



THE SANCTUARY AT KINGDOM SQUARE

TSAKS National News

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WITH TSAKS NATION

In This Issue...

- 1 Family Reunion Sunday**
- 2 Missions**
- 4 Member Accomplishments**
- 6 Domestic Violence Awareness**
- 7 Sanctuary Happenings**
- 8 Cyber Worship**
- 9 Lessons Learned**

Mission Statement... Our mission is to promote the spread of the Gospel, the winning of souls to Jesus Christ, the changing of lives, and establishing the presence of the Lord in the world through evangelizing, biblical teaching, economic development, and community outreach. With faith in Almighty God, we seek to be a church preparing born-again believers for the Kingdom of God.

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A Joyful Homecoming: Family Reunion Sunday at The Sanctuary at Kingdom Square

On the first Sunday in September, The Sanctuary hosted a memorable Family Reunion gathering. This special occasion, marked by a homecoming atmosphere and the presence of esteemed guest speaker, Pastor Raleigh Harris, Jr., from Jericho Baptist Church and his congregation from Ruther Glen, VA., brought together a multitude of individuals, creating a truly unforgettable worship and fellowship experience for all.

A Family Fun Day was held following the service that featured music, food trucks, a moonbounce, a game truck, a popcorn stand, a smoothie stand, a 360 photo booth, and many other fun activities.



MISSIONS . . .

Promises Kept

By Minister Charlene Anderson

The Sanctuary was a part of a team that travelled to Mississippi in August after donating items to residents impacted by a tornado earlier this year.

On March 27, 2023, a devastating tornado hit Mississippi, ripping homes and businesses from their foundations. The residents of Silver City were directly impacted. Bishop Anthony G. Maclin, along with other pastors met, and organized a relief effort to help the residents. On April 10, Darnell Cumberlander accepted the assignment to drive his 53-foot tractor trailer from Maryland, arriving in Silver City on April 12. The Silver City team unpacked medical supplies, nonperishable food, can openers, cutlery, dog and cat food, water, and other sustainable items. Bishop Maclin and the other pastors promised to do more.

TSAKS was invited to participate in a Zoom meeting organized by Bishop Charles E. Cato, Sr., Pastor of Mount Calvary Baptist Church of Lanham, MD. Immediately after the tornado, Bishop Cato and his team traveled to Cary,



Mississippi, where they met with Pastor Gully Travis and the residents. During that meeting, Bishop Cato described the devastation, and the gut-wrenching emotions of the people. He told us that although he was back in Maryland, "he left his heavy heart in Mississippi." He promised the people that he would return.

Bishops Maclin and Cato, and their teams, organized an effort to collect furniture and appliances. The plan was to deliver the furniture to Cary and to visit Silver City.

The team members traveled to Mississippi from August 7 – 11, and met the tractor trailer on August 9, unloading all the items at Pastor Travis's church. Bishop Cato, Pastor Carlton R. Burns, Sr., Pleasant Grove Baptist Church, Upper Marlboro, MD, and their team, remained in Cary to help with the distribution of the furniture. Bishop Maclin, Pastor Lehman Bates, First Bethel Baptist Church, Camp Springs, MD, Pastor Bernard Winchester, Jr., First Baptist Church of Fairmont Heights, MD, along with Billie Lopes, Mikal Bath and Minister Charlene Anderson, travelled to Silver City where they met the residents, and blessed each one with a money envelope, encouraging each person to continue to trust that God will bring them through. I witnessed the attitude of gratitude, evident on the face of every person who received an envelope.

Many thanks to our TSAKS Nation members, Deacon Robert and Deacon Pearlie Collier, Deacon James and Deacon Ardenia Nash, who reside in Mississippi, and Woodrow Johnson, Humphreys County Supervisor. They ensured that the distribution process would run effortless.

Ecclesiastes 5:4 “If you make a promise to God, quickly do what you have promised.”



