





I am honored to bring you greetings once again. This month we celebrate Easter and my only thought is there was the death, the burial and The Resurrection! He died so that we may live and for that I can truly say "There is no Greater Love"!

It is our prayer that you enjoy the content we have assembled for this edition!

Lastly, if you have not already signed up to receive the electronic, full-color version of The Star delivered in your inbox, <u>click here</u> or complete the registration form at brooklandbaptist.org/contactus.

~ The Brookland Star Editorial Team



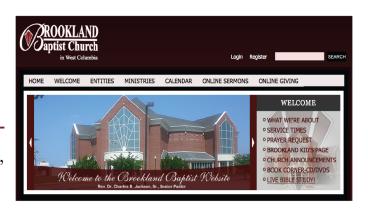
♦ TAKE BROOKLAND WITH YOU

COMPUTER - SMART PHONE - MOBILE DEVICE - RADIO



Stay in contact with your church online at www.brooklandbaptist.org

Obtain information about events, services, and church ministries





Pastor Charles Jackson, Sr. KISS 103.1FM at 7:30 a.m. WFMV 95.3FM at 5:30 p.m.

Pastor Charles Jackson, Jr. KISS 103.1FM at 9:30 a.m.

Pastor Chris Leevy Johnson WWDM 101.3FM at 7 a.m. WFMV 95.3FM at 10:30 a.m.



You can follow all the activities and events taking place at Brookland on Facebook at Brookland Baptist Church, Also via the ChurchLink app on any smart phone or mobile device.



Features







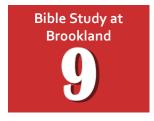
Sunday School

The Fundamental Implications

Of

Sunday School

By Micah S. Washington









The Brookland Baptist Church is located at 1066 Sunset Boulevard, West Columbia, SC 29169 and 1203 Summit Parkway, Columbia, SC 29229.

The mission of the Brookland Baptist Church is to proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ through evangelism, education and economic empowerment.

The Brookland Star is published monthly by the Brookland Baptist Church. Submit all articles, announcements, celebrations and photographs to

> TheStar@brookland.cc by April 19th

The May edition of *The Brookland Star* will be distributed on Sunday, May 5th.



Brookland Star Staff LaToya Walker, Editor Dorothy Gantt Karen Waymyers

Pastoral Staff

Dr. Charles B. Jackson Sr., Senior Pastor
Dr. James A. Jamison,
Assistant Pastor
Reverend Charles B. Jackson Jr.,
Executive Pastor
Dr. Chris Leevy Johnson,
BNE Campus Pastor





Autism Awareness Month acknowledges and celebrates individuals with Autism

Spectrum Disorder (ASD) accomplishments, recognizes families and caregivers efforts,

supports professionals/researchers in the field of autism, and identifies others that help make a positive difference in the lives of people with ASD. In support of Autism Awareness Month the *Brookland Foundation's Health & Wellness Program* invites you to celebrate the "**Light It Up Blue**" campaign to shine the light on autism by wearing a puzzle ribbon and/or tie, or Carolina or Duke "BLUE", or any other BLUE on the third Sunday and each Thursday during April.

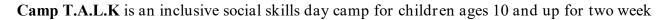
Below are some key facts:

- → Autism has a prevalence rate of 1:59 children
- + Autism is 5 times more likely in boys than girls
- → Autism can be reliably diagnosed by age 2, but children may be diagnosed at earlier ages
- → Autism is the fastest-growing serious developmental disability in the U.S.
- ★ Autism costs a family \$60,000 a year on average
 Several studies have shown no link between vaccines and autism

If you think your child might have autism or if you have concerns about the way your child is developing, learning, interacting/socializing, communicating (verbally or nonverbally), playing, or behaving during certain situations, it is very important that you contact your child's doctor and share these concerns. You can also contact the USC Center for Disability Resources to initiate a screening to determine whether your child is eligible to apply for services through the South Carolina Department of Disabilities and Special Needs (1-800-289-7012).

