enjoyable endeavors. Her favorite sport is soccer. Anaya loves playing soccer; for ten years, she has been playing to perfect the sport. Hobbies are also very important to her. She loves to listen to music and to socialize with her friends.

Anaya’s Church participation includes Sunday School, Usher Board Ministry, Vacation Bible School, Youth Ministry, Youth Sunday Participant, and Newsletter Ministry.

Caleb Jamerson Kenney

Caleb Kenney, 11 years old, is an active participant in school, community, and Church activities.

Currently, Caleb is a sixth grader at Elko Middle School, Sandston, Virginia. Because of his academic aptitude, he has been scheduled into Gifted classes and has maintained all A’s. His favorite subjects are mathematics, social studies, and science.

Additionally, Caleb has received awards and honors: Presidential Scholar Award, Spelling Bee Champion, and Safety Patrol Captain. Then, too, he is a member of the Yearbook Committee.

Community participation is a significant part of his life. Football is one of his favorite sports. Caleb is the Little League Football Captain. Excitedly and aggressively, using athletic prowess, he plays football with the Sandston Jets Junior Team under the Metro Youth Football League. His main two positions are wide receiver for offense and linebacker for defense. Although these are the main positions, he also pays others, such as quarterback, running back, tight end, and kick returner. This winter, Caleb will play for the Henrico County Youth League, a community league.

His Church participation includes Usher Board Ministry, Youth Ministry, Youth Sunday Participant, Vacation Bible School, and Newsletter Ministry.

Sudoku

Fill in the blanks so that each row, each column, and each 3x3 grid contains one instance of each of the numbers 1-9.

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Special words of thanks are extended to all persons who created an enjoyable NIGHT. Commendations are accorded to Mrs. Gloria Johnson and Mr. George Johnson, Co-Superintendents.

Music Ministry

The Adult Choir welcomes new members. It ministers through song during worship celebrations and special Church services.

Members of the Adult Choir celebrate one another by having a “Monthly Supper” where they share one another’s food offerings and fellowship together in the Fellowship Hall of the Church after rehearsal.

The Choir rehearses every Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. in the Church’s Sanctuary.

All voices are welcomed.

Mrs. Geraldine Cheek is the President, and Mr. Tony Vaughan is the Director.

Family Dinner & Game Night

“Center”
“Corners”
“Four of a Kind”
“Bingo! Bingo!”
“This is an interesting puzzle. It is also a difficult one.”
“Can’t you see? Are you blind? You are nowhere near the target.”
“Where is my chair?”
“Whoops! This is a cool game.”
“Ha! Ha! I hit the target.”
“Do not stop! Go straight to jail!”

“My! My! What is going on? What is causing all the commotion?”
“Oh! There is no commotion. People are playing games, expressing themselves, and having exciting times. Come in and join us for fun, food, and fellowship.”

The Family Dinner and Game Night was held on Friday, September 26, 2014, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. It was hosted by the Sunday School Ministry.

Attendees were invited to bring their favorite games, puzzles, and desserts for a night of laughter and relaxation. Dinner was also served. Numerous prizes were given.

Yes, fun, food, and fellowship were vividly in evidence and immensely appreciated.

Planning Day Held

Planning Day was held on Saturday, September 15, 2014, beginning at 9:00 a.m.

Each ministry in Third Baptist Church was invited to be represented at this very important meeting. Planning Day was used as a means of developing the annual calendar for the coming year (2015). A draft of the 2015 Calendar for each month may be reviewed in the St. Matthew Room in the Church.

If any member or ministry has additional activities that should be added to the calendar, please contact Rev. André McCloud, Minister/Director of Christian Education.

Rev. André McCloud stated, “We, the Christian Education Ministry, ask all members of Third Baptist Church to seek God’s direction and blessing as we move forward in 2015.”

A delicious assortment of food was accessible for breakfast and for lunch, courtesy of Reverend McCloud. In addition, a variety of fruit was provided by Mrs. Bettie Bennett.

Dr. June Javier

Dr. June Javier passed her board certification examination in pharmacotherapy in November 2014.

Since receiving her Doctor of Pharmacy degree from Virginia Commonwealth University (Richmond, Virginia) in 2005, she has been practicing as a licensed pharmacist. Dr. Javier is now recognized as a board certified pharmacotherapy specialist.

An active member of Third Baptist Church, Mrs. Javier’s participation has included Greeters Ministry, Birthday Club Ministry, Inspirational Chorus, Praise and Worship Team, Health Ministry (Chairperson), Friendship Circle Ministry, and Vacation Bible School.

Congratulations are accorded Dr. June Javier!
Vacation Bible School

God has brought us from a mighty long way, and it is always good to take time to stop and praise the Lord! What a praise celebration the attendees had during Vacation Bible School which was held July 14-18, 2014.

This exciting occasion was filled with lots of love, laughter, and fun as the participants learned how people in the Bible had PRAISE BREAKS, how they celebrated the faith of leaders in the past, and how people celebrated the faith of our leaders today. The attendees learned that they should give praise for the “right now” works of God in their daily lives. The Theme Scripture was “Let the redeemed of the LORD say so…” (Psalm 107:2a NRSV). The Bible Truths studied by the participants engaged them in the following ways:

Praise God for Freedom (Exodus 14:31, Exodus 15:2 & 20-21)
The Faith to Pray (Isaiah 38:1-5, 9, 19-21)
The Savior’s Birth (Luke 2:8-15)
Lost and Found (Luke 15:8-10)
Marching to Zion (Mark 11:7-9; Luke 19:39-40)

The week’s journey ended with reflections of how God ministered to each person through His Word. Each class developed and presented a creative summary of its study of the theme as parents and guests looked and listened. Afterwards, a delicious meal was shared together as one family in Christ.

Truly, the week was exhilarating, exhausting, awesome, and memorable. Immense gratitude and appreciation are extended to the Vacation Bible School Committee: Mrs. Melody T. McCloud (Chairperson), Ms. Michelle Carter, Mrs. Gloria Johnson, Ms. Althea McGowan, and Mrs. YaAnn Smith.

