

December 2018

Inside this issue:

The Prequel to Christmas	2
“His Name Shall Be Called” Crossword puzzle	2
Pictures: Harvest Sunday Dinner	3
Ushers Training Workshop & Brunch	3
Merry Christmas	3
Were You There?	4
Greenwood Calendar Updates	4
Pastor	
Rev. Omar L. Dykes	
Presiding Elder	
Rev. Dr. JJ Jackson, III	
Northeast District	
Presiding Prelate	
Bishop Henry M. Williamson, Sr.	

The Green

Sitting In God's Waiting Room

By Mary H. Yancy

As we begin the Advent Season, we are keenly aware that God has promised to all believers, the second coming of Christ. We sincerely wait for our Savior to come.



"In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you until myself; that where I am, there ye may be also. (John 14:2-3)

Waiting for God's timing in a microwave era can be very difficult for us. We want everything to come quickly, without any delay. Our world moves fast and furious. We often feel that we too, must move at lightening speed. How can we move ahead crawling at a snail's pace? After all, the early bird gets the worm.

"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord". (Isaiah 55:8) When we look at the call of Abraham, we see that God placed him in the waiting room. Abraham entered Canaan at the age of 75, having received God's promise that he would father a great nation. His covenant son was born when Abraham was 100. Isaac was 40 when he married Rebekah. His twins, Jacob and Esau came 20 years later. Jacob waited 7 years before he could marry Laban's daughter. Laban tricked Jacob into marrying Leah, the older sister. Jacob then worked another 7 years to marry Rachel. Moses waited in the desert 40 years before God came to him.

On a personal note, my son Mark waited 36 years before God delivered him from sickle cell anemia disease, through a stem cell transplant. God never has His beloved children in the

waiting room without purpose. God is sovereign and is working out His plans in our lives. The Biblical Patriarchs needed to mature and grow into faith just as we do. God loves us and He prunes away from our lives those things that would keep us from fulfilling His purposes for us. Waiting is difficult, but so necessary.

Most of the time, we will not slow down until God puts us in a holding pattern. It is then that we reflect on His goodness and mercy toward us. Just as the air traffic controllers tell the pilots to wait their turn for safety purposes, God puts us in His waiting room for our safety as well. He knows what is best for us.

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through Him all things were made..."

John 1:1-3a

Join the Mission
"Reaching the Lost and Teaching the Cross"



The Prequel to Christmas By Glover Tillman

It can be easy to get lost in the festivities of the holiday season. Between gifts, traveling and eating to our heart's content, Christmas can seem larger than life. We are also familiar with the platitude, "Remember the Reason for the Season." But we should not forget to emphasize the fact that Jesus Christ is the true cause of our celebration.

As Christians, we should focus on Jesus rather than the commercialism of Christmas. The Bible states in Luke Chapter 2

that Joseph along with his wife Mary, went to Bethlehem to register themselves. This was due to the decree, by Caesar Augustus, that a census be taken. We are then told, that while they were there, the baby Jesus was born. Angels, shepherds and wise men all paid homage to the newborn child and spread the good news of his arrival.

Christmas is so poignant to Christians because it gives us the Reason for the Season.

It provides us with the point in which our Savior Lord Jesus was not only born, but it provides the context as to how he was also regarded. We know that he was not only Jesus of Nazareth but also the Son of God. Therefore, in the middle of all the holiday shopping, cooking and celebrations, take a moment to thank God for giving us the beginning of our story.