Below are some summer camp options for children with autism:

Camp Sunshine is an 8 week summer day camp for individuals with any physical, intellectual or developmental disabilities ages 5 through 26. Located at the Denny Terrace Community Center in Columbia. For pricing, scholarship and more information contact Marilyn Roberts at (803) 754-6720 ext. 206 or visit: http://richlandcountyrecreation.com/programs/camp-sunshine/





Tuesday and Thursday sessions. The focus is on students who have a diagnosis of Asperger's Autism, Autism Level 1 or PDD-NOS. Located at 104 Sycamore Tree Rd in Lexington, SC. For pricing, scholarships and more information call Karissa at (803)466-7387 or visit: http://www.camptalk.org/

Camp Burnt Gin is a summer camp in Wedgefield, South Carolina, for children who have physical disabilities and chronic illnesses. From early June until mid August, Camp Burnt Gin operates four six day sessions for 7 through 15 year old children, two six day session for teenagers, ages 16-20 and a four day session for young adults, ages 21-25. This is a FREE camp. For more information contact DHEC Special Health Care Needs at 803-898-0784 or visit: http://www.scdhec.gov/Health/ChildTeenHealth/ServicesforChildrenwithSpecialHealthCareNeeds/CBG/

For more information on autism:

South Carolina Autism Society (803) 750-6988.

Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) autism resource webpage: http://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/ autism/index.html

SCDDSN-Autism Division (www.ddsn.sc.gov) or (803-898-9600)

Autism Division-Columbia Office (803-935-5090)



Did you know that Autism:

- Is a developmental disability that usually appears before the age of 3.
- Results in challenges with social interaction, communication skills, and restrictive or repetitive interests and behaviors.
- Affects 1 in 59 children.
- Is five times more likely for boys than girls.
- Is TREATABLE, not a hopeless condition.



For More Information About Autism & Services Contact: 803-750-6988

APRILIS NATIONAL AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH join us in CELEBRATION action action acceptance appreciation appreciation

The Fundamental Implications Of

Sunday School

By Micah S. Washington



Sunday school is truly such a cultivating experience. In Sunday school, children are taught how to live a life saturated with Christ, build a genuine relationship with God, and spread the marvelous power of the Lord. There they learn how to navigate worldly temptations. Children have the opportunity to better comprehend the Bible on a more deeper personal level which is so beneficial in their journey with God. This is why the stigma of Sunday school is so extraordinarily, remarkably false and detrimental.

People associate anything that involves "school" with being mundane and authoritarian, but Sunday school is quite the opposite. It is an invigorating environment that captivates young minds in a stimulating fashion. Students are not just sitting slumped in chairs listening to teachers drone on in an monotonous voice about subjects that go in one ear and out the other; however students partake in riveting conversations about the Bible, what it means to be a Christian, and the scope of Christianity. If something baffles a student they can immediately get answers instead of remaining in a fog of confusion. This aspect greatly contributes to a child's Christian education.

Each Sunday I look forward to attending Teen Bible Study. There are always vibrant, lively discussions and healthy debates in every class. In class, we speak about problems and situations in our lives and how to handle them with Christ. Sunday school has impacted me in immeasurable ways and continues to do so to this day and will every day to come.



SIGN LANGUAGE MINISTRY





DEAF 411 / EDUCATION CORNER



Did You Know?

"Gallaudet University is the world's premier higher education institution that serves Deaf and Hard of Hearing people in Washington. Admitting a very small number of hearing students; Gallaudet University undergraduates can choose from more than 40 majors that can lead to a Bachelor of Arts or Science degree." Use this link to know more: https://www.gallaudet.edu/about/who-we-are (Reference:www.gallaudet.edu/about/news-and-media/fast-facts)

DEAF MYTH: "Deaf people don't want to be deaf, they are hoping for some miracle cure that will make them hear."

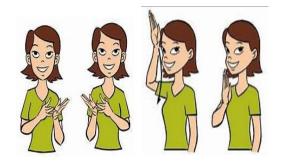
FACT: "Deaf people actually like being deaf. They consider it more peaceful than being able to hear everything all the time." (Reference: deafunity.org)







Watch for the Sign(s) on Sunday! Learn the Alphabet in One Year!



Sign for Jesus Sign for God

Practice! Practice! More coming next month!

Number Time!



William L Bowman III How To Receive and Maintain Your "Crown": There Is Power In Obedience

Several years ago, my parents enrolled me in the Financial Ministry's Crown College Course. They felt that I needed more guidance regarding God's plan for my life. At first, I was a bit hesitant about taking a class immediately following my senior year and especially during the summer. However, yet again obedience to my parents paid off. I spent ten weeks in the course studying and learning how to manage God's time, talents, and treasures. You see I learned that everything belonged to God and that I am a steward of the things that He has given me. Three out of then lessons really helped me during my years as a college student and now as a working professional in the chemical engineering field.