TSAKS Members Attend Lott Carey Convention

By Gail Battle

This year we observed the 126th session of the Lott Carey Convention in Greensboro, North Carolina. The theme for this year's gathering was "GO" taken from **Matthew 28:19-20**.

From the arrival on August 13 through August 18 the focus was, of course, on local and global missions.

The mission education classes served to heighten our awareness of the urgency and challenges of current global issues and that, as a community of faith, our response to these issues should be as agents of hope.

Local mission opportunities were available and tours to the local civil rights museum were also offered. We were graced with the presence of several of our partners from Liberia, Guyana, Kenya, Sudan, India, and South Africa. It was nothing short of amazing to hear their reports and watch the videos demonstrating how the Lord is faithfully using Lott Carey to establish schools, churches, and medical clinics.

Lives are being transformed, communities evangelized, churches



Members participate in service project during the Lott Carey Convention in Greensboro, N.C.

empowered, children are being educated, and leaders trained. Widows and orphans are being cared for, job training and substance abuse programs are in place.

Feeding programs and providing clean water are priorities. Pastors are being trained, improved health and hygiene, and economic empowerment are just a few of many initiatives being developed through Lott Carey. All of this in spite of governmental and religious persecution.

There is always the realization of just how much God has blessed us so that through us, others will benefit and be blessed. I was gratified to see that in the annual report The Sanctuary was listed as ninth of all leading contributors to Christian Missions around the world and the second largest contributor to Christian Missions in the state of Maryland. We were particularly proud of the following TSAKS missions workers who received service awards: **Minister Charlene Anderson, Sister Tonga Peterson, Sister Emily Williams, and Sister Danielle Peterson. Congratulations!**

Sanctuary members were recognized by the Lott Carey Ministries Women In Service Everywhere during Lott Carey's Annual Conference



Minister Charlene Anderson received the Ruth Award in recognition of her leadership for spearheading monthly food distributions and leading the various mission programs, such as Christmas in April and charity drives. She also orchestrated a number of relief efforts.

Tonga Peterson received the Ruth Award in recognition of her leadership for her work with the Department of Social Services and the Community Crisis Services, Inc., the International Youth Department, the American Red Cross Pillowcase Project, Religious Conference Management Association, National Coalition for Black Meeting Planners, Society for Human Resource Management, and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. She also serves as Operations Manager for Lott Carey.

Emily Williams received the Dorcas Award in recognition of her leadership and service in evangelism. For more than 40 years, she has worked in missions and served as a mentor, advocate and a teacher in both the church and community.

Danielle Peterson received the Dorcas Award for her service in evangelism. She serves on the Leadership Team for Youth and Teen Ministry, Agents 4 Christ, and serves as a middle school testing coordinator. She is also a part of the Annual Session Lott Carey Registration Team and the Administrative Team. She also assesses and evaluates Hope Missionary programming.

MEMBER ACCOMPLISHMENTS . . .

Called, Chosen, and Now Qualified!

By Reverend Dr. Deborah Scarborough



Congratulations to my **Brother James Clay**, a life-long member of The Sanctuary! James has completed training classes, field study, passed the exam, and is now a **Certified Peer Specialist**

with the District of Columbia Department of Behavioral Health and Family Services! James is grateful for the love, prayers, encouragement, and support of his biological family, church family, and friends as he diligently persevered through many life failures, disappointments, and challenges to accomplish this milestone over a one-year period of time.

This journey has included James completing certifications in WRAP Seminar I 'Developing a Wellness Recovery Action Plan' and WRAP Seminar II 'Co-Facilitation Training' with the Copeland Center for Wellness and Recovery and the Dreamers Achievement Center.

Peer specialists are self-identified people who are successful in the recovery process and who help others who are living with mental and/or substance use disorders. Through mutual

respect and shared understanding based on similar experiences, peer specialists help people get into treatment and meet the challenges to sustain recovery. The Peer Specialist Certification Training Program builds on the experience of people in recovery with training in foundational competencies required by anyone who provides peer support in behavioral health services.

