

THE STANDARD



Volume 31:03

The Late Dr. R.E. Herring, Sr., Pastor

March 1, 2026

1620 Helena Street Jacksonville, FL 32208 (904) 764-8032 Fax (904) 768-0004

Email: mtbethel1620@aol.com, Website: www.mmbcjax.com

THEME 2026: “Grounded in Legacy; Guided by Love” Hebrews 12:1-2 (KJV)

1 Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us,

2 Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.



INSPIRATION CORNER

"Minister One to Another"

1 Peter 4:10 (KJV)

As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.

The key relationship in the work place must be the relationship between the employer and the employee. You see, when an employer hires a new employee, he is not just bringing a new member of the workforce aboard, he is also starting a new relationship. And managing this relationship is vital to business success. When the employer develops a strong relationship with his employee it can lead to greater employee happiness and increased productivity.

Listen, when you work for God - you work for the best; He is the best employer ever! It is a wonderful thing to see when someone gives their heart to Jesus. This great journey begins: the journey of love and service to Him. Brothers and sisters, this is what it means to be a Christian. You are a servant of God, a servant of Jesus Christ, a servant of the gospel, to share the message of forgiveness and eternal life through faith in Christ. You are a servant of the church, and of other believers.

The great thing about our employer (God) is, He never gives us a job that He has not gifted us to do. **James 1:17 Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.** There is no doubt as to the fact that God has given us gifts.

These gifts are called (GK) charismata. In the New Testament, a charisma is something given to man by God which the man himself could not have acquired or attained. Charismata it is not a natural talent. It is given to the believer so that he can fulfill his task on earth. Listen, a man or a woman might practice for a lifetime and never become a virtuoso in the particular arts like music, singing or playing a musical instrument. A virtuoso has more than practice; he or she has something plus, the charisma which is a gift of God. A man might toil for a lifetime and still not be skilled in the use of tools of carving wood and shaping metals. The man that is gifted has something plus, the charisma which is a gift of God.

One might practice speaking forever and a day, learn all the catch phrases and humorous stories, and still never acquire that anointing which moves an audience or a congregation to follow the Lord. This person has something plus, that charisma which is a gift of God. Every person has his own charisma. It is that something plus given him by God. We are called to serve each other in the body of Christ. God has assigned to us gifts to work with and the opportunity to use them according to our abilities. Listen, you and I have a gift and it is because God gave it to us. And He expects us to manage His gifts within the boundaries of our ability.

1 Peter 4:10 (KJV): As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.

Every Christian has at least one spiritual gift that he must use to the glory of God and the building up of the church (see Rom. 12:1-13; 1 Cor. 12; Eph. 4:1-16). We are stewards. God has entrusted these gifts to us that we might use them for the good of His church. He even gives us the spiritual ability to develop our gifts and be faithful servants of the church. The gifts that we have came because of God's grace. They must be accepted and exercised by faith. We were saved "by grace, through faith" (Eph. 2:8-9), and we must live and serve "by grace through faith." Since our gifts are from God, we cannot take the credit for them. Remember, God gets the glory.

The Late Pastor R.E. Herring, Sr.



INSPIRATION CORNER

A Humble Prayer

Heavenly Father, as I reflect on Jesus's humble entry into Jerusalem, I ask for a heart of humility. Teach me to serve others selflessly and to put their needs above my own. Help me to follow Jesus' example of humility and love. I pray for the grace to walk in humility, just as Jesus did. Help me to let go of pride and selfishness, and to embrace a life of service and love. May my actions reflect Your character, and may I always seek to glorify You in all that I do. Amen

Philippians 2:5-7 NIV "In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant."

Leadership Prayer

Dear Lord, Pour out Your divine wisdom upon our leadership. When they are faced with questions and no clear answers, be their guide. Help them to wait on You and trust that You will show them the best way. Teach our leadership to lean not on their own understanding but to seek Your will in everything. Give them eyes to see what you are doing and hearts that quickly follow Your direction.

In Jesus Name I pray, Amen

Romans 12:4-5 (ESV)

For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another.

