

The New Beacon

Second Baptist Church, Moorestown, NJ

Volume 6, Number 4

October, November, December 2018

"One thousand shall flee at the threat of one; at the threat of five shall ye flee; til ye be left as a beacon upon the top of a mountain, and as an ensign on a hill." Isaiah 30:17

319 MILL STREET

MOORESTOWN, NJ 08057

856-234-6396

Reverend Thomas N. Holmes,
Interim Pastor

Reverend Jeffrey Demby,
Associate Minister

Reverend Wenda Clark, Ministerial
Staff

Sunday Praise Schedule:

1st Sunday Gospel Choir
2nd Sunday Male Choir and
Praise Dancers
3rd Jesus Joy Choir and
Angel Choir
4th Sunday Senior Choir
5th Sunday Combined Choirs

9am Sunday School
10am Sunday Worship Service



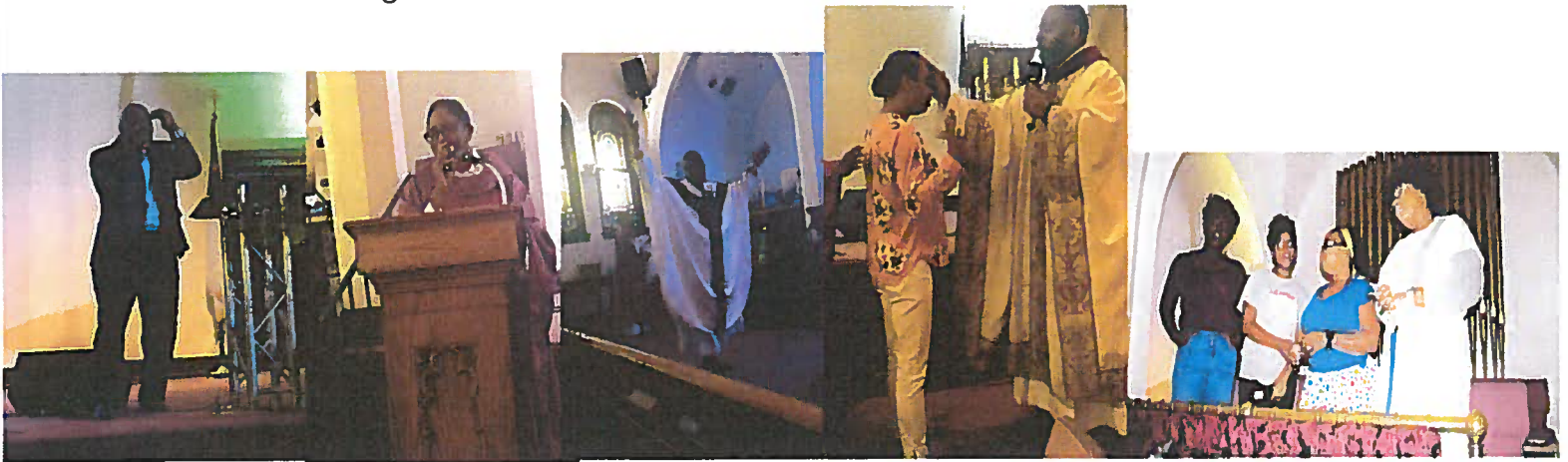
A Christmas Psalm by Sister Yvonne Bentley

Everlasting is His Kingdom...
Forever and ever, He will reign!
And we with heavenly angels;
Will sing this awesome refrain!
To Thee O Lord we give all praise;
Not just for now, but for always!
For coming down to that earthly place;
And bringing hope to the human race!
We magnify and spread the name,
Of Bethlehem and Jesus' fame!
We kneel and worship Christ the Son,
Who triumphed and salvation won!
O Hail, King Jesus, God the Son...
In humble wonder we think upon!
O Hail, Sweet Savior, Christ the Lord
Your life, shed blood was our reward!
Deny... all those who do not know,
He's real - the Bible tells us so!
On Father's right hand He doth reign,
He's crowned in splendor, in His domain!