The third week in the course focused on Debt. The scripture passage that I had to memorize was Proverbs 22:7 which states "Just as the rich rule the poor, so the borrower is servant to the lender." I along with my parents applied this scripture to my college expenses. My parents are graduates of the Crown Adult course, so they already knew exactly how it would change my life. My parents helped me to understand that it was possible for me to attend college debt free. We worked on scholarships for months applying for almost every scholarship known to man. In the end, I was totally grateful to my parents and the understanding that I gained from this scripture. I graduated from Clemson University debt free. I even experienced a couple of semesters in which Clemson made checks payable to me. "There is Power In Obedience!"

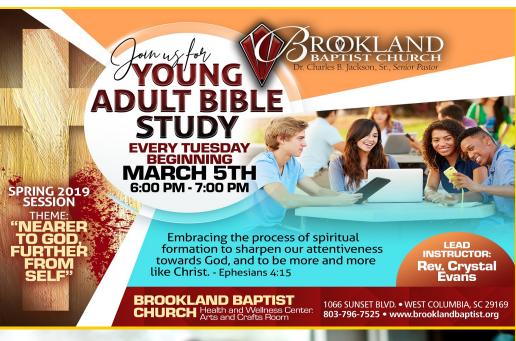
The sixth week in the course focused on Giving. The scripture passage for that week was Acts 20:35 which states "Remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He Himself said, "It is more blessed to give than receive". I was raised a household that believed in the power of tithing. However, after my exposure to the Crown course I realized that giving involved time, talents, and treasures. I quickly learned that the lessons I learned in other areas of my life were connecting to my Crown experience. As an Eagle Scout in Boy Scout Troop 74, I learned the importance of giving back to my church and community. When I connected that lesson to the memory verse in Crown and the lessons taught at home, it was second nature for me to apply that knowledge while in college. I served as a member of the "PEER" organization providing mentorship and encouragement to other minority students. I was fortunate to have been employed through a CO-OP for a year and a half. I remembered that whatever I earned that ten percent of the amount automatically belonged to God. "There Is Power In Obedience!"

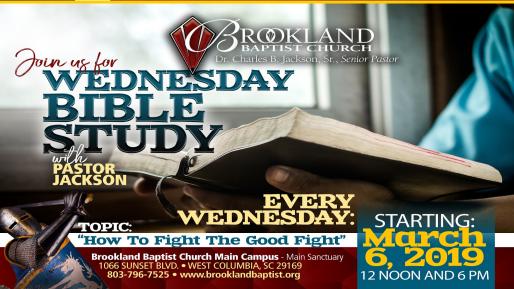
The seventh week in the course focused on Work. The scripture passage for that week was Colossians 3:23-24 which state "Whatever you do, do you work heartily, as for the Lord rather than for men...It is the Lord Christ whom you serve." My father set the example for me as to what a man is supposed to do for his family. I witnessed my father work in a career field that he enjoyed. I too wanted that experience remembering the times when work might not have been as rewarding for him. That scripture helped me to conquer personality and race related issues during my CO-OP experience. I believed that receiving that experience early in my career prepared me for the "what's next" work related scenarios. I am now experiencing a rewarding career as a chemical engineer with Owens Corning (Aiken). "There Is Power In Obedience!"

Most recently, at the age of twenty-two I became a first time home-buyer. I am proof that God will honor His word if we are obedient to Him. I owe the successes that I have experienced to God, loving and supportive parents, a strong village, and my church family at Brookland Baptist Church. I would encourage all parents to enroll your child in one of the Crown Small Group Studies. Please trust me when I say that "There Is Power In Obedience!"

