



# THE EPISTLE

*Newsletter of the  
Nineteenth Street Baptist Church*

*"You are our epistle written in our hearts, known and read by all men..." 2 Corinthians 3:2*



**Nineteenth Street Baptist Church**

4606 16th Street NW  
Washington, DC 20011  
202-829-2773

[www.everyblessing.org](http://www.everyblessing.org)

**Ministerial Staff**

- Rev. James A. Crosson Jr., *Interim Pastor*
- Rev. Jerry C. Cheatham Jr.
- Rev. Cheryl Coleman Hall
- Rev. Dr. I. Benni Singleton
- Rev. Reginald Townsend
- Rev. Edward Turner
- Rev. Robin L. Turner
- Rev. Eddie Martin Jr., *Youth Minister*
- Rev. Dr. Jerry A. Moore Jr., *Pastor Emeritus*

Church School, Sunday 8:45 AM  
Morning Worship, Sunday 10:00 AM  
Prayer Meeting, Thursday 6:30 PM



**GOD** is Our Passion. Serving **People** is Our **Mission**.

The mission of the Nineteenth Street Baptist Church is to profoundly *experience*, joyfully *celebrate*, and meaningfully *share* God's grace.

We do this through Christ-centered *worship*, *biblical instruction*, *prayer*, *nurturing fellowship*, and *caring acts* that are reflective of our love for God and one another.

We, through the power of the Holy Spirit, proclaim the Gospel and Jesus Christ to all people while supporting the work of missions in our church, our community, our country, and the world.

**The Epistle**

is an official publication of the Nineteenth Street Baptist Church.

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**Submit articles and photographs**

for publication via email to [Epistle@everyblessing.org](mailto:Epistle@everyblessing.org)

**Questions?**

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# The Strong Example of a Loving Father

By Rev. Robin Turner



The Scriptures offer many examples of God's love for His children, but none more miraculously displayed than that of the Father toward the Church. It is a Truth that is so powerful, despite the fact that we as believers have not yet seen the Father, the first person of the Trinity.

It is in God's plan that the family be whole, strong, secure and divine — with the strong presence of a loving father. He is the figure

who primarily holds the key for the blessing and vision of his children. Of course, many mothers have supported and served as heads of households as needed by God's grace, but it was never God's plan for a mother to replace the father. When the father is physically or emotionally absent, there is a great void.

The National Center for Fathering ([www.fathers.com](http://www.fathers.com)) reports that "more than 20 million children live in a home without the physical presence of a father." The U.S. Census Bureau estimate is even higher (24.7 million children or 33% live absent their biological father). And 58% of African-American children live without their biological fathers. Fatherlessness impacts our homes, churches, schools and prisons.

Our comfort as believers is in knowing that regardless of the state of the earthly father, our heavenly Father is always present

and close. In the same way, a strong Christian father should exemplify our heavenly Father's attributes, providing close kinship, protection, and security with willing sacrifice, as he faithfully cares for and loves his family.

Despite what the media would project, we do have such examples in the highest leader of the Free World and in many of our homes today. Godly men still choose virtue. In fact, the very term, "virtue," comes from the Latin word for "man," signifying strength and dignity. Without it, a man can be neither a good nor godly father.

As God, our heavenly Father is a great provider, protector and through His Holy Spirit our spiritual leader, so too should the Christian father provide for his family. He should lead prayer in the home, help cultivate godly character, and — whether physically present or not — leave a godly imprint on each member.

We should be so infused with this Truth that we honor all Christian fathers and encourage them to be the men God has called them to be. ❖



# Second Prepare to Care Workshop Set for June 11

*Deaconess Gloria Tisdale and Rev. Reginald Townsend contributed to this article.*

On Saturday, May 7, the Comforting Care and Health Ministries, in collaboration with the District of Columbia Office on Aging (DCOA), New York Life Mutual

Insurance Company and our sister church, Zion Baptist Church, conducted a highly successful and informative Prepare to Care workshop. This was the first of a series of three workshops designed to help our members care for themselves, their families and loved ones as they age.

More than 70 people attended the workshop. Program planners were encouraged by the large and enthusiastic

response of church members to the workshop.

