# March/April 2016

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Rev. Nathan M. Sommons, Pastor

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# News

## From The Pastor

Freetings my brothers and sisters in Christ Jesus our Master, Creator, and Blessed Savior.

pring has sprung and some of us are planning on doing some spring cleaning. While this is good, we should also consider doing the same for our spiritual lives as well. First, I suggest we clean out thinking we can change everything and anybody and conform them to our

likening. Clean out excuses concerning a lackadaisical attitude

Pastor Nathan & Sis. Everlena Sommons

toward serving God; giving a tremendous amount of praise, but a miniscule amount of worship. Spruce up your giving and cease buying things that make you appear glamorous and then do a wave offering over your tithing obligations. Throw out things and people that drag you down and make your life miserable causing undue stress and frustration.

Finally take one day a week and turn off that Hell Phone, I mean Cell phone and experience 24 hours without it and that ball and chain social media network. If you do these things your blood pressure will operate in the normal range and you will have more of life's precious moments to stop and smell the roses of your spiritual world making you a more pleasant Christian that can make an impact on some sinner's life.

ay God bless those of us that love the Lord.

Spiritual
Spring
Cleaning

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Pastor Nathan M. Sommons

### CHURCH SERVICE SCHEDULE

~Join us for any of our worship services~

Sunday School: 9:30 am

Sunday Morning Worship Service: 11:00 am

Prayer Meeting & Bible Study:

7:00 pm on Wednesdays

Email: canaanbaptist@windstream.net

### CONTENTS

	-		
From The Pastor	1	National Baptist Congress of Christian Education	3
Easter Program	2		
		Ms. CF 2016	3
2016 Florida General Baptist Convention	3		
		Fun Page	4



Please submit articles for the next newsletter to the editor by *Sunday*, *June 12*, *2016*. Articles may be edited for content, clarity, and length.



Beverly Tyson Jamerson Newsletter Editor Kingdom News



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### Easter Program by Sis. Carol Ann Hawkins

Canaan Missionary Baptist Church presented their annual Easter program on Sunday, March 27, 2016 to commemorate Jesus Christ's resurrection from the dead. The **first skit** was presented in a one act scene in which two true believers of Christ (people who believe with all their heart that Jesus is the son of God and was raised from the dead) discussed His upcoming crucifixion. One of the believers was more knowledgeable on matters concerning Jesus and explained to the other believer what was going to happen and why. He explained that Jesus died for mankind, for our sins. As sinners we are all lost in our sins. Because God loves us, he doesn't want death to be our final destiny. So he sent his only son to die for our sins. We just have to accept Him as our Savior and accept God's free gift of salvation. If you believe in Him and accept this free gift, you will have eternal life through Christ. He explained that although Christ would die on the cross, and be placed in a tomb, he would rise on the third day, be among his people (disciples) for a few days then ascend to heaven to be seated on the right hand of his Father.

Based on the words of the disciple John (John 20:1-30) the majority of the **second skit** was simply a re-enactment of the scriptures describing biblical events from the finding of the empty tomb to the appearances of Jesus to His Disciples. All of our hope as Christians hangs on the Resurrection. The Apostle Paul said in 1 Corinthians 15:17, "And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins (NIV)." Starting with a chilling description of what life must have been like for His followers immediately after the death of Jesus, Narrators 1 and 2 lead the audience through a re-telling of the events of Easter Sunday and the following week, which proved to even the doubting disciple Thomas, that Jesus is alive.

The **third skit** was a simple reminder of the true meaning of Easter. An adult who seemed to have lost the spirit of Easter and could not figure out why or what was missing. Nine characters were able to remind him that he was forgetting the most important part of Easter -- it was and still is Jesus and He is risen. So many times now a days, people tend to get carried away with Easter egg hunting, Easter baskets, new clothes, and other commercial items that have nothing to do with Easter and they need to be reminded that it's about Christ, the crucifixion, and the resurrection.

The program also consisted of speeches and one magnificent reading in between the skits. The young speech givers were very entertaining and gave their speeches bravely and quite "cutely." The program ended with a beautifully performed and heartwarming praise dance.