If you know of a member that is sick, please let me know. Thanks, Sis. Taylor

Sick Members

Sis. Margaret Greene
Mother Mary Helen Bellamy (Home)
Mother Delores Rosier (River City Rehab)
Bro. Ronald Boykins (Jax Nursing & Rehab)
Sis. Sheryl Adams (Home)
Rev. Louis Wright (Home)
Sis. Linda Norris
Sis. Lynette Greene
Sis. Johnnie Matthews
Sis. Gloria Jordan (UF Shands)

Prayer List

Lady Bessie Herring
Dea. Bobby Smiley
Sis. Elaine Smiley
Sis. Johnetta Elerby
Bro. Tony Elerby
Bro. Benjamin Griffin
Sis. Daisy Norris
Master Jakai Johnson
Sis. Queen Robinson
Sis. Johnnie Burns
Sis. Dee Dee Smith

From the Chairman of the 160th Church & Pastor's Anniversary Committee

Beloved Mt. Bethel Family,

Grace and peace to each of you in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. It is with a full heart and great excitement that I welcome you to the beginning of a truly historic and spirit-filled season in the life of our church. In 2026, Mt. Bethel Missionary Baptist Church will joyfully celebrate **160 years** of God's faithfulness, as well as honor the life, leadership, and legacy of our beloved late Pastor, **Reverend R. E. Herring, Sr.**

Our anniversary theme, "**Grounded by Legacy, Guided by Love**" with scriptural focus from **Hebrews 2:1–2 (KJV)**, was prayerfully chosen by Pastor Herring himself. These words now serve as both a tribute to his vision and a powerful call to the entire Mt. Bethel family as we reflect, rejoice, and renew our commitment to the work of the Kingdom.

This theme invites us into a threefold journey:

✠ **Appreciating the Past** – We pause to honor the faith, sacrifice, vision, and unwavering commitment of the saints who laid the foundation of this ministry 160 years ago. Their prayers, perseverance, and love for God continue to hold us steady today.

✠ **Affirming the Present** – As we stand in this moment, we acknowledge that by centering the church's direction and mission in God's love—unconditional, transformative, and unending—which guides our choices, relationships, and ministry.

✠ **Aiming for the Future** – With our eyes fixed on Jesus, the Author and Finisher of our faith, we press forward with renewed patience, passion, and purpose, ready to run the next leg of the race with unity, courage, and hope.

Beginning **February 2026**, and culminating with our celebratory **Anniversary Banquet on Saturday, June 13, 2026**, and our **Church and Pastor's Anniversary Worship Celebration on Sunday, June 14, 2026**, our ministry will host a series of events designed to uplift, engage, and inspire every member of the congregation. This year's committee comprised of The Covenant Keepers Marriage Ministry, The Singles Ministry, The Victorious Women's Ministry, The Empowered Brethren Men's Ministry, and BRAM has prayerfully committed itself to planning a season worthy of this milestone.

I encourage you to mark your calendars, prepare your hearts, and join us at every opportunity as we celebrate what God has done, what He is doing, and what He has promised yet to do. Let us move together with joy, unity, and thanksgiving as we honor our heritage and embrace our future. May the love of Christ continue to ground us, guide us, and grow us—today and always.

With gratitude and expectation,

Terence L. Wright

Chairman, 160th Church & Pastor's Anniversary Committee

160th Church & Pastor's Anniversary

Theme: Grounded in Legacy, Guided by Love

(Hebrews 12: 1 – 2 KJV)

160th Church & Pastor's Anniversary Events

Sons of Mt. Bethel Speaker Series

Monthly, leading up to the Church & Pastor's Anniversary, one of the Sons of Mt. Bethel (current pastors who were previously members and preachers at Mt. Bethel) will be the featured preacher for an 11:00 a.m. service.

This month's speaker is Pastor Rodrick James from New Nature Christian Fellowship Church.

Family Ancestry Workshop

Saturday, February 28th, 10 a.m.

BRAM is sponsoring this workshop and is FREE & interactive. You will learn how to research your roots using free resources.

Honoring our First Ladies presentation

Sunday, March 22nd during 11a.m. service

Prayer Walk

Saturday, April 11th 10 a.m.

As the LIGHT of the community, let's get "out of the house" and take it to the streets of our community. Let's pray, let's sing, let's clean, let's witness, let's spread the light beyond the walls of the church.

CommUNITY Festival

Saturday, April 18th 10 a.m.

We are going to convert the church grounds into an outdoor celebration with church brothers and sisters and the community. Invite your friends, family members, & childhood friends. There will be fun, fellowship, and food for all ages.