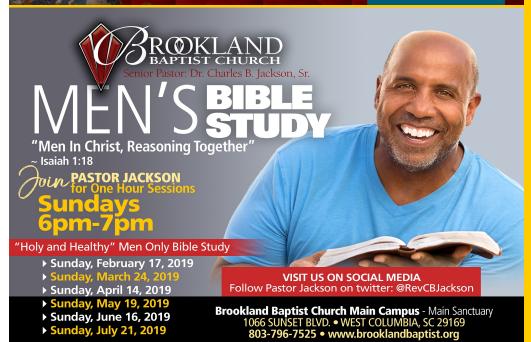




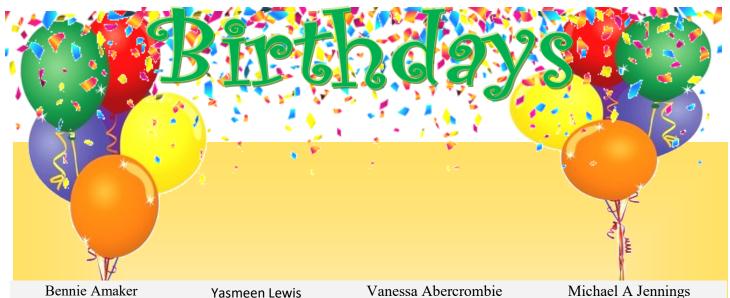




BIBLE STUDY AT **BROOKLAND.**



Sunday, July 21, 2019



Bennie Amaker Jennifer Boone Jessica M. Boone Aubury L. Bosket Anthony Brooks Jr **Robert Caesar** Kareem Daise Blaike A. Fisher Tylisa Hill Ashley Jackson

Yasmeen Lewis Angelia McGriff Kevin McNeil Ronald Middleton Sandra Minor Samara M. Richmond April Day Silva Alvin Staley Jr Nathan D. Taylor Nikita Ussin

Myosha Henicks Jessica Breaux Celeste H. Brown Ryann Carter Valencia Dawkins Caleb Fields

Sabrena Martinez Bartley

Teaja Brown

Vernel Edwarrds

Michael Fanning

Maria Hart

Jacob Johnson, Jr Sheila Lee Marie Singleton Eugene Webber Camiele White

Manuel Barboz James Benson Jr James Branham Ann DeAngelis Lesia Deloach Marquita R Geter Jacqueline Gilbert Michael Gillerson Ramon Guitard Calvin Jackson Jason James Jeffrey Jennings Rhonda Jennings Eric Johnson Sr

Renell Riley Livingston Brandi McCoy Alanti McGill Melika Minor Alisha Morgan Aaron Peavy Ronald Richmond **Earline Simmons** Messiah Simmons **Ernest Stallworth** Raynard Tisdale Titus Washington Tawanda Lawton Webb Jennifer Ford-Cooper George Godfrey

Wilbert K. Baker

Betty L. Goodwine Keisa Gunby Kimberly S. Hunter Thomas R. Mack, Jr Kim C. Mitchell Kelsea Price Joy L. Shuler-Guinyard

Carena Autmon Greta Beckett Walter Campbell Sr Charlene Freeman Tangela Funchess LaTonya Greene

Desmond Hinds Brenda G. Johnson Henry Johnson Jr Kristen Funderburk Kennedy Shirley Watson

Carrie Bridges Glenn Coleman Shelbi Cooper Crystal Y. Davis Edward Davis, Jr Kendra Evans Ranva Gooden Ashford

Cedric Green Sr Melisa McClurkin Angela Moore James Quick, Jr Casey Robinson Latrina Smith April Wells

Norma Irvin Blocker Derrick Cain Alaina Coates Alvina Evans **Dayontice Furtick** Nathan Gilliard Kaitlyn N Gilmore Doretha Godfrey

Victoria Anne Goldsmith Kassim Hosendove Amber Hughes Walter Jackson Gwendolyn Johnson Pamela Johnson Ernest T. Reynolds Marcella Sample Andrea Renee Thompson



Birthdays



Raymond Bordley Tonya Conner D. Natkki Dawkins Geraldine Etheridge Najjar Faustin Alexander Ford Whitney Jackson Anthony Robertson Sylvia Thomas LaTasha Williams

Felicia C. Baker Kenneth Burton Michelle Copeland Tami Daugherty Janice M. Gordon Esther Legette Shonda Lewis Franklin Mack Lewis McLauren Aaliyah Renee Moore Kimberly Drayton Peterson Felicia Roberson Talesha Robinson Brandon Rollerson Barbara T. Smith Constance Suber Wendi Williams Anita Blount
Ella Bookert
Saudia Brownlee
Michael Claxton
Ervin Esau
Veronica Everett
Josephus Howard
Marvell Mendenhall

Marion Miller, Jr.
Samuel Quatttlebaum
LaDonia Shuler
Mae F. Sims
Tre'Vaughn Thomas
Caylen Walker
Jasmine Walker