This certification process has truly been a labor of love for James, and we're excited about how God will use him to bless so many people in the community and in ministry. James attributes the biblical and devotional principles that he learned in his TSAKS MasterLife Discipleship class to this success, and he continues to depend on his 'abiding time' with God to keep him spiritually grounded and focused. James's life mantra is "The pain of my past has prepared me for my purpose...to help somebody."

"When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dreamed. Our mouths were filled with laughter, our tongues with songs of joy. Then it was said among the nations, "The LORD has done great things for them." The LORD has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy. Restore our fortunes, LORD, like streams in the Negev. Those who sow with tears will reap with songs of joy."

Psalm 126:1-5

We congratulate **Minister Antonio (Toney) Mitchell** for completing the Master's in Divinity Program at Denver Seminary. Minister Mitchell is the proud husband of Sanita Mitchell and father to five beautiful children, along with being "Pop Pop" to his adorable grandson. He looks forward to using what he has learned to drive dynamic change across the world as a servant leader of Jesus Christ. We celebrate Minister Mitchell on this tremendous accomplishment and look forward to what God has in store for this man of God!



Minister Krystle Maclin Named to Forbes Black Power Players List



entrepreneurs, professionals, leaders and creators.

With her unique blend of leadership skills and an unwavering vision for the future, Minister Maclin has become a beacon of inspiration for aspiring entrepreneurs and professionals alike.

Minister Maclin's inclusion is a celebration of her indomitable spirit, resilience and outstanding achievement. Congratulations!!

Deacon Earns Degree



Congratulations to **Deacon Ardenia Nash**, who recently received a Bachelor of Arts in Christian Studies with an Emphasis in Biblical Studies from the Grand Canyon University in Phoenix, Ariz.

Sanctuary Member Wins Emmy Award

By Monica McDonald



Sanctuary family, did you know that we have an Emmy-award winning celebrity in our congregation? Well, let me introduce you to **Brother Dale Wright**, a native of Chicago, Ill. After high school, he went into the U.S. Air Force where he served for four years. This is

where he learned all of his training in photography, video, television and motion pictures. After the service, he earned a bachelor of arts in communications from Chicago State University.

Dale has been in this field for the last 42 years where he has won 11 Emmy awards for his work with Channel 7 (WJLA), where he has been for 24 years. Those Emmys included the Anniversary of 9/11 – 20 Years Later, the Navy Yard Shooting in Washington, DC, as well as different specials for ABC. He has also won four Edward R. Murrow awards.

He has worked for ESPN in Chicago, CBS affiliates in Phoenix and Tucson, Arizona, as well as for the Nightly Business Report. He worked Air Force motion pictures and television. His wins also include Daytime Emmys.

Dale says that winning his first couple of Emmys was exciting because it was a benchmark for the industry where you are competing with your peers. He said that the coverage says that your work stands out from all the others in the industry, but one of the obstacles in his field is that sometimes your coverage includes harm and death and it is, sometimes, difficult to know that you were awarded because of that. He says you have to turn off your emotions and go out and tell their stories. The coverage made people's stories memorable.

Dale says that his family gets more excitement out of his wins than he does. He is happily married to Minister Nichelle Carter and has three sons and three grandchildren. He is a member of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences/National Capital Chesapeake Bay (NATAS/NCCB) as well as a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. Kudos to our very own Brother Dale Wright!

Missions Continued . . .

Students Off to a Great Start

The TSAKS Missions Ministry purchased supplies for G. James Gholson Middle School to help the students get off to a great start. Members of the ministry delivered those supplies on the first day of school, which included clear backpacks, ink pens, pencils, loose-leaf paper, composition books, subject dividers, highlighters, and other necessary supplies. Ms. Liticia Hubbard, the Community School Coordinator, met us as we arrived, and clearly she was overcome with joy at the sight of all the supplies. Ms. Hubbard is instrumental in identifying the children with the greatest need, ensuring they benefit from receipt of these supplies. TSAKS "adopted" Gholson Middle School a year ago, and is endeavoring to pour into the lives of the students throughout the school year.

