

# The Lamp Newsletter International

## FACING...AGING



## *It's My Birthday!*



**Mrs. Wanda J. Burnside,  
Founder and Publisher**



Dear Readers,

March 9<sup>th</sup>, marked my 73<sup>rd</sup> birthday! The Lord has given me these years of life. They have been filled with many things. But, He has kept me every second of each day!

I must get a current photo to replace the one that you have been looking at since 2008 when I founded this newsletter. Now, I have a full head of grey hair. Yes, a different photo for sure. Be on the lookout for a current photo! Good-bye black hair photo!

This year, 2023, in order for me to renew my State ID, the Michigan Secretary of State Department wrote me. They want me to make an appointment to come in and take a current photo. Yep...it is now time to face the new...old me.

I don't want to be vain...I want to face aging. I am not a fan of..."*The \_\_\_ is the new \_\_\_.*" You know, people love avoid giving their real age. I hate when some say, "*70 is the new 30!*" Are you kidding! Who are you trying to fool? I can't do half of the things I did at that age! Life is a whole new thing for me!

Where did time go? I am different in so many ways. I think different. I move differently. I sit down and get up real, real different now. I feel different about what I do and how I do whatever I have to do. I even put things off for a while if I don't feel that it is necessary to do. I am on a different clock and schedule!

What once was so very important isn't all that serious anymore. People that I once thought were brilliant and had it all...*well, now...*I see them differently. I find time to wait and reconsider what is most important to do...and say. I am different.

Years ago, I wrote a poem for a contest on aging. I entered it in the contest...I won!  
Here it is:

## **BEYOND MY YEARS**

By Wanda J. Burnside

**On the walls of my mind  
Are photos of memories  
That has been left behind  
They are of moments and days  
With my family and dear friends  
The years haven't faded  
My memories away**

**My eyes are the windows of my soul  
With each passing year they help me  
To see what to cherish, as I grow old  
No longer do I see life from my point-of-view  
I have learned to care more about others  
For surely, this is the right thing to do**

**I used to open the door of my mouth  
To release whatever was on my mind  
But now I think before I speak out  
Considering others is right and fair  
With time has come wisdom  
I'm well-seasoned with my gray hair**

**There are pains and aches in my back  
My bones are stiff and muscles are sore  
But, I press on with youthful days in my flashback  
Time has blessed me to listen and hear  
What is spoken from lips and whispered from hearts  
I am thankful to receive these messages beyond my ears**

**My feet are not as steady as they used to be  
However, I stand firmly on what is honest and true  
I will not waiver or sway against humanity  
Age and time wants to stiffen my hands  
But, I pray that I will always use them to help,  
To love and rescue those from life's quicksand**

**I will smile even if my teeth are here or gone  
For I must encourage others to have hope  
When they are discouraged and feel forlorn.  
Life comes with changes from day to day  
But it is up to you to choose how to live  
Do it now... without further delay.**

Well, that is what I have to say about aging in my poem. That was probably 5 years ago. However, I am so grateful that I can hold on to the Word and promises of God found in the Bible. GOD has spoken! He cares about us facing aging. He is there for us! HE WILL NOT FORSAKE US AS WE GROW OLD...*OLDER*.

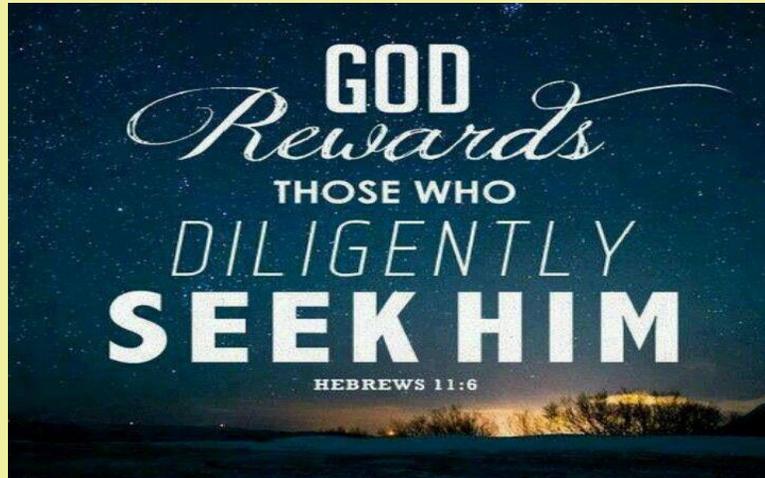
***"...you whom I have upheld since your birth,  
and have carried since you were born.***