In addition, commendations are accorded to all persons who assisted in the fruition of an enjoyable, informative, and memorable event.

Harvest Fest

All youth, ages thirteen and under, were invited to the Harvest Fest on Friday, October 31, 2014. It was held in the Fellowship Hall from 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

Each attendee was privileged to come as his/her favorite athlete, superhero, or favorite biblical character. Some of the apparel (costumes) were really fantastic and intriguing. Games, prizes, food, and lots of candy were enjoyed by everyone. It was truly a fun-filled event.

The event was sponsored by the Youth Ministry, chaired by Ms. Michelle Carter.
Congratulations

Preschool
Elementary
Middle School
High School
College/University

You’re Special

In all the world there’s nobody like you
Since the beginning of time,
There has never been another person like you.
You’re the only one in all creation who has your
set of abilities
You’re special. You’re rare.
And in all rarity, there is great value.
Because of this you need not imitate others,
But accept and celebrate your differences.
You’re beginning to see that God made you
special for a purpose.
He must have a job for you that no one else can
do as well as you.
Out of the billions of other people,
only one qualifies,
only one has the right combinations of what it takes.
That one is YOU, because
You’re special!

Birthday Club Ministry
Behold God’s Beauty

How blessed all people are that God gave His only Begotten Son so that we may live! How blessed we are that Christ was resurrected!

According to *Thorndike Barnhart Advanced Dictionary*, “Easter is the annual Christian festival on the first Sunday after the full moon or after March 21, celebrating Christ’s resurrection.”

Christ’s Resurrection was vividly brought to mind on Easter Sunday when one entered the Sanctuary of Third Baptist Church. God’s love, blessings, mercy, and beautiful plants enveloped the atmosphere. Easter lilies, symbolic of purity, were in abundance. The large, white trumpet-shaped flowers majestically waved a welcome to everyone. The fragrant flowers permeated the atmosphere and lavished their beauty upon the eyes of all people who were in attendance. The lilies adorned the altar, pulpit, baptismery, and windows of the Church. God’s blessings showered all attendees on this Sunday, April 20, 2014.

Has the Birthday Club Ministry established another goal—to beautify the Church? Definitely, that was the appearance. During the month of December 2014, poinsettias were plentiful and in spectacular view. On each poinsettia, the tiny yellow flowers surrounded by large bracts (modified leaves) were magnificent. The bracts resembled flower petals and were bought in colors of red, pink, or yellow. Plants, varying in size, adorned selected areas – the altar, baptismery, tables, vestibule, windows, and stage. Each Christmas plant, known as “Flower of the Holy Night,” intrigued and invited each person to give thanks to God for His love; for the precious gift of His Son Jesus Christ; for the beauty of life, family, and friends; and for the blessing to serve and praise God.

The flowering number of lilies and poinsettias that were contributed gave testimony to love. Church members contributed lilies and poinsettias in honor of or memory of love ones. Many thanks are extended to each contributor.

Special commendations are accorded Mrs. Geraldine J. Courtney, Mrs. Melody T. McCloud, and Mrs. Naomi J. Chadwick, Co-Chairpersons of the Birthday Club Ministry. They spearheaded the successful Easter and Christmas Projects.
Everybody's Birthday

It was a wonderful day!

Church family and friends gathered together to honor, praise, and glorify God for His precious GIFT of BIRTHDAYS. Each year on the second Sunday in October, Third Baptist Church celebrates EVERYBODY'S BIRTHDAY. This esteemed fellowship has become one of the Birthday Ministry's most recognized and appreciated events.

Former birthday celebrations have included a delectable dinner following the morning service. This year's occasion was a cake and ice cream reception which was well attended and well received. Twelve of our Church's "little angels," four to ten years old, were special program performers, each representing a month of the year. They gave expressions of good will and good cheer to those persons celebrating birthdays in each of the months. The performing players in the order of appearance were: Julian Javier, Janiya Boothe, Kalia Tabor, Jayden Javier, Dakari Lee, Justin Dean, Alexis Jackson, Laila Dean, Aaron Winfield, Jr., Nie'ma Tabor Oliver, and Olivia VanLuya. Also, "older angels" participated by giving special service: Javon Wingate offered the opening prayer, Caleb Kenney stated the ministry's purpose, and Kirah McAllister and Anaya Monroe assisted/monitored the younger children. This was a tribute to the youth as well as to their parents and the Church Family.

Tables in the Fellowship Hall were decorated to impress and please the eye. To add color and celebratory enhancements to the occasion, towering balloons, colorful party hats for each "little angel" participant, colorful banners with birthday messages, and flowers of each month displayed with written explanations of their botanical names and characteristics made for an extraordinary presentation of the day.

It was quite a surprise, "frosting on the cake," when each person attending the celebration received a birthday present of candies in a ribbon wrapped container.

It was indeed, a WONDERFUL DAY - enjoyed by all!

Gospel Concert

On Sunday, August 17, 2014, a Gospel Concert was presented at Third Baptist Church, beginning at 4:00 p.m. The well organized and enjoyable event was sponsored by Mr. Alexander Hundley, a member of the Church.

Three gospel groups were featured – The Gospel Travelers, the Bowers Family, and the Third Baptist Church Male Chorus. Each group rendered beautiful and harmonious musical selections. The stirring of souls, hearts, and minds were in evidence. Attendees expressed their emotions in various ways: clapping their hands, waving their arms, shaking their heads, standing on their feet, swaying from side to side, stamping their feet, uttering in tongues, humming softly, and singing with the Gospel Travelers when requested.

Members of the Bowers Family were Ms. Joyce Bowers, mother; Ms. Miosha D. Bowers, daughter; and Mr. Michael D. Bowers, son. They sang (a cappella) two selections in beautiful, uplifting voices. The selections were Total Praise and Ride on King Jesus.