Planning for long-term care can be a difficult and at times confusing process for many families. The first workshop presented information to dispel myths and increase understanding of long-term care, identify available resources in the District, and provide options counseling for residents. Speakers

## **Upcoming Prepare to Care Workshops**

### ***Workshop 2: June 11, 2016***

Topics: Elder Law, Estate Planning, Hospice Care, Death and Bereavement

### ***Workshop 3: Date to be Announced***

Topics: Final Planning:  
Know your options.  
Decide your future.

The workshops will be held in the fellowship hall. Registration and continental breakfast will begin at 9:15 AM.

Participation is free but registration is required. Pre-register at [office@nbcdc.org](mailto:office@nbcdc.org) or in the fellowship hall after Sunday worship services.

Contact the church office at 202-829-2773 to request transportation to the workshop.



Photos: Deaconess Gloria Tisdale



*Speaker J.C. Cruz represented the Department of Homeland Security.*

gave invaluable information on topics, such as government legal services and regulations, disaster preparation, elder care, insurance, etc.

Deacon Leon Pierce explained the origin of the workshop, “We have seen the shock, pain and sadness of our church members over the loss of loved ones. We have felt so helpless and powerless to help them. After we came together and read the Prepare To Care Guide and the Long Term Planning Guide, we became excited and anxious to present a workshop that would enable our church family to acquire a sense of readiness to

address and feel empowered to address unforeseen health crises or related circumstances.”

Other church members involved in planning the seminar series are McLean Avery, Deacon Yvonne Dickson, Deacon Jessie McCrae, Deaconess Mamie Montague, Judith Neely, Evelyn Sellers, Deacon Joe Sudduth, Alice Thompson, Ferlandia Townsend, Rev. Reginald Townsend, and Interim Pastor Rev. James A. Crosson Jr. Oretha Chandler provided an exercise break and led stretching and power walking activities at the workshop. ❖



*Nineteenth Street member Alice Thompson of the DC Office on Aging spoke on the topic of Safe at Home? How Does it Work?*



*Jerry Kasunic is Deputy Assistant Director for Aging and Disability Resource Center.*



*Angela Wheeler of Zion Baptist Church addressed attendees.*

# Sunday School Lessons Include Gifts for Moms



Front: David (DJ) Forston.  
Back: Hannah Kirby, Kinsley Beckham and Christine Bonner

During Sunday School, our children lovingly made cards and arranged flowers to give to their mothers and grandmothers for Mother's Day.



Twins Langston and Logan Chambliss



Front: Abbot Anderson and Aiden Williams  
Back: Jack Anderson, Alexander Williams and A'von Williams

Photos: Deaconess Gloria Tisdale

Join us for Our Summer  
Church School Study Series

Sundays

July 3- August 28, 2016

*Life Lessons.....*

*Boy do I have problems.....*



**Teachings From the Book of James**

*If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you.*  
James 1:5 NIV

8:45 AM - 9:00 AM Devotion
9:00 AM - 9:40 AM Classes in Session
9:40 AM - 9:55 AM Continental Breakfast

Nineteenth Street Baptist Church  
4606 16th Street NW, Washington, DC 20011

Shirley W. France  
Superintendent

Rev. James A. Crosson, Jr.  
Interim Pastor

## Wiley to Deliver Her First Sermon on June 9

Leslie Wiley, a Wesley Theological Seminary divinity student and active member of Nineteenth Street Baptist Church, will deliver her initial sermon at Prayer Meeting on June 9 in the Brooks Chapel at 6:30 PM.



Leslie has been a member of Nineteenth Street since 2002. She has used her God-given talents to His glory in numerous church ministries, including teaching Sunday School (Class 9), chairing the 2007 Church Wide Retreat, and being active in the New Members, Global Missions and Women's ministries.

Leslie is in her third year of study pursuing a Master of Divinity degree. She holds an undergraduate degree in Engineering from Northwestern University,

an MBA from the Wharton School and professional certification in Organizational Development from Georgetown University. She and her husband Larry Irving are residents of the District of Columbia.

All are invited to come out to hear and support Leslie Wiley as she achieves this important milestone in her ministerial journey. ❖

# Global Missions Plans Fundraising Walk for Haiti

*By Phillis Walls Cooke*

The Global Missions Ministry is seeking participation and support for its Haiti Walk 5K to be held on October 15, 2016. The walk is a fundraiser for VillageMED's Haiti's Healthy Child Project to support the building of a permanent clinic in Carrefour, Haiti, near the epicenter of the 2010 earthquake. This area remains devastated and greatly in need of medical care.