For information on how you can help us achieve this goal, please contact Minister Charlene Anderson at mscharander@gmail.com.



Domestic Violence Awareness Month Inspires Healing and Transformation

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month when many advocates hold events to bring attention to the serious health issue that can have a lasting effect on victims and their families. **Minister Sharon Dailey**, the Coordinator of the Sanctuary's Domestic Violence Ministry, said while physical abuse is the most common form of domestic violence, it is often referred to as suffering in silence because it often goes unreported.

Perhaps, the most widely underreported form of domestic violence is elder abuse, said **Deacon Sheila Dashiell**, who has worked as a professional in the field for several years.

While we can see the physical abuse, many elders deal with financial abuse. "It's not so much the fraud part, but just from relatives and trusted people," Deacon Dashiell said. "We find it a lot with seniors, who do not have a partner. They become prey because they might be lonely and vulnerable, and so it's easy to befriend people who are lonely." Deacon Dashiell added that seniors are also victims of emotional and physical abuse. "The same type of abuse that happens to any male or female also happens to the older population."

Seniors, however, are less likely to contact a hotline. "A lot of them think they caused this to occur."

Deacon Dashiell said that nursing home abuse is on the increase, and it's not always patients abusing other patients, but reports have come in of professionals abusing patients. Such claims have been dismissed in the past, particularly if a patient suffers from dementia or Alzheimer's.

"Their word isn't accepted because often times they talk incoherently or in their mind this person that's changing them reminds them of so and so from 45 years ago, so their stories aren't readily accepted." Deacon Dashiell added that unless there is a medical evaluation, a lot of times the abuse continues to occur.

Some of the signs and symptoms of elder abuse include depression and social isolation. Deacon Dashiell added that victims of elder abuse also tend to become hoarders because they want to hold things close to them since so much has been taken. As for their finances, it's a matter of who do they trust because they gave trust away and it was not to their advantage, Deacon Dashiell said. "We see that people are in jeopardy of losing their homes. Many seniors, if they have a home, it's pretty much paid for, but you still have to pay taxes. It could be that the taxes may not be paid, and other family members may not know because they tend to be pretty secretive," Deacon Dashiell said. "They want to fix what they broke."

Communication is key to preventing elder abuse. Deacon Dashiell said it's important to check on older family members and loved ones on a regular basis. It's also crucial to get them involved in a day program or church family, where they can find trusted people.

Minister Dailey, who also runs the nonprofit, My Auntie's House of Maryland, added that victims often need a support system of loved ones and friends.



*If you or
someone you
know is a victim
of domestic
abuse call 911,
311 or the
Family Services
Hotline of
Prince George's
County at
(301)731-1203.*

SANCTUARY HAPPENINGS . . .



Supporting Teachers and Students for a Successful Back-to-School Season

As the Summer draws to a close, excitement fills the air as children and teenagers eagerly prepare to return to their classrooms. Recognizing the vital role that teachers play in shaping young minds, the TSAKS Youth Ministry took the opportunity to show their appreciation by organizing a generous 'Empower our Educators' initiative to support teachers as they embark on a new school year.

Emphasizing that our educators are our real heroes, this initiative allowed TSAKS to equip our educators with materials and resources to support their mental, physical, and spiritual health. This initiative not only demonstrated gratitude for educators' dedication but also showcased the collective commitment to creating a nurturing and empowering learning environment.

Also, the 'Empower our Youth' initiative helped to prepare our young people for a successful year by supplying school supplies and backpacks.

Empowering the Future: Scholarship and Youth Career Summit

Investing in the education and career development of our young people is crucial for building a bright and prosperous future. Recognizing this, a Scholarship and Youth Career Summit was recently organized by the Scholarship and Vocational Education Ministry and the Youth Ministry to provide aspiring students with opportunities, guidance, and invaluable resources. There were workshops on writing resumes or brag sheets, SAT testing preparation, Entrepreneurship, Financial Literacy, and Career Options. This event served as a platform for empowering the youth, fostering their personal growth, and unlocking the potential of future leaders in various fields.



