

Lamplight

Your word is a lamp to guide my feet and a light for my path.
~Psalms 119:105



Grace Tempe
Missionary
Baptist Church
D. Grady Scott,
Pastor

Church Office: (520) 622-8126

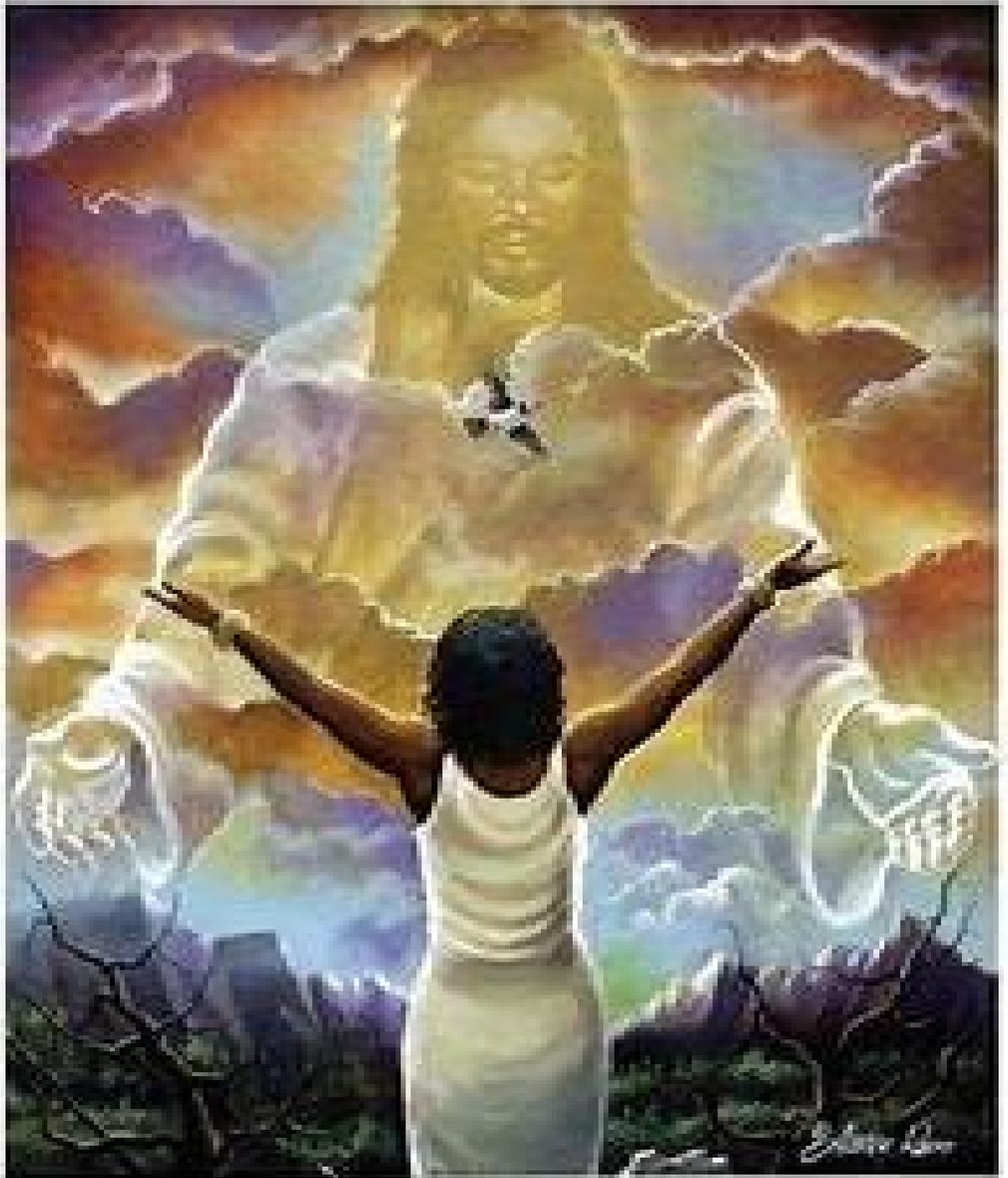
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Margaret
Hudson
Lamplight

~Psalms 119:105

Inside This Issue:

- Spotlight 1
- Eyes on the Sparrow 2
- Pastor's Page 3
- Marriage Ministry 4
- September Events 5
- We Are the Church... 6
- What's Happening 7
- What's Happening 8



*His eyes is on the sparrow
and I know He watches me!*

Lamplight Staff
Featured Contributor
D. Grady Scott,
Pastor
Editor/Contributor
Margaret Hudson
Staff / Contributor
Carmen Wallace



His eye is on the Sparrow

There is a great old gospel hymn titled “His eye is on the Sparrow” written in 1905. It is a song that depicts the innocence of a little Sparrow bird in a big world and if God has his eye on the sparrow, you better believe he has his eye on you.