Fall 2018 Revival

Photos by G. Wilson and G. Williams

"The definition of insanity is continuing to do the same thing, but expect different results!", commented Pastor Holmes during the fall revival. We want positive change including winning more souls to Christ, so we need to make changes. With this in mind, our revival week had a new and different flair and energy. Members were asked to fast and pray during the week, a steadfast staple of revival week. However, instead of a similar Sunday format during the week of meeting together, Second Baptist presented "Church on Fire Revival" on September 26, 27, 28th and 29th. See Hebrews 12: 28 and 29. Our God is a consuming fire. Instead of regular prayer meeting and bible study on Wednesday, Bishop Dr. Titus McMillan and Rekeishia McMillan, Alternative Medical Practitioners, led the congregation in words, praise, song and anointing. On Thursday night, the Reverend Eric Hagood led us in prayer, song and praise also, giving a mini sermon from 1 Kings 1-11. "The Enemy never lets up. We need to GET OUT from under our circumstances, keep our eyes on God and guard our minds, heart and spirit", Reverend Hagood told us. Friday proved the most spirited, as the young generation created new paths of understanding of God working in us. The Jesus Joy Choir sang their songs of Zion, and it was open mic night. On Saturday morning, the McMillans led us in a holistic and alternative medicine presentation workshop. We thank all who attended, knowing that each hopefully received a blessing from God.



Everybody's Birthday

Photos by D. Holden



Sponsored by the Altar Guild and the Senior Usher Board, friends and families gathered on Saturday, October 20th to help celebrate birthdays galore! You sit with your designated month's birthday friends, and enjoy entertainment to celebrate your special day. Many thanks to all the helpers and the youth who participated.

Our Usher Board



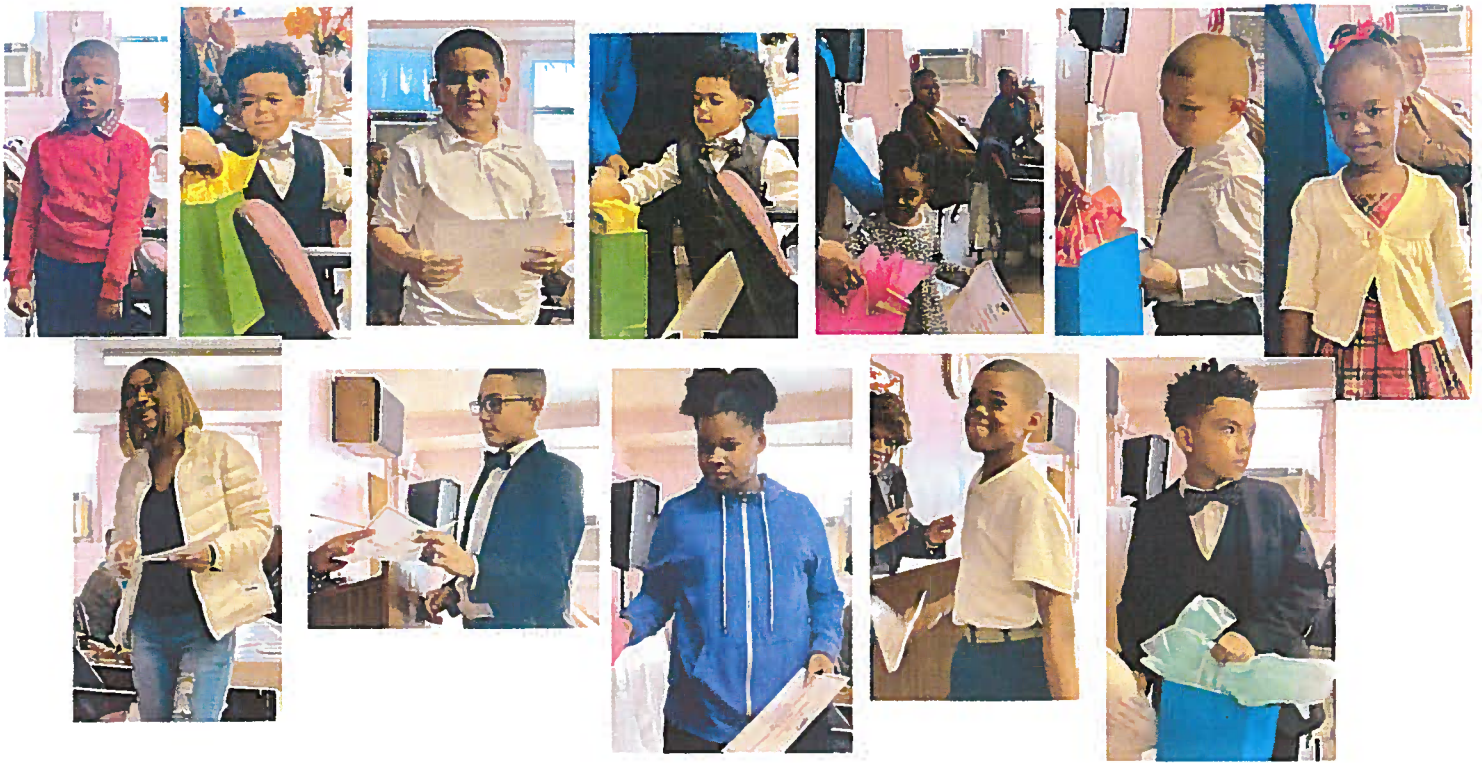
Dedicated to seeing the parishioners are comfortable and cared for during our service, the Usher Board is always there to assist. Let's never take them for granted. Praise The Lord for them.