The Third Baptist Male Chorus, in harmonious and soul stirring voices, rendered two selections: He Won't Let You Down and He's Blessing Me. The singers were Mr. Albert Courtney, Mr. Fernando Davis, Mr. Jerome Javier, Mr. Robert Mason, Reverend André McCloud, Mr. Samuel Payne, Mr. Herman B. Sawyer, and Minister Bryant Williamson. They were accompanied by Mr. Tony Vaughan (pianist) and Mr. Jerome Wingate (drummer).

Members of the featured performers, The Gospel Travelers, were Mr. Robert Walker (leader/vocal soloist); Mrs. Terri Walker *(vocalist); Mr. Linwood Elliott (vocalist); and Mr. Jay Newsome (keyboard). They sang numerous songs that made the attendees feel those "old fashioned hallelujah, glorious, and praise the Lord emotions." Two of the selections were Moving On and Sing your Blessings.

Spiritual awakening was electrifying and contagious. God’s presence was in evidence. An exhilarating time was enjoyed by all attendees. God certainly prevailed.

Prior to the Gospel Concert, a delicious dinner was well-prepared and elegantly served by the Culinary Ministry. Members are Ms. Joyce Bowers - Chairperson, Ms. Althea McGowan, Ms. Patricia Williams, and Mrs. Anna Wingate.

Special commendations are extended to each individual who assisted in this most successful event.
Mr. Jacob McKinley Wilson, Jr.

Mr. Jacob McKinley Wilson, Jr. has been an active deacon at Third Baptist Church for over thirty-five years. He has the distinction of becoming a deacon under the leadership, guidance, and instruction of Reverend I.G. Gladden who was Pastor of the Church for thirty-three years.

"Jake," as he is affectionately called, has served as Chairperson of the Deacon Board Ministry for two separate periods – each term of two years running consecutively for many years. Deacon Wilson has assisted eight Pastors of Third Baptist Church – Reverends I.G. Gladden, William T. Perkins, William Vaughter, Reginald Stevens, James Brooks, Herbert D. Edmondson, Paul A. Sheppard, and John F. Kenney.

He dutifully visited members in the hospitals and nursing care centers. Prayers, scriptures, and cheerful conversations were always encouragingly given and greatly appreciated. In addition, “Jake” administered Communion. Sometimes, he took lovely, white flowers. Donations were given to charitable, religious, and educational organizations. Thanksgiving baskets were distributed to the needy people in the Church and community. Christmas cheer was also given to residents in nursing homes.

Mr. Jacob McKinley Wilson, Jr. will continue to serve as a deacon. Additionally, his Church activities have included Sunday School, Bible Study, A Night's Welcome, Christmas Program for Foster and Community Children (played Santa Claus), Vacation Bible School, Church Anniversary Committees, Pastor’s Installation Committee, Interim Pastor Pulpit Search Committee, Birthday Club Ministry, and Drama Club.

Deacon Wilson said, “I have enjoyed my experiences as Chairperson of the Deacon Board Ministry. There were pleasant, sad, and rewarding times; some were challenging. God has blessed me over and over again. I thank Him and the members of Third Baptist Church for the privilege to serve.”

Mrs. Onnie Dortch

Mrs. Onnie Dortch has been a member of Third Baptist Church since 1973. In fact, the family became a part of the Church - her husband and their four daughters.

Mrs. Dortch’s husband, had been a deacon at his previous church. However, at Third Baptist Church deaconship is not transferable. He had to be a member for a specified time before consideration. If considered, then he had to walk for another specified time frame and so forth (Church Rules).

Approximately, in 1977, Mrs. Dortch was invited to become a deaconess. Deacons William Hicks and James Warren visited her in her home and extended the invitation. At the time, it was the courtesy/rule to invite the wife of a deacon to become a deaconess. It was her choice to accept or reject the offer. After careful consideration, Mrs. Dortch accepted. She became a deaconess under the guidance and direction of Reverend William Perkins. It has been her privilege to assist seven regular pastors; Reverends William Perkins, William Vaughter, Reginald Stevens, James Brooks, Herbert D. Edmondson, Paul A. Sheppard, and John F. Kenney.

In the position of Chairperson of the Deaconess Board Ministry, Mrs. Dortch served for numerous years. Activities
Mrs. Gloria Johnson also began her active membership and participation at Third Baptist Church over 35 years ago. Prior to becoming Superintendent, she assisted her husband, Mr. George Johnson, as Co-Superintendent. Under the leadership of Reverend Paul A. Sheppard, the roles were reversed by choice of the Johnsons. Mrs. Gloria Johnson became Superintendent and Mr. Johnson became Co-Superintendent. Later, the Johnsons functioned as Co-Superintendents, a Team in Unity.

As Co-Superintendents, activities have included Noah’s Ark/Harvest Fest; Dinner Theater; Dinner and Movie Night; Family and Game Night; Excursions – Kings Dominion, Water Country, and Busch Gardens; Church Picnics – Fort Monroe and Third Baptist Church Gardens; Visits to Riverside Convalescent Center; Easter Egg Hunts; Family Gathering Celebration Assistance; and Collaboration with other ministries on Church projects.

In addition, Mrs. Gloria Johnson’s participations have included Friendship Circle Ministry (President, secretary, treasurer), Vacation Bible School, Bible Study, Birthday Club Ministry, Deaconess Board Ministry, A Night’s Welcome, Christmas Program for Foster and Community Children, Choirs (Senior, Serenity, Mass, Concert, Adult), Women’s Day Committee, Church Anniversary Committees, Usher Board Ministry, Transportation Ministry, and Sunday School Teacher.

Mrs. Gloria Johnson and Mr. George Johnson stated, “We enjoyed our time as Superintendents, and we are thankful to God for blessing us to serve. We are also thankful and appreciative of the many Superintendents that served before us. We are thankful to the teachers and secretaries that served with us – and to them, we say thank you, thank you! To the Director/Minister of Christian Education, Reverend Andre McCloud who worked very closely with us, we want to give you all the praise that God can bestow on you.”