Family & friends Day

Sunday, April 19th 11 a.m.

We are going to conclude the weekend with worship. Invite ALL of your family and friends to worship with us!

Choir Concert

Sunday, May 17th (time – tba)

Mt. Bethel has a RICH TRADITION of choirs and singers. Come take a journey through the legacy of the Mt. Bethel Music Ministry with one of the best choirs this side of glory!

Family Night

Tuesday, June 9th

This will be a night of fun and fellowship for the entire family. Think Vacation Bible School for all ages, BUT MORE FUN! And with food!

C & P Anniversary Gala

Saturday, June 13th 6 p.m.

The colors this year are black & white with gold accent. DRESS UP and let's celebrate a night to remember.

C & P Anniversary

Sunday, June 14th 11 a.m. service

*There will be more details about each event as the event dates get closer.

160th Anniversary Celebration presents:

Sons of Mt. Bethel Speaker Series

(Month of March Speaker)

2nd Sunday, March 8th



Pastor Rodrick L. James

Pastor Rodrick L. James founded the **New Nature Christian Fellowship Church** in June 2009, located in the historic Springfield community of Jacksonville, Florida. Since launching New Nature, Pastor James has provided steady leadership and visionary guidance to the congregation. Together with his wife of 32 years, Tamra Wright-James, he serves the congregation and community with compassion, purpose, and a commitment to spiritual excellence.

Pastor James is a passionate and proven teacher of the Word of God, widely recognized for his profound biblical insight and his gift for bringing Scripture to life with clarity and conviction.

Known for his unwavering love of the Holy Scriptures, Pastor James teaches with a depth that inspires transformation, spiritual growth, and a renewed reverence for the power of God's Word.

Pastor James's personal walk with Christ began on August 21, 1993, at the age of 19—an encounter that ignited his lifelong devotion to studying and teaching the Scriptures. He acknowledged his call to the ministry and preached his initial sermon on December 24, 2000, at Mt. Bethel Missionary Baptist Church. He continued to develop his gift by serving and training under the late Pastor R. E. Herring Sr. He was ordained in January 2004, faithfully answering God's call to shepherd, teach, and serve. These early years formed the foundation of a ministry deeply rooted in sound doctrine, spiritual integrity, and a sincere commitment to biblical truth.

Pastor James and Lady Tamra are the proud parents of three daughters—Destiny, Kamryn, and Kendall—and one granddaughter, Ava. Their family stands as a testimony to God's faithfulness and the legacy of ministry that continues to flourish through their leadership.



God's Wrath Satisfied in Christ

UNIT 1: God's Wrath on Sin

- Mar. 1 — The Dross of Unrighteousness—Ezek. 22:17-31
- Mar. 8 — The Way of the Lord Is Just—Ezek. 33:12-20
- Mar. 15 — God's Wrath Revealed—Rom. 1:18-23

UNIT 2: God's Wrath Poured Out

- Mar. 22 — Jesus Prepares for Death—Mark 14:32-52
- Mar. 29 — Jesus Bears God's Wrath—Mark 15:16-39



- Dea. Bernard & Min. Rita Hall 3-17
- Bro. Bruce and Sis. Padricka Griffin 3-18
- Rev. Louis & Min. Dorothy Wright Sr 3-21
- Dea. Louis and Min. Robin Colvin 3-23
- Bro. Andre & Sis. Bonita McBride 3-24
- Bro. Rodney & Sis. Shante McFadden 3-26