There are three ways you can get involved in the fundraising walk:

1. START a team of your own and ask each team member to raise \$250.
2. JOIN a team and raise \$250 as your individual goal.
3. DONATE any amount to a team or individual team member.

Nineteenth Street Baptist Church has a team named in honor of the late Velma J. Bonhomme, who during her life demonstrated her love and dedication to children. Her family is Haitian with many family members still living in Haiti. You may join the church's Team Velma J. Bonhomme as an individual or donate to it.

To register for the walk, go online to [www.haitiwalk5k.org](http://www.haitiwalk5k.org).

You may also access the walk registration through our church website: [www.everyblessing.org](http://www.everyblessing.org). Online registration is quick and user-friendly. There you'll

also find sample fundraising letters to help you get started requesting donations.

Contact Deaconess Sageta Jackson, Haiti Walk 5K Registrar; Oretha Chandler, Haiti Walk 5K Committee Chair; or Phillis Walls Cooke, Global Missions Ministry Leader.

For more information about VillageMED, go to [www.villagemed.org](http://www.villagemed.org).





# Sign Up Now for 5K Walk Team Velma J. Bonhomme!

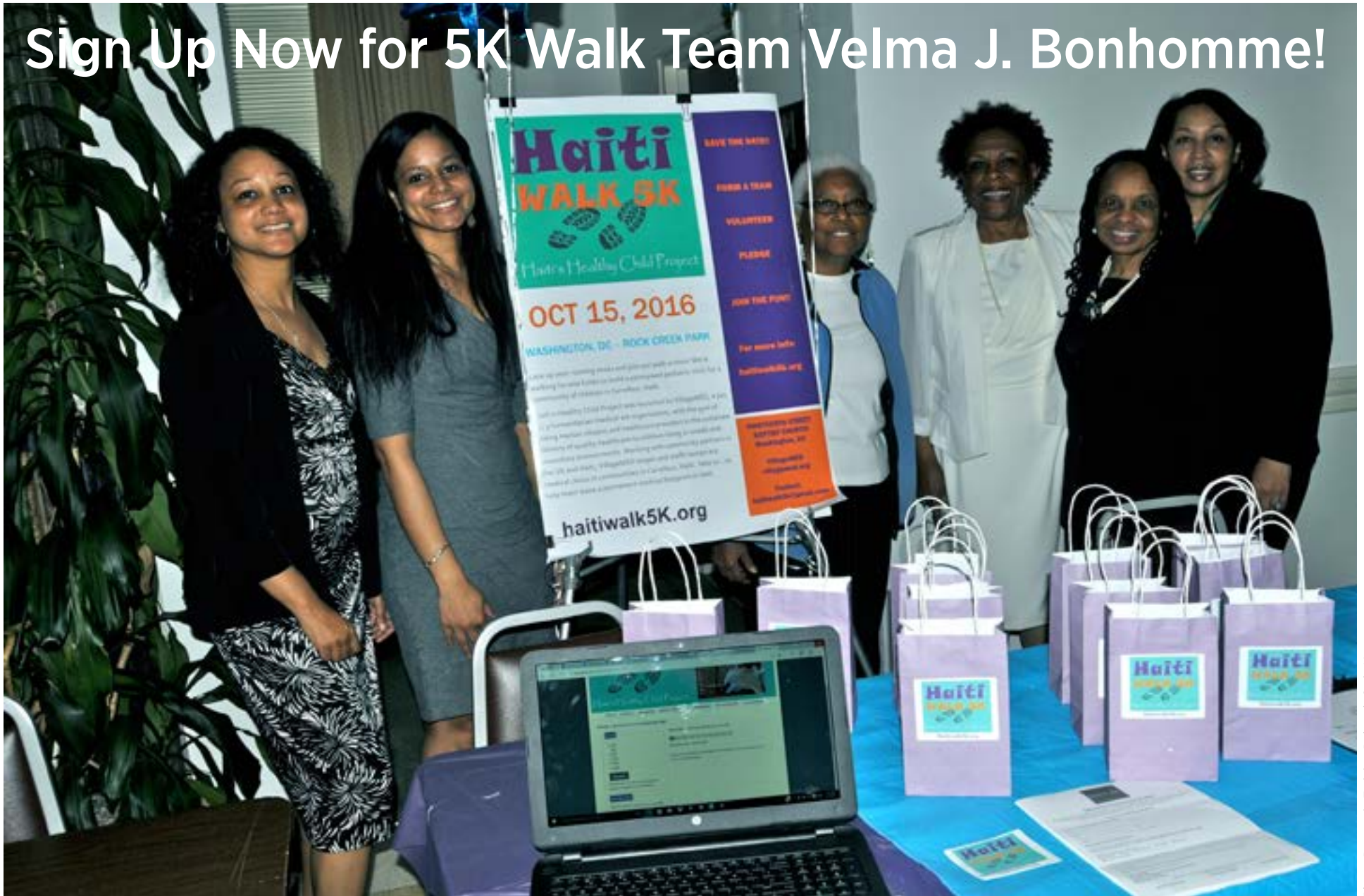


Photo: Deacon in Training Deborah Crain Kemp

*Alita Bonhomme, Andrea Bonhomme, Captain of Team Velma J. Bonhomme, (both daughters of Velma J. Bonhomme), Oretha Chandler, Haiti Walk 5K Committee Chair, Deaconess Sageta Jackson, Registrar for offline registration, Phillis Walls Cooke, Global Missions Ministry Leader, and Nancy Quincy, President of VillageMED*

# Faces of Spring:

## Guests and Familiar Faces of Nineteenth Street



Photo: Deaconess Gwen Harris-Gale

*Pastor Emeritus Rev. Dr. Jerry A. Moore Jr. will be 98 years young on June 12!*



*Dr. Boykin Sanders of Virginia Union University was guest preacher on May 22.*



*Gospel singer Bebe Winans visited to promote the Arena Stage play of his life, Born For This.*



*Long time member Marita Langford, who now resides at Malta House, is visited by Deacon Yvonne Dickson.*

Photos: Deacon in Training Deborah Crain Kemp



Photo: Deacon in Training Deborah Crain Kemp

*Members Gregory and Monica Parchment and daughters*



*Deacon Gerald Young and Deaconess Maureen Young and family surround his mother MaBelle Brown*



*Deacon Raymond Johnson and Deaconess Philicia Jones on Mother's Day*



*Former Trustees Cheryl Johnson and Carolyn Wilson on Mother's Day*



