

Theme: "One Church...One Vision" - Ephesians 4:4-6

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER

the
VOICE



GOLDSBORO-RALEIGH DISTRICT ASSEMBLY

Church of Christ, Disciples of Christ, International

BISHOP ROBERT D. HOOD
PRESIDING BISHOP

BISHOP RODNEY PARKER
BISHOP'S VICE

October 2020



From The Bishops' Desk...

Shalom GRDA Family,

I pray that you and your families are enjoying the blessings of our Great King. I am humbled by this privilege to serve as the Presiding Bishop of this great Assembly. In the midst of everything we may be experiencing, God has been good to us! I want to extend special thanks to my executive staff and team for their continued dedication and hard work.

Someone once told me that if the truth was the truth in the past, then it must be true now in the present. If "Fortitude" was a requirement in the days of old, in-order to push pass present peril, then it is evident that it is still a requirement today! Ephesians 6:10 says, "A final word: Be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power" (NLT).

Our dependence on God will always reciprocate provisional protection from the Good Shepherd! His magnified mercies continue to be manifested, even in these unprecedented times. It doesn't take the IQ of Einstein, the brilliance of the great Pythagoras, the psychoanalysis theory of Sigmund Freud to figure this out; God Is Good!

My final thought is this: consider the implications of God's Love.

What it is, and how He loves us. Then ask yourself, is my service towards mankind or the lifestyle I have chosen to live, thus far, echo the sentiments of God's Love? When God looks at me does he see a reflection of Himself? Is God's love manifest in my life? I know what man says about me but what is God saying about me and how I have chosen to love and live?

Consider this and be blessed...

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Respectfully,

Bishop Robert D. Hood

Presiding Prelate



It was Written

Greetings, to all my Fathers children. I thank God for this opportunity to share a thought the Lord has given me for this Body of Christ. I am in nowise a politician, but early one morning I heard these words in my spirit. *“We the people in order to form a more perfect union”*.... Immediately, I was reminded of where these words are found. When I was young these words meant nothing to me. Now blessed to be much older I understand the significance.

These words are found at the beginning of the Constitution of the United States of America. It was written on September 17th, 1787 and was drafted to be the introduction to the Constitution. It was said to not have gone to the floor, yet it was placed as the introduction. When put in place by a Governor Morris who drafted this very important document, it stated what was to express the rights and freedom of all citizens of the United States. It says that the constitution would create laws around justice, peace, defense, welfare, liberty and prosperity for a more perfect country for Americans. This document is called the Preamble to the constitution. Please refresh your memory and read it again.

I am, as I said, in no way a Politician. I am a child of God living in a place called America. One thing I know for sure is my God has always, does always and will always provide all essential empowerments for our natural and spiritual lives. Let us my brothers and sisters study His guide, “the Bible” given to all born again believers as a guide to continue in His way. Our rights and freedom are already ours through His Son, Jesus the Christ given even before 1787. God Bless us all!!!

Love,
Dr. Nannie Stevens
Pastor, Christ Anointed Church of Christ, Disciples of Christ



Pastor Jeffrey Ward
St. John, Hampstead



Pastor Brenda Wilson
Little Creek, Ayden



Pastor Wiley Reid
St. Paul, Black Creek

Coronavirus (COVID-19)

COVID-19 has continued to grow in the US since February 2020, and by mid March all 50 states had been infected, and the numbers are still growing. It is a respiratory infection and spreads mainly from person-to-person, between people who are in close contact with one another (within about 6 feet). When an infected person coughs, sneezes, or talks directly in your face; these droplets can land in the mouth or nose, be inhaled into the lungs or absorbed into the eyes. This has been known since the beginning and has not changed.

Since the virus has continued for several months, science now has learned additional things. The fine respiratory droplets can ride in the air further than 6 feet. That is why a mask covering your NOSE & MOUTH is so important. Also EYE protection because the same way allergens get into your eyes and they itch, the virus can take that same route of entry. That is why we have to train ourselves to KEEP YOUR HANDS OUT OF YOUR FACE. If you must touch your face, put on or remove your eyeglasses, wipe your forehead or brow, put on or remove your mask, make sure you wash or sanitize your hands first.