Sunday School Recognition and Promotion

Deaconess Dr. K. Malvern, Superintendent of the Sunday School, Sister Elaine Joy, Assistant Superintendent, Reverend Jeffrey Demby, Chairperson, our own Reverend Thomas Holmes and our First Lady, Regina Holmes, all welcomed those who have participated all year long in the Sunday School programs. Congratulations and applause were joyfully showered on the children as they accepted their gifts and certificates of promotion and participation. Dinner followed. It was yummy! Blessings on the kitchen crew under the leadership of Deaconess R. Hayes. See the next page for more pictures of the event. **Who was happier, the adults or the children!!??**

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Sunday School Promotion
(continued)

"Gratitude is The New Attitude"

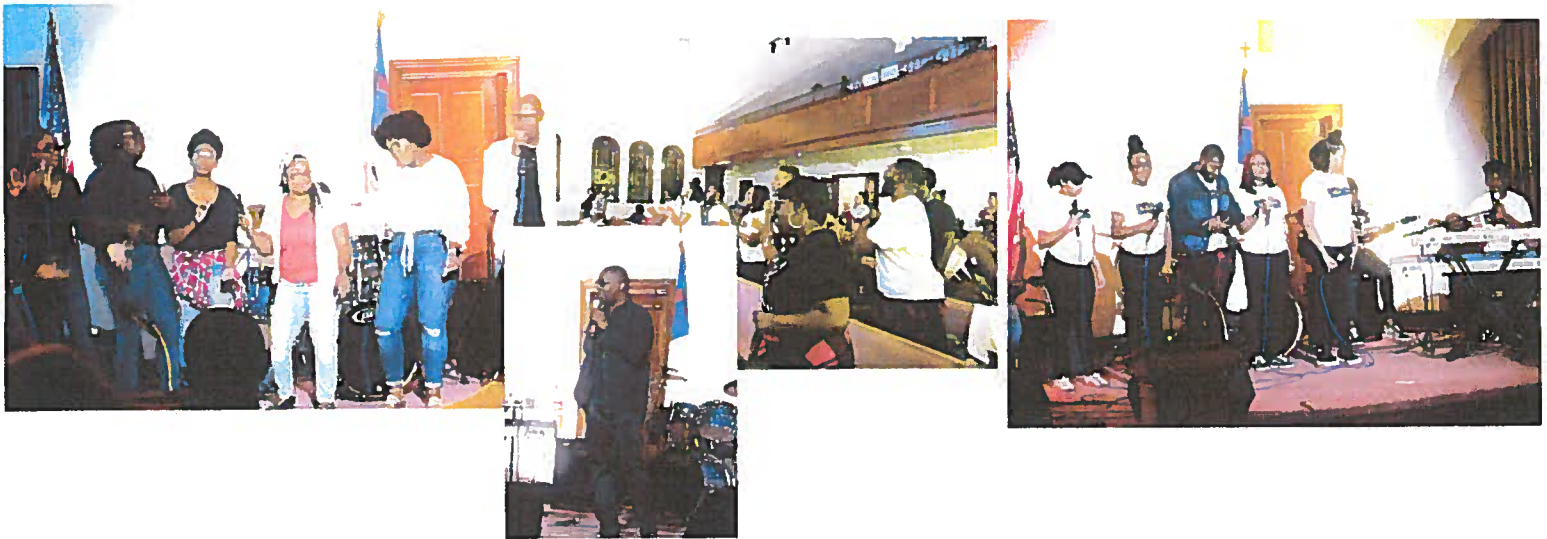
The Education Committee honors 17 Church Members for their service at the 49th Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Scholarship Luncheon, November 17, 2018.