There are several passages of scripture in the bible that reference a Sparrow. It is used as a metaphor because a little sparrow was considered insignificant and of little value. Have you ever felt that way? Insignificant, unnoticed and of little value? The bible says that not one of the little birds could fall to the ground without Jehovah (almighty God) knowing it. What a powerful mental example of the way God looks at you and me.

Are you in a place where you doubt God can see you? Trust me when I tell you this, he knows how many hairs you have on your head now and how many you had yesterday. Do you really think you could be in a place mentally, emotionally, or physically that God does not know where you are and what is going on? He knows everything about you. Everything. He knows how many times your heart has beaten since you were conceived, and he also knows how many more times before he calls you home.

When you feel that you are someplace that God cannot find you or that you are separated from him please know that you are only a breath away from his presence. Some of the most meaningful prayers I have ever spoken were prayed quietly in my spirit. God hears every one of them and he hears every one of yours. If you are a parent, you know what I mean when I say, the love of a child is unconditional and a love that you would die for. God looks at you the same way you look at your child and he hears with the same passion and focus that you hear your child.

Wherever you think you are, God is right there with his eye on you just like he has his eye on a little sparrow. It is a big world, but he knows exactly where you are and exactly what is going on. ~ K.Thompson

What does the Bible say?

Matthew 10:31 - Fear ye not therefore, ye are of more value than many sparrows.

Matthew 6:26 - Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they?

Matthew 10:29 - Are not two sparrows sold for a farthing? And one of them shall not fall to the ground without your Father.

Luke 12:6-7- Are not five sparrows sold for two pennies? And not one of them is forgotten before God. Why, even the hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not; you are of more value than many sparrows.

Pastor's Page

D. Grady Scott, Pastor
Featured Contributor



Ministry During Pandemic

March 2020 began as every other month in 2020. Little did anyone know that the month would end with the start of a worldwide pandemic. The nation was rocked by the news of a virus that was not only highly contagious but also deadly. Arizona Governor Ducey ordered the closing of businesses and asked churches to limit their activities to finally less than 10 people. The only way churches could remain connected with those associated with the church was to use virtual platforms. Zoom, WebEx, Microsoft Teams became valuable tools for meeting. Websites contained information and video streaming of church services. Facebook (once deemed useful only to young people) became a major source of video streaming of church services. Pastors are not allowed to visit hospitalized members and must conduct

funeral and memorial services while observing social distancing. Remaining connected has become a priority like never before. Participants in small groups i.e. Sunday School, Bible Study, Prayer meetings, Ministries are remaining connected. The challenge is connecting with people who are not part of a ministry. This will end and life will return to normal, but it won't be the normal we were used to observing.

SDA Virtual Success

For the first time in history the annual session of the Southern District Association was virtual. We were unable to meet in person, so we were hosted by the Greater Antioch Baptist Church in the Sierra Vista region and by the Friendship Baptist Church in Tucson. Each night featured music and preaching. More people were reached using social media than usually attend the annual session services. Close to 2,000 people either watched live on Facebook or watched later. So successful was the virtual annual session that it will be adopted by the State Convention this year. The National Baptist Convention annual session will also be conducted virtually on September 14-16. There will be challenges into the future, but the lessons learned during the pandemic will prove invaluable to our future.

Sanctuary Remodel

We are on schedule for a completion date of October 8th. There have been some setbacks as you would expect when you renovate a building that is over 60 years old. COVID-19 has caused delays in shipping of materials. One great thing that cannot be overstated is that the Grace Temple Family has come through financially. We should be able to enter our worship center debt free. We will need to continue to raise money because we will need to upgrade our air conditioning system. We are applying for a waiver to allow us to update at a later date. This will allow us to re-enter the building for regular worship service.

Carmen Wallace



The Marriage Ministry Daddy Where Are You?

Children need their parents, but girls, more so, need their daddies to be role models of what men should be. It is especially critical in their teens and young adult lives. It is never too late to tell your daughters that you love them; there are daughters out there that long for their daddy's approval and unconditional love. A daddy's relationship or lack thereof with his daughter can be the lens through which she sees her heavenly Father. In the father-daughter relationship, daughters need to feel secure enough in the relationships that there is room to fail without being condemned or being considered a failure. Daughters need to know that their daddies have their backs and will not allow them to fail, to prove a point.