Aliza Boone Precious V. Bryant Jerry Burch Rosetta Eaddy Janice E. Harris Marvin Howard Joes Jones Kimberly N. McGill Cheryl McRae George Rice Jr Darius Suber Tyrick Wilson Alexis Adams Randy Bell, Jr Grover Bostic April Daniels Betty DeWalt Steven L. Gilbert Debra Johnson Dorothea Lewis Bobbie Louden Kerstin Mackey Ebony Payne Betty Session

Isacc T. Benn
Shelander Black
Dinah Alexis Brooker
Margaret Chaplin
Reginald Dalton
Leilah Hill
Reginald Howell
Keirsten Hoyle
B. Noelle Jones

Lisa G. Lewis Sherry Middleton Jean Moody Nicole M. Osborne Betty Owens Sheltric Peterson Sherry K. Rivers Rabiyah Sims Louis T. Sutton, Sr.

Rosemounda Percell Butler Drayon Holmes Sharon Kennedy Frank Reeves Irving Smith III LeToya Singleton Walker John Wright

Shannon Ali Angel B. Coleman David Corley, Jr Julie Geiger Chelsea Gilmore Cynthia A.M. Jackson Jaelin Johnson Justis Johnson Barbara Kearse Chris McConnell Debra M. McCoy Ezell Parker II Barbara Watson Almetrice Weldon Jessica Wilson Donovan Bailey Ronald C. Bethea, Jr Brittney T. Brown Christopher Brown Dione Burton Howard Davis Elnora J. Dean Rena P. Dixon Jeremy Jenkins Kathy Jenkins Deontae' Johnson Dwayne Jones
Lloyd E. Julius
Faye Mathis
Tauteuna Oliver
Candace Sharee Parson
JoJuan M. Pradubsri
Janie L. Story
Khadijah Sutton
Itia J. Taylor
Sonia D. Thomas
Tony Thomas

Johnnie Barnett
Joyce Baskett
Iris Dudley
Nathan Etheredge, Sr
Delawese Fulton
Johnny Gilliard
Charnet Hall
James Jackson
Patricia James

Anthony Jamison
Adrianne Dixon Jenkins
Kaia Leathers
Kareem Mitchell
Susie Padgett-Anderson
Gary A. Rice
Dewaii L. Tate
Ashley Williams
Jessica Woods

Johnny E. Brown Michael Drayton Haley Green Jemia Jefferson Kaylah S. Johnson Dena Woods-Jude Desiree Leach

18

Sequoya McDaniels Tracy Middleton Walter Nelson Sarafina Robinson Ashley Simmons Pamela Small Shirley Toland

Birthdays



Amanda Adams Kelly Adams Alice Benson Anthony Brown Sandra Delaney Johnson Mary Ann Jones Dwight A. Mims James Nelson Jessica Perkins Louise Singleton Ramiya Starks

Diane Jones

Anthony Brown
Ashley Butler
Precious Caesar
Marcy Cannon
Ralph Deas
Victoria Dozier
Courtney Gantt
Constance Glover
Averyl Harth
Victoria Louis Jean

Asia Kelley
Frederick Ladson
Matthew F. McCray
Rachel B. Porter
Sherron Reese
Josetta Smalls
Hillard S. Tate
Antoinette Walker
Connie Woods

Cecil Banks, Jr
Kristal Gary
Titus P. Gibbs
Ron Graham
Marguerite Hailstock
Robin Jackson
Sandra Jackson

Lataya N. Keitt Sharonda McCoy Oscar McKnight Myrtis Randall Kia Smith Frank Streater III Ciera C. Walker

Rick Abercrombie
Terrance Acox
Dallas A. Bess
Mimmie Carter
Eric K. Coleman
Katherine Davis
Shanti Dickerson
Mae Fields Fulks
Barbara Gantt

Bruce W. Gardner
Sammie Grant III
Dawna Keith
Jemetia L. Mealing
Michael Montague, JR
Brandon Jamal Sanders
Ronnie Settles
Tabbetha Turnbow
Anthony Weston
Terence Young

Renita Armstrong Raheem Askia Larry Blake Tori Bright Linda A. Davis Vernon Davis Shannon Fields Lois Franklin Stephanie Frison Taylor Henry Mozell Jones
Quadarius McMillan
Barbara McQueen
Tonisha Pearson
Barry Riley
Velvet Riley
Cabatha Rogers
Bruc Smith
Teah Smith

