

The Herald

Union Chapel Missionary Baptist Church
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Huntsville, AL 35811

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Happy
Father's
Day

The Herald is a monthly publication of Union Chapel Missionary Baptist Church. Members are encouraged to submit all newsworthy articles by the 20th of the month to newsletter@unionchapel-hsv.org. All articles are subject to editing for clarity and grammatical correctness.

“The Meaning of Fatherhood”



To have a fully functional family, there must be a strong male presence. This statement will probably not sit well with some who have a different opinion, but let's consider the reason for this statement.

From a Biblical perspective, scripture teaches us that the father is responsible for the spiritual well-being of the family. (Gen. 12:8; Job 1:5). Socially, the Biblical father's responsibility is to see that no one takes advantage of any member of his family. From an economic standpoint, scripture indicates that the father is to provide for the needs of the members of his family. (Prov. 6:6-11, I Tim. 5:8).

Black fathers have a high calling. First, to know who your children really are. This involves spending time with them, asking questions, studying them, talking and, more importantly, listening to what they have to say.

Secondly, the father has the responsibility of protecting and rescuing his children. Fathers are challenged more today than ever because of the moral decay, crime, and epidemic of violence plaguing our communities. But our black men bear the responsibility to secure, protect and rebuild our communities.

Finally, fathers must take the responsibility of being a teacher for the children. II Tim. 2: 15 says: “Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth”. So, it is incumbent upon fathers to teach their children the word of God so that they can make the right choices and understand how to deal with the issues of life. Fathers must teach their sons to become good fathers and husbands.

Black fathers must be role models. It is vitally important that fathers live as Godly examples before

their children. As the Word of God changes the heart of the father, the children will develop a biblical value system based on that which they have seen and experienced at home.

Some suggestions for strengthening fatherhood:

- Have a “family table time” where you share with family members around the dinner table. It seems that this family tradition has all but disappeared with the emergence of technology and our obsession with it.
- Schedule time alone with each family member to get to know them better. We all live very busy lives, but we only pass through this life once. It is vital that God and family are a priority.
- Get involved in school activities. Your presence matters.
- It is important that your children observe you and your wife sharing affection and expressing appreciation for each other.
- Take the family on a trip where they can appreciate our African American heritage; a place where Blacks are in power, which may give them a better perspective on the capabilities of people of color.
- When marital problems arise, always seek wise Christian counsel to resolve the issues.

The challenges of being a Christian Black father in America are great. But, in a world where selfish ambition and indulgence are accepted as the norm, parents who will stand for God and live according to His word will shine forth as bright lights in darkness. Our homes are spiritual proving grounds. The survival of our families rests, to a great extent, on our willingness to make a commitment to the Word of God. Generations to come will be affected by the actions we take today.

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From the Pastor's Pen, continued from Page 2

A WORD OF ENCOURAGEMENT

To our African American Fathers and Brothers
From your Wives and Sisters

Our children may grow up to be Godfearing, well-adjusted parents because of the examples they've seen. There is also a possibility that this might not happen. But we can feel content in knowing that we did all we could and were intentional in demonstrating the love

of God to them regardless of how they may have responded to our love. Isn't that the way the God has loved us? For we know with assurance, "If God be for us, who can be against us?"

**SO, WE SAY, STAND FOR GOD!
WE STAND WITH YOU!**

~Guest Columnist, Mother Dora M. Davis~

Let's Study Together

June 2023: "The Prophets Proclaim God's Power"

06.04.2023 Stop the Chaos
Isaiah 52:7-12

06.18.2023 All for One and One for All
Ezekiel 37:21-28

06.11.2023 Dare to Dream
Isaiah 65:17-25

06.25.2023 A Fresh Start
Zephaniah 3:14-20

New Members

We welcome you, with the joy of the Lord, to the Union Chapel Missionary Baptist Church family! It is our prayer that your faith will be strengthened as we learn and grow together. We invite you to explore the ministries of the church and ask God to show you where He wants you to get connected. We are truly excited you are here.



John Jacobs



Church History Facts



On Saturday, June 17, 1989, a welcome reception honoring Pastor O. Wendell Davis and family was held in the Esther Lacy Fellowship Hall. The church family, ministers, city officials, Northeast District State Convention representatives, and friends shared in this memorable occasion. Dr. J.H. Calloway, president of the State Convention, was the guest speaker. Sunday, July 2, 1989, Pastor Davis preached his acceptance message. - "Moving Forward On A Progressive Journey"

We Celebrate You...



