

The SPRING BRANCH HERALD

July/August/September
Volume 1, Issue 5



"Where LOVE Makes the Difference!"



*Dr. Lacy E. Simpson, Jr.
Senior Servant*

Beloved,

I greet you in the only name that truly matters, Jesus Christ.

I would like to take a moment to challenge and encourage everyone to strive to trust God more in every aspect of our lives. Anything that tends to make you overly anxious is actually a growth opportunity. Instead of running away from these encounters, embrace them, allowing yourselves to develop an "eager patience" that will eventually produce purposeful blessings.

As God is the Sovereign, self-determining One over every aspect of our lives, patience teaches us that it is, in fact, possible for us to trust God in every situation. We must stop wasting valuable energy regretting the way things are or thinking about what might have been. We should activate the Holy Ghost's authority that lives in us. Therefore, in every daily moment, seek and search for God's response amid ALL circumstances. Life's common denominator boils down to one question, "Can He TRUST me to Trust Him???" Our victory is realized ONLY when we have authentically put our trust in Him!

My continuous prayer for you is that we walk in agreement with King Solomon as he so prophetically and profoundly penned Proverbs 3: 5-6. Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own insight. In ALL your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make straight your paths.

Sincerely Stated,

Lacy E. Simpson, Jr., D. Min.
Senior Servant

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Main Event - July

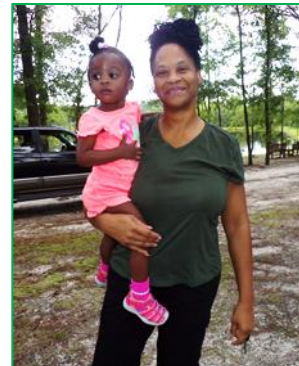
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Vacation Bible School **2019**, led by Director Sister Sondra Swann and Assistant Director Sister Janet McPhatter, was held July 8-12. This year's theme was **Jesus the Kingdom Builder**, with classes for all ages.

Teachers included Sisters Jean Perkins, Sarah Armstrong, Beatrice Douglas, Tyra Cole, Betty Gholston, Eva McLean, Bertha Barnes, Melody Matthews and Lady Melvis Simpson. Also Crafts & Music leaders were Sisters Brenda Gilchrist, Brianna Gilchrist, Cathy Gilchrist, Betty McNair, Annette McNair and Brother Aiden McNair. Sister Darlene Brown and Kitchen Ministry on duty each day and again on Saturday with celebration picnic at Matthews Park.

Vacation Bible School July 8 - 12



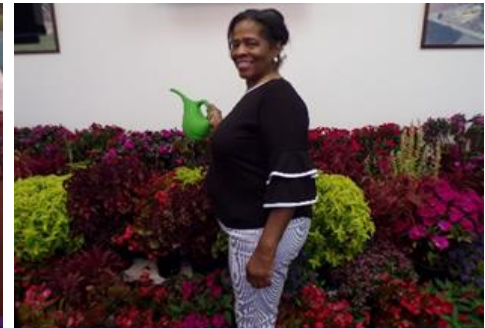
SRMBC Vacation Bible School 2019



Main Event - August



Above: Members and visitors Meet & Greet during Morning Service, then enjoy a delicious dinner. **Below:** Rev. Kenneth Kelly prophesizes to Pastor Simpson and Sister Toni McNeill; Floral Ministry Chairman Sister Brenda Gilchrist waters plants.



Homecoming/Revival 2019 was a time to Celebrate 159 years of SBMBC history, to memorialize loved ones, and for thirsty souls to hear a Rhema Word from the Lord. The vestibule was arrayed with live blooming plants. Dinner was served on Sunday August 11 after morning service, followed by spiritual food from opening revivalist, Rev. Kenneth Kelly of Nashville MBC who prophesied and preached "It's Time to Settle the Issue of Worship". Dr. Nilous Avery, Pastor of Mt. Zion MBC of Salisbury NC and past President of the GBSC of NC, Inc., was guest revivalist for Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday nights, preaching from Psalm 57:1-11 ("When You Don't Know What To Do"), Genesis 50:20-21 ("The Flip Side of Life"), and Matthew 17:20 ("When Your Faith Meets Your Mountain".)