Katherine Albert Kamel Chevry Betty L. Gaines Murphy Holloway Lorenza Alfred Jackson

Oneita Jackson Henretta Montgomery KeAndre Peavy Kennedy Polk Jordanne Thomas Michael Bines
Tinita Branch
Jana Coleman
Elaine Dunbar
Ponzella Edwards
Krystal Gadson
Ivory Gleaton
William Hammond
Nancy Herring
Marion Jackson

Ayana L. Jones
Tameka Lane
Allan Manning
Shehenia Mitchell
Lueveretia Moore
Barbara Scarborough
Venette Shuler
Anthony Stokes
Dequnn Thomas
Gail Vereen
Anginette Yarborough

Larry K. Bennon
Eloise E. Black
Joseph Boyd
April Burgess
Karen Chin
Leah Melissa Godbold
DeJuaha A. Harris
Sophie Hunter

Romeo S. Nembhard
Tyrone Lamar Satterfield
Miriam A. Sneed
William Willie Stephens
Thomas D. Williams
Teresa Y. Wilson
Enoch Wisdom

Peggie Grant

Ania Hill

Kevin Hogan

Lawrence Reed

Daja Mon'e Scott

Destiny Stewart

Olanda Watts

Kennedy Williams

Chanta Jones Samuel

Patricia A. Smith

Shanika Smith-Opiyo

Khari Taylor

Arika White

Shauna Williams

Latrina Crum Jeffrey

Equivilyn McMicheal

Vickie Moody

Sherman Porterfield

Nadia Pryor

Dwayne E. Randolph

Curtis Richardson, Jr

Ferron Thomas

Myia Thomas

Tricia Washington

Carlos A. Jones

Terrance Ashford
Cedric E. Barnes, Jr
Jesse Brigg IV
Donna Naomi Brown
Victoria Edmonds
Sharon Fields
Wanda Gardner
Carolyn Grant

Jane Agard
Audrey Wilson Alston
Aisha Budden
Kenyatta Cunningham
Johnny King
Anthony Mivens

Patricia Belton Arnold Benson Sharon Carree Fred Daniels, Jr Essie Dantzler Star Dantzler Ebony L. Gaymon Ashley Harringtton Zakiya Harrison Jaree Jacobs

Jazzmine Bamberg
Shirley Benn
Michael A. Bethea
Sadarious Butler
Regina Gayle Butler
Crystal Gibson
Bernard Holmes
Christopher Hughes
Larry H. Jackson
Demetrius Johnson

Franklin D. Jones
Danielle Lloyd
Angela D. McCray
Robert A. Myers
Helen Pleasant
Sarah F. Riley
Sean Spain
Myles Thomas
Rebecca Washington
Judy Wiggins
John H. Williams, Jr

S) Marie (day)

de te Here for you

Your Deacon and the Pastoral Staff are concerned and care about every member in our Church "Family." When there is a sickness, surgery or death in your family, Please contact your Deacon and the Pastoral Office (Angela Taylor) at (803)744-7908

All birthdays listed on the previous pages are generated through the church membership database.

If you find any errors in the listings or if you have recently moved or changed your phone number, please contact the Church Office at the West Campus at (803) 796-7525 or the Northeast Campus at (803) 753-0610.

13

Support

Tithes & Offerings

IN PERSON

Use an offering envelope and clearly print your name and full address on the envelope, so your donation will be credited accurately for tax purposes.

ONLINE GIVING

Use the secure, convenient online giving through the church's website to pay through your checking or savings account, debit or credit card.

Use your financial institution's bill pay service to send a check of your tithes and offerings.

TEXT GIVING

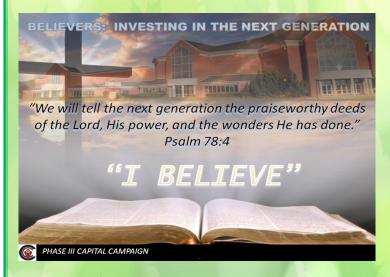
Text the word "funds" to (803) 223-7519. Follow the prompts to securely register. Donate using your debit or credit card by typing the Amount and Name of Fund.

By MAIL

P.O. Box 2093, Columbia, SC 29202-2093. Print your name and full address on the envelope, so your donation will be credited accurately for tax purposes.