COMMENTARY . . .



Minister Mercedes Murray

**“Just as
water is
to fish,
corporate
worship is a
life-line to
so many.”**

The Importance of Fellowship: Cyber Church vs In-Person Church

by Minister Mercedes Murray

Nothing kept Americans more isolated than the wake of the recent pandemic. We thank God that we may be finally approaching a silver lining after a period of cloudy uncertainty. For some, isolation was never a problem. If you consider yourself an introvert, maybe you were only health concerned but truly unbothered in the same mindset.

Within the last four years there has been a variety of opinions regarding cyber church *versus* in-person attendance. In that, we've learned a lot about the blessing and necessity of being able to assemble with the saints. Let's see what the word of God says in the New Living Translation of **Hebrews 10:24-25** “*Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. And let us not neglect our meeting together as some people do, but encourage one another especially now that the day of his return is drawing near.*”

When I considered how in-person services transitioned into on-line services I was personally grateful. However, nothing beats the assembling of the saints live. Many were and are happier worshiping electronically. Some will stay with that, sticking by the popular saying “The church is just a building, the church is in you”. There's truth in that, however being representatives of the Lord Jesus Christ and the Church ‘outside and inside’ the walls of fellowship are a far better combination!

No doubt it's a tremendous blessing to have the gift of social media for those temporarily incapacitated, infirmed, incarcerated or whose schedules simply do not permit the in-person worship experience. I, for one, cringe when unable to attend and partake in an atmosphere of corporate prayer, praise, worship and word which continually rejuvenates the whole person. For myself, and many others, it's just an absolute must have. Not being able to fellowship is likened to a fish out of water which honestly the life of it wouldn't last long out of its natural habitat.

Just as water is to fish, corporate worship is a life-line to so many. It brings hope and encouragement which is the purpose. The beauty of a unified learning experience catapults our spiritual and social development as well.

So, let's jump back in the waters of corporate worship. Put on your protective swim gear. If you may feel a little uncomfortable, allow the word of God to be your Lifeguard! Also, let's become fishers of men together. Invite your friends, family, neighbors and co-workers so that we all may continue to grow and learn about the love of Jesus Christ.

Still reluctant? Read **Matthew 18:20** “*For where two or three are gathered in my name I will be in the midst of them.*”

Meeting Professionals Should Hold on to Lessons Learned from Pandemic

By Tonga Peterson, Operations Manager, Lott Carey

Reprinted from Aspire Magazine

Fall is here and winter is rapidly approaching. If you're like me, the overwhelming task of spring cleaning, organizing your closet with clothing to accommodate the coming season, planning for family vacation, along with initiative-taking, and precautionary planning for those unexpected climate changes throughout the year, mirrors the need for meeting professionals to survey the 20 Keys to Successful Events.

In the last three years, the hospitality industry has found itself amid those unexpected climate changes referenced here. We experienced the ebb of flow of tempered waters and, apart from an economic downturn, COVID-19 is the largest obstacle both suppliers and meeting professionals have had to face. Both parties were thrust into a pool full of uncertainties. Amid these uncertainties, one would either flounder aimlessly or learn to swim.

Undoubtedly, the element of learning was pleasant to most, if not all of us. We learned to pivot on a moment's notice from an in-person meeting to a virtual meeting, communicate, communicate, then communicate some more with all parties involved. We also learned to read contracts with a microscopic lens. Suppliers engaged in an infinity pool of event cancellations or rebookings – persons who can now recite these clauses verbatim without the contract in hand. Still, we cannot readily discard anything we learned during that season. Instead, we must embrace those truths to be successful in the next season.