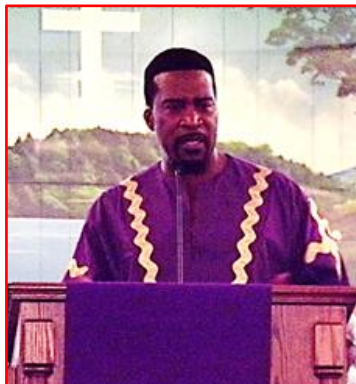


Left: Dr. Patricia Russell of the Pee Dee Association, looks on as Pastor Simpson introduces Dr. Nilous Avery (**Middle and Right**).

Homecoming/Revival August 11- 16



Above: Associate Ministers lead nightly devotion; visiting choir Cool Springs UMC Male Choir. **Right:** Visiting choirs Shady Grove MBC Mass Choir, Nazareth MBC Mass Choir



Dr. J. Gentile Everett, Pastor of Mill Branch MBC of Fairmont NC, closed out our Annual Revival on Thursday and Friday nights. On Thursday night he preached from Luke 23:46 ("Please Consider the Lord's Hands"). Friday night, the Youth were in charge of nightly devotion. Dr. Everett closed out Revival Week with the topic from Daniel 3:7 ("I Was Not Built to Break!"). Following this, all in attendance enjoyed a spaghetti dinner.



Main Event – September



Left: Associate Minister Dr. Thomas Gilchrist, September Adult Sunday School teacher; Middle: Pastor Simpson assisting with serving members and friends dinner; Right: Dr. Walter & Dr. Harriet Jackson, friends of SBMBC



Above, Left: Members and friends in line to be served dinner. Middle, Right, and Below: Pastor Simpson, SBMBC ushers and congregation excitedly awaiting afternoon service to begin.



SBMBC celebrated Family and Friends Day on September 22. Morning Worship was followed by dinner prepared by the Culinary Arts/Kitchen Ministry. Members and friends dined and fellowshiped together, then welcomed members of Lewis Chapel MBC of Fayetteville NC to break bread with us before dismissing back to the sanctuary.

Family & Friends Day September 22



Lewis Chapel Missionary Baptist Church Mass Choir prepares the atmosphere with songs of Praise.



Left to Right: Associate Minister Veronica McPhatter; Deacon Chairman Simuel Hines; SBMBC members



Afternoon Celebration begin at 4pm. Immediately following Praise and Worship service, Lewis Chapel MBC Choir opened with songs of Zion, their Usher's Ministry was on duty. Dr. Christopher Stackhouse Sr., Pastor of Lewis Chapel MBC, stood on the uncompromising Word of God, his message from John 9:1-9, "I Don't Need Nobody Else".

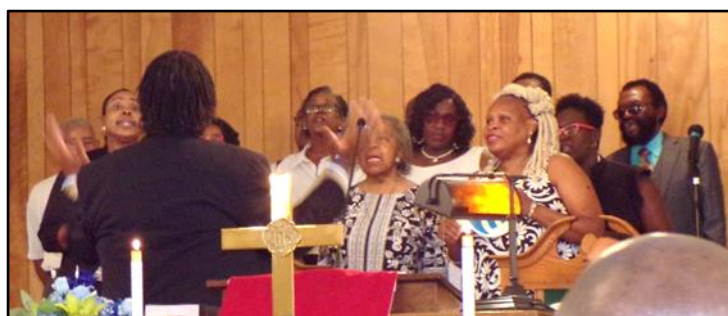


SBMBC Carrying the Gospel

SBMBC were guests for dinner and worship with the congregation of New Bethel AME Zion Church, Hamlet NC, on July 14, commemorating the Pastoral Anniversary of Rev. David Gadsen. SBMBC Mass Choir provided songs of praise. Pastor Simpson's message: "What the Pastor Cannot Do" (Ezekiel 37:1-14).

On August 4, SBMBC traveled to Charlotte NC to worship with Dr. Johnny H. Walker and members of Macedonia Baptist Church. Pastor Simpson's sermon topic was "The Gospel According to Satan" (Job 1:1-12).

First Lady Melvis Simpson took her message "A Titus 2 Woman" (Titus 2:1-5) to the waiting congregation of Nashville MBC during their Annual Women's Day Morning Service on September 22. It was a high time in the Lord with our sister church.



Left: SBMBC Mass Choir with Rev. Joseph David directing. Right: Pastor Simpson brings the Word.



Above, L-R: Pastor & Lady Simpson await repas at Macedonia MBC; Mass Choir shifting the atmosphere for the preached Word; Pastor Lacy Simpson delivers God's message.



Above: The LIGHT Ministry members stirred up by Lady Simpson's message to the women of Nashville MBC.