ESTATE PLANNING

Designate Brookland Baptist Church or one of our entities in your Last Will and Testament.



Supporting our future....

PLEDGE LEVELS

Diamond \$20,000 and above

Platinum \$10,000 - \$19,999

Gold \$5,000 - \$9,999

Silver \$2,000 - \$4,999

Bronze \$1,000 - \$1,999

Contact the Brookland Finance Department at (803) 796-7525 to set up your pledge.

Please contact a member of our Finance Department at (803) 796-7525 with your questions.

Brookland Baptist Church Senior Missionary Prayer Breakfast 103rd Anniversary Celebration

Theme: "Rekindling Fire for God: A Cry to Heal the Land"

II Chronicles 7:14

Speaker: Reverend Carla Patterson, Associate Minister Friendship Missionary Baptist Church Charlotte, North Carolina

Saturday, April 27, 2019 Brookland Banquet & Conference Center Doors open at 8:00 Breakfast starts at 8:30

Donation: \$12



Senior Missionary Officers

Left to right: Mazie Neal, Ruth Brown, Beatrice Stephens, Vivian Neal, Sophia Pearson, Betty Taylor, Katherine Albert, and Ethel Suber. Annette Sello and Beulah Ross were not present for the photo.







Rev. Loretta Coleman



Reverend Loretta Coleman

Depression is a silent killer, it's a disease that will destroy your life if you do not seek help. You cannot talk to everyone about your problems, but God has placed

people here on earth that can help you. I am proud to say that both of my doctors are born again believers and counsels me according to God's word. Many times we are afraid to reach out because we are concerned about what others will think of us....dismiss that thought and seek help. Not everyone is made to understand you, you cannot share your challenges with everyone. Seek God for direction and then follow

Depression is so real, BUT SO IS GOD!

23rd Annual Charity Golf Tournament *** Register Now

"Moving Mountains for Commi



- 1. Visit www.BrooklandFoundation.org
- 2. Click on the Golf Brochure Image



Friday, June 7, 2019

The Members Club at Woodcreek 301 Club Ridge Rd.

Elgin, SC 29045

3. Complete Registration Form (Online and Print/Mail Options)

To learn more about the Foundation's programs, activities, and events, visit http://www.BrooklandFoundation.org

Sponsorships Available - Volunteers Needed

Why you need a carbon monoxide detector in your home Alyssa Robillard, PhD, MCHES

If I say "God is good," most of you would respond "all the time!" I'm writing to let you know that **GOD IS INDEED GOOD!! ALL THE TIME!!** He spared my life because of a carbon monoxide detector and placed it on my heart to share this with you.

Carbon monoxide, sometimes referred to by its scientific name "CO," is an odorless, colorless gas that can kill you. It is found in fumes from fuel burned in cars or trucks, small engines, stoves, lanterns, grills, fireplaces, gas ranges, or furnaces. Carbon monoxide can build up indoors and poison people and animals who breathe it in. (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2019)

One evening last month, I came home to a very loud alarm blaring from inside my house. I thought it was a smoke detector with a bad battery. After investigating, I realized it was the carbon monoxide detector. Given what I know about carbon monoxide poisoning and the recent tragic events that took the lives of Mr. Calvin Witherspoon, Jr. and Mr. Derrick Caldwell Roper at Allen Benedict Courts, I immediately grabbed my little dog who had been inside the house and went outside for fresh air.

My Dad is retired from a chemical company and has always been adamant about safety, so he made sure I had a fire detector AND a carbon monoxide detector in the house when I moved in. I called him, and he said to "first check the battery, then call the fire department." Of course, I followed my Daddy's instructions. In short order, three fire trucks arrived—including the hazardous materials fire truck to check the CO levels in the house. The first fire truck didn't have the equipment to read the CO levels because they were too high. The firefighters from the Columbia Fire Department were incredibly helpful, and they told me the readings were double the level at which they usually respond! They determined the furnace as the source of the carbon monoxide and shut off the gas. They aired out the house and got the readings down to zero before they left.

So why am I sharing this? Because I want you to know that everyone is at risk for CO poisoning. In fact, infants, the elderly, people with chronic heart disease, anemia, and/or breathing problems are more likely to get sick from carbon monoxide. Each year, more than 400 Americans die from unintentional CO poisoning not linked to fires, more than 20,000 visit the emergency room, and more than 4,000 are hospitalized (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2019). Common symptoms of CO poisoning include headache, dizziness, weakness, upset stomach, vomiting, chest pain, and confusion. If you breathe in a lot of carbon monoxide, it can make you pass out or kill you. People who are sleeping can die from CO poisoning before they have symptoms (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2019). Even in the short time I was in my house, I started developing a headache.