The members of Third Baptist Church extend gratitude and praise to the faithful and loyal assistants for their dedication and services. May God continue to keep them in His care. Thank you Mr. Jacob Wilson, Mrs. Onnie Dortch, Mrs. Gloria Johnson, and Mr. George Johnson. We give the HONOR and the GLORY to the OMIPOTENT ONE!
# Wedding Anniversary

## Anniversaries Celebrated

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Couples</th>
<th>Dates of Anniversary</th>
<th>Years of Marriage</th>
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<td>Mrs. Betty Jean Carter &amp; Mr. Lorenzo D. Carter</td>
<td>Wednesday, January 15, 2014</td>
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<td>Mrs. Viola Jackson Swinton &amp; Mr. Ernest Swinton</td>
<td>Thursday, February 6, 2014</td>
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<td>Mrs. Shelia Woodard McAllister &amp; Mr. Patrick Vincent McAllister</td>
<td>Wednesday, April 23, 2014</td>
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<td>Mrs. Yahann B. Smith and Mr. Lewis A. Smith</td>
<td>Monday, May 26, 2014</td>
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<td>Mrs. Saundra Sawyer and Mr. Herman Bradley Sawyer</td>
<td>Thursday, June 12, 2014</td>
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<td>Mrs. June Garner Javier &amp; Mr. Jerome Daludado Javier</td>
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<td>Mrs. Lola Byrd Wilson &amp; Mr. Jacob McKinley Wilson Jr.</td>
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<td>Mrs. Onnie Lewis Dortch &amp; Mr. James Stanley Dortch</td>
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<td>Mrs. Geraldine Jordan Courtney &amp; Mr. Ivan Breon Courtney</td>
<td>Wednesday, July 16, 2014</td>
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<td>Mrs. Lorraine Harmon Kenney &amp; Mr. John Fitzgerald Kenney</td>
<td>Monday, June 2, 2014</td>
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<td>Mrs. Evelyn Stephenson &amp; Mr. Loki Melton Stephenson</td>
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<td>Mrs. Rhonda Williamson Gatling &amp; Linwood Thomas Gatling</td>
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<td>Mrs. Vanessa Street Davis &amp; Mr. Fernando Thomas Davis</td>
<td>Friday, October 24, 2014</td>
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<td>Mrs. Melody Terrell McCloud &amp; Mr. Andre' Vernell McCloud</td>
<td>Monday, November 17, 2014</td>
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<td>Mrs. Naomi Johnson Chadwick &amp; Mr. John Louis Chadwick, Jr.</td>
<td>Tuesday, December 9, 2014</td>
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<td>Mrs. Ernestine P. Hawkins &amp; Mr. Oliver L. Hawkins</td>
<td>Friday, December 26, 2014</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs. Anna Ruth Wingate &amp; Mr. Samuel Haywood Wingate</td>
<td>Monday, December 29, 2014</td>
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Mrs. Angela Simpson Holloway
CPR/AED Instructor

On Saturday, October 11, 2014, Mrs. Angela Simpson Holloway, a certified CPR instructor with the American Red Cross, conducted a First Aid CPR/AED Training Session for five members of Third Baptist Church. A class that usually costs $110.00 was taught for $27.00 per person.

Mrs. Vanessa Davis, Ms. Whitney Davis, Mrs. Shelia McAllister, Miss Kirah McAllister, and Ms. Althea McGowan successfully completed the Adult and Pediatric First Aid CPR and AED class and are certified for the next two years.

According to Mrs. Holloway, "CPR stands for Cardiac-Pulmonary Resuscitation. It is made up of compressions and breaths combined to stimulate the heart circulating oxygenated blood." Further, she explained, "AED stands for Automated External Defibrillator (external pacemaker). An AED is a machine that can shock the heart to stop it from breathing irregularly. Then, the heart can 'reset' itself and hopefully, beat correctly."

Mrs. Holloway has been teaching CPR/AED and First Aid, along with training First Responders and Health Care Providers for the American Red Cross for eight years. She stated, "I am not a medical professional. I am a trainer."

She was a Training Specialist for the Richmond Redevelopment and Housing Authority. In addition, she conducted training for agencies and corporations in areas such as customer service, driving safety, and human resources.

Angela Simpson Holloway is a member of Third Baptist Church. She first joined this Church when she was a child. Having returned to Hampton several years ago, she re-united with Third Baptist Church. Her Church participation has included Friendship Circle Ministry, Birthday Club Ministry, Sunday School, Bible Study, Choirs (Adult, Gospel), 130th Church Anniversary Committee, Pulpit Search Committee (2012-2013), and Pastor’s First Anniversary Committee (Chairperson).

The Advent Season

“For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called a Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.” Isaiah 9:6

The Season of Advent begins with the fourth Sunday before Christmas. “Advent” is a Latin word meaning “the coming.” During the Season of Advent, Christians across the world prepare for the celebration of the coming of the Lord into the world through the birth of His Son, Jesus Christ. Advent is a time to celebrate light in the midst of darkness, as symbolized best by the Advent Wreath.

The Advent Wreath is the widely recognized symbol of Advent. The wreath is made up of a circle of evergreen branches laid flat to symbolize the endless nature of God’s Love for His people. Four candles stand in the circle. Traditionally, three of the candles are purple and the fourth, the “Love” candle is pink. One candle is lit during the first week of Advent, two during the second week, three during the third week, and four during the fourth week. The candles remind us of the light of God coming into the world, and the light from the candles grow brighter as each week comes closer to Christmas.

Beginning with the fifth Sunday in November and concluding with the third Sunday in December 2014, families of Third Baptist Church conducted the Advent Candle Lighting Ceremony.