*Bernice Ware on Mother's Day*

Photo: Deaconess Gwen Harris-Gale



# We Need Men of Courage and Promise

*By Rev. Reginald Townsend*

Every human life is a tapestry of events: some wonderful, some not-so-wonderful, and some incredibly disheartening. It can become easy to forget God's blessings and His mercy. Despite the many apparent contradictions of life, always remember that you can do all things through Christ who gives you the strength and the courage to do His will.

The world desperately needs Christian men who are willing to honor God with their service. This generation faces problems that defy easy solutions, yet face them we must. We need leaders whose vision is clear and whose intentions are pure. The word of God admonishes us, "Be alert, stand firm in the faith, be brave and be strong." (1 Corinthians 16:13)

Hopefully, we will be men of courage, who possess high moral and ethical standards and manifest qualities of compassion and good will, and offer counsel and direction

to our families, friends, and coworkers. "For God has not given us a spirit of fearfulness, but one of power, love, and sound judgment." (2 Timothy 1:7)

God has said that He will never leave or forsake us. (Deuteronomy 31:6) God's Promises are eternal. The next time you find yourself in a fearful-provoking situation, remember that God is as near as your next breath, and He offers salvation to His children. He is your shield and your strength. He is your protector and your deliverer. Call upon Him in your hour of need and then be comforted. Whatever your challenge, whatever your trouble, God can handle it. Who, then, is the man that fears the LORD? He will instruct him in the way chosen for him. (Psalm 25:12).

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*Rev. Reginald Townsend is an Associate Minister on the staff of Nineteenth Street Baptist Church and a Licensed Clinical Social Worker.*

# Men's Day and Memorial Day Observed on May 29

Men's Day at Nineteenth Street Baptist Church capped a weekend of work and play. The Sunday Worship Service was spirit-filled with a powerful message preached by Guest Pastor Rev. Aaron L. Dobyne Sr. of Shiloh Baptist Church (Old Site) of Fredericksburg, Virginia. Rev. Dobyne's sermon was entitled, "How to Defeat the Phillistines."

Stirring music for the service was provided by the Men's Choir. Alexis Dobyne, the youngest daughter of Pastor Dobyne, also performed a guest solo during the offertory.

