



HISTORIC LIBERTY HILL A.M.E. CHURCH



LIBERTY HILL CHRONICLES

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2025

WHAT'S INSIDE

- YPD Retreat Recap
- Reagan-Ragin Travels
- NAACP HONORS
- Stukes Making Strives at DTC
- New Full Member

OCTOGENARIANS ARE GREAT

"The days of our years are threescore years and ten; and if by reason of strength they be fourscore years, yet is their strength labour and sorrow..." — Psalm 90:10

The Historic Liberty Hill A.M.E. Church family paused to recognize a special group of church members---the men and women whom God has blessed to be 80 to 89 years "young". These brothers and sisters were celebrated during the morning worship service on Sunday, March 16, 2025. Each person was presented a certificate and a \$25. gift card. The recognition was sponsored by the Christian Education Ministry.

We pray that these "golden" agers are valued and respected in their families, communities, and our church. We are **grateful** for the **grace** which God has shown on each one of them. May He bless and keep them as they have offered and continue to offer their time, talents, treasure, wisdom, and experience to benefit others.

See additional photos on page 6.



An Unforgettable Journey: My Field Trip to Boston and New York



Some moments leave a lasting imprint, and my class trip to Boston and New York was one of them. Over six incredible days, I explored historic landmarks, embraced cultural experiences, and created lifelong memories.

In Boston, we walked the Black Heritage Trail, visited the Holocaust Museum, and toured Harvard's historic campus. The Embrace Monument's tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was especially moving.

New York's energy was electrifying! From the dazzling lights of Times Square to the grandeur of Grand Central Station, every moment felt surreal. Watching *The Outsiders* on Broadway, visiting

the 9/11 Memorial, and exploring Ellis Island were deeply impactful. Walking the Brooklyn Bridge and visiting Madison Square Garden added to the excitement.

This trip was truly unforgettable. I am beyond grateful to those who supported my journey—your generosity made history



Sister Tindal-Ragin is the G.O.A.T. of the YPD



At the 32nd Annual YPD Retreat, held in Myrtle Beach from March 7-9, our very own Dorothy Tindal-Ragin was honored with the prestigious She's the G.O.A.T. (Greatest of All Time) Award. This recognition is a testament to her unwavering dedication and commitment to supporting and encouraging Young People's Division (YPD) members at every level.

Dorothy Tindal-Ragin has served tirelessly as the YPD Director, pouring her heart and soul into mentoring, uplifting, and guiding young people in their spiritual and personal journeys. Her leadership has been instrumental in fostering an environment where YPDers can grow in faith, confidence, and service.

Through her efforts, countless young individuals have been inspired to step into leadership roles, deepen their relationship with God, and embrace their potential to impact their communities positively. Her ability to connect with youth, provide guidance, and cultivate a spirit of unity and excellence within YPD is unparalleled.

Receiving the She's the G.O.A.T. Award is a well-deserved honor for a leader who has gone above and beyond in her mission to nurture and empower the next generation. Her passion, perseverance, and faith-driven work continue to leave a lasting legacy in our church and beyond.

As we celebrate Dorothy Tindal-Ragin's achievement, let us also take a moment to express our gratitude for her steadfast dedication. We are truly blessed to have such a devoted and inspiring leader within our church family. Congratulations, Dorothy, on this remarkable honor—your impact is immeasurable, and we thank God for your service!



NURSE WILSON INSPIRES THE NEXT GENERATION



The following is a post by F.E. DuBose Career Center to Facebook on February 6, 2025...

Inspiring the Next Generation of Healthcare Professionals!

A huge thank you to Lachion Wilson, ICU nurse at the VA Hospital, for taking time on her day off to speak with our Health Science 1 students!

Originally from Summerton, Ms. Wilson shared her journey of commitment, sacrifice, and perseverance in the healthcare field. She emphasized the importance of:

Lifelong Learning – Studying, applying knowledge, and staying up to date with evidence-based practices.

Compassion – Going the extra mile and making a difference in patients' lives. **Self-Esteem & Service** – Doing things that uplift others and being selfless in care. **Perseverance** – Overcoming obstacles, asking for help when needed, and pushing forward.

Our students were engaged, inspired, and even pledged not to give up on their dreams! Thank you, Mrs. Wilson, for your dedication to veterans, healthcare, and education!