For girls, teenage years can be very tumultuous. Increased bodily changes, peer pressure, dealing with a society that pushes their beauty model, to name a few. The struggles are real, daddies, your daughters need you.

As we look at the scripture coming from Numbers 30:3-5, 16 (NLT), the fathers have a great responsibility in assisting their daughters in the lifestyle choices they make, whether the decisions have to do with God or man.

³“If a young woman makes a vow to the LORD or a pledge under oath while she is still living at her father's home, ⁴and her father hears of the vow or pledge and does not object to it, then all her vows and pledges will stand. ⁵But if her father refuses to let her fulfill the vow or pledge on the day he hears of it, then all her vows and pledges will become invalid. The LORD will forgive her because her father would not let her fulfill them.”

¹⁶These are the regulations the LORD gave Moses concerning relationships between a man and his wife, and between a father and a young daughter who still lives at home.

A noted fact, is that women tend to marry husbands like their fathers, what type of husbands will your daughters admire in you? Do remember, the treatment of their mothers will speak volumes about men in general. Fathers, you have a mere eighteen years to be significant influences in your daughters' lives. To train them in the way they should go-training them according to God's direction for their life. Teach your daughters early in life to value themselves as unique gifts from God. Daughters, like all human beings, are gifts from God to be appreciated and valued.

Let them know how special they are by introducing them to Jesus at an early age. Be the champion for their cause, be that knight in shining armor. Show them how to recognize people who have their best interests at the forefront. Teach them godly wisdom, loyalty, strength, and tenacity; call them what God has called them-virtuous women, Brides of Christ, fearfully and wonderfully made in God's image. Teach them self-love but also teach them how to love others; teach them self-respect so that they will respect others. Most of all, teach them what inner beauty looks like and that God has made them beautiful inside and out. Reaffirm their beauty, and let them know that men cannot define their beauty because God has already created them beautifully, and they are the apple of His eyes.

Margaret Hudson

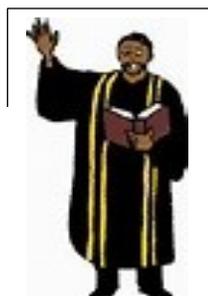
I miss church. I bet you do too. And I bet that you or someone in your house has said this exact phrase over the past 6 months. What exactly does it mean that we are the church? Theologically, we all know that “church” is not a building. We understand that “church” is the body of Christ. So more precisely, I think when we say we miss “church”, we mean more than that. We miss the people. We miss the things we do together as people, worship and communion and conversation and prayer and hugs and food.

We Are the Church When We Worship. Every Sunday without fail, voices are raised in song in churches around the world, praising and worshipping the Lord through “songs, hymns and spiritual songs.” Many church services are online now and offer singing as part of their worship but if yours doesn’t, it’s perfectly fine for you to sing in your home. Easy ways to incorporate singing? Sing a song instead of praying a prayer before dinner. Teach a favorite song to your kids.

We Are the Church When We Give. In many churches, every week, the plate is passed, and our tithes and offerings are given to the Lord, while others pay online. But we don’t have to limit our giving to the church offering plate. It can be hard sometimes to remember to give from a cheerful heart if we don’t see the need or if our gift is automatically withdrawn from our checking account. Maybe your family could talk about ways to support your church or a missionary or provide meals for families in need so they can be a part of the gift of giving.

We Are the Church When We Read the Bible. The only time our children see us open the Bible (*or pull up the app on our phone or tablet*) is in the church building, the model they see is one where the Bible is only for certain times not all of life. But the writer of Psalms says, “Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.” This the perfect time to add some daily Scripture meditation into your family rhythm.

We Are the Church When We Fellowship. Let’s face it; a big reason for going to church is to see friends. I had someone tell me the only time they saw their friends was on Sunday morning. When our children see consistency in who we are and what we do at church and who we are and what we do at home, it will be easier for them to understand the providence of our God who is present with us in the everyday. When we are consistent, we are authentic, and when we are authentic, we are modeling the truth of Jesus to the next generation. ~C. Embree