Sunday, November 30, 2014
Mrs. Rhonda Gatling and Mrs. Christina Gatling Myers

Sunday, December 7, 2014
Mr. Patrick McAlister, Mrs. Sheila McAllister & Miss Kirah McAllister

Sunday, December 14, 2014
Ms. Joyce Bowers and Ms. Miosha Bowers

Sunday, December 21, 2014
Ms. Fallon Lee and Master Dakari Lee
The first Anniversary of Reverend John F. Kenney was celebrated on Sunday, October 19, 2014, during the 11:00 a.m. Worship Service. The theme was “The Dawning of a New Day,” based on the Scriptural reference Isaiah 43:18-19.

Reverend Ralph Steven Hodge was the guest preacher. His sermon was dynamic and inspiring. Reverend Hodge is the Pastor of Second Baptist Church, South Richmond, Virginia.

Member participation sparked enthusiasm. Master Robert Winfield, Jr. served as the Master of Ceremony, and Ms. Fallon Lee read the Responsive Reading. Mrs. Betty Carter, Mrs. Viola Swinton, and Deacon Jacob Wilson gave presentations to Rev. Kenny and Mrs. Lorraine Kenney. Beautiful flowers were given to Mrs. Kenney; the Pastor was showered with cards, well-wishes, and a Keurig Single Serve Coffee Brewer (a gift from Third Baptist Church Family).

The surrounding community received invitations to attend the auspicious occasion, and each Church member received two invitations to share with family and friends.

Praise the Lord! It is “The Dawning of a New Day.”

Special commendations are extended to the committee members: Mrs. Angela S. Holloway (Chairperson), Deacon Fernando T. Davis, and Ms. Patricia M. Williams.

Holiday missions were initiated by the members of the Deacon Board Ministry. They were assisted by the Birthday Club Ministry and the Deaconess Board Ministry.

As customary for Thanksgiving, the collection and preparation of food for needy families had to be done. To supplement the baskets, members in each birth month were responsible for donating specific items. In addition, a member had an opportunity to participate in the project “Fill a Bag...Feed a Family.” With the many families in the community who were struggling desperately to provide food in this difficult economy, hope had to be sustained. A Church member could sign for a bag, fill the bag with the listed non-perishable items to make a complete Thanksgiving dinner, and return the filled bag by Sunday, November 23, 2014. The turkey and other necessary items would be added to each bag.

On Monday, November 24, 2014, twenty-nine bags were distributed to the appropriate families.

The Deacon Board Ministry, the Birthday Club Ministry, and the Deaconess Board Ministry wish each and everyone a Blessed Holiday Season.

Thank you for your love and support.

The Deaconess Board Ministry sponsored its Annual Christmas Program on Saturday, December 13, 2014, from 12:00 noon until 3:00 p.m.

Special guests were children in foster care and those from the general community. Over 37 children, ranging in age three months to 18 years of age, were in attendance and joined in the festive participation on this enjoyable occasion.

Delicious food, marvelous company, super fun, unbelievable entertainment, and the giving of spectacular gifts created “dreams come true moments.” The children expressed many emotions: surprise, disbelief, happiness, astonishment, excitement, eagerness, suspense, and anxiety. A visit from Santa added to the emotions.

The event was chaired by Mrs. Gloria Johnson

Special thanks are extended to the Deaconess Board Ministry for sponsoring their 20th Annual Christmas Program for Foster and Community Children.
Mizpah Circle Ministry

The Mizpah Circle Ministry sponsored the Annual Black History Celebration on Saturday, February 15, 2014, beginning at 2:00 p.m. Mrs. Willa Bryant, Chairperson, was Mistress of Ceremony.

“Living the Dream” was the theme. Scripture reading was Philippians 4, Chapter 4. The selected verse for the printed program was “I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.” (4:13)

Informative, unique, inspiring, memorable, encouraging, and entertaining are descriptive of the occasion.

The event was unique because the keynote speakers, Mrs. Saundra Sawyer and Mr. Herman Bradley Sawyer, share similar assets: strong belief in God and God’s Grace, husband/wife team and wife/husband team, athletic coaches, high school teachers, state championship winners, Coach of the Year, employees at Lake Taylor High School, members of Third Baptist Church, and speakers for the Black History Celebration.

The Sawyers introduced each other and emphasized how God has blessed them and has enabled them to be successful and useful in serving and helping others. They have been Spiritual role models for their athletic teams – football (Mr. Sawyer) and basketball (Mrs. Sawyer). God’s GRACE and MERCY have uplifted and sustained them through happiness, opportunities, and challenges. Their sincere delivery encouraged and inspired the attendees, reminding them that God is ever nigh!

Another distinctive participant was Xavier Williams, an impressive young man. His demeanor and intonation of quality and grace were spell-binding and exhilarating when he recited the famous and unforgettable speech, “I Have a Dream” by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The electrifying delivery by Xavier left indelible footprints on each person who had the privilege and pleasure to hear the recitation.

Other participants included: Mrs. Gia Woodard (Solo – “Your Grace and Mercy”); Ms. Patricia Williams (Trivia Questions and Love Offering); Ms. Fallan Lee (Welcome); Ms. Tamia Jackson (Scripture); Master Caleb Kenney (Prayer); Mrs. Myra Lee (Occasion); Ms. Alexis Jackson (Offertory Prayer); Mrs. Anna Wingate (Presentations); Rev. Andre’ McCloud (Blessing the Food); and Rev. John F. Kenney (Closing Remarks).

The final climax of the Celebration was the scrumptious soul food. Every desirable and savory dish of one’s wishes was in abundance and beautifully served.

Members of the Mizpah Circle Ministry were proud to share history with the attendees. Let us realize and continue to live the DREAM!

Bible “MATH” Trivia

Answer the questions using only numerical characters.

