



SPRING EDITION 2014

BANK STREET
Memorial Baptist Church
Proclaiming, Serving, and Giving Thanks Since 1840



The Trumpeter



Celebrating Our Church Ministries



"Ministry" is from the Greek word diakoneo, meaning "to serve"; more specifically, service to God and to other people in His name. In this edition of The Trumpeter, we celebrate our ministries that are so critical to the vibrancy of Bank Street. Each ministry is formed and inspired for a particular purpose such as spiritual growth, moral guidance, witness, service activity, health and fitness, and social gathering. It is very important to note that these Church Ministry programs are made up of highly dedicated men and women who serve, not because they receive compensation or celebrity, but rather, because they have made the commitment to utilize their God-given talents in order to serve Christ and His Church.

4 Reasons To Serve On A Bank Street Ministry

- 1. Serving models the life of Jesus.** Jesus came not to be served but to serve. We discover true greatness when we serve because we are becoming like Christ when we serve others.
- 2. Serving is the natural response to the gospel.** – The depth of the gospel message propels us into a life of all out service to Christ. When we rightly understand what we've been saved from, we have a desire to give our lives in service.
- 3. Serving utilizes the spiritual gifts God has given us.** – Each of us has been given a spiritual gift that is to be used to serve others. As we use our gifts in the ministries of the church, not only are we helping others grow spiritually but we also are growing into maturity.
- 4. Serving combats our natural self-centeredness.** We are all naturally self-centered but serving in the church is a grace by which we combat those sinful tendencies and consider others more important than ourselves.

"Service is the rent we pay for the privilege of living on this earth."



At our Missions and Ministries Advisory Committee meeting, held in March 31, 2014, the editor of our Trumpeter, Brother John Williams, mentioned that it would be a good idea to share some of the excerpts from that meeting in this edition of the Trumpeter. I believe that much of what Brother Williams wanted me to share with the congregation at large was centered on the statements regarding our church's vision statement. While many of our existing membership, as well as the new membership of our church, may not be aware of what a vision statement is and how it serves as a guide for our overall strategic plan; I agree that the following information may help, but, only if our membership supports its aim.

So, let's begin by examining, first of all, **what is our vision statement?** *"Connecting the Church to the Community and the World; through Service, Mission, Outreach, and the Love of Christ."*

In order to fully implement and act upon our vision, we need to also answer the question: **What is a Vision Statement?** By definition a Vision Statement is: a aspirational description of what an organization would like to achieve or accomplish in the mid-term or long-term future. It is intended to serve as a clear guide for choosing current and future courses of action.

But, the most important questions to ask are: What does our vision mean for my ministry? How can my ministry support our vision? What will I do as a ministry and an individual to support our vision?

In order for a vision statement to serve its purpose and reach its futuristic goal, each ministry needs to establish its own personal vision that works toward helping support our church's vision in an effort to accomplish the task of Service, Mission, and Outreach, all with the Love of Christ. It is hoped and expected that each ministry provides an element of each of these areas with a scope that is larger than their individual ministry. If we are all working toward improving in these areas, then, our ultimate goal will be to promote ways that we can make a connection with our community and the world at large.

For example, the aim and goal of our evangelistic ministry would be to improve in providing the *service* of evangelizing people in our community as well as in the world at large. We need to focus upon how we can enhance our membership's understanding of evangelism, so that they can serve our church better and help build the *Body of Christ*, by reaching those who are unchurched and unsaved. Rick Warren, pastor of the fastest growing Baptist church in the history of America located in Saddleback, California says, *"If you want to build a healthy, strong, and growing church you must spend time laying a solid foundation. This is done by clarifying in the minds of everyone involved exactly why the church exists and what it is supposed to do."*

Therefore, this *mission* of the evangelism ministry would be to train and provide tools for our membership that are needed to promote evangelism both locally and abroad, while keeping in mind the mission of the church, which is to "go ye therefore, and make disciples." In addition, the goals for this particular ministry should be to provide a means where we can collect measurable and meaningful data to evaluate the effectiveness of what we are currently doing, so that we can improve our overall efforts.