Events to Remember

Margaret Hudson
Lamplight Editor

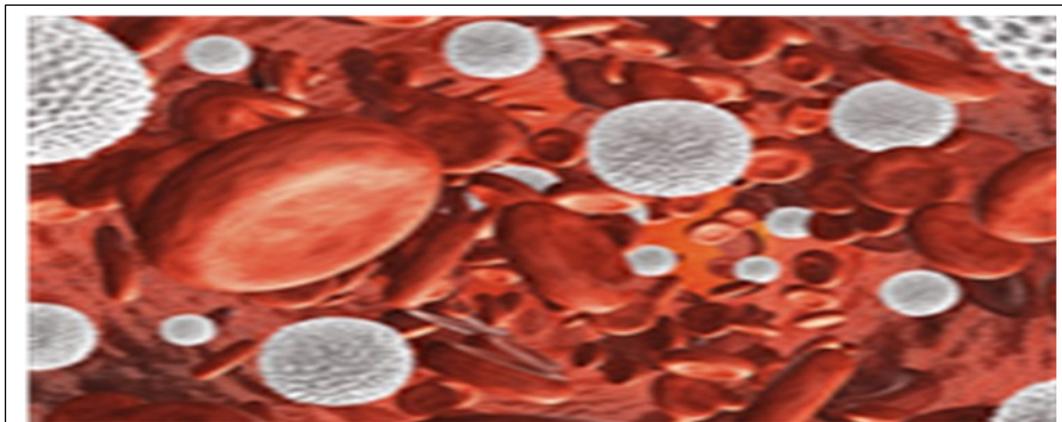
Always Remember 9/11



Celebrating Labor Day



September is Sickle Cell Awareness Month



Sickle cell disease is a group of inherited red blood cell disorders. People who have sickle cell disease have an abnormal protein in their red blood cells. In the United States, most people who have sickle cell disease are of African ancestry, but the condition is also common in people with a Hispanic background. Because the disease runs in families, couples planning to have children can have genetic testing.

Early signs and symptoms of sickle cell disease include swelling of the hands and feet; symptoms of anemia, including fatigue, or extreme tiredness; and jaundice. Over time, sickle cell disease can lead to complications such as infections, delayed growth, and episodes of pain, called pain crises. Most children who have sickle cell disease are pain-free between crises, but adolescents and adults may also suffer with chronic, ongoing pain. Over a lifetime, sickle cell disease can harm a patient's spleen, brain, eyes, lungs, liver, heart, kidneys, penis, joints, bones, or skin.

A blood and bone marrow transplant is currently the only cure for sickle cell disease, and only a small number of people who have sickle disease are able to have the transplant. There are effective treatments that can reduce symptoms and prolong life. Early diagnosis and regular medical care to prevent complications also contribute to improved well-being. Sickle cell disease is a lifelong illness. The severity of the disease varies widely from person to person.

What's Happening

GRACE TEMPLE EVENTS:

The Marriage Ministry: Will be having a 5th Sunday Event in the Kitchen/ Dining room, following the 10:00 A.M. Service.

The Prayer Ministry: Meets in the Sanctuary from 7:00- 8:00 A.M. for prayer on the Saturday before the First Sunday of every month. Let's remember that it is PRAYER that changes things!

Rena's Movie Night: Every 2nd Saturday from 3:00-7:00 P.M. featuring biblical movies, refreshments, open discussion about the movie, and personal reflection. Please join Rena Washington for "Christian Movie Night," in the Education Wing!

Men of Grace Gospel Group: Every 2nd Sunday at 8:00 A.M. Service.

The Young Adult Ministry: Invites all young adults ages 18-35 to bible study every 1st and 3rd Friday from 6:30-7:30 P.M. in the Education Wing. Rev Terry Dodd (Facilitator) Theme... "Why am I here, and what is my purpose?"

Diaper Giveaway: Every third Saturday at Annex # 3. Starting at 9:00 A.M.

Capital Campaign: Please remember to get your pledge sheet and make your pledge. Pledge sheets can be found in the foyer area of the church.

Some of the above events are canceled

**Continue to support the church
Building Fund**

Some community announcements provided courtesy of:
Rev. Amos L. Lewis,
Senior Pastor and IMA CAT Facilitator Rising Star MBC

Scripture for the month of "September"

Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand. ~ [Isaiah 41:10](#)



**PLEASE
NOTE:**



GTLamplight@gmail.Com



**TITHES &
OFFERINGS**



What's Happening

COMPLETE CENSUS FORM WHILE STAYING AT HOME - As more Arizonans comply with orders to stay at home during the COVID-19 crisis, there are still some things they can do to help their communities. One item is completing their census forms online. Responses help determine the number of seats each state has in Congress and guide how nearly \$700 billion in federal funding is spent in communities each year. It's estimated up to \$3,000 per person, per year is at stake for Arizona. The answers are kept anonymous and are used only to produce statistics. Follow the links below for more information. **United States Census 2020 & Complete the census video**

Currently, only 46% of all eligible Black people in Arizona are registered to vote compared to 80% of white Arizonans. (Rep. Reginal Bolding, Jr.) Please go **REGISTER and VOTE!**



To:

Tucson AZ 8571
1010 E 21st Street