1. (Sons of Jacob) multiplied by (number of Jesus’s disciples). ______
2. (Books of the Bible) minus (days of rain for Noah in his ark). ______
3. (Number of fish caught by Simon Peter in the miraculous catch) plus (days of creation). ______
4. (Days that Jesus fasted in the wilderness) divided by (number of gospel writers). ______
5. (Number of Psalms) plus (tribes of Israel) all divided by (number of gifts brought to Jesus by the wise men). ______
6. (Number of people saved from the flood) multiplied by (number of people crucified with Christ). ______
7. (Age of David when he became king of Israel) plus (number of years David reigned). ______
8. (Times that the priests walked around Jericho) multiplied by (plagues upon Egypt). ______
9. (Talents given out by the master in the parable) plus (virgins who had enough oil for their lamps) minus (number of gates of New Jerusalem). ______
The U in Jesus

Before U were thought of or time had begun,
God even stuck U in the name of His Son.
And each time U pray, you’ll see it’s true
You can’t spell out JesUs and not include U.

You’re a pretty big part of His wonderful name,
For U, He was born; that’s why He came.
And His great love for U is the reason He died.
It even takes U to spell crucified.

Isn’t it thrilling and splendidly grand
He rose from the dead, with U in His plan.
The stones split away, the gold trUmpeter blew,
And this word resurrection is spelled with a U.

When JesUs left earth at His upward ascension,
He felt there was one thing He just had to mention.
“Go into the world and tell them it’s true
That I love them all - Just like I love U.”

So many great people are spelled with a U,
Don’t they have a right to know JesUs too?
It all depends now on what U will do,
He’d like them to know but it all starts with U.

Don’t Count the Years

Don’t count the years– they matter not,
Count only the dreams–
that the years have brought,
The happiness and the faith so dear,
The moments rich you have treasured here.

Don’t count the years–
only the smiles,
Or the peace you have known
on the weary miles,
The laughter you’ve shared
and the friends you’ve made,
Each magic hope
that shall never fade.

A Savior Was Needed

A prophesy was given that a Savior
would come,
A description of Him was foretold. He
would be like no other one. Is. 58:1
The blood of bulls and goats could not
take away sins, Heb. 10:14
Only the blood shed by Jesus Christ on
the cross would redeem from within.

We need to celebrate Jesus’s birth each year
not by materialism but by His coming
to earth to save those who believe,

He was born, lived as a man, grew in stature and
knowledge, taught, preached, and gave His life;
some rejected Him but many received.

He is the perfect example, His Hands are opened wide,
come as you are,

He is coming again, be it near or far.

Study, be vigilant and watchful, and don’t forget to pray,

Don’t procrastinate, for we know not the day.

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Don’t count the years– they matter not,
Count only the dreams–
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The happiness and the faith so dear,
The moments rich you have treasured here.

Don’t count the years–
only the smiles,
Or the peace you have known
on the weary miles,
The laughter you’ve shared
and the friends you’ve made,
Each magic hope
that shall never fade.

Years are but numbers–
tis living that counts,
A heart that knows joy–
small or large amounts
A mind filled with loving–
eliminates fears,
Count every blessing–
Never the years.

Garnett Ann Schultz

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Mrs. Almeda Fitzgerald McDonald

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He is coming again, be it near or far.

Study, be vigilant and watchful, and don’t forget to pray,

Don’t procrastinate, for we know not the day.

Mrs. Almeda Fitzgerald McDonald
GRACIOUS FATHER

Gracious Father, how blessed
I am to be
loved by You!

Oh God, thank you for
giving me life, mercy, and peace
Humility, love, and joy
to care for others.
And to treat them
fairly, honestly, and equally.

Father, thank you for
the gifts and talents
You have given me
and the wisdom to share
those blessings with others:

To spread cheer and laughter.
To engage in song and prayer.
To call, visit, and transport
the sick and needy.
To listen, emphasize, and
assist others in their
time of sorrows and mishaps.
To express my love of God
through during His Will.
To show my thanksgiving to
God by giving Praise and Honor to Him.

Gracious Father, how blessed
I am to be
LOVED by YOU!

Naomi Valeria Johnson Chadwick

In Memorial

MEMORY
LIKE A
FAVORITE SONG
REMAINS TO
WARM AND CHEER
THE HEART.

Mr. DeAndre Wingate

DEATH: MONDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2014
FUNERAL: SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2014

Mrs. Hattie Darden

DEATH: WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19, 2014
FUNERAL: THURSDAY, MARCH 27, 2014

Mr. Thomas A. Byrdsong

DEATH: FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2014
GRAVESIDE RITES: WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2014

Bible Trivia

Who is known as the only woman judge in the Old Testament? (KJV)
A. Diana
B. Rebekah
C. Sarah
D. Deborah

Which mother willingly delivered her son to the temple when he was weaned? (KJV)
A. Mary
B. Hannah
C. Naomi
D. Bathsheba

Placed in a basket in the Nile River as a baby, this man grew up to lead the
slaves out of Egypt. (KJV)
A. Aaron
B. Reuben
C. Dan
D. Moses
The Deaconess Board Ministry met on Wednesday, January 15, 2014.

On Saturday, January 25, 2014, the Men’s Ministry was revitalized.

The first Church meeting of the year was conducted on Thursday, January 30, 2014.

The Sunday School Staff Meeting convened at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 20, 2014.

Ash Wednesday Service was conducted on Wednesday, March 5, 2014.

Palm Sunday was observed on Sunday, April 13, 2014, during the 11:00 a.m. Worship Service.

Mother’s Day was honored on Sunday, May 11, 2014.

Rev. John F. Kenney and the Third Baptist Church members were special guests for the Celebration of the Anniversary of Rev. P.D. Wells, Pastor of Mt. Sinai Baptist Church, Ivor, Virginia. The event occurred on Sunday, June 8, 2014.

Third Baptist Church hosted the Life Line Stroke Prevention Screening on Thursday, June 12, 2014, from 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Each member that registered received a $10.00 discount and the Church received a $10.00 donation.

Father’s Day was observed on Sunday, June 15, 2014.

The Men’s Breakfast was celebrated on Saturday, June 28, 2014, beginning at 8:30 a.m.