Even in the area of *outreach*, while we are already engaged in an effort to *connect* with our local community, through our annual community walks; what can we do to evangelize worldwide, or even beyond our local community and the Tidewater area. These are the hard questions that we need to ask ourselves, and then work together to make a difference. Note that while the ministry's goals may be different from every other ministry in the church, it should actively involve all of our members, and each member of our church needs to be aware of the purpose and function of this particular ministry, and how it fits in the overall vision of our church.

Communication is key! We are asking that each ministry re-examine itself throughout our church; from Diaconate to Trustees, to Ushers and Christian Education. All ministries of our church should be working toward

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the same goal, which is to make our church's vision come to fruition. I have been challenged to share this with you, and I pray that it will serve as a fruitful and motivational work. Our next Missions and Ministries Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for June 30, 2014; all leaders are asked and expected to be present. Let's work together and take our church to the next level!

For His Cause,

Joseph P. Lee

Reverend Dr. Joseph P. Lee, Jr., Senior Pastor

Endowment Ministry

The Bank Street Endowment Committee was established to educate and receive gifts and bequests to be used to further the growth of Bank Street and its mission and ministry. A planned gift to the Bank Street Memorial Baptist Church Endowment Fund can help assure that Bank Street and its ministries remain as strong in the future as they are today.


How Will the Assets of the Fund Be Used?

Funds contributed to the Endowment Fund are invested and the income earned by these investments will be used to sustain and strengthen various ministries of the church into the future. The principal remains invested in perpetuity.

How Can I Make a Gift to the Endowment Fund?

You can make a gift in one of two ways:


1. A Current Gift. We invite you to consider making a current gift to the Endowment Fund. Cash donations can be made by making checks payable to "Bank Street Baptist Church Endowment Fund." The Endowment Fund also accepts non-cash gifts, including stocks, bonds, or other investments.
2. You can make a very special gift to the Endowment Fund by naming the Fund as a beneficiary or partial beneficiary of such things as a living trust or charitable remainder trust, a life insurance policy, an IRA or 401k, or by naming the Fund in a bequest in your will.



You can continue supporting your church beyond your lifetime through...

- * Bequests
- * Life income gifts
- * Retirement accounts
- * Life Insurance policies
- * Gifts of property

For more information Contact a member of the Bank Street Memorial Baptist Church Endowment Ministry



How Your Endowment Gift Helps





The Easter Play: A Bank Street Tradition by Kimberly Lee



Well they did it again! Who, you might ask? The BSMBC family and friends came out in great numbers once again to share in the annual Easter play. Visibly there was standing room only. The 120 printed programs were all handed out before the play started. Imagine how the participants (ages 2-18) felt to see so many people in attendance.

The young people rehearsed weekly for 6 weeks prior to the big event which occurred on Sunday, April 20, 2014 at 9:30 a.m. in Henderson Hall. They memorized their lines, learn songs, mastered a few movements and made several different props. Our praise dance ministry, The Angelic Steps of Bank Street performed to *'Every Praise Is To Our God.'* Bank Street was also introduced to the BSMBC Brass Players. The Lee Brothers and Marcus Walker used their shiny instruments to play *'I'm So Glad'* and *'When The Saints Go Marching In.'* Mr. Michael Walker graciously volunteered to play the role of **Jesus** once again this year.

Just as the sun rises every morning, Jesus, God's only son, rose from the dead. Because Jesus died for our sins, we can be forgiven. Peter, Jesus' disciple, learned this lesson the hard way. In the play the audience witnessed how discouraged Peter was after he denied Jesus. That was the bad news – but the good news was that Peter found out that Jesus will forgive us even when we have trouble forgiving ourselves!

We highlighted two of our high school graduating seniors. Jordyn Walker was the devotional leader as well as the narrator and Joseph Lee played the leading role of Peter. They both did an awesome job. I'm sure they will participate in future productions as their college schedule permits.