BIRTHDAYS CELEBRATED THIS QUARTER



APRIL

Pamela Brunson Bennett (17th)
Naci Brown (24th)
Earl Champagne (4th)
Adrian Coard (19th)
Kathleen Gibson (25th)
Rev. George E. Hicks (30th)
Shakelia Karakara (21st)
Rosa Lawson (3rd)
Sheila Bennett McCray (6th)
Tiffany Mitchell (4th)
Marquise Moore (13th)
Loretta Pollard (13th)
Luetina Ragin (10th)

MAY

Asante Barfield (13th)
April Benbow (28th)
Onesa Bennett (31st)
Sharon Bennett (16th)
Lucinda Brailsford (29th)
Kia Brown (28th)
Leroy Dyson (26th)
Rev. Aretha Johnson (14th)
Joseph Lawson (5th)
Louise Pringle (26th)
Antonio Ragin (25th)
Marcia Ragin (13th)
Carl E. Sherman (4th)
Ruth F. Solomon (8th)
Isiah Washington (20th)

LaShawne Washington-Bryant (13th)
Carolyn Williams (20th)

JUNE

Julius Adger (14th)
C. Reginald Bradley (29th)
Brandi Brown (15th)
Bouregard Brailsford (29th)
Sheila Ragin Choice (27th)
Bryant Dingle (29th)
Minnie Horton (14th)
Darlene Brailsford Johnson (15th)
Amari Dyson (9th)
Omari Dyson (9th)
Charlene Gibson (8th)
Emma J. Lane (1st)
Van Lawson (7th)
Arnold Madison, Jr. (13th)
Mikayla Moody (26th)
Lisha R. Nelson (17th)
Leola R. Parks (14th)
Annette Ragin (20th)
Cherron Ragin (19th)
Dorothy Rivers (4th)
Kareema Selby (2nd)

Stop by the church office if you would like your name added to the birthday list for next quarter.

Liberty Hill celebrates birthdays the last Sunday at the beginning of each quarter. The next birthday celebration will be June 29th, celebrating birthdays in the Months of June, July and August.

Sick and Shut-In Members

Katherine Bennett
Hattie M. Blackwell
Constance Brunson
(Columbia)
Harold Brunson (Columbia)
Mae Pearl Caldwell
Glenda Covington
(Fayetteville)
Mary Foye (Pocotaligo)
Michelle Hill

Sarah Matthews
Vivian Oliver (Pocotaligo)
James Ragin
Louise Ragin
Millie Mae Robinson
Millie Dora Robinson

WATER FOUNTAIN MINISTRY



Sister Jacqueline Bennett continues with the "Water Fountain Ministry", decorating the fountain for each season. The above is a photo celebrating St. Patrick's Day last month.



SPECIAL NOTICE

Liberty Hill's Facebook page is

LIBERTYHILLAME7

The previous page is no longer active.

Look for this coin as the profile picture on Facebook.



Order of Worship — Sunday, April 6, 2025

The Fifth Sunday in Lent

Rev. Aretha G. Johnson, Presiding

The Introit Hymn #61
“O God, Our Help in Ages Past”

The Doxology Hymn #647
“Praise God, from whom all Blessing Flow”

The Call To Worship Rev. Aretha G. Johnson

Leader: I was glad when they said to me, “Let us go into the house of the Lord!” Our feet have been standing within your gates, O Jerusalem! (Psalm 122:1-2)

People: For a day in your courts is better than a thousand. I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than to dwell in the tents of wickedness. (Psalm 84:10)

Leader: For the sake of the house of the Lord our God; I will seek your good. (Psalm 122:9)

People: Those that be planted in the house of the Lord; they flourish in the courts of our God. (Psalm 92:13)

Leader: O Lord, I love the habitation of your house, and the place where your glory dwells. (Psalm 26:8)

People: But the Lord is in His holy temple; let all the earth keep silence before him. (Habakkuk 2:20)

Leader: Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my Rock, and my Redeemer. (Psalm 19:14)

People: O sing unto the Lord a new song, for He has done marvelous things! Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all the earth, sing praises. (Psalm 98:1,4)

The Hymn of Praise Hymn #30
“Lord, in the Morning Thou Shalt Hear”

The Morning Prayer Sister Felita Grady Hicks

The Choral Response..... The Sanctuary Choir

The Worship through Music The Sanctuary Choir

The Liturgy of the Word Sister Kia F. Brown
Hebrews 10:11-14, 19-25 (KJ)