BibleWise

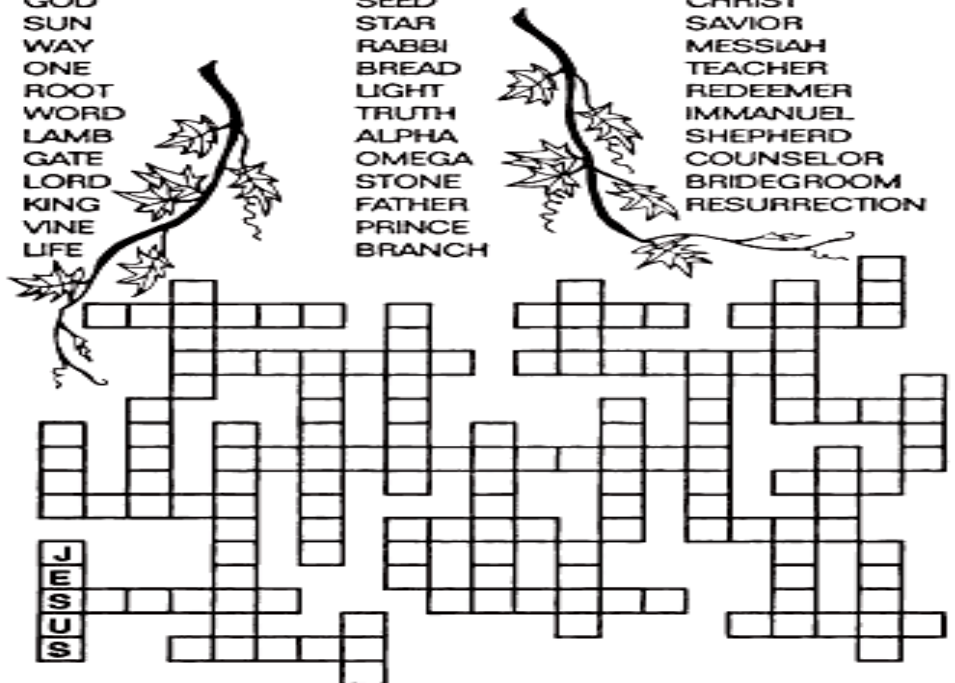
And His Name Shall Be Called . . .

Jesus had many names. All the words below were used to refer to Jesus in the Bible. Fit the names into the puzzle. (Hint: Start with the longest names.)

GOD
 SUN
 WAY
 ONE
 ROOT
 WORD
 LAMB
 GATE
 LORD
 KING
 VINE
 LIFE

SEED
 STAR
 RABBI
 BREAD
 LIGHT
 TRUTH
 ALPHA
 OMEGA
 STONE
 FATHER
 PRINCE
 BRANCH

CHRIST
 SAVIOR
 MESSIAH
 TEACHER
 REDEEMER
 IMMANUEL
 SHEPHERD
 COUNSELOR
 BRIDEGROOM
 RESURRECTION



Annual Harvest Sunday & Dinner

A Special thanks to the Missionaries for the 'Feast of Harvest' Foyer decorations!

Rev Dykes' Sermon text was taken from Psalm 107:1-2 "O give thanks unto the LORD, for He is good: for His mercy endureth for ever. Let the redeemed of the LORD say so..."



Ushers Training Workshop

By Gladys Alexander

The Ushers Training Workshop was held Saturday, November 10, 2018, and was presided by Luril Brown. The theme for the Workshop was, "Ushers United on One Accord in the Body of Christ."

Invocation and grace was given by Henry Martin. Brunch was prepared by Harold Osborne. Marguerite Osby gave the purpose of the Workshop which included the following: Training is essential and plays a major role in serving others. It also keeps ushers informed of changes, polices and enhances the worship service.

Millicent DeWitt, Coordinator of Ushers, was our Presenter. She stated that as ushers, we must be committed, responsible, disciplined, personable and humble. We must stay focused and be alert to our surroundings. To further elaborate on these duties we were divided into four groups and each group brain stormed on "How Do We Serve?" — during various stages of Worship Service, Annual Days and Special Days. Ms. DeWitt further stated that we are blessed to have four boards of ushers: Youth, Young Adult and two Adult Boards. The Youth and Young Adults are vital to our ministry. Youth ushers range from nine to seventeen years of age. Young Adults range from ages eighteen to thirty-five. After the question and answer session, closing prayer was given by Brother Martin.



**GREENWOOD CHRISTIAN
METHODIST EPISCOPAL
CHURCH**

3311 Kimball Avenue
Memphis, Tennessee 38111

Phone: 901-744-7665
Fax: 901-744-7664

The Green is published once per month. If you would like to submit an article, it should be between 200–250 words. Please submit articles by the 15th of each month. All information must be approved by Pastor Dykes.

Coordinator: Joyce Cooper

Editor: Millicent B. DeWitt

Secretary: Helen Dozier

Consultant: Reverend Omar L Dykes

Photographer: Bonnie Holmes

Reporters: Gregory Bethel, Dorothy Johnson,
Jewel MCGahee, Ruby Porter, Glover Tillman

Church Website

www.greenwoodcme.com

Monthly Greenwood Updates

- ⇒ December 2 —Family Communion Sunday/ Hanging of the Greens Service 4p
- ⇒ December 15 —Women's Ministry Christmas Luncheon 12n
- ⇒ December 16 —Founders' Day Observance
- ⇒ December 20 —Super Saturday Preparation 6p
- ⇒ December 22 —Super Saturday 8a

Were you There ?