Woodcrest Country Club in Cherry Hill, New Jersey, was the site for this event. Committees selected from their own ranks those individuals who they felt they would like to honor. Our church members, in other words, were grateful for their service. The Education Committee, founded in 1963 began to donate funds to students, and in 1967 the first Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Scholarship Luncheon was held to "generate funds to provide Christian Service Awards, scholarships and stipends for college students", according to the 49th program booklet. Sister Anell Wheeler is the ninth president to lead this awesome committee, Sister Ruth Baylor was the first, who served for 22 years. Sister Delores Holden gave greetings and the purpose of the event. Sister Kathleen Key made introductions and Brother Edward Moore presented a video presentation of the honorees. Individuals spoke about each honoree, revealing special and personal details about their gratitude. A sumptuous luncheon followed and each table had gifts provided by the committee under the inspiration of Sister Gladys Wilson. Greatness, according to Dr. King "is determined by service", so we can all be inspired by these individuals to be great and serve. To God be the glory. Honorees included Archie Demby, Jeffrey Demby, James Hayes, Sienna Holmes, Elaine Joy, Kira Key, Odette Miller, Nerlande Moore, Montique Nash, Christine Smith, Lucy Smith, Bertina Watkins, Mary Watson, Claudia Williams and Gwen Williams. Many thanks to all committee members for a job well executed. (See photo on page 5).

Jesus Joy Youth Explosion

Article and photos by Brother John Bish

The youth of Second Baptist Church and Bethany Church of Lindenwold entered the sanctuary with a lot of energy in their worship through song. Their vast selection of songs was a calling on the relationship with God. Lyrics like "Lord here I am; Father, we need you now; I am a soldier in the army of the Lord" engaged the audience and resonated in our hearts. Many thanks to the spiritual leaders Bishop Dr. Titus McMillian, Rekeishia McMillian and our own Reverend Thomas N. Holmes. Featured on the keyboards included Akene Dunkley, who has his unique sense of gospel jazz, and plays with several church ministries in the area. Brother Micheal Nash on drums and Corneluis Raven (Cornbread) on guitar filled our tabernacle with the joy of Jesus. From Bethany Baptist Youth Choir we were uplifted by the Generation Band, which included Joel Cooper and manager Jarail Taylor, a guitarist and sound technician. Brother Marcus Smith, radio personality for Praise 107.9 out of Philadelphia, made a guest appearance. He connected with the youth and adults alike through his message. "We are not to be divided when God is one". After giving prizes away to the audience, he presented an original song entitled The Train, the story of a man reflecting on his life and lessons learned. The whole program brought the focus for the evening to God, not our struggles and troubles.