***Even to your old age and gray hairs  
I am he, I am he who will sustain you.  
I have made you and I will carry you;  
I will sustain you and I will rescue you,"***

**Isaiah 46:3a-4 NIV**



# DONNA R. BROOKS, YOUTH STAFF



## SCRIPTURE FOCUS: **DESTINY**

Proverbs 16:3

*"Commit you work to the Lord, and your plans will be established."*

Psalm 138:8

*"The Lord will fulfill his purpose for me; your steadfast love, O Lord, endures forever. Do not forsake the work of your hands."*

Philippians 1:6

*"And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ."*

Jeremiah 29:11

*"For I know the plans I have for you, declares the lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope."*

### ***Always REMEMBER!***

Destiny simply means God's Plan and Purpose for us, His children. It was conceived long before we were born. God has a PLAN and PURPOSE for creating each of us. He has assignments laid out for us to accomplish here on earth.

**LET US CONTINUE TO BUILD the KINGDOM OF GOD**



**"You were a forgiving God to them, And yet an avenger of their evil deeds. For the LORD our God is holy."  
Psalm 99:8,9**

THE  
CHRISTIAN  
*journey*

## **Remember & Release**

**By Doris Homan**

**Relationships are so messy yet we have to navigate through them all day long. We struggle with the concept of fairness. We are mistreated, misunderstood, slandered and falsely accused of saying or doing something.**





How about when others do not receive what we say in the spirit it was intended? And then we don't know what to do with that? In our flesh we grow angry, bitter, and resentful; we withdraw or lash out; we hold grudges or cut off the relationship.

But what is God calling us to do? First, He wants us to remember. Remember He is not only Holy and Merciful, forgiving transgressions, but He is also the Avenger of evil deeds. (Psalm 99:8) When He tells us to stop striving and trust Him as God in our lives, fully capable of dealing with those who harm us (Psalm 46:10), He reminds us that Vengeance is His, He will repay. (Romans 12:19)

*"You were a forgiving God to them, And yet an avenger of their evil deeds. For the LORD our God is holy," Psalm 99:8,9.*

Does knowing this truth help you forgive the offender? Does it help you release your offenses to God? This is the key to freedom for us. When we hold on to our offenses, insisting on the debt they owe us, we become the one imprisoned and miserable.



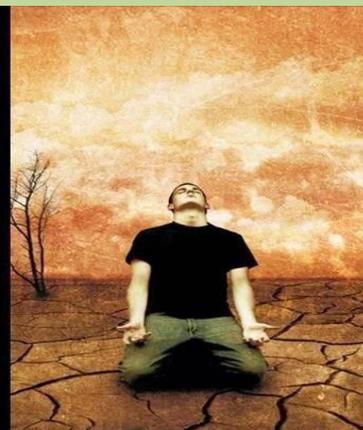
**Who do you need to release to God today?**



Author Ramelle T. Lee

## Surrender

We must be  
ready and willing  
to give up our resistance  
to God's authority,  
to the way of Jesus,  
and to the power  
of the Holy Spirit,  
then He will work  
in and through us.



## Keep Your Promise to God by Ramelle T. Lee

When God rescued you, from the quicksand of  
your circumstances, what did you promise Him?

Did you run to Him with opened arms?

Did you fall on your knees,

Cry out and repent of your sins?

Did you offer Him your love for eternity?

Did you take the time to thank Him

For restoring your soul from trouble?

When you cried out in prayer, God was there.

He was faithful to see you through your crisis.

Whatever you promised God . . .keep your promise.

For He alone holds the key to healing you within.

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*From Ms. Sandra Hickman  
Australian Ministry Leader  
And Staff Writer ....*

*"These words came to me by  
inspiration of the Holy Spirit  
during worship at Jabez  
Church - December 13, 2020.  
We know that no matter what  
happens in this world . . . .  
Still today – in 2023  
All we need is Jesus"*



## *The Open Door*

Though demons and angels war  
it is You who is standing at my open door.  
There is no fear anymore  
You have saved me I am safe, I am saved.  
From the womb to the grave the war will wage.  
**Jesus,**  
standing at the door – the world is Your stage.