How Beautiful Are Their Feet



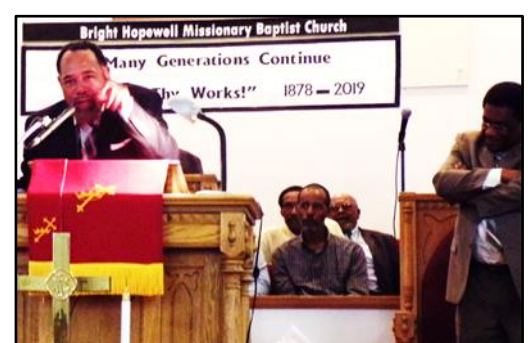
July, August and September were busy months for SBMBC as we fellowshiped with neighboring churches who were in Revival. On July 28, Pastor Simpson, choir, ushers and congregation continued the SBMBC tradition of opening up Revival week for Nashville MBC, Marston NC

In August, Pastor Simpson and members joined Unionville MBC, Laurinburg NC, on opening night of their revival, and we rendered service at St. Peter United Methodist Church, Wagram NC, on night #2 of their revival.

Pastor Simpson was Revivalist for Bright Hopewell MBC, Laurinburg NC, September 16, 17, and 18. His topics were "Is there a Christian in the House?", "This Joy that We Have", and "Everybody Ought to Know who Jesus Is".



(Left) Pastor Simpson and Rev. Kenneth Kelly & (Middle) Sister Mae Lewis and Mother Edith Mahoney at Nashville MBC. (Right) Pastor Siimson at St. Peter UMC



(Left) Rev. Alfred Dudley and SBMBC Mass Choir taking in the Word from Pastor Simpson at Unionville MBC. (Right) Rev. Garland Pierce encouraging Pastor Simpson at Bright Hopewell MBC.

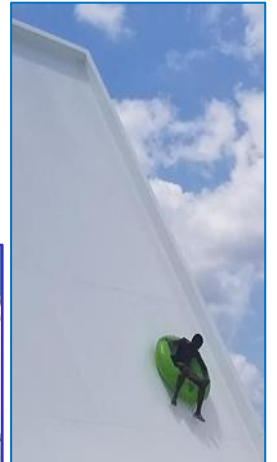


(Above) On Sunday, September 15, Pastor Simpson, Male Chorus and SBMBC family traveled to Fairmont NC to share with Dr. J. Gentile Everett and Macedonia MBC church family in the celebration of their Church Anniversary.

SPOTLIGHT: Youth



International Civil Rights Center & Museum Wet & Wild Water Park - Greensboro NC



SBMBC Youth, advisors and other leaders headed to Greensboro for an adventure in learning and water fun July 2-3. The trip included a tour of the International Civil Rights Center & Museum, where they saw relics and displays commemorating the history of Civil Rights movement in our state and the nation. Day Two of the trip was spent at the Wet & Wild Water Park. They came back refreshed and ready for Vacation Bible School 2019.



Top: Group picture of Youth Summer Trip 2019. Clockwise: Youth at dinner Golden Corral; water tube/slide fun at Wet & Wild; Youth taking a photo break; Youth at Wrap Up session of VBS 2019, holding Certificates of Completion.



AAU Basketball Team



On August 25, Brother Andre Reaves, Sports Ministry Chairman, introduced the youth of Take By Force AAU basketball Team, made up of high school freshmen and sophomores. The team will include youth from Hoke County this year. This group is planning several fundraisers to support their participation and play with Big Shots, an organization where young players get exposure to college scouts. Team includes (above left) Yasheen, Patrick, Aaron, Lamontell and Lamonte. (Right) Coach Reaves.



ORATORICAL CONTEST

September brought the conclusion of the long awaited youth oratorical contest. The topics were A Code of Conduct for “Being Black & Living in America” and “Black Lives Matter”. Contestants in this inaugural contest were 4th grader Azariah McQueen, 5th grader Miyonna Kershaw, high school students Lunden Adams and Tru-Ending Walker were contestants in SBMBC oratorical contest. Miyonna and Lunden were awarded \$50, and Azariah and Tru-Ending were awarded \$25.

Judges were Brothers Michael Armstrong and Devon Hall and Deaconess Betty Gholston, Sister Kimberly Fairley and Sister Nikki Thompson.