Chaplain Eddie Martin shared a Memorial Moment, explaining the difference between Memorial Day and Veterans Day. He

acknowledged the men and women and their families who have sacrificed in service to our country. He recognized the active duty service men and women, who were there in military uniforms, and gave extra praise to retirees who could still fit in their uniforms.

The Men's Ministry began the weekend with a bowling party on Friday evening. On Saturday, they performed many hours of service around the church, especially cleaning up and doing repairs at the Jones Handy House. Some also provided service by going to visit sick and shut-in church brothers. ❖



*Men's Day Guest Pastor Dr. Aaron L. Dobyne Sr.*



*Men's Day participants Jonathan Woolridge, Gayraud Townsend, Chaplain Eddie Martin and Rev. Reginald Townsend*

Photos: Deacon in Training Deborah Crain Kemp



*Deaconesses Evangeline Stevens and Sandra Caviness with retired military members Thomas Montague and Richard Jones, in uniform.*



*Deacon Howard Smith is president of The Men's Ministry*



*The Men's Choir directed by Leonard Higgs*



*US Navy retiree Carasundia Rivers— one of several women recognized for their service*

# Word on the Street...Youth Church is Growing



Photo: Deaconess Gloria Tisdale

*Youth Minister Chaplain Eddie Martin engages Nineteenth Street Youth in thoughtful discussion during a Sunday Youth Church session.*

# Dashawn Lemons Thanks Love Pal Program



I have been a member of Nineteenth Street Baptist Church for 10 years. I recently graduated from West Liberty University with a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice and will be going on to earn my master's degree in Business Administration this fall. Throughout my 4 years of college, I have been a part of the Love Pal program here at Nineteenth Street Baptist Church. My Love Pal was Deaconess Barbara Johnson who often stayed in contact with me and helped mentor me through my college career.

The Love Pal program helped me financially through school and always seemed to come right on time. As a college student, finances were always a concern, but the assistance from Deaconess Johnson and the Love Pal program frequently helped me with books, groceries, and transportation expenses.

I'm forever grateful for this wonderful program and my church family. Thank you for supporting me through an important chapter in my life. I couldn't have done it without you and God by my side. ❖

*Funds for the Love Pal program are raised through theater outings sponsored by the Progressive Adults. The next outing is on Friday, July 29, to see "Born For This: The Bebe Winans Story" at Arena Stage.*

# Youth Church Calendar

The Youth Ministry is holding Youth Church several Sundays (shown in blue) each month. See Calendar on page 17 for other Youth Ministry activities.

**JUNE**

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
<b>5</b>	6	7	8	9	10	11
<b>12</b>	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

**June 12 is Youth Sunday/Graduate Recognition Day!**

**JULY**

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<b>10</b>	11	12	13	14	15	16
<b>17</b>	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

**AUGUST**

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
<b>7</b>	8	9	10	11	12	13
<b>14</b>	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Church members are needed to help on any of these Sundays. To volunteer, contact Chaplain Eddie Martin Jr. at [19thstreet.youthministry@gmail.com](mailto:19thstreet.youthministry@gmail.com)



# Calendar

## JUNE

Thursday, June 9 – Prayer Meeting, Leslie Wiley preaching, 6:30 PM

Saturday, June 11 – Annual Youth Basketball Tournament, 10 AM,  
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints Gymnasium

Saturday, June 11 – Prepare to Care Workshop 2, 9:15 AM - 2 PM

Sunday, June 12 – Youth Sunday Church School Recognition Program, 8:45 AM

Sunday, June 12 – Youth Sunday/Graduation Recognition Day Worship Service, 10 AM

Sunday, June 12 – Annual Youth Oratory Contest, Sponsored by the Youth Ministry, 1 PM

Sunday, June 19 – Father’s Day

Monday, June 27 – Vacation Bible School Begins, 9 AM - 12 Noon

## JULY

Sunday, July 3 – Church School Summer Program Begins, 8:45 AM

Monday, July 4 - Independence Day Holiday

Friday, July 22 - Church Business Meeting, 7 PM

Friday, July 22 - Progressive Adults Theater Outing, Born For This: The Bebe Winans Story, Arena Stage, 8 PM

**NEW DATE:** Monday, September 12 – John H. Brinkley Annual Memorial Golf Tournament,  
Enterprise Golf Course, Mitchellville, Maryland