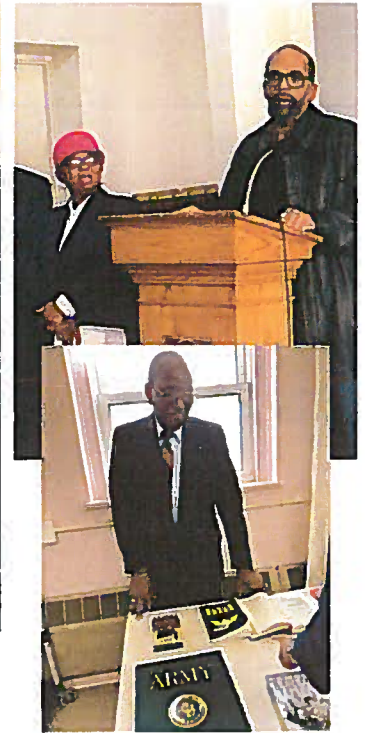
Gratitude is the New Attitude

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Photo by Brother Edward Moore

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Veterans Day



"As a veteran I believe in God, Country and Family. Thanks to Reverend Holmes and Second Baptist church members, veterans were given time on November 11th to honor all veterans that served this great United States of America in military service," remarked Army veteran Gladys Wilson. She called all veterans to the floor as guest speaker Marvin Minney spoke to the congregation. Mr. Minney is the Veterans Service Officer with the Department of Human Services for Burlington County. Closing out the service was Reverend Clark who led us in a patriotic selection. Brother Robert Williamson shared some of his Army memorabilia after the service in Fellowship Hall. Thank you all for your service.

Senior Missionary Annual Day

"The goal of the missions is to spread the Gospel through words and deeds," Reverend Marsha Harris told us in her booklet address on November 25th. The missionary does Burlington and Camden County relief efforts, collecting food and clothing and personal need items for those without resources. On a national level, Second Baptist Senior Missionaries have assisted in disaster relief in New Jersey and North and South Carolina. On a global level, we support missions in Liberia, West Africa, Malawi, Africa, Uganda, Africa, and most recently, New Delhi, India. The morning speaker was the Reverend Stacey Hamilton from Zion Baptist Church in Pleasantville, NJ. She reminded us that Jesus values the least of his people. Those who society considers valueless, we should know they also deserve our love and care. See Matthew 25: 31-40.



It's Your Birthday. Thank the Lord.

January 2019

Wayne Bentley 1-20
Melinda Gross 1-13
Derrick Harris 1-24
Rev. Marsha Harris 1-19
Ericia Johnson 1-26
Edith Jones 1-29
Robert Jones, II 1-9
Robert Jones, Sr. 1-9
Shirley Lang 1-24
LeRoy Marshall 1-14
Kaela Moore 1-30
Jennifer Morris 1-22
Geraldine Reid 1-20
Cheryl Robinson 1-2
Deaconess Odears Smith 1-28
Garrick Stafford, Jr. 1-30
Kelli Turner 1-18
Brianna Valentin 1-16
Nathaniel Walden 1-27
Norma Wallace 1-18
Malcolm Youcoms 1-13

February 2019

Maxine Carter 2-24
Natalie Collins 2-18
Debra Dixon 2-20
Doris Emerson 2-26
Deaconess Roseann Hayes 2-21
Alexis James 2-28
Jordan King 2-2
Lionel King 2-14
Dr. Patricia Stafford 2-20
Deacon Robert Williamson 2-1

March 2019

Kurtis Banks 3-3
Carla Booker 3-27
Archie Demby 3-2
Joyce Dixon 3-5
Ronald King 3-15
Edward D. Moore 3-14
Aliyah Murray 3-9
Deborah Robinson 3-8
Virginia Winchester 3-23



Graduation Blessings



Aliyah Lenora Murray became a member of the "Long Gray Line" Class of 2018 upon graduating from the United States Military Academy at West Point on December 21, 2018. She was commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant in the Army. Her major was Engineering Management with a minor in Network Science. She will be serving as an athletic intern for the women's and men's basketball teams at West Point until June. She will leave for BOLC in Missouri for additional engineering training. Her first post after that has not yet been determined. Aliyah is the daughter of William and Lana Murray, seen here with nuclear family members at graduation. Graduation Blessings to You Aliyah.