Former Symptoms of Coronavirus:

*a cough *a high temperature or fever *shortness of breath

Now Additional Symptoms of Coronavirus:

*Muscle and body aches *Headache *Tired and fatigue *Congestion,
runny nose, sore throat
*Nausea or vomiting *Diarrhea *Loss of smell or taste which distinguishes it
from the flu, but also
*Even no symptoms at all

By this being a new virus to the entire world, we are learning things everyday about it. There is still NO KNOWN CURE for this virus. Vaccines are being tested, so it is still very important that we do not get relaxed and forget to follow protection habits. Even if you have had the virus, you can get it again.

Wash your hands frequently with soap and water for 20 minutes or use 70% hand sanitizer.

Wear your mask covering your mouth AND nose

Wear eye protection when you go out. Face shields are great to protect your eyes and it will remind you not to touch your face. But, if you wear a face shield or guard, remember that it does not replace your mask. You will need to wear both.

Keep 6 feet distance from people that do not live in your home. Some people will walk up close to you and it's unavoidable. That's why it's so important to wear protective equipment when you are out in public, even when family comes by to visit: help them remember that no one is exempt from the virus.

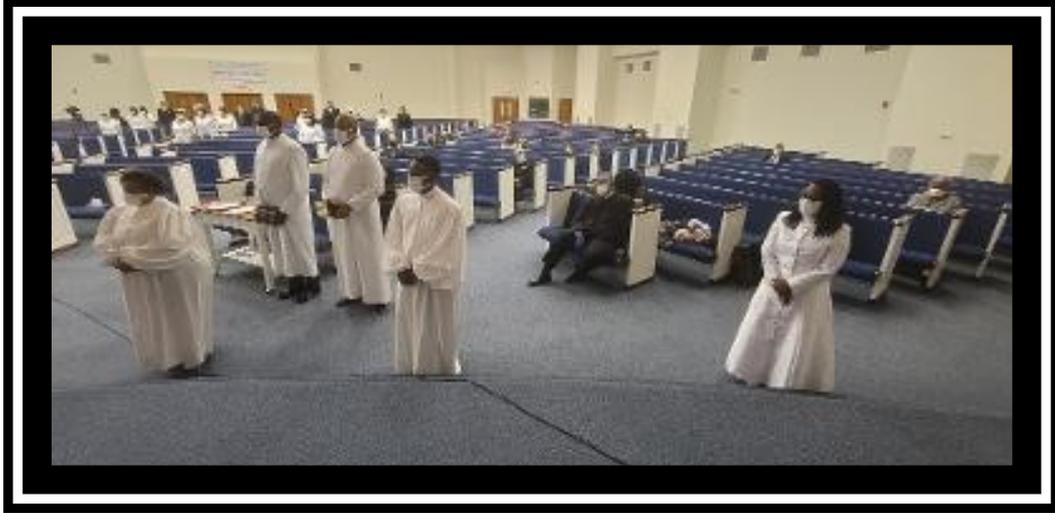
If you drive up to a takeout window and the staff is wearing a mask, put yours on too. Because someone in the back may sneeze or cough and the mild breeze may pull it right out the window into your car. Do not assume anything. This is the time to be overly cautious because it can protect and save your life.

If you get out of your car and forget your mask, turn around and go get it. Do all you can to avoid contacting the virus because we do not know what after-effect will result such as respiratory problems, concentration problems, weaken immune system. Too much is unknown to not be cautious.

We are now in Phase Three but do not let that fool you. Do not let your guard down by listening and following people that refuse to follow direction. The virus has NOT SLOWED UP. It does not discriminate. It will infect the elderly down to infants, males as well as females, all races, all countries, and all religions no matter how much faith you have, even animals. So let us continue to practice wisdom by being safe. It may be many more months if not years before this virus is eliminated, if at all. So, stop focusing on when are we going to return to normal and focus on practicing protection as the new normal which is wear your mask, wash your hands, and keep your distance. It's still alright to stay safe, stay strong, and stay home.

Submitted by Elder Shonnette Carraway, BSN, New Greenleaf Church of Christ, DOC

Highlights



GDI School of Religious Education





St. Stephen's Church News
308 W. First Street
Princeton, NC 27569
Pastor: Bishop Ronnie L. Hood

On June 13, 2020, The Missionary Department along with St. Stephen Church Family distributed 50 food boxes to 50 need-ed families These boxes were geared toward families that had school age children. This projected was spearheaded by the president of the Missionary Department at St. Stephens, Sister Linda B. Brown.