Congratulations to Alexandra Green, who was recently admitted to the Illinois State Bar Association. Chief Justice Mary Jane Theis presided over the ceremony and administered the oath to the new admittees. Justice Lisa Holder White made the motion to admit the class and Justice Joy V. Cunningham seconded the motion.

Alexandra, a graduate of the University of Chicago Law School, is the daughter of Phyllis (Byers) and Eric Green.



Congratulations to Sister Ursula Caston, who was recently recognized as the Valley's Top Teacher by WZDX Fox 54.

Sister Caston, a kindergarten teacher at West Decatur Elementary School, has been an educator for over 20 years.



Congratulations to Sister Shannon Stallworth, who was recently named Teacher of the Year at Midtown Elementary School.

Sister Stallworth, a first grade teacher at Midtown Elementary School, has been an educator for over 20 years.



Students Attend Speaker's Series



The Village of Promise welcomed Leland Melvin to Huntsville on May 16, 2023 for their 2023 Speaker's Series.

Several students from Union Chapel attended the event and heard inspiring words shared by Leland Melvin of his life story as an athlete, astronaut, scientist, engineer, photographer, and musician to help inspire the next generation of explorers to pursue STEAM careers!



Union Chapel Disaster Relief Assistance

Many Huntsville residence are all too familiar with the sound of blaring sirens just before a roaring tornado tear through a community. Now, the people of Selma, AL and Rolling Fork, MS understand those sounds and described their harrowing experience as a very loud freight train or jet engine getting louder and louder as it traveled closer and closer to them. The aftermath is pure devastation throughout the community. Churches, other organizations and government agencies pour into these communities to provide immediate relief. Union Chapel visited Selma and Rolling Fork and provided clothing, toiletries, food and water to the victims.

Selma: Immediately upon arrival on February 1, Pastor Larry Johnson of Plant Street Baptist Church greeted us and asked one of his deacons to pray for us. Enroute to Selma, we shared with Pastor Johnson what we were bringing, but he was still overwhelmed and overjoyed to see the clothes, bottled water, toiletries and food boxes. He couldn't believe we had pre-packaged the clothes by size and gender. On site, only a few pairs of small sized men's pants and shoes were donated. What amazed us about Pastor Johnson was his joyful spirit. His newly renovated church was demolished in the storm and yet right where his church once stood, he was praising the Lord. He added that many churches and organizations were feeding the community hot meals, but people needed non-perishable goods, clothes, toiletries and bottled water. Look at God!

Rolling Fork: The devastation in Rolling Fork was overwhelming. An entire community gone leaving only shreds of debris scattered everywhere. Unlike past trips, we went solely by the direction of the Holy Spirit. No point of contact, just the Lord leading us to Rising Star Seventh Day Adventist Church. We arrived around 1:30 p.m. on May 4, introduced ourselves to the staff who immediately asked what we were donating. We told them and they said we need everything. People had donated clothes which filled large trash bags on the side of a wall, some food which was displayed on about five tables in a kitchen, and a small rack of clothes outside. While we were unloading, the Pastor texted the coordinator and she read it aloud--please get ready food boxes, toiletries, water and organize the clothes so they can be distributed around 6:30 p.m. later that day. Then the coordinator did the happy dance because his request seemed impossible had the Lord not led Union Chapel to Rolling Fork. But God! Everything they needed God delivered right on time!



Devastation in Selma, AL



Devastation in Rolling Fork, MS

Submitted by Cassandra Pitts,
Union Chapel Food Pantry & Caring and
Sharing Ministry

Wellness News



credit: Barry Austin

Need a Lift? Resistance Exercise may Buoy your Mood.

Ever had a stress-related headache or belly rumble? You know, then, that our minds and bodies are intimately linked. And that's not just true for the bad stuff. What's good for one tends to be good for the other, too. Physical exercise, for instance, can boost your mood and energy, and has even been shown to help treat clinical depression. While most of the research on mood and movement has focused on sweaty, heart-pounding activity, research suggests that resistance exercise may also

work some mood magic. In an analysis of 33 clinical studies on more than 1,800 adults, researchers found that strength training improved symptoms of depression. Any amount of resistance exercise seemed to help; how much participants exercised, and whether or not they improved their strength significantly, didn't seem to matter. More research is needed to determine how strength training may improve mood, but there's no need to wait to start working out with weights or with your own body weight.