While the sky appears sunny and bright, and the industry is on the mend, we as meeting professionals must remain cautious, create engaging meetings, be mindful of attendees' time, and manage our budgets well. The parity in hybrid meetings has taken hold and is now being realized as our meetings continue to evolve. Creativity with the aid of technology has never been more important. We now can connect with and engage people around the world at our meetings. While the words, "the sky is the limit" may sound a bit cliché, it is true.

Looking at your meetings through a minuscule lens cannot be the norm. A telescopic lens is needed to get a full view of what lies ahead.



Tonga Peterson

“We must embrace those truths to be successful in the next season.”

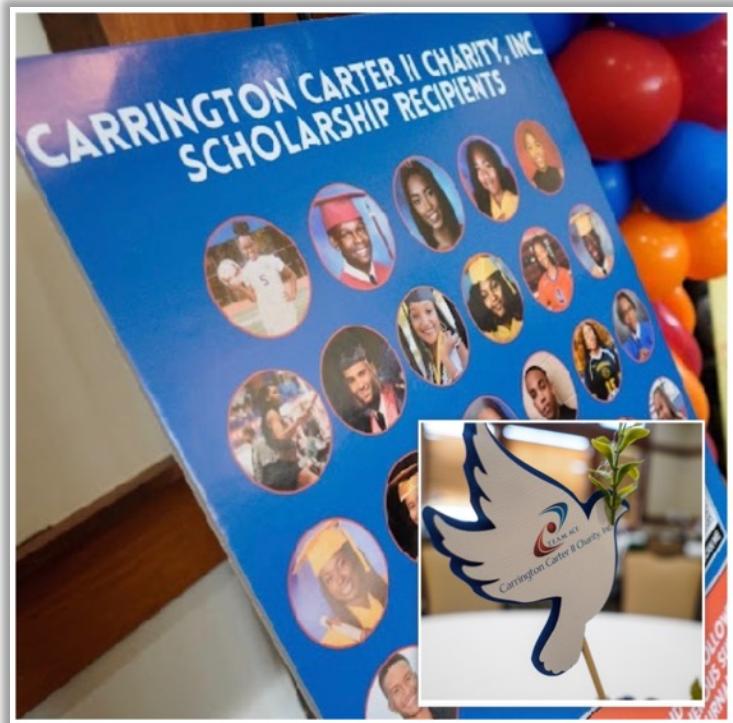
Golf Tournament Honors Legacy of Beloved Member

The Sixth Annual Golf Tournament and Scholarship Fundraiser hosted by the Carrington Carter II Charity, Inc. was held on October 9, 2023 at the Renditions Golf Course in Davidsonville, Md. in an effort to honor its namesake and use his passing for good.

The Carrington Carter II Charity, Inc. is a non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation created in 2017 by Reverend Carrington R. Carter, Sr. and Shernell D. Carter after their 27-year-old son was tragically shot multiple times and succumbed to his injuries.

The charity provides support and mentorship to develop creative solutions and alternatives to drug usage, alcohol abuse, and gun violence, with the ultimate goal of developing leaders of the future, according to its web site.

For more information about the charity and to learn how you can help, please visit <https://www.carringtoncarter2charity.org>.



<https://www.carringtoncarter2charity.org>

Free phone and tablets available for one time Activation Fee



Some Sanctuary members may be eligible for a free cell phone and tablet through the Affordable Connectivity Program.

Reverend Earnest Bridges can provide the devices thanks to a government funded program that provides the items free of charge with a \$30 one-time activation fee for households that have an income at or below the 200 percent federal guidelines policy.

Eligible members who receive government assistance for food, housing or Medicaid may qualify.

For the time Reverend Bridges has been administering the electronics he has seen many success stories, such as a grandmother having the ability to have a video conference with her grandchildren in another state, and allowing a homeless mother to communicate with her daughter in college across the country.

Applicants need to have up-to-date contact information to apply.

For more information, contact Reverend Earnest Bridges at earnest.bridges@retireco.com.

Seeking writers for the . . .



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