The Introit to the Decalogue Hymn #69

The Full Decalogue Rev. George E. Hicks

The Gloria Patri Hymn #626

The Worship through Music The Sanctuary Choir

The Greetings/Announcements
Sister Sharon B. Madison

The Worship Through Giving..... Ushers

The Choral Response..... Hymn #644
“All Things Come of Thee”

The Pastoral Prayer and Altar Call Rev. Hicks

The Choral Response.....The Sanctuary Choir

The Hymn of PreparationThe Sanctuary Choir

THE MESSAGE...REV. GEORGE E. HICKS, PASTOR

The Invitation to Christian Discipleship..... #282
“Lord, I Want to be a Christian”

The Communion Hymn..... Hymn #271
“Jesus Paid It All”

—The Sacrament of the Holy Communion—

**(Follow along prayerfully beginning on page 798
of the AME Church Hymnal and the Display)**

The Solicitation; The General Confession (Pg 5)

The 1st and 2nd Collect

The Prayer of Adoration; The Prayer of Humiliation

The Prayer of Consecration

The Serving of the Consecrated Elements

The Lord’s Prayer; The Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Song of CelebrationThe Sanctuary Choir

The Apostle Creed (Pg 5) Congregation

Hymn of Going Forth..... “Always Remember”

The Doxology Congregation

The Benediction Rev. George E. Hicks

The General Confession

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Maker of all things, Judge of all men, we acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness which we from time to time most grievously have committed by thought, word, and deed against Thy Devine Majesty, provoking most justly Thy wrath and indignation against us. We do earnestly repent and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings; the remembrance of them is grievous unto us.

Have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us, most merciful Father for Your Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake; forgive us all that is past, and grant that we may ever hereafter serve and please Thee in newness of life, to the honor and glory of Thy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Apostle's Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only son our Lord who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead; and buried. The third day he arose from the dead' he ascended into heaven and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Church Universal, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting. Amen.

Sermon Notes

Today's Scripture: _____

Sermon Title: _____

Sermon Highlights: _____

Church Announcements

Wednesday, April 9th

Bible Study via Zoom
at 6:00 p.m.

Meeting ID 897 2286 8120
Passcode: 127903

Thursday, April 10th

Youth Choir Rehearsal at 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, April 13th

PALM SUNDAY

Church Conference after Services

Wednesday, April 16th

Rev. Hicks will be guest speaker at
Haynes Chapel for their revival at 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, April 17th

MAUNY-THURSDAY

Last Supper Dramatization at 6:00 p.m.

Friday, April 18th

GOOD FRIDAY

SANTEE DISTRICT 7 LAST WORDS WORSHIP SERVICE
12:00 p.m. at Liberty Hill

RESURRECTION DAY PROGRAM

Anyone who is interested in participating in this year's Resurrection Day program is asked to see Sis. F. Hicks, P. Lawson, Rev. A. Johnson, M. Gilyard, D. Tindal Ragin, M. Ragin or S. Choice starting today. We are looking for persons who would like to present poetry, song, dance, mime OR drama...using the gifts and talents God has given you! Please sign up early so you can be included!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

This year's VBS experience "MAGNIFIED" will be held Monday, June 2-Friday, June 6 ...the VBS crew is looking for everyone (from 3 to 103) to join in this adventure. Registration will begin April 27th.

"SOLES 4 SOULS"

The Bradford-Solomon Women's Missionary Society is "kicking off their shoes" and asking all Liberty Hill members to join them...as they begin their spring "SOLES FOR SOULS" project. Any and all church members are asked to donate one pair (or more) of used shoes...in any condition...to be sent to the international "Soles for Souls" organization. The shoes will be repaired and sent to needy persons throughout the U.S. and overseas. You can begin bringing your shoes (wrapped in plastic bags) on next Sunday, March 30 (until April 27). Our goal is 100 pair of shoes in the next 5 weeks. Thank you in advance.

HOMECOMING 2025

Sunday, July 6th

Igniting Faith to Reach Our Goal

"And whatever things you ask in prayer, believing, you will receive."