MARCH

- Bro. Randall Rodgers, Jr. 3-01
- Sis. Natasha Johnson 3-01
- Sis. Shaneika Wilson 3-02
- Sis. Linda Hays 3-02
- Aster Jayden Lamb 3-2
- Sis. Danyelle Jones 3-03
- Sis. Carolyn Gamble 3-04
- Sis. Shelia Benton 3-05
- Sis. Sandra Grayer 3-05
- Bro. Romero A. Lee 3-06
- Sis. Mildred Dunbar 3-06
- Bro. Calvin Sinclair 3-06
- Sis. Michelle Hartfield 3-07
- Dea. Jerome Haynes 3-08
- Sis. Tewannah Prince 3-08
- Sis. Gail Bennett 3-08
- Sis. Rosa Toussaint 3-09
- Bro. Marquis Johnson 3-09
- Sis. Yola Williams 3-10
- Sis. Luv Mobley 3-10
- Bro. Carl Blissitt 3-10
- Bro. Paul Jones 3-11
- Sis. Keyanna Gollman 3-12
- Sis. Sharita Rosemond 3-13
- Sis. Eriterea I. Thomas 3-13
- Sis. Regina Wilson 3-13
- Sis. Charlotte Burrows 3-14
- Sis. Sabrina Williams 3-14
- Sis. Angel Baggs 3-14
- Sis. Chelsey Brown 3-18
- Sis. Rolanda Styles 3-18
- Bro. Tyveonce Stringfield 3-19
- Sis. Iris R. Davis 3-19
- Bro. Kerry Robinson 3-19
- Dea. John Scott III 3-20
- Sis. Rachel Herring 3-22
- Bro. Antonio Thomas 3-22
- Sis. Ebony Jarrell 3-23
- Sis. Lynda Anderson 3-24
- Sis. Paige Wiggins 3-25
- Bro. Robert Webb 3-26
- Bro. Louis Wright, Jr. 3-26
- Bro. Dennis Perdue 3-26
- Rev. Matthew Quarterman 3-26
- Sis. Annie Turner 3-27
- Bro. Timothy Grant 3-27
- Min. Dorothy A. Wright 3-27
- Dea. Richard Eady 3-27
- Bro. Reginald McKinney 3-27
- Bro. Anthony Garner 3-28
- Sis. Trijuana Rosier 3-28
- Sis. Tammi Jenkins 3-28
- Sis. Gloria Hubbard 3-28
- Sis. Tiffany Salles 3-29
- Sis. Hope Moultrie 3-29
- Sis. Gwendolyn Corley 3-30
- Sis. Linda Newson 3-30
- Bro. Fetrell Stevens 3-30
- Sis. Kateashea Anderson 3-31

Mt. Bethel Missionary Baptist Church
1620 Helena Street
Jacksonville, FL 32208

Empowered Brethren Men's Conference 2026

Theme:

“Built on the Rock: Foundations for Godly Men”

Matthew 7: 24 - 27

Saturday, March 14th

Breakfast starts @ 8 a.m.

Conference starts @ 9 a.m.