On August 23, 2020, St. Stephens had a "TRIPLE LOVE DRIVE BY" celebration for Bishop Ronnie L. Hood. He celebrated:

- (1) 50 Years in Ministry
- (2) Happy 68th Birthday
- (3) 2 Years as pastor @ St. Stephens Church

Then on Sunday August 24, 2020 at 11:00AM, we were graced by the Presiding Prelate of the GRDA Assembly Bishop Robert D. Hood as guest preacher. Our pre-sider was Elder Nico Hood, member of the Board of Elder and Singers Elder Misty Hood & Deacon Monty Hood. It was really a blessed time. The colors were red,



GRDA Sunday School Convention Scholarship Application

The **Sunday School Convention Fall Scholarship Application** period will close on **October 30, 2020**. Applications and instructions are located on the GRDA website at <http://www.grdacoc.org/sunday-school-convention>

An instructional video is available on the **GRDA Sunday School Convention** FaceBook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/GRDASundaySchoolConvention/>

If you have any questions you may reach out to the **Sunday School Convention** at GRDASundaySchool@gmail.com

Dr. Beverly Brookes Summers, Convention President

GRDA Missionary Convention partners with the

THE BLOOD CONNECTION



Let's continue to donate!

The Goldsboro-Raleigh District Assembly
Annual Memorial Service

Necrology Report

Elder Margaret McKeithan	St. Luke, Goldsboro
Sister Annie Hilliard	St. Luke, Goldsboro
Sister Ella Jackson	St. Luke, Goldsboro
Mother Gladys Brown	St. John, Hampstead
Trustee Willis Nixon	St. John, Hampstead
Brother James Bizzell	Oak Grove, Browntown
Sister Latonya "Bird" Smith	Oak Grove, Browntown
Brother Timmy Swinson, Jr.	Oak Grove, Browntown
Brother John Hillard	St. Mark, Faro
Mother Alberta Uzzell	St. Mark, Faro
Sister Theo Dunston Vick	St. Mary, Bailey
Brother Albert Sessoms	St. Mary, Bailey
Sister Frances Pegues	St. Mary, Bailey
Brother Bobby Lucas	St. Mary, Bailey
Trustee Arthur Lee Eatmon	St. Mary, Bailey
Trustee Leonard Hinnant	St. Mary, Bailey
Sister Connie Murrell	Alum Spring, Dover
Sister Alice McDonald Sanders	St. Peter, Smithfield
Sister Rosa Mae Sanders	St. Peter, Smithfield
Mother Lettie Mae Allen	St. Peter, Smithfield
Deacon James "Buddy" Yelverton	St. James, LaGrange
Sister Jessica Rene'e Carpenter	St. Paul, Zebulon
Sister Sudie Gooding	St. Peter, Kinston



The Goldsboro-Raleigh District Assembly

Annual Memorial Service

Necrology Report

Mother Lueverna Thomas	St. Peter, Kinston
Mother Lula Hall	St. Peter, Kinston
Deacon Clifton Wiggins	St. Peter, Kinston
Brother Issaih McClain	St. Peter, Kinston
Sister Annie Lee Davis Sanders	St. Peter, Kinston
Sister Emma Juanita Royal Winn	Running Branch, Clinton
Sister Linda Gail McDoe Strickland	Running Branch, Clinton
Mother Retha Mae Royal Hobbs	Running Branch, Clinton
Sister Ellene Parker	St. Stephen, Trenton
Brother Nathaniel Parker	St. Stephen, Trenton
Brother Furney Mundine	St. Stephen, Trenton
Mother Delores James Holmes	St. Rose, Wilson
Sister Rosa Lee Dawson	St. Rose, Wilson
Sister Jessica Renee Carpenter	St. Paul #2, Zebulon
Trustee Edward Ruffin	St. Paul, Wilson
Mother Pauline Hinnant	St. Paul, Wilson
Sister Mavis Smith	St. Paul, Wilson
Sister Margaret Watson	St. Paul, Wilson
Mother Ethel Lucas	St. Paul, Wilson
Deacon P.H. Holloway	Holly Hill, LaGrange
Brother Leonard Smith	Holly Hill, LaGrange
Deacon Spencer Powell	St. Paul, Black Creek



2020 GRDA Calendar of Events

GRDA Email Address:
info@goldsboro-raleigh.org

November 27-29 | District Union Meeting

***Continue to support God's Army of 1000

***Online contributions are continuously being accepted.

The Voice...

October 2020

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