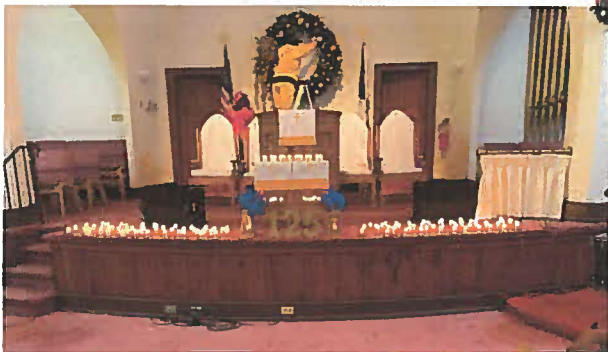
Monday Morning Women's Bible Study

Sister Dora Jones knows how to teach. God has given her that gift. She leads the Women's Bible Study with care and depth of knowledge of God's Word. This past quarter focused on "The Heart". God knows your heart. Follow Jesus and you will be blessed. Come for a visit on Monday. Stay for a lifetime of wisdom and fellowship.



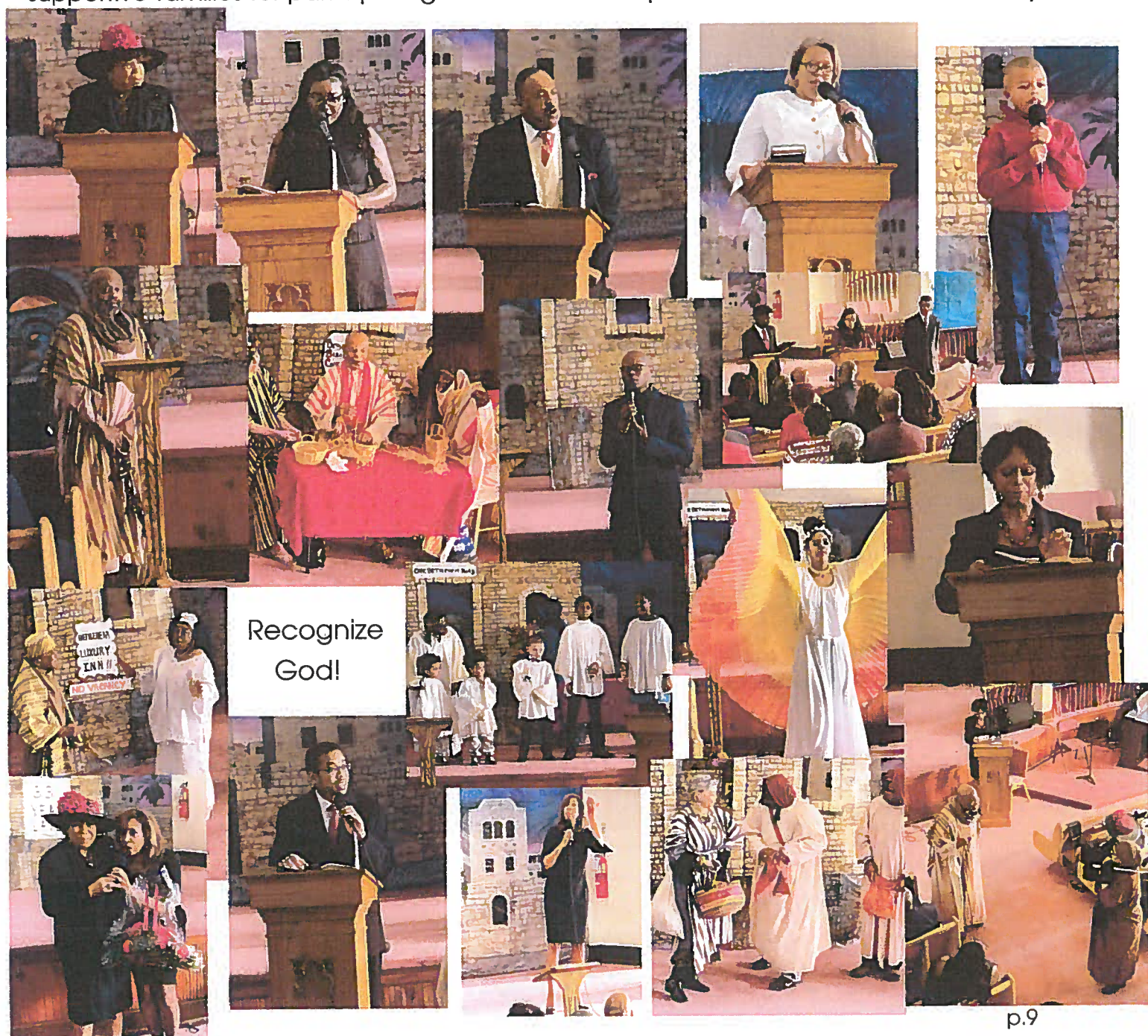
125th Celebration

Second Baptist Church, under the direction of Trustee Lawrence Watkins and committee members, organized and carried out an activity filled month of celebrations in December. **December 9th marked the 125th Anniversary of the founding of our church.** The committee worked to mark the whole month with bulletin board memorabilia, community outreach, a candlelight prayer service, a commemorative booklet, a special Sunday message, and a banquet replete with a guest speaker and gospel vocalist. Our church historians donned hallway bulletin boards with pamphlets, fliers, and other commemorative items that detailed our past church family activities and members. Sister Rhunette Lovelace and Ruth Johnson thanked our local EMT and firemen squads in Moorestown who have helped keep our church safe over the years. Sisters Carol Jones, Gwen Williams and Christine Smith organized a special Wednesday prayer night leading up to the banquet. Our December 9th, Sunday morning worship message was given by Reverend Richard W. Minus, Jr., who focused on our theme from Psalm 100:5. The banquet held at the Merion in Cinnaminson, NJ featured a historical slideshow, a photographer to mark the event, guest speaker the Reverend John West III, special guest moderator Mr. Marcus Smith from Praise 107.9 radio, saxophonist Mr. Mark Haslon, and Jazz vocalist and Grammy nominated artist, Jean Norris Baylor, daughter of the late Reverend Dennis Norris. Senator Troy Singleton presented our church with a state resolution to mark the event. Brother Gregory Wheeler favored us all with a personal, historical reflection as well. We heard beautiful reditions from both Brother Nash and Jeannie Baylor. Mrs. Baylor couldn't help but recall stories of her childhood at Second Baptist, which gave us all a laugh. Everything from the table decorations to the music provided filled the hearts and minds of all who attended. Many thanks to Reverend Holmes, our interim pastor, Sister Carol Jones, Brother Ed Moore and all others who worked so hard to make December a month to remember.