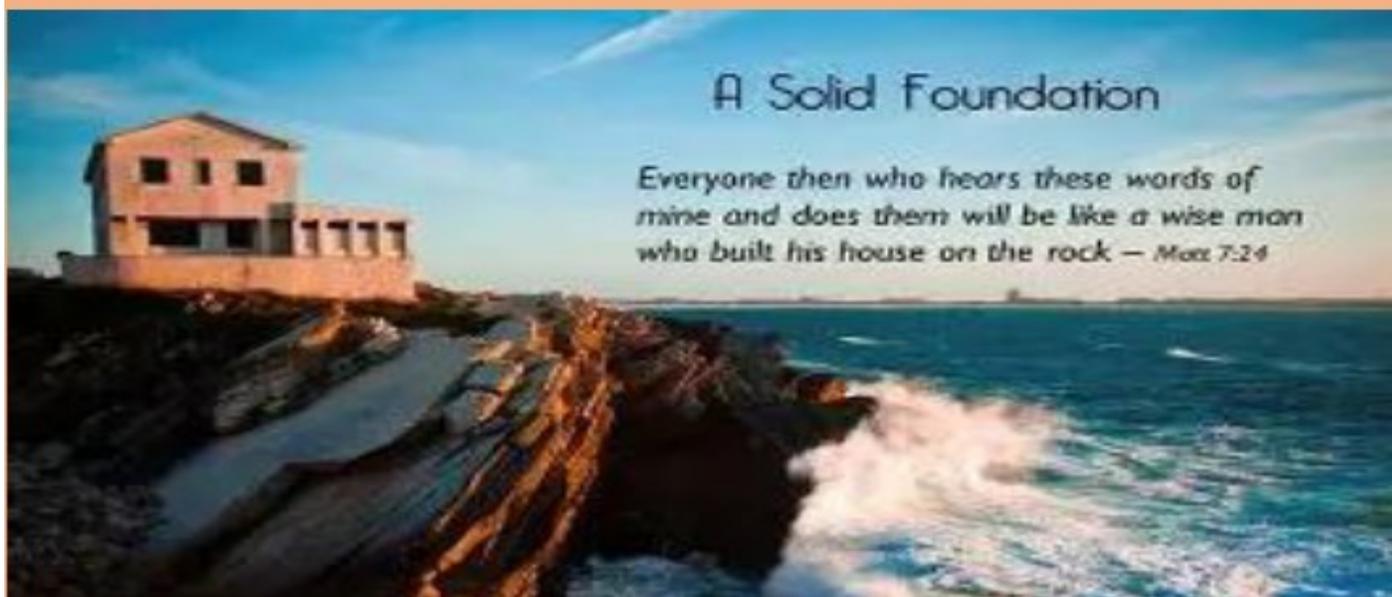
Sunday, March 15th

11:00 a.m. service

ALL ages welcome- Youth & Adult Speakers

Conference is FREE

Breakfast & Lunch provided





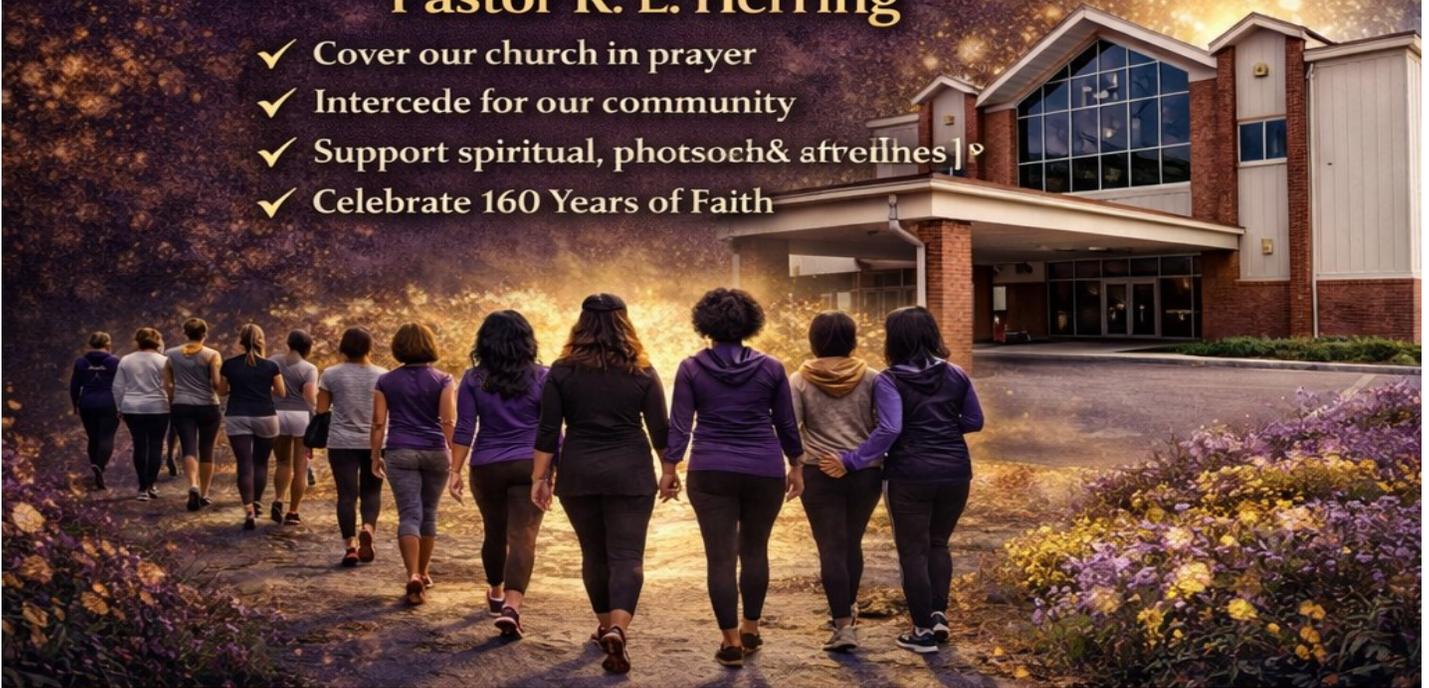
Victorious Women's &
Health & Wellness Ministry
PRAYER WALK

Going Beyond the Four Walls

APRIL 11 | 10:00 AM

Honoring Our Pastor & Legacy
Pastor R. E. Herring

- ✓ Cover our church in prayer
- ✓ Intercede for our community
- ✓ Support spiritual, physical & emotional needs
- ✓ Celebrate 160 Years of Faith



Everyone Is Welcome!