©



**A Word from the Lord  
from  
Evangelist Kizzy Staten-Gray**

**Quiet your soul, and allow Me to lead you through this valley. Never doubt that I am**

**with you to guide you and give you wisdom.**

**I know that it sometimes feels like I am far away, but I, the Lord, am as close as your breath, and I will never leave you nor forsake you. Rise up in faith and walk with Me.**



**Psalm 23:4** *“Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.*



2023 Theme:



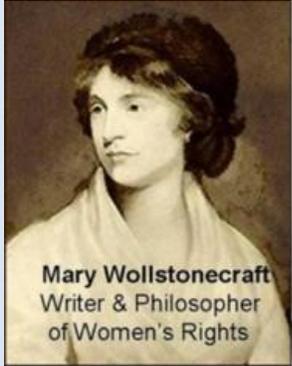
CELEBRATING



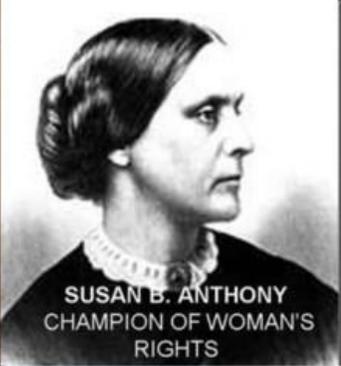
WOMEN



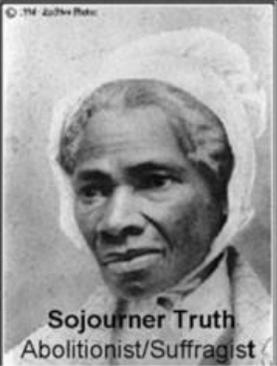
Who Tell Our Stories



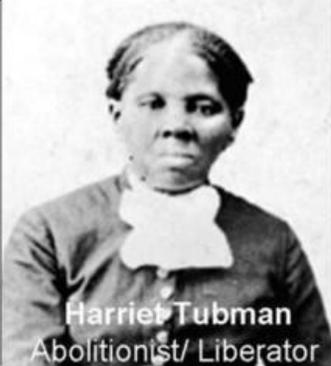
Mary Wollstonecraft  
Writer & Philosopher  
of Women's Rights



SUSAN B. ANTHONY  
CHAMPION OF WOMAN'S  
RIGHTS



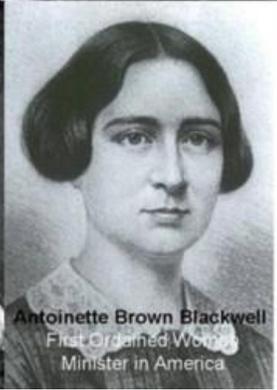
Sojourner Truth  
Abolitionist/Suffragist