**EASTER TRIVIA**: The word EASTER does not appear anywhere in the Bible, nor is it ever associated biblically with the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Neither does the easter bunny or easter eggs. For this reason, some churches prefer calling it Resurrection Sunday when referring to the annual Christian remembrance of Christ's resurrection, as this might be less confusing to most. The word resurrection would remind us of who, what, and why, rather than of eggs, baskets, jelly beans, and new clothes. The name Easter comes from Ostera or Eostre, the Anglo-Saxon goddess of spring, for whom a spring festival was held annually, as it is from this pagan festival that some of our Easter customs have come. It has its roots in ancient polytheistic religions (paganism).



Participants of Canaan Missionary Baptist Church Easter Program

### 2016 Florida General Baptist Convention by Rev. Nathan Sommons and Sis. Maria Chandler

Pastor Nathan Sommons stated, "What a time, when all God's children get together." A glorious time was had at the 2016 Florida General Baptist Convention annual pilgrimage this year held in the city of Orlando, FL (April 3-9, 2016). Hundreds of people from across the state came to praise and worship our God and fellowship with one another.

Rev. Keith Blunt, Pastor of New Jerusalem Missionary Baptist Church, Ocala, FL delivered his first annual address as President of the Young Ministers/Pastors Auxiliary on Wednesday, April 6, 2016. His subject was, "Do You See What Jesus See" and his text came from Acts 2:14 and Matthew 9:35.

Sis. Maria Chandler stated, "We wore red for the Queen's Revue on Thursday, April 7, 2016." Also, Antoniett Lewis, church clerk from New Jerusalem Missionary Baptist Church, Ocala, FL tied for second place for the Vera Bell Queen's Revue.



(L-R) Sis. Everlena Sommons, Pastor Nathan Sommons, Sis. Maria Chandler, Sis. Rosa Harris (President of the Second Bethlehem Baptist Association Women's Auxiliary), Rev. Maxine Chandler, Sis. Margarie Chandler, Sis. Katie McClendon, Rev. Frankie McClendon

### National Baptist Congress of Christian Education by Rev. Maxine Chandler

Canaan members if you are interested in attending the National Baptist Congress of Christian Education, being held in Tampa, FL, June 20-24, 2016, see Sis. Cynthia Davis and pick up an informational packet. Monday night, June 20, 2016, kicks off with a Musical Concert featuring John P. Kee & New Life and Kierra (Kiki) Sheard.

### Ms. CF 2016 by Sis. Danielle White (New Saint Paul Church)

The annual Mr. and Ms. CF Scholarship Pageant was held once again looking for the two students who embody the spirit of the college and what it means to be a CF Patriot. The pageant was held on February 19, 2016 from 7 PM to 9 PM in the Dassance Fine Arts Center on the Ocala campus. \$1,000.00 scholarship, and the right to be named one of CF's best. The theme of the program was comic book heroes. The candidates put on a performance and displayed their talents, interests, and role in the CF community. The panel of four judges consisted of distinguished CF alumni including two former Mr. &

Ms. CF winners from 2011, Jackie Beard, and Emily Cummins. On the other end of the table was Dolores Hunt and Rodney Smith, all exceptional members of the community. All 16 candidates put on an excellent show, and were asked to provide information on their future goals and careers, club activities, and onstage questions.

**Danielle White** 

Finally came the crowning of the winners, with Mr. CF going to Yanik Etan, president of Phi Theta Kappa, and Ms. CF going to Danielle White, president of the African American Student Union. White and Etan were presented with their crowns by the previous years Mr. & Ms. CF.

"Honestly, I still can't believe I won! I'm so grateful to God and humble for the opportunity alone," said White. "The Mr. & Ms. CF Scholarship Program is and continues to be one of the most empowering organizations for students enrolled at CF. To me, Ms. CF is more than just a title, it's an opportunity to represent the student body as well as my club and community with pride." White plans to use her scholarship to continue her education as she transfers to FSU in the Fall of 2016 to continue her studies in Athletic Training.

Candidates competed for a

### Fun Page (Adam and Eve) by Sis. Beverly Jamerson