I'm learning that the plays we share with Bank Street are much more than telling the stories of the resurrection and birth of Jesus Christ. Our plays are Bank Street traditions. We come together in Christian love anticipating a great performance. In reality it's much more than that. We share in a fantastic fellowship. Before and after the presentations, the members and friends converse with laughs and smiles. They reflect on the past and reconnect with old friends. Let me add, that we always have a delicious yet healthy continental breakfast to share with the audience as well. Look out Bank Street, the wheels are already in motion for the next presentation.

Lastly a gigantic shout-to Deacon Mae Wiley for using her creative talents to create another award winning set design.

YOUTH MINISTRY



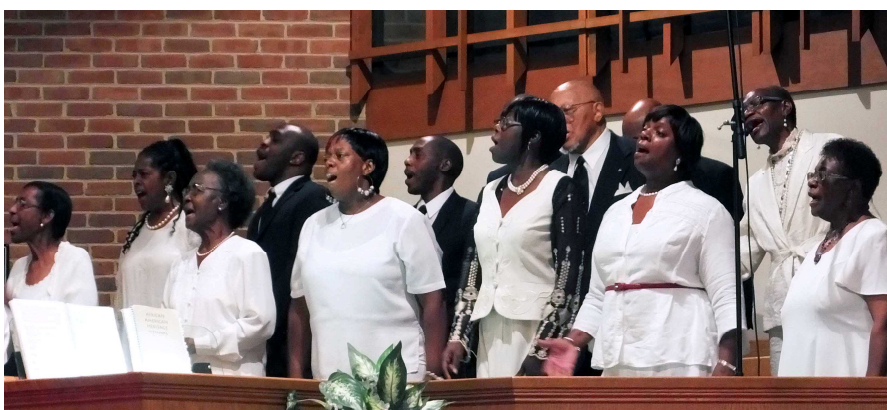
Working Together



SUNDAY SCHOOL



Aerobics Ministry Hosts Successful Fundraiser
Dining, Dancing, Fashion and Talent Show



Filling the sanctuary with music to the glory of God.



Ministry Partners



Ministry of Deacons: Provides direct assistance to the Pastor in the ministry of pastoral care; to be concerned with the overall spiritual development and well-being of the congregation.

Deacon Pamela Riddick, Chair

Ministry of Deaconesses: Mission is to pray for the Pastor daily and assist the Pastor with church ministries in bringing Christian aid, comfort, and understanding to the congregation of the church.

Deaconess Gloria J. Walker, Chair

Ministry of Trustees: Provides an organized program of management of church properties, develop and administer the church budget, and give fiscal guidance to all ministries and areas of financial operation.

Dr. Bertha Escoffey, Chair

Aerobics Ministry: To improve physical and mental health while growing spiritually to provide better service in God's kingdom.

Deacon Sharon Doggett, Leader

Boosters Ministry: Promotes spiritual growth, cohesiveness, and fellowship within the congregation by assuming leadership with the Pastor in the development and implementation of special programs and projects.

Ms. Barbara Davis, President

Christian Education Ministry: Engage the disciples of our congregation so that we are equipped, trained, committed, motivated, and educated to fulfill the total mission of our church.

Dr. Anita B. James, Chair

Evangelism Ministry: To carry out the Great Commission that Jesus Christ assigned to the church.

Sisters Barbara Pope and Brenda Rose, Co-Chairs

Golden Heirs: To serve God in any way we can by expressing His love to our fellow church and community members. We will visit, call and cheer our sick and shut-in through prayers, cards and telephone calls.

Pastoral Relations Committee: Provide constructive communications between the congregation and the Pastor, and to implement the congregation's responsibility for the Pastor's professional and personal well being.

Sister Barbara Pendleton, Chair

Joe Webb Usher Ministry: Assist the church in creating the proper atmosphere for members and visitors to have a meaningful worship experience; to serve God's people by graciously greeting, directing and assisting them in a friendly hospitable manner.

Brother John Scott, Chair

Women's Ministry: To mobilize the women of the church into a spiritually supportive union that encourages Christian fellowship, service, and action in the church and community.