Harriet Tubman  
Abolitionist/ Liberator



Lucretia Mott  
Women's Suffrage Advocate



Antoinette Brown Blackwell  
First Ordained Woman  
Minister in America

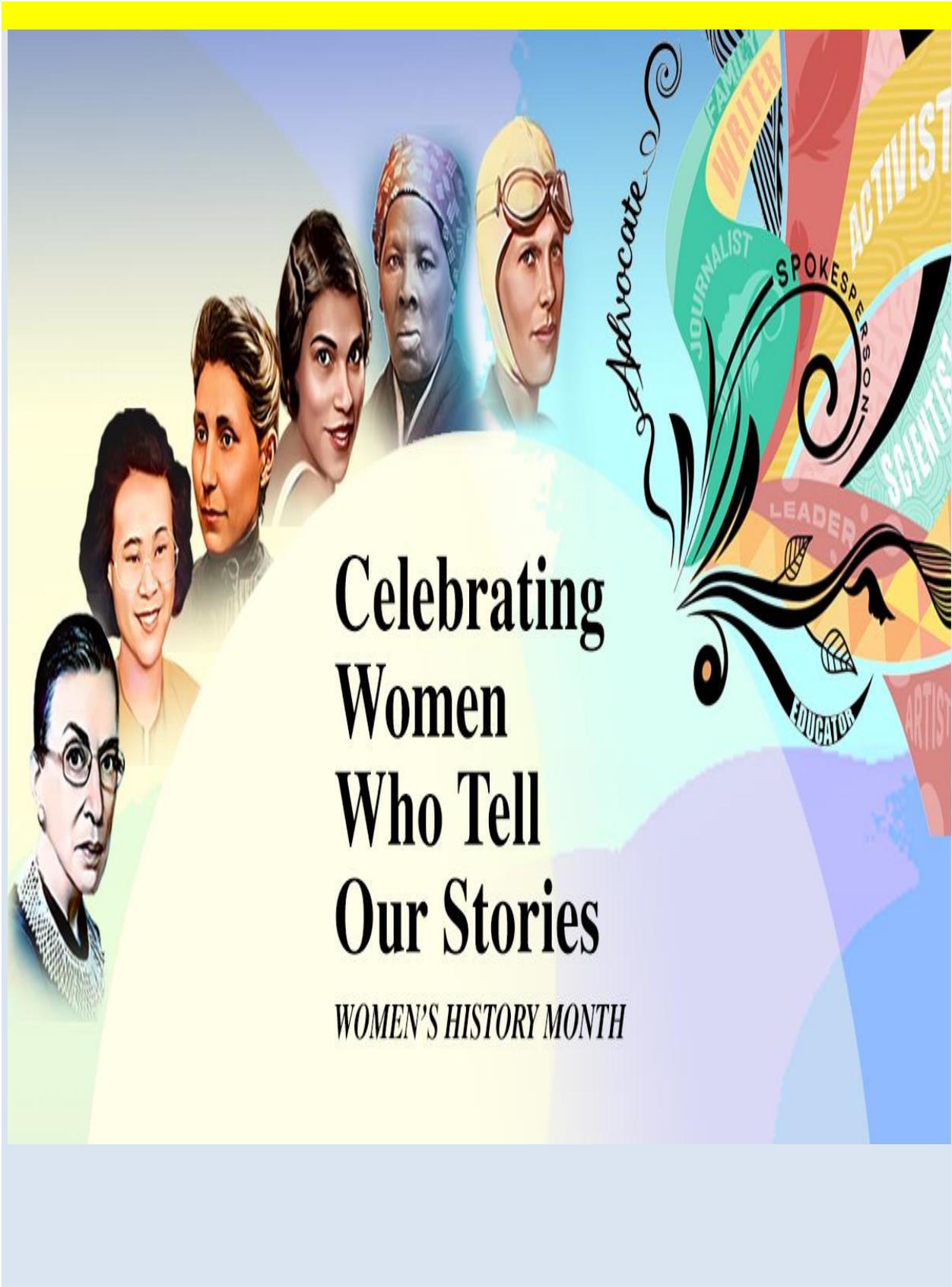


Lucy Stone  
Women's Rights Advocate



Elizabeth Cady Stanton  
Women's Rights/Suffrage Leader





# Celebrating Women Who Tell Our Stories

*WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH*



From the first settlers who came to our shores, from the first American Indian families who befriended them, men and women have worked together to build this nation. Too often the women were unsung and sometimes their contributions went unnoticed. But the achievements, leadership, courage, strength and love of the women who built America was as vital as that of the men whose names we know so well.