Mt. Bethel Missionary Baptist Church

CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY

Each year the Academic Education Ministry (AEM) proudly organizes a special event to honor Black History Month. AEM is dedicated to serving as mentors to the senior high school and college students of Mt. Bethel, fostering their aspirations for success while instilling the importance of Christian values. This esteemed ministry aims not only to guide students academically but also to inspire them personally and spiritually. As part of this celebration we are excited to present this year's distinguished speaker for the AEM Annual Black History Month Event.

Pastor William Shcobie Nesbitt III affectionately known as "Cobie," was born on July 19th, 1983 in Jacksonville, Florida to the late William Nesbitt & Maria Nesbitt. He received his early education in the Duval County School System. On February 19th, 2005, Pastor Cobie married his esteemed wife, Lady Camilla. Together, they are the proud parents of three daughters, Asharia, Kendall, and Karsen, one son, Cobie "C4" and one grandson, Virgil "V4".

In January 2001, Pastor Cobie accepted Jesus Christ as his personal Lord and Savior at Philippian Community Church under the leadership of Bishop Virgil C. Jones, Sr. In December of the following year, he responded to God's call to preach the gospel, referencing Luke 4:18. On August 19, 2005, he was officially licensed as a minister of the gospel by Bishop Jones.

Throughout his tenure at Philippian Community Church, Pastor Cobie demonstrated unwavering dedication, serving in various capacities such as Sunday School teacher, youth leader and praise leader. His extensive involvement, particularly in the Prison Outreach Ministry, spanned 13 years and significantly contributed to his development as a leader.

Pastor Cobie attributes his personal and spiritual growth to the invaluable guidance and wisdom imparted by his parents, the late William Nesbitt, Jr. & Maria Nesbitt. Additionally, he remains deeply grateful to Bishop Virgil C. Jones, Sr. and the late Elder Mary Jones who not only provided a solid foundation for ministry but who also have been surrogate parents and grandparents to the Nesbitt family.

Expressing profound gratitude to God, Pastor acknowledges the continual outpouring of divine favor and grace. This divine favor has been exemplified through the Covenant Connection with Bishop Vaughn McLaughlin and Lady Narlene McLaughlin who have embraced, poured, modeled and nurtured Pastor Cobie, Lady Camilla, and The Truth in Love Family. Bishop McLaughlin's dynamic leadership and training and kingdom model have left an indelible mark on the leaders of Truth in Love.

God has blessed Pastor Cobie and Lady Camilla with the support of esteemed men and women of God who have provided instruction, guidance and wisdom. This support has empowered them to advance their mission, winning souls in love for the glory of God.



Pastor William "Cobie" Nesbitt III



Meaning of Palm Sunday

The various Bible gospel books hold various accounts of what happened on Palm Sunday. Let's take a look at Matthew's account:

"As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, "Go to the village ahead of you, and at once you will find a donkey tied there, with her colt by her. Untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, say that the Lord needs them, and he will send them right away." This took place to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet "Say to Daughter Zion, 'See, your king comes to you, gentle and riding on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.'"

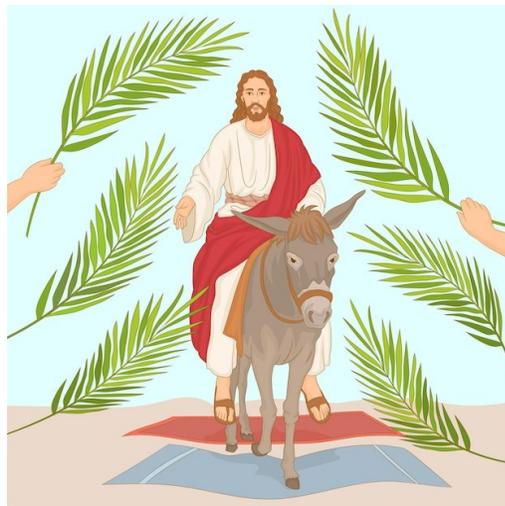
The disciples went and did as Jesus had instructed them. They brought the donkey and the colt and placed their cloaks on them for Jesus to sit on. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and those that followed shouted, "Hosanna to the Son of David!" "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" "Hosanna in the highest heaven!" When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred and asked, "Who is this?" The crowds answered, "This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee." ~ Matthew 21:1-11

"Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation is he, humble and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey." (Zechariah 9:9)

The people wanted an insurrectionist to topple Rome. Jesus did come to defeat an enemy, but not the one they had in mind. Instead, He came to defeat the enemies of sin, death, and the devil that ensnared every man and woman since Adam and Eve.