— Matthew 21:22

OCTOGENARIANS

Hattie Blackwell
 Hugh Brailsford, Jr.
 Constance Brunson
 Harold Brunson
 Geraldine Champagne
 Ozie Champagne
 Marguerite L. Delaine
 Evelyn Dyson
 Leroy Dyson
 Carrie Frank
 Shirley Flood
 Buelah Gipson
 Rowena Glover
 Mary Hunt
 Isabelle Jackson
 Aaron Jones, Jr.
 Emma Jane Lane
 Bertha Lawson
 Floyd Evan Lawson
 Lirline Lewis
 Melvena McMillian
 Deloris Moore
 Ernest Oliver
 Gloria Oliver
 Mary Oliver
 Vivian Oliver
 Loretta Pollard
 George Ragin
 Harold Ragin
 James Ragin
 Louise Ragin
 Lucius Ragin
 Martha Ragin
 Emma Gean Robinson
 J. Carolyn Sherman
 Mary Singleton
 Ruth Floridell Solomon



HE WALKED OUT ...

As part of the Black History Month, Liberty Hill observed Founder's Day on Sunday, February 9. This annual celebration is part of the tradition of the African Methodist Episcopal Church to pay homage to our founder, Bishop Richard Allen, whose birthdate is reported to have been in February.

Members of the congregation participated in a presentation entitled, "HE WALKED OUT SO I COULD STAND UP !"

Richard Allen and other free African Americans living in Philadelphia attended St. George's Methodist Episcopal Church in (1791-1792). Because of the discrimination they encountered while worshipping peacefully on a regular basis, Allen and other leaders walked out of St. George's in protest one Sunday. This led to the founding of the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

Members of the congregation related the stories of well-known African Americans, focusing on how The Great Walkout influenced what they accomplished. These persons are significant in our history as African Americans and each one is/was a member of the AME Church.

Reverend Jarena Lee, portrayed by Rev. Aretha Gibson Johnson

Rosa Parks, portrayed by Sheila Ragin Choice

Linda Brown Thompson (as a 10-year-old child), portrayed by Marcia Ragin

Ernest Green, portrayed by Wardell Cooper

Gwen Ifill, portrayed by Felita Grady Hicks

Congressman Gregory Meeks, portrayed by Jarod Stukes

OLIVER, FULL MEMBERSHIP



Congratulations to
**Brother Charles
 Oliver**, who
 became a full
 member of Historic
 Liberty Hill on
 Sunday, March
 2nd.

STUKES LEAVING A MARK



J'Shawn Stukes continues to leave his mark as he studies at Denmark Technical College. He was featured on the cover of the November 2024 edition of *Black College Today* magazine as student government

association president of Denmark Technical College. *Black College Today* is a monthly magazine for Black college students.

In March, Stukes travelled to Dallas, Texas to participate in the Strada HBCU Leadership Summit. This annual summit brings together Strada Scholars, HBCU presidents and chancellors, and other leaders to network, learn from one another, and build a community that strengthens the impact of HBCUs. The Strada Education Foundation is a non-profit organization focused on strengthening connections between education and employment.

Keep striving, J'Shawn. Your church family is watching and continuously praying for your success.



MITCHELL HONORED



The Clarendon Branch NAACP held their annual Freedom Fund Banquet at Historic Liberty Hill on March 16th. Guest

Speaker was Rev. Antonio Green of ACG Ministries of Manning, SC. Brother Roosevelt Mithell received the Clarendon County Branch NAACP Presidential Award. Congratulations, Brother Mitchell.

SCSU DAY



On Sunday, February 21st, Liberty Hill continued our Black History Month celebration with South Carolina State University Day. During the morning

service, Colonel Alexander Conyers, SCSU President, was the guest speaker and music was provided by the United Voices of Christ Gospel Choir of SCSU.

President Conyers inspired the congregation with his message of Hope drawn from Joshua Chapter 4 — Memorials to the Jordan Crossing — synonymous with giving honor to our local heroes who paved the way for all of us. He indicated that we should remember to honor our ancestors who have paved the way; remember to not repeat the past; and remember to have hope.



We are a Church of GRACE & GRATITUDE

*Grace is what happens when we let go and let God
Gratitude is the most powerful practice at our disposal.*

*Together, they help us over come what may appear hardships and disappointments so
that we can live more abundantly.*

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NEXT EDITION — JULY 2025



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Sister Arelis Davis, Episcopal Supervisor

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Mrs. Kimberly Temoney, First Lady, Santee District

Rev. Dr. George E. Hicks, Pastor

Mrs. Felita Grady Hicks, First Lady

Rev. Aretha G. Johnson, Associate Minister