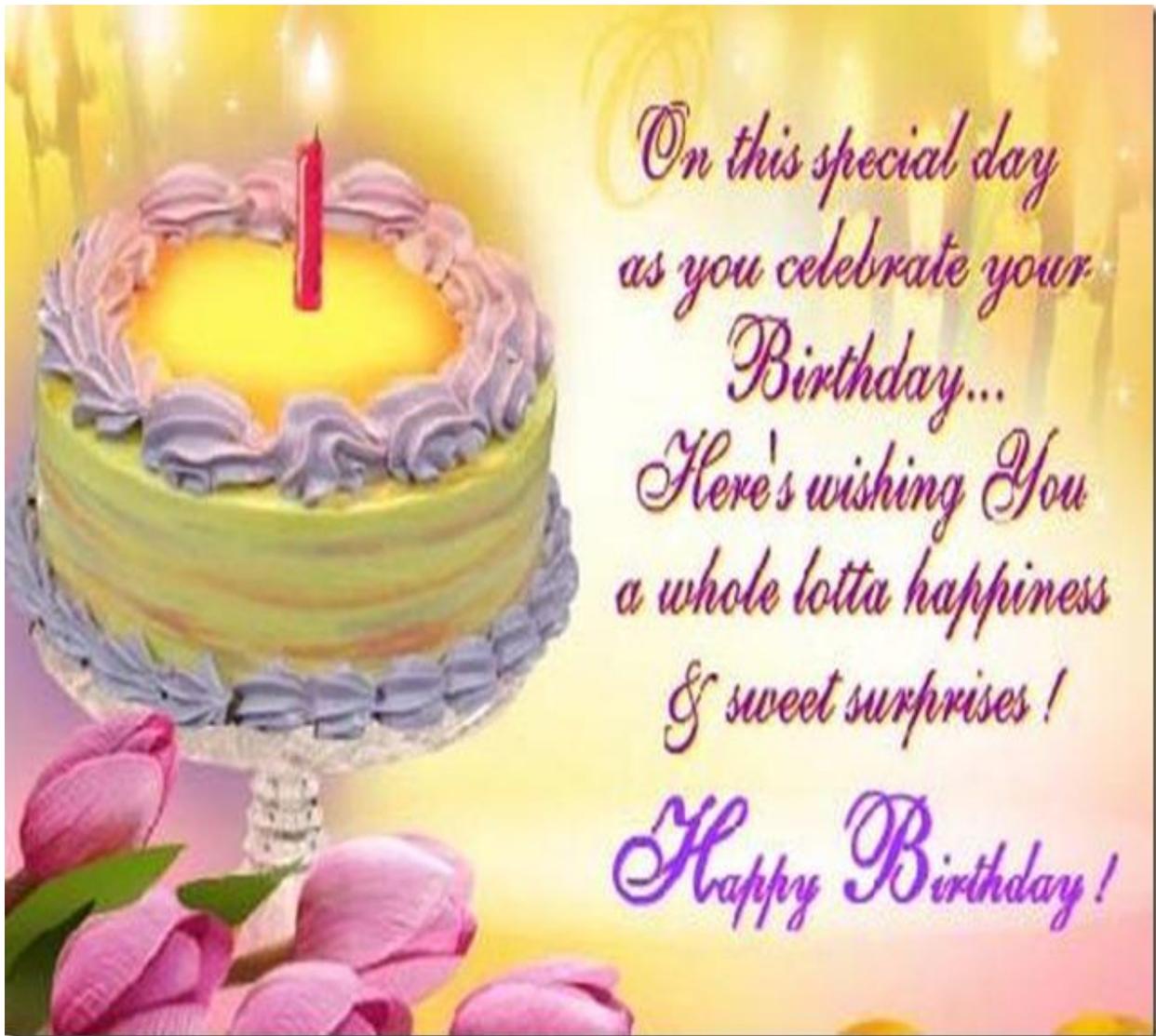
*President Jimmy Carter's Message designating  
March 2-8, 1980 as National Women's History Week*



**Sandra Hickman, Leader  
and Staff Writer of  
Australia**

***YOU ARE TRULY LOVED!***

***MAY GOD FOREVER BLESS YOU!***



**More March Birthdays...**

*Precious Friends:*

**Reverend Marva Stafford**

**Ms. Linda Stafford**

**and**

**Mr. Ja'Den Palm, Great-Nephew**

**Mr. Eric Moore, Godson**



*May God shower you  
with his love today,  
and with his care forever.  
I wish you a very  
Happy Birthday.  
May this lovely day bring in  
great joy and fun in your life.*

[smitcreation.com](http://smitcreation.com)



Join...

Pastor Sammy L. Jackson and wife, Evangelist A. Jackson

Volusia County  
FLORIDA

# Welcome to NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER GATHERING

*".....fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much"*

James 5:16



In GOD We Trust Volusia  
County

FOR MORE  
INFORMATION  
CALL 386.320.3834



Support your local churches by attending the 21 days  
of Prayer <https://www.ndpvolusia.org>

**ORDER YOUR STEPS IN THE LORD** Psalm 37:23-24

Scan to pay with Cash App

Give to NDP Volusia  
Text "NDP" to (202)858-1233

Givebutter

NDP Volusia  
NDPVolusia

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER  
Volusia County, FL

Visit [www.ndpvolusia.org](http://www.ndpvolusia.org)  
Checks To "Pastor's Prayer Gathering"