"Palm Sunday was the first day of Holy Week leading up to the Jewish holiday of Passover. Jesus rode on a donkey through the town of Jerusalem on His way to conquer death and bring us life through His sacrifice on the cross."

Jesus voluntarily gave Himself as our sacrificial Lamb when they led him to his death on Friday of that week.



Mt. Bethel QR Code

Please scan the QR code (use the camera on your phone), you will then tap the yellow form.jotform.com and it will take you to the Mt. Bethel Member information form to be completed.

By completing the form this way, you're providing the information directly to a church document. You can use your phone or tablet to complete. We "Thank You" in advance for your assistance in this matter.



From Shoeboxes of Love to Donations of Joy

The Missionaries Society first would like to say "Thank You" to the church family for all the donations that were provided during the "Shoeboxes of Love Drive". Because of the abundance of items that were received, donations were given directly to the City Rescue Mission to assist them in providing more services to their clients in need. A monetary donation was also given to assist CRM.

THE STANDARD STAFF

Editor

Mattie Taylor

Reporter

Patricia Lewis

Photography/Video

Christine Hart, Coordinator

Al Campbell

Johnny Smith

Advisor

Laura Smith





Palm Sunday

W M I U L D V J O V S E J F J
T Y Z N N I D S A I U A V A E
H O S A N N A P B L N F J N S
D B E A S T E R N L D N D Q U
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D U L N V D A Q U A V R J M R