The CHALLENGE WAS ON! July was designated as Each-One-Reach-One Month. Pastor Kenney was seeking the Evangelist of the Month. The distinction went to the person(s) who brought the most people to Church during the month of July. The distinction went to Trustee John L. Chadwick, Jr. and Deaconess Naomi J. Chadwick.

Youth Recognition and Awards Day Ceremony was held on Sunday, July 13, 2014, during the 11:00 a.m. Worship Service.

A Senior Forum was held on Tuesday, July 29, 2014 at 10:00 a.m. Valuable community resource information was shared.

August was designated as Food Donation Month for the collection of 500 items of canned food for the H.E.L.P. Food Pantry.

The Male Chorus of Third Baptist Church was revitalized on August 6, 2014.

The Police and Community Forum was held Tuesday, August 12, 2014, beginning at 6:30 p.m.

The School Supply Drive was successful. Large attractive bags of supplies were distributed on Sunday, August 24, 2014, after the Morning Worship Service.

Love Fast was observed September 8-18, 2014. This 10-day time of fasting was focused on Self-less Sacrifice for our brothers and sisters outside of our congregation.

Sunday, September 21, 2014 was National Back to Church Sunday at Third Baptist Church. Friends, co-workers, neighbors, and family members were invited to attend Sunday School and the Worship Service.

Food, Fun, and Fellowship were shared and enjoyed on Friday, September 26, 2014, at the Family Dinner and Game Night. The festive activity began at 6:30 p.m.

The Community Yard Sale was held on Saturday, October 4, 2014, from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. It was sponsored by the Usher Board Ministry.

On Wednesday, October 15, 2014, Rev. John F. Kenney was the guest preacher for the Revival Service at Christian Union Church, Newport News, Virginia.

The First Anniversary of Rev. John F. Kenney as Pastor of Third Baptist Church was celebrated on Sunday, October 19, 2014, during the 11:00 a.m. Worship Service.

The Christian Education Ministry met on Thursday, October 23, 2014, in the Fellowship Hall at 6:30 p.m.

The members of the Mizpah Circle Ministry celebrated their Anniversary on Sunday, October 26, 2014, at the 11:00 a.m. Worship Service.

On Sunday, October 26, 2014, the Hampton Branch NAACP Awards Banquet was held at 3:00 p.m.

The Friendship Circle Ministry hosted the 2014 Prayer Luncheon on Saturday, November 1, 2014, beginning at 11:00 a.m. “Prayer in the Season of Change” was the theme.
Members of Third Baptist Church attended the Tuskegee Airman Tribute on Tuesday, November 11, 2014, at 2:00 p.m. The event was held in the Fort Monroe Theatre. Historian and Tuskegee Airman interpreter, John W. McCaskill of History Alive, in period uniform, performed an account of former Tuskegee Airmen Lt. Colonel Harry T. Stewart during an intense dogfight in World War II. Mr. Thomas Byrdsong, a recently deceased member of Third Baptist Church, was connected to the Tuskegee Airmen.

On Thursday, November 27, 2014, Third Baptist Church, hosted the Annual Ministers Coalition of Hampton and Vicinity Thanksgiving Day Service. The guest preacher was Rev. John Bradley, Pastor of Emmanuel Baptist Church, Hampton, Virginia.

The Mizpah Circle Ministry meets the third Saturday in each month at 11:00 a.m.

Mr. Jacob M. Wilson, Jr. was honored on Sunday, December 7, 2014 for his dedicated service as Chairperson of the Deacon Board Ministry of Third Baptist Church.

On Thursday, December 18, 2014, the Third Baptist Church Family visited the residents at Riverside Convalescent Center, Hampton, Virginia. They spread the Holiday Cheer through prayer, song, fruit, gifts, and fellowship.

The Christmas Musical Dinner was enjoyed on Sunday, December 21, 2014. It began at 3:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

The Sunday School Attendance Challenge was held from October 5 through December 28, 2014.

The New Year’s Eve Service, “THE EXODUS,” was held on Wednesday, December 31, 2014 at 7:30 p.m.

On the fourth Sunday of each month, Third Baptist Church Family conducts a Worship Service at Riverside Convalescent Center, Algonquin Road, Hampton, Virginia.

Copies of the Constitution of Third Baptist Church can be secured from the Church Secretary.

The Seniors Christmas Luncheon is being held today, Friday, December 5, 2014, in the Fellowship Hall. Love, Laughter, Fellowship, and Food are the ingredients upon which the annual luncheon of the beginning Festive Season is built.

Tis the season! The Friendship Circle Ministry is proud and pleased to begin the celebration of the joyous season of Christmas with wonderful friends from across the community. It is with heart felt praise, honor, and humility for life and love that we engage in the spirit of sharing and giving.

With superb attendance in a festive setting, all are ready for the special event take-off. The Hall is exceptionally decked in finery. Tables are dressed to impress, decorations surround the walls, colorfully wrapped gifts enhance the total environment, and Christmas music sets the tone for enjoyment of things to come.

As is always the case, the occasion is filled with good cheer, good food, good holiday entertainment, and the generous giving of gifts. Circle members, their spouses, and dear friends provide service and warm fellowship as they participate in this sharing and caring Outreach program.

4A State Champions
Coach Sawyer & The Titans

Well, they did it again!

Coach Herman Bradley Sawyer and the Lake Taylor High School Football Team (the Titans) won the 4A State Championship game on Saturday, December 15, 2014.

In an exhilarating and suspenseful playoff against Salem High School Football Team (the Spartans), the Titans were VICTORIOUS. The final score was 41 to 16!

Indeed, they have done it again! Their first State Championship was won in 2012. We, the members of Third Baptist Church, salute you, Coach Sawyer.
**Prayer Luncheon**

*Friendship Circle Ministry*

Three distinguished and dynamic women were featured speakers at the Annual Prayer Luncheon on Saturday, November 1, 2014. This auspicious occasion was hosted by the Friendship Circle Ministry.