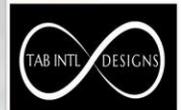
Venmo



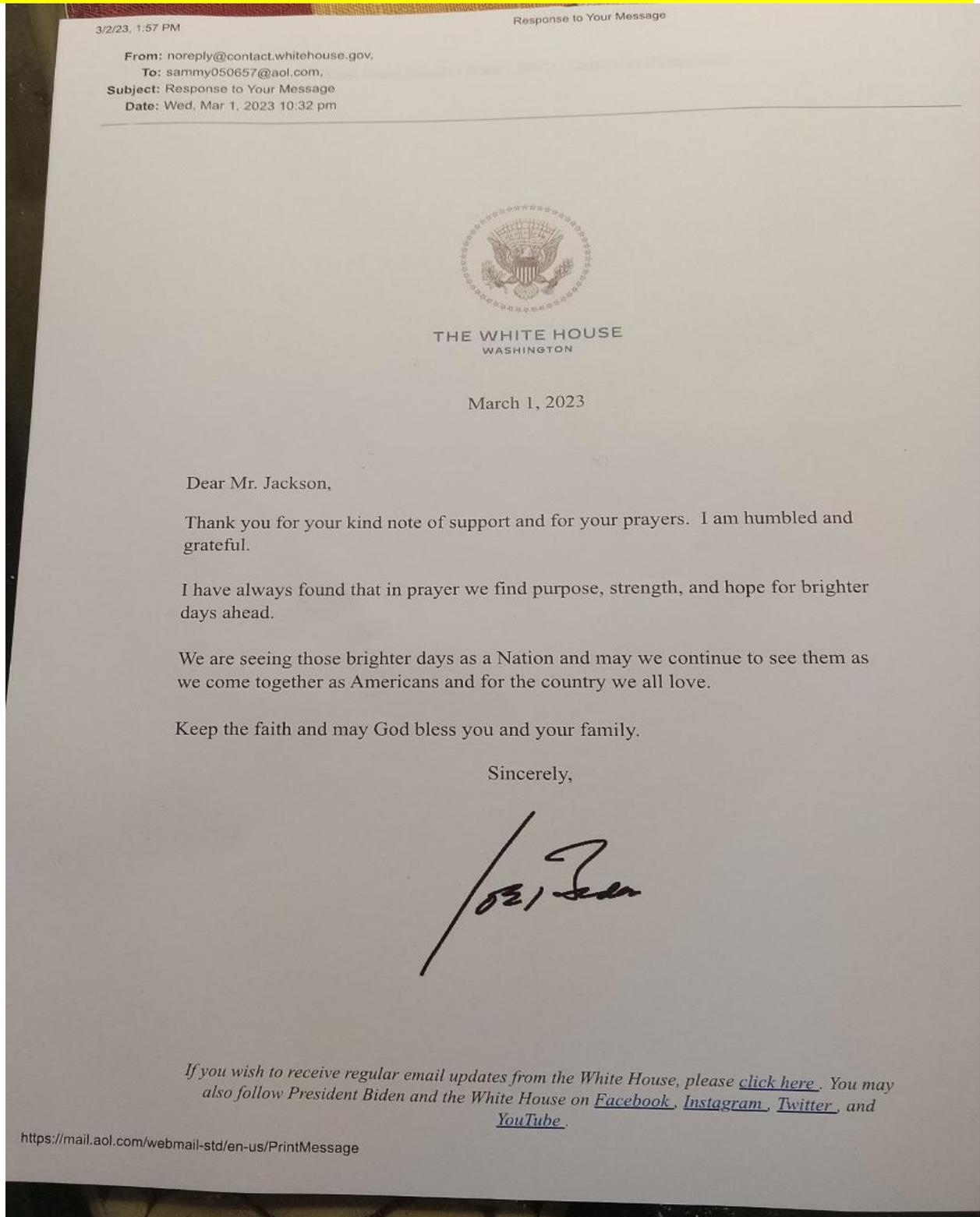
21 days of Prayer  
April 13th - May 3rd  
Appetizer will be delicious. Unity. Celebration  
5:00 PM To 7:00 PM  
Main NDP Event May 4th 2023  
It's Praying Time 7:00PM



Calvary Christian Center, 1681 W. Granada Blvd,  
Ormond Beach, Florida



**Pastor Sammy L. Jackson received a presidential letter from President Joe Biden.  
This is truly a special honor.**



***Farewell...My Sweet Sister...***  
***Dr. Carolyn J. Cole***





*Homegoing Service  
For Our Beloved  
Dr. Carolyn J. Cole*

*Public Visitation*

Friday - March 3, 2023  
4:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

at

Second Ebenezer Church  
14601 Dequindre Street  
Detroit, Michigan 48212

*Musical Celebration*

Friday - March 3, 2023  
6:30 p.m.