Not just your mood but also your overall health and basic physical functioning stand to benefit. If you have depression, talk with your doctor about incorporating exercise into your routine. Bear in mind that feeling the motivation to exercise can be especially challenging when you're feeling low. You may want to sign up for a class or a few sessions with a trainer to get yourself going and to learn proper technique. Then let the good mood-good health spiral begin!

~Cleveland Clinic Wellness

Affinity Debit Card



The Union Chapel Christian Academy (UCCA) debit card, sponsored by Redstone Federal Credit Union, is now available. The Affinity Debit Card program from Redstone Federal Credit Union (RFCU) provides cash back to UCCA every time you make a purchase from your Redstone Federal Credit Union checking account. The UCCA Affinity Debit Card is just like any other RFCU debit card, except when it is used for purchases, the Academy will earn cash back. In other words, you can help earn free money for the Academy.

The Affinity Debit Card may be obtained by visiting any Redstone Federal Credit Union branch or by calling the Member Connect Center at 800.234.1234 or 256.837.6110.

Each purchase, including online purchases, allows UCCA to receive cash back to further education and support of UCCA. Additionally, you will show your support and loyalty every time you make a purchase.

Announcements

Graduate Recognition Program

The Graduate Recognition Program will be held Sunday, June 11, 2023 during the 9:00 a.m. worship service. Please contact the Education Assistance Ministry for additional information at ucceamactprep@gmail.com.

Vacation Bible School (VBS), Faith Builders Camp 2023

Theme: Faith Builders: Rise Up and Build! (Nehemiah 2:18b)

Registration is now open for VBS. VBS will be held on Saturday, June 17, 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Join us for Bible Study, music, crafts, food and games. Classes available for the entire family (infants to adults). For additional information, contact Sister Mary Johnson or Sister Jocelyn McGhee.

Missionary Ministry Meeting

The Missionary Ministry will hold its monthly meeting via teleconference on Monday, June 12 at 6:00p.m.

Access information: Phone Number: 978-990-5055; Access Code: 6668148

For additional information, contact Sister Arlene Cattage at 256-679-1564

Veterans Ministry Meeting

The Veterans Ministry will hold its regular meeting on Monday, June 12, 2023 in the Fellowship Hall (North End) at 6:00 p.m. A representative from the National Cemetery (Montevallo, AL) will present information regarding the cemetery.

Widow and Widowers Care Ministry

The Widow and Widowers Care Ministry will meet on Monday, June 12, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. via Zoom.

Access information: Phone Number: 929-436-2866; Zoom Meeting ID: 842-0427-3189; Pass Code: 892774

For additional information, contact Sister Rosa Goston at 256-797-8785 or Sister Sadie Pleasure at 256-679-5338

Scholarship Available

The Alabama Humanities Alliance (AHA) awards the Jenice Riley Memorial Scholarship annually. Since 2003, AHA has named 101 Riley Scholars and awarded more than \$100,000 in teacher scholarships.

This competitive \$1,000 scholarship is awarded to educators in support of history and civics related projects in their schools and classrooms. The award aids teachers in attending a conference, purchasing classroom materials, or creating programs that enhance students' understanding of history and civics.

The scholarship competition is open to current Alabama educators of grades K-8, in public and private Alabama schools. Teachers must be current educators in the K-8 classroom who seek to enhance the classroom experience or expand their professional development in the areas of history and civics (this includes geography, Alabama history, world history, U.S. history, and civics).

To apply, K-8 educators complete the Riley Scholarship Application Form and email it to lander-son@alabamahumanities.org. The deadline for all applications is September 5, 2023.



**American
Red Cross**



Union Chapel Missionary Baptist Church

The American Red Cross, Union Chapel Church and Alpha Phi Omega Alumni Association are partnering together to make homes and families safer by installing FREE smoke alarms.

You may visit SoundTheAlarm.org/Alabama or call (833) 244-0724 to schedule your appointment and protect your family against home fires.



Why is it important?

Home fires are the greatest disaster threat to American families. Seven people die every day from home fires. A fire-related injury is reported every 40 minutes. Annually, home fires cause 2,500 deaths and roughly \$7 billion in property damage.

Protect your family against home fires!