Even though the weather may no longer be cold by the time you read this, it is still important to have a CO detector in your home if you have fuel-burning appliances. Please get a carbon monoxide detector in your home if you don't have one already or check the batteries in your existing detector to make sure it is in good working order. That's my advice, but the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention suggests doing the following to further prevent carbon monoxide poisoning in your home:

- Install a battery-operated or battery back-up CO detector in your home and check or replace the battery when you change the time on your clocks each spring and fall. Place your detector where it will wake you up if it alarms, such as outside your bedroom. Consider buying a detector with a digital readout. This detector can tell you the highest level of CO concentration in your home in addition to alarming. Replace your CO detector every five years.
- Have your heating system, water heater, and any other gas, oil, or coal burning appliances serviced by a qualified technician every year.
- Do not use portable flameless chemical heaters indoors.
- If you smell an odor from your gas refrigerator have an expert service it. An odor from your gas refrigerator can mean it could be leaking CO.
- When you buy gas equipment, buy only equipment carrying the seal of a national testing agency, such as Underwriters' Laboratories.

- Make sure your gas appliances are vented properly. Horizontal vent pipes for appliances, such as a water heater, should go up slightly as they go toward outdoors, as shown below. This prevents CO from leaking if the joints or pipes aren't fitted tightly.
- Have your chimney checked or cleaned every year. Chimneys can be blocked by debris. This can cause CO to build up inside your home or cabin.
- Never patch a vent pipe with tape, gum, or something else. This kind of patch can make CO build up in your home, cabin, or camper.
- Never use a gas range or oven for heating. Using a gas range or oven for heating can cause a build up of CO inside your home, cabin, or camper.
- Never burn charcoal indoors. Burning charcoal red, gray, black, or white gives off CO.
- Never use a portable gas camp stove indoors. Using a gas camp stove indoors can cause CO to build up inside your home, cabin, or camper.
- Never use a generator inside your home, basement, or garage or less than 20 feet from any window, door, or vent.
- When using a generator, use a battery-powered or battery backup CO detector in your home.

Also...

• Never run your car or truck inside a garage that is attached to a house even with the garage door open. Always open the door to a detached garage to let in fresh air when you run a car or truck inside.

I'll finish this the way I started. **GOD IS GOOD ALL THE TIME!!!!** I'm so grateful to the Columbia Fire Department!! I'm even more grateful for my Daddy!! And I'm most thankful to the God who spared me, because who knows what could have happened if I had not had that carbon monoxide detector? I doubt I'd be here to remind you **JUST HOW GOOD GOD IS!!!!**





Thank you from the Black History Committee to all who participated in our quarterly Book Club discussion! Our first book was a great discussion.

Our next book selection is:

" A Lesson Before Dying" by Ernest J. Gaines.

Mark your calendar for Sunday, June 30, 2019 for our second quarter book discussion.

#BrooklandReads!

Lesson Before Dying

COME JOIN THE CHARLES B. JACKSON SINGERS

"SUMMER BLUES EXCURSION" MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE JULY 10-13, 2019



ENJOY BEALE STREET, NATIONAL CIVIL RIGHTS MUSEUM, THE STAXX MUSEUM OF SOUL AND MORE!

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT: K. ALLEN CAMPBELL (803) 744-7906



EASTER 2019 MENU

- Wine Braised Lamb/Carving
- ▶ Roasted Turkey Breast/Carving
- ▶ Brookland's Fried Chicken
- ▶ Whole Baked Salmon

- ▶ Sliced Pot Roast
- ▶ Lemon Pepper Chicken
- Full Salad Bar
- Full Dessert Bar

All Day Breakfast Bar • All Day Omelet and Waffle Station

SUNDAY, APRIL 21, 2019 10:00AM-

ADULTS: \$18.99 (plus \$2 for beverage)
CHILDREN: \$7.99 (plus \$2 for beverage)

BROOKLAND BANQUET AND CONFERENCE CENTER
Located on the campus of Brookland Baptist Church
1066 Sunset Blvd • West Columbia, SC • For Reservations: 803-744-7956