at

Second Ebenezer Church  
14601 Dequindre Street  
Detroit, Michigan 48212

*Homegoing Service*

Saturday - March 4, 2023  
Family Hour: 10:00 a.m.  
Homegoing: 11:00 a.m.

at

Second Ebenezer Church  
14601 Dequindre Street  
Detroit, Michigan 48212

Host Pastor: Bishop Edgar L. Vann

*Condolences May Be Sent To*

Krysten Greer  
c/o Carolyn J. Cole  
26373 Morningview Drive  
Brownstown, Michigan 48174  
Email: kaoniquec147@gmail.com

Floral Arrangements May Be Delivered To  
James H. Cole Home For Funerals  
16100 Schaefer Hwy. Detroit, Michigan 48235  
Starting On Thursday, March 2, 2023

**BISHOP  
JAMES L. WHITEHEAD, JR.**

June 6, 1942 – March 8, 2023

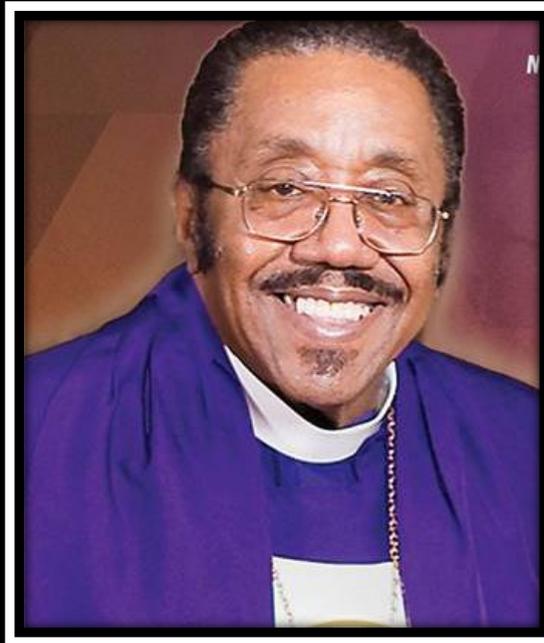
Bishop J. Drew Sheard and The General Board Announce the Episcopal Transition of  
Bishop James L. Whitehead, Jr., Prelate  
Michigan Southwest Second Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction

Final Arrangements are forthcoming.

**Bishop J. Drew Sheard**  
Presiding Bishop & Chief Apostle  
**Bishop Dickerson L. S. Wells**

**Bishop James L. Whitehead, Jr., Prelate**  
**Michigan Southwest Second Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction**  
**Church of God in Christ, Inc.**

**June 6, 1942 – March 8, 2023**



**The Editor-in-Chief of the YPWW for over 50 years, the International Sunday School Review Liaison, Doctrinal Reviewer of all COGIC publishing, President of the O. T. Jones Memorial Training Institute, former Pastor of Whitehead Memorial and Saints City COGIC and the Prelate of Michigan Southwest Second Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction Church Of God In Christ, Inc., Mr. Hospitality, and the Prince of Preachers.**

*Married 49 years to Mother Mollie Whitehead.*

*The father of three adult children and four grandchildren.*

*The dearly loved brother of Missionary LaBarbara Whitehead.*

 **BREAKERS**CC.TV



# THE TRIAL

VIP \$20

12 & UP \$10

4-11, \$5

0-3, FREE

**SATAN** DECIDES TO TAKE **JESUS** CHRIST TO COURT.  
JOIN US TO FIND OUT THE VERDICT.

SATURDAY @ 6:30PM  
**APRIL 8TH**  
COURT DATE

TICKETS AVAILABLE  
**ON EVENTBRITE**  
AND @ THE DOOR

Breakers Covenant Church International  
8801 Woodward Ave, Detroit, MI 48202

LEAD SERVANTS  
ARAMIS & ROSANNA **HINDS**

ADMIN@BREAKERSCC.TV • (313)4688320

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-trial-stage-play-tickets-580617311007>





Hello Friends  
from  
Jordan L'Ecluse  
of  
Australia



**THE LAMP NEWSLETTER INTERNATIONAL**

Mrs. Wanda J. Burnside, Founder and Publisher, Email: [wvision@hotmail.com](mailto:wvision@hotmail.com) ,  
Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Amazon.com, Barnes & Noble, Phone: 313-491-3504.  
Website: [www.thelampnewsletter.com](http://www.thelampnewsletter.com)