Sunday School Christmas Pageant 2018

Second Baptist Sunday School, under the direction of Dr. Kathryn T. Malvern presented on December 23rd, "Dueling Christmas". The play juxtaposed the Apostle John with the human condition of the day, from the birth of Christ, to His death and resurrection. Our worship leader, Sister Kaela Moore, led the congregation through the whole church program, intertwining our regular worship with the play itself. Sister Barbara Walden and Brother Gregory Wheeler, as the Apostle John, helped participants tell the story. Believers vs nonbelievers, saints vs sinners were presented in an entertaining and fun filled way, that none the less, gave us all pause to contemplate who we are in the kingdom. The sermonette, delivered skillfully by the Reverend Wenda Clark, employed us to recognize who God is. Please see John 1:10-11. You cannot follow one whom you do not acknowledge or recognize. That theme carried in to the play. Many did not recognize Jesus when He came. Today, the same condition exists. Many thanks to all the church members and their supportive families for participating. We continue to spread the Good News in this way.



Watch Night Service

About thirty people brought in the New Year 2019 together at Second Baptist Church. An intimate and beautiful service was held followed by a light repast in Fellowship Hall. The Reverend Wenda Clark spoke about "taking one day at a time", as we enter the New Year. "Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own". Please read more of Matthew 6. Let us all be mindful of this. Amen.

The Newsletter is looking for new members able to write, edit and cover church events as well as take photographs. Please contact Sister G. Williams for more information.

Newsletter Committee Members: Y. Bentley, J. Bish, O. Miller, G. Wilson; G. Williams, chairperson. Thank you contributing parishioners this quarter, D. Holden and E. Moore. Many thanks to Deaconess R. Johnson, who is always there to lend a helping hand.

Look for upcoming events in your church bulletin for 2019.

Installation of Officers will be January 13th during the regular church service.

Happy New Year 2019!

319 Mill Street
Moorestown, NJ. 08057