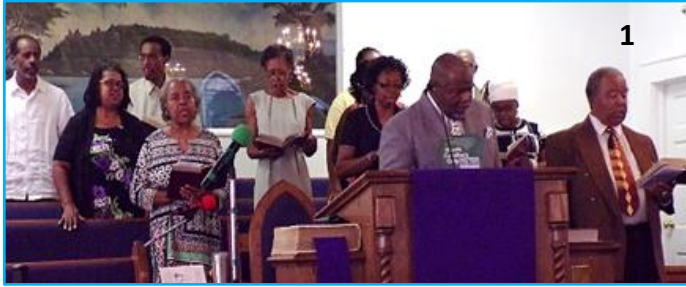
BAPTISM

Shamari Armstrong was baptized on August 11 .

He received the Right Hand of fellowship and a Holy Bible, presented by Associate Minister Ernestine McAllister. Heaven is Rejoicing!

Spotlight: Music Ministry

SBMBC has a rich history of Music Ministry. Our Choirs sing traditional hymns, quartet style and contemporary gospel songs of praise for all worship services. There is a choir for all ages, from the Senior Choir, Male Chorus, Gospel Choir, Youth Choir and Mass Choir. Deacon John Davis serves as advisor to the Music Ministry as well as backup musician. Brother Nehemiah Kershaw is the Ministry drummer, and Brother Maurice Armstrong accompanies on piano, organ or trumpet when needed.



Clockwise: 1) Gospel Choir; 2) Male Chorus; 3) Senior Choir; 4) Youth Choir; 5) Nehemiah Kershaw, Ministry drummer; 6) Byron Covington, Interim Musician



Thank You, Joe! We said a fond farewell to Minister of Music Brother Joseph David and his wife Rosezetta on August 25. Brother David served as SBMBC Minister of Music for three years, incorporating trumpet and guitar into the worship experience. We wish him well as he and Sister Rosezetta continue to let the Lord lead them and use them to His Glory.



July Saints

Jared Davis
Truli-Symphony Walker
Ruegene Harmon
Linda McLaughlin
Roy Cole
Davey Wells
Lillian Perry
Charles McQueen
April McLean
Kennie Covington, Jr.
Reginald McNeill
Queen E. McNair
John Ferguson
Jordan McLean
Rachel Cole
Tanya McLean
Lacy Simpson III

August Saints

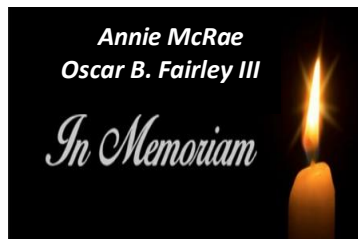
Queen Long
Lonnie McPhatter
Ronnie Harrington
Bertha Barnes
Willie Douglas
Janet McPhatter
Warren McNair
Wane McNair
John Graham
April Wells
Ernestine McAllister
Telite-a-candle Walker
Tiandra Reaves
Carolyn Gilchrist
James McLaughlin
Tamer Cole
Toinette McNeill
Eva McLean
Evelyn Chambers
Darlene Brown

September Saints

Annie Martin
Leroy Perkins
Brenda Gilchrist
Naomi Davis
Polly Covington
Carolyn Fairley
Louise Williams
Louise Douglas
Franklin McLeod
Talia McNeill
Joel Gilchrist
Bessie Layne
Brianna Gilchrist
Cynthia Brown
Decario Fairley
Walter Brown
Tru-ending Walker
Jeanette McQueen
Neaso McPhatter



Dr. Thomas & Mrs. Carolyn Gilchrist
Mr. Willie & Mrs. Carthenia Douglas
Mr. Elijah and Mrs. Mildred Gales



Living Your Best Life



Influenza (also called the flu) is a serious illness. Keep yourself from getting the flu by taking one simple step and getting a flu shot. A yearly seasonal flu vaccine is the best way to lower your chances of catching the seasonal flu and spreading it to others.

Who should get vaccinated? Everyone six months of age and older should get a flu vaccine every season. It's especially important for children under 18 months of age, adults over age 65 and others with low immune systems, since these people are at higher risk for developing serious problems caused by the flu. It can be dangerous — especially for older people, children under 4, and pregnant women. the flu shot is covered under your preventive care benefits at 100%. Contact your primary care doctor to get your flu shot or visit urgent care facilities or many pharmacies. Get your flu shot. It's your best defense. It's never fun to be sick. The flu is more serious than the common cold. Protect yourself and the people you care about. The vaccination can't give you the flu — but it can help protect you against this year's most common strains and prevent spreading the flu to others. Don't get the flu — get the flu shot!