The speakers were Mrs. Danielle Dortch Smith, Mrs. Toni Echols, and Mrs. Lorraine Kenney. These ladies share commonality: love of God and are spiritual, members at some period of Third Baptist Church, wife of a minister, twenty plus years of marriage, proud parents, and young in age, mind and heart.

“Prayer in the Season of Change” was the theme. The guest speakers gave eloquent and inspiring interpretations of the seasons in their lives and in the lives of others. There are periods of time in which particular experiences, situations, and conditions exist; they are seasons. God is a God of seasons. In Ecclesiastes 3:1, it tells us: “To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven.”

Realistic, informative, entertaining, uplifting, inspiring, and encouraging depict the messages given. In concluding, the speakers resounded, “Pray with Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving, and Supplications.” This Scripture resonated, “For I know the plans I have for you,” said the Lord. “They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope.” Jeremiah 29:11

Other participants were Mrs. Trebor E. Abner (President/Worship Leader), Mrs. Naomi J. Chadwick (Scripture: Psalm 121 and I Thessalonians 5: 16-18), Mrs. Gloria Johnson (Prayer), Mrs. Esther R. Alston (Blessing of Food), Mrs. Geraldine J. Courtney (Introduction of Speaker), Mrs. Melody T. McCloud (Introduction of Speaker), Mrs. Shelia T. Sutton (Introduction of Speaker), and Reverend Andre’ V. McCloud (Remarks/Benediction).

A scrumptious luncheon was elegantly prepared and served by the members of the Friendship Circle Ministry, their spouses, and Mrs. Joyce Bowers (Culinary Ministry Chairperson).

The event was a memorable one. Over 75 people were in attendance.

Special commendations are extended to all attendees and participants.

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**Christmas Musical Dinner**

A Christmas Musical Dinner was held on Sunday, December 21, 2014. This special occasion occurred in the Fellowship Hall and began at 3:00 p.m.

Indeed, Christmas is a festive and inspirational time. It is a time to spread love and cheer to others.

Well! The Christmas Musical Dinner did its job. Beautiful Christmas selections were sung by melodious voices; colorful, cheerful, and attractive decorations adorned the tables and stage; a dramatic portrayal of Jesus’s birth was enacted; an agile and graceful praise dancer delighted, inspired, and intrigued the audience through her spirit filled interpretative performance; delicious food was prepared and served with elegance; and the attendees were able to fellowship with joy and thanksgiving.

Enjoyment and thankfulness were shared.

Ms. Joyce Bowers spearheaded the joyous occasion. Commendations are extended to her and all persons who assisted in the special event.
Dear Third Baptist Family,
Thank you for your love, support, and cooperation. Your con-
tinuous input gives us the “SPARK” and “ZESTFULNESS” we
need to continue the publication of The Impact. We pray and
wish each of you a very Happy Holiday.

With love,
Naomi J. Chadwick, Chairperson
Newsletter Ministry

Dear Third Baptist Family,
A special thank you is extended to all volunteers who took time
to share their gifts and talents during Vacation Bible School.
To God be the glory for all He has done and continues to do
here at Third Baptist Church.

In Christian love,
Mrs. Melody T. McCloud, Chairperson
Vacation Bible School

Third Baptist Church Family,
A heartfelt thank you is extended to all who served and shared
in The Gathering of Families Celebration.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Pamela Thomas-Monroe, Chairperson
Gathering of Families Celebration Committee

Third Baptist Church,
The Mizpah Circle Ministry would like to thank everyone who
attended and supported the Black History Celebration. May
God continue to bless each of you.

With prayer,
Mrs. Willa Bryant, Chairperson
Mizpah Circle Ministry

Third Baptist Church,
Thank you for giving!

All of us,
Hunter B. Andrews School

Dear Third Baptist Church Family,
Appreciation is extended to the Pastor, members, and minis-
tries of the Church. You have been very thoughtful and caring
during my several surgeries and recuperative periods. Thanks
to the Deaconess Board Ministry for the visits, cards, tele-
phone calls, plants, transportation to medical appointments
and other places, and much more. I also thank the Deacon
Board for visits, Communion, and other efforts.

In addition, gratitude is accorded the Newsletter Ministry for
the continuous endeavors and dedication to keep the Mem-
bership and others informed of “What Is Happening at Third
Baptist Church.” Each issue has kept me abreast of Church
news, and I have thoroughly enjoyed reading each one.

In short, I give thanks to all members and ministries that
have assisted me in anyway. I thank God for each of you.

In Christian love,
Mrs. Esther Ruth McGue Alston

Dear Third Baptist Church Family,
The Family of James L. Edwards, Sr. would like to thank
everyone who sent beautiful floral arrangements, food and
monetary donations, called us with kind words, sent cards
and e-mails, or helped with anything that needed to be done.

James will always have a special place in the hearts of his
large, loving family and friends. Through cherished memo-
ries, he will live on forever.

The loss of James was made a little easier with the love and
the support we received from our friends and family. Your
expressions of sympathy were greatly appreciated and will
never be forgotten.

Thank you again,
The Edwards Family
Regina, Renita, James Jr. & Grandchildren

Dear Church Family,
The Friendship Circle Ministry extends a special thank
you to the program participants and all who attended the
Prayer Luncheon on November 1, 2014. We give God the
glory for the way He has touched our hearts. We pray that
you will increase your prayer and praise to Him for the
mighty blessings He gives to us each day.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Trebor Abner, Chairperson
Friendship Circle Ministry

To Third Baptist Church Family,
Appreciation and gratitude are awarded Mrs. Naomi J.
Chadwick and Mrs. Vanessa S. Davis. Upon request and
on a voluntary basis, they are always accessible to assist in
the collaborative efforts of programs and events/projects by
writing, editing, typing, illustrating, and publishing of needed
media. We thank them!

With Christian love,
Thankful and Observant Church Members