MANKIND

HOSANNA

WEEK

VILLAGE

COATS

PALM

HOLY

JESUS

ENTERED

DEATH

EASTER

PASSION

BLESSED

SUNDAY

CROWD

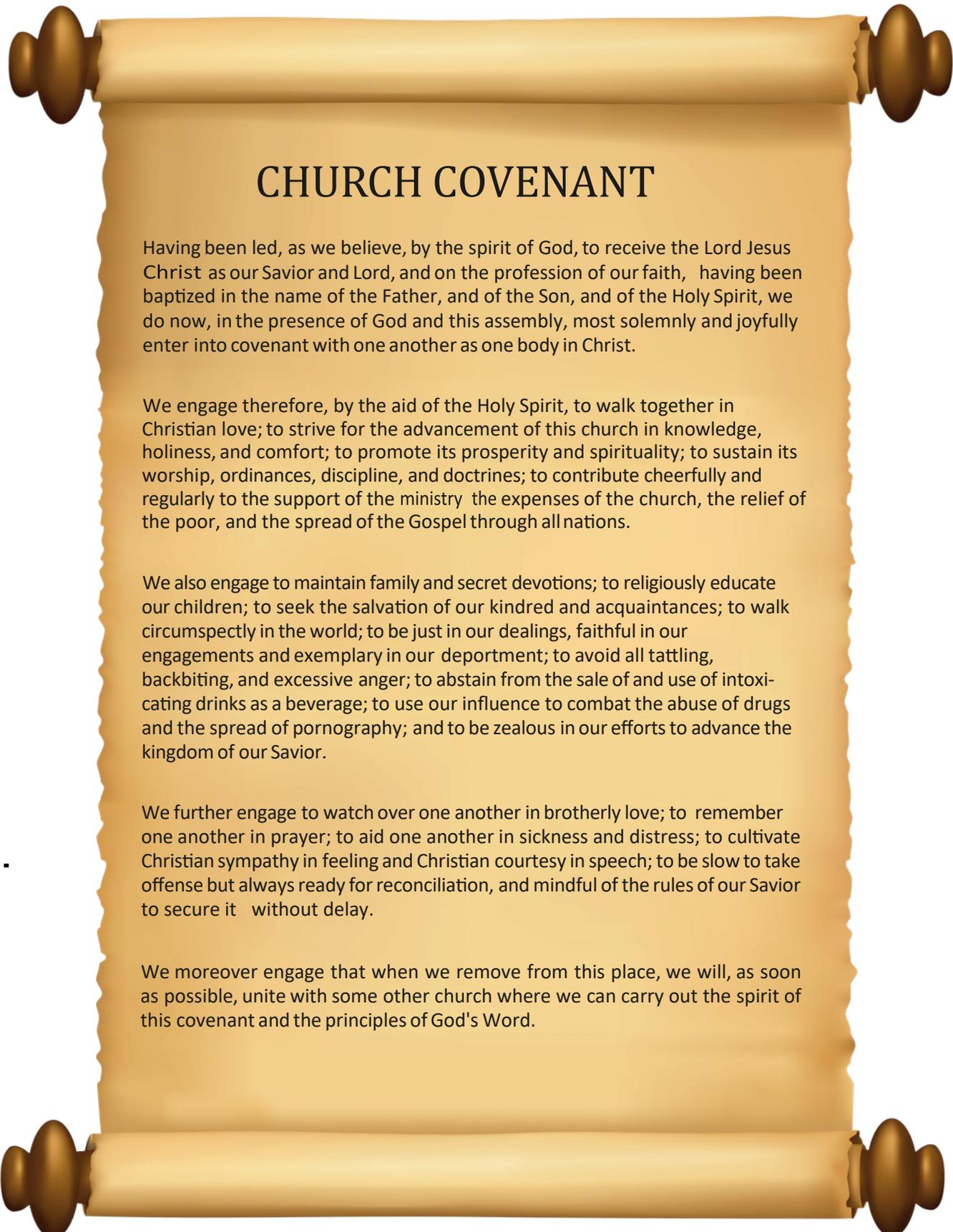
DONKEY

International Women's Day

International Women's Day (IWD) is celebrated on 8 March, commemorating women's fight for equality and liberation along with the women's rights movement. International Women's Day gives focus to issues such as gender equality, reproductive rights, and violence and abuse against women. Spurred by the universal female suffrage movement, International Women's Day originated from labor movements in Europe and North America during the early 20th century.

The earliest version reported was a "Woman's Day" organized by the Socialist Party of America in New York City on 28 February 1909. In solidarity with them, communist activist and politician Clara Zetkin proposed the celebration of "Working Women's Day", approved at the 1910 International Socialist Women's Conference in Copenhagen, albeit with no set date;¹⁸¹ the following year saw the first demonstrations and commemorations of International Women's Day across Europe. Vladimir Lenin declared 8 March as International Women's Day in 1922 to honor the women's role in the 1917 Russian Revolution; it was subsequently celebrated on that date by the socialist movement and communist countries. The holiday was promoted by the United Nations in 1977.





CHURCH COVENANT

Having been led, as we believe, by the spirit of God, to receive the Lord Jesus Christ as our Savior and Lord, and on the profession of our faith, having been baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, we do now, in the presence of God and this assembly, most solemnly and joyfully enter into covenant with one another as one body in Christ.

We engage therefore, by the aid of the Holy Spirit, to walk together in Christian love; to strive for the advancement of this church in knowledge, holiness, and comfort; to promote its prosperity and spirituality; to sustain its worship, ordinances, discipline, and doctrines; to contribute cheerfully and regularly to the support of the ministry the expenses of the church, the relief of the poor, and the spread of the Gospel through all nations.

We also engage to maintain family and secret devotions; to religiously educate our children; to seek the salvation of our kindred and acquaintances; to walk circumspectly in the world; to be just in our dealings, faithful in our engagements and exemplary in our deportment; to avoid all tattling, backbiting, and excessive anger; to abstain from the sale of and use of intoxicating drinks as a beverage; to use our influence to combat the abuse of drugs and the spread of pornography; and to be zealous in our efforts to advance the kingdom of our Savior.

We further engage to watch over one another in brotherly love; to remember one another in prayer; to aid one another in sickness and distress; to cultivate Christian sympathy in feeling and Christian courtesy in speech; to be slow to take offense but always ready for reconciliation, and mindful of the rules of our Savior to secure it without delay.

We moreover engage that when we remove from this place, we will, as soon as possible, unite with some other church where we can carry out the spirit of this covenant and the principles of God's Word.