September is **National Preparedness Month**. Citizens are encouraged to take steps to prepare for emergencies in their homes, businesses, schools and communities. As you prepare your plan, tailor your plans and supplies to your specific daily living needs and responsibilities. Discuss your needs and responsibilities and how to care of children, business, pets, or specific needs like the operation of durable medical equipment. Create your own personal network for specific needs.

- Determine how to best protect yourself from high winds and flooding.
 - Evacuate if told to do so.
 - Take refuge in a designated storm shelter, or an interior room for high winds.
- Listen for emergency information and alerts.
- Turn Around, Don't Drown! Do not walk, swim, or drive through flood waters.
- Keep important documents in a safe place or create password-protected digital copies.
- Restock your emergency preparedness kit. Include enough food and water for at least three days, medications, a flashlight, batteries, cash, and first aid supplies.
- Plan how to communicate with family members if you lose power. For example, you can call, text, email or use social media. sending text messages is usually reliable and faster than making phone calls because phone lines may be overloaded. a text message may get through when a phone call will not. Text messages may also save and then send automatically as soon as capacity becomes available.
- Keep your car in good working condition, and keep the gas tank full; stock your vehicle with emergency supplies and a change of clothes
- Turn your refrigerator or freezer to the coldest setting and open only when necessary. If you lose power, food will last longer. Keep a thermometer in the refrigerator to be able to check the food temperature when the power is restored.

Your Mental Health

So, you're dealing with conflict. Join the club. Conflict happens WHEREVER people gather - in families, in churches, at work, and in communities. You may be feeling tension with someone at work or with someone you serve with at church. I think Christians often struggle with conflict because 1) In the name of Grace, we feel we need to sacrifice or avoid the truth; 2) When we speak truth, we often don't know how to speak it with grace; 3) We worry about hurting other people's feelings when one of the best things we can do is offer honest feedback; and 4) We're not sure how to support someone we genuinely disagree with. None of this needs to be, and rather than let conflict linger, address it. Many churches don't grow because they suffer from conflict and too much tension. What do you do? Here are 7 ways that I hope can help you resolve conflict:



1. **GO DIRECT** – often issues are mishandled because we talk ABOUT someone rather than talk TO someone. Jesus was crystal clear on how to handle conflict (Matthew 18:15), but very few Christians follow His practice. In the name of being “nice” (“I can’t tell her that!”), we become ineffective.
2. **BELIEVE THE BEST ABOUT OTHERS** – it’s easy to assign bad motives to people. Instead, give them the benefit of the doubt. They might not realize how they are coming across. Believe the best about others; don’t assume the worst.
3. **EXPLAIN – DON’T BLAME** – Instead of saying “You always do this” or “You never do that”, begin by talking about how You see or understand their actions
4. **BE SPECIFIC** – giving one or two specific incidents is much better than making general accusations or commenting on someone’s personality.
5. **TELL THEM YOU WANT THINGS TO GET BETTER** – at this point, they may feel defensive, ashamed or (hopefully) sorry. Remind them of their gifts and the good they do.
6. **OWN YOUR PART OF THE CONFLICT** – ask people, “What is it like to be on the other side of Me?”
7. **PRAY FOR THEM** – don’t pray about them. Pray FOR them. It is almost impossible to stay angry with someone you pray for.

For more details, go to: <https://careynieuwhof.com/7-healthy-ways-resolve-conflict/>

Sister Ruth A. Hall
MSW, LCSW



Susan Baggett, Educator for the NC Geriatric Adult Specialty Team, speaks to noonday and evening Bible Study students on September 11 about Alzheimer's Disease vs Dementia and how to know the difference.

Community Meetings

Scotland County NAACP, 4th Saturday of the month, location TBA.

Scotland County Board of Commissioners, first Monday of the month, 7pm at the A. B. Gibson Center, 322 South Main Street, Laurinburg NC.

Wagram Town Board, first Thursday of the month, 7pm at the Wagram Town Hall, 24421 Marlboro Street, Wagram NC.

Scotland County Board of Education, second Monday of the month, at 6pm at the A. B. Gibson Center, 322 South Main Street, Laurinburg NC



FOOD GIVEAWAY

Free Nonperishable Food Giveaway

"If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, and one of you says to them, 'Go in peace, be warmed and filled,' without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that? So also faith by itself, it does not have works, is dead."

~James 2:15-17

**Spring Branch MBC
Fellowship Hall
9am – 12pm**

SPRING BRANCH MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

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