Sisters Bessie Hardy and Barbara Pendleton, Co-Chairs

Young Adult Ministry: Enhance the spiritual growth of young adults by sharing the love of Christ and actively participating in worship, ministry, service, fellowship and evangelism.

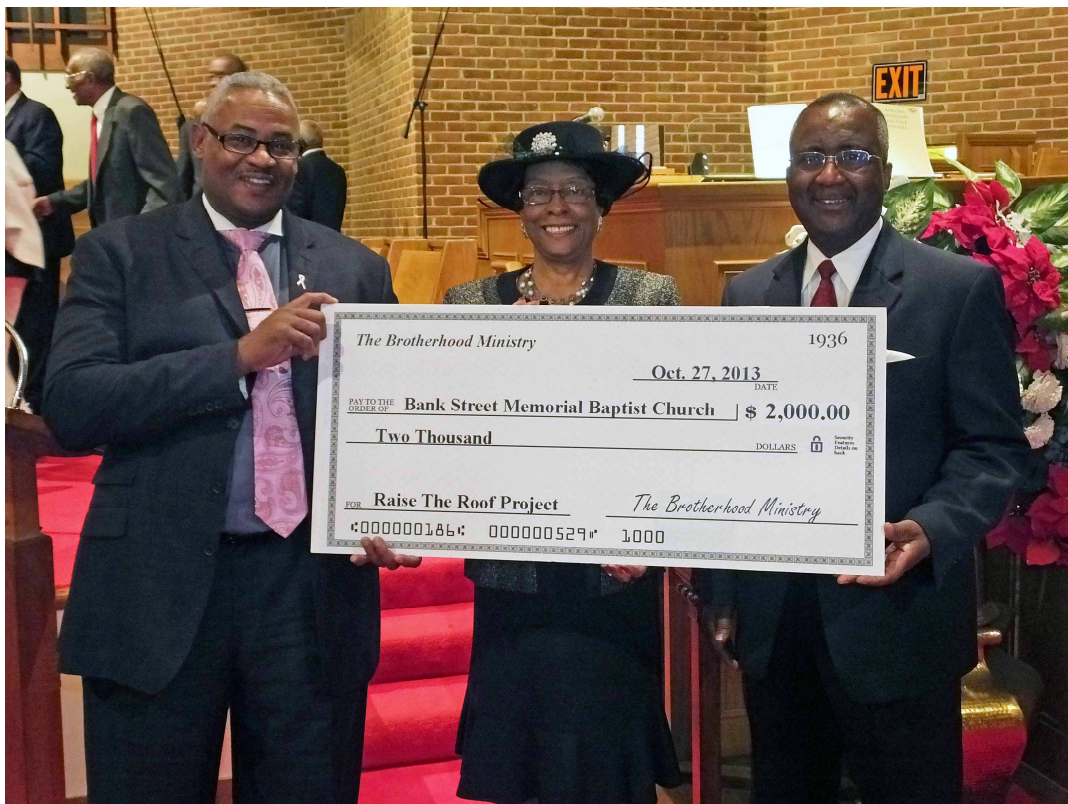
Sister TiCanna Counts, President

Ministry Partners Continued

Youth Leadership/Council Ministry: Prepares youth, ages 6-18, for their spiritual journey with Christ.
Sister Deiyauna Davis, President

Oakmont Community Development Corporation: Functions as a multi-service center hosting a variety of programs and services that will be of value and benefit to the community.
Deaconess Mary Redd-Nelson, Chair

Leaping and Learning Child Development Center: Provide the enrolled children with a safe, nurturing, enjoyable, secure, and spiritual learning environment in order to help them gain the awareness, skills, and confidence necessary to succeed in their present environment and to deal with responsibilities late in life.
Sister Selina Vaughan, Director



The Brotherhood Ministry's contribution to the Raise The Roof Campaign



Ministry Means Service

The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in service to others

BANK STREET MEMORIAL BAPTIST CHURCH Raise The Roof Campaign



Have You Made Your Pledge Yet?