



# Talk It Out!

## Young People's Department of the Woman's Auxiliary to the National Baptist Convention, U.S.A., Inc.

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National Baptist Convention, U.S.A. Inc. Officers

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Sis. Lisa Malone

### YPD Director Dr. Marian J. Hockenhull's 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Address



National Young People's Department Director, Dr. Marian J. Hockenhull, gave her 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Address during the afternoon session on Tuesday, September 2<sup>nd</sup>. After Sis. Stacy Benn and the Worship Team led devotion, including a recitation of Psalm 27, Director Hockenhull recognized YPD Musician, Sis. Alice Boyd, for her 60 years of service as a musician (see story on p. 5) and the team of YPD Directors—regional, state, district, and local—and Staff, including

Sis. Brenda Lott, National YPD Secretary, Sis. Doris McGilberry, National YPD Day of Prayer Coordinator, Sis. Stacy Benn, former Northeast Director and Worship Leader, and all who have worked so diligently and unselfishly with her throughout the years.

"These 10 years have been history-making. "Because schools were starting earlier and earlier, it became a challenge to bring young people to the Annual Session, so our structure had to change." The Annual Session and Mid-Winter Board meetings became sessions to inform and train Young People's Directors throughout the country to go back and work with our young people across the nation. "We have tried to bring helpful workshops and workshops to these sessions to enhance the work of youth departments from the State level to the local church." We also changed from 3 regions to 5 regions. The first year, each Regional Director had only 1-2 months to coordinate and host the Regional Youth Conferences. "Someone said it couldn't be done, but with God's grace, each region was able to host a successful conference that first year, 2005."

Cont'd on p. 5

### The YPD Worshipped with the Woman's Auxiliary at Progressive Baptist Church Rev. Dr. Willie Gable, Jr., Pastor



## Annual Prayer Breakfast

The Young People's Department traditionally begins with a Prayer Breakfast, a most fitting start to the Annual Session. This year's Prayer Breakfast provided the undergirding needed for a powerful move of the Holy Spirit in our session. A mime from the Metropolitan Baptist Church, LA First District Association, ushered in the presence of the Holy Ghost with her interpretation of "There Is No One Like You—Our God is Greater Than All." Young Bro. Orin Grant, Jr. of St. Paul Baptist Church, LA Westside Association made us feel especially welcome, inviting us to experience the unique cuisine of the region during our stay but mostly to feast on the presence of the Lord.



Mighty prayers were offered by representatives from each of the regions, and Sis. Debra Johnson, for President Scruggs and his family, Woman's Auxiliary President Dr. Hugh Dell Gatewood, National Y.P.D. Director, Dr. Marian J. Hockenhull, President Obama and his family, and especially for our youth that they will know the love of God and find their self-esteem in Christ.

Sis. Emanee Drake of Third Rose of Sharon Baptist Church, LA Ideal Association offered ministry in song with her testimony, "My Life Is In Your Hands—I give myself away, so you can use me." After being introduced by his friend, Sis. Alexis Batiste of the Metropolitan Baptist Church, LA First District Association, Bro.

Johnny Fisher, Southeast Region Vice-President of the Southeast Region of the Louisiana YPD, brought the main meal, the meat of the Word of God. Citing some of the negative news, such as the violent crime being at an all-time high and an education system struggling because of the disinterest in education exhibited by youth in the city of New Orleans, Bro. Fisher enthusiastically welcomed the reinforcement from across the nation for "the young Christians in New Orleans who are "learning, praying, praising, and serving." In keeping with the theme, "Solidarity with the Savior as We Face the Future," he stated, "We must get busy right here and right now, and that requires preparation to continuously spread the Word and the good news about Christ. Call the Mayor and tell him the Calvary has arrived; call the police chief and tell him that we, God's Christian soldiers are taking over this city with prayer, praise and worship and the teaching of the Word of God; call the governor that his eyes might be on the White House, but our eyes are on heaven, and call the fire department and tell them not to try to put out this fire because this is a fire burning inside our souls that can't be extinguished because the National Baptist Youth are on fire for the Lord."



He challenged the young people to walk out in "hell is real; don't get caught dead without Christ." 4:6-7, he said that we must pray that the Holy minds to reach out to others in Christ. "As saints, because prayer gives us strength to fight the battle. football team the Saints, Bro. Fisher, asked the Bout Beatin' them Saints?" He asked, "If Saints' are Baptists expecting in the future? As you plan



boldness and witness to other youth that Citing the theme scripture, Philippians Spirit ignites fire in our hearts and our we would lose the battle without prayer Alluding to the famed New Orleans question as his subject, "Who Dat Talkin' fans are expecting a winning season, what for the future, first, you must make time



to communicate with God. Pray for God to direct your path, so you can do His will, and when you pray, expect to hear from God." Relating the passage in Acts when Christ told the disciples that they would receive power, he exclaimed, "Christ expects us to pray and use the power of the Holy Ghost to meet the challenges we will meet in the world." He designated our assignments: 1) to pray without ceasing, to boldly testify of the goodness of Jesus, telling others of God's grace and mercy; 2) to witness and tell the whole world about Christ's life. His teachings, miracles, crucifixion, resurrection, and commission, and 3) to go to all nations, praying for a change in the way people are treated, especially the way that Blacks are treated in America.

"We must pray to fill up the church and not the Mercedes Benz Superdome because we are God's winning team, and He has equipped us with everything we need for a strong defense and a good offense." As prayer warriors, we are God's special team, so be ready to kick off with prayers and thanksgiving. Satan and his henchmen know that without prayer, saints cannot be victorious; without the full armor of God, saints can get distracted and weak. Bro. Fisher proclaimed, "Today, we are here to put Satan on notice, 'prayer changes things.' We will continue to pray. Who dat can beat us when we are praying to change the future to eliminate hatred, racism, sexism, human trafficking and exploitation, domestic violence, sexual abuse, violence against children, drug abuse, alcoholism, police brutality, violent behavior, too many men on prison rolls, deaths from HIV, disrespect of parents, teachers, neighbors, and young people themselves. The time is now to pray like you have never prayed before and witness like you have never witnessed before, for with God on your side, the Holy Spirit in

your heart, and faith in your prayers, our future is bright. With Christ, we are champions. As God’s champions, there is no one who can beat these saints. We are not playing a game that lasts 60 minutes, but a lifetime of eternity. Who dat got the victory? National Baptist Convention Youth, You dat got the victory in Christ.”

# Human Trafficking

LOUISIANA WELCOMES THE NBCCU SA, INC. YPD

Following the Prayer Breakfast, National Young People’s Department Director, Dr. Marian J. Hockenhull, officially opened the Eighty-ninth Annual Session of the Young People’s Department. Sis. Stacy Benn, Assistant Director, Congress Youth Rally, and the Worship Committee led the opening devotion with song, prayer, and scripture. Sis. Benn then asked that the congregation call out words describing what Christ means to each person individually beginning with the first letter of each day of the week. This devotional idea works well to help youth focus on their personal relationship with Christ.

We were glad to welcome our secretary, Sis. Brenda Lott, back as she was unable to attend last year due to illness, and she thanked everyone for their prayers. She gave highlights of last year’s Annual Session and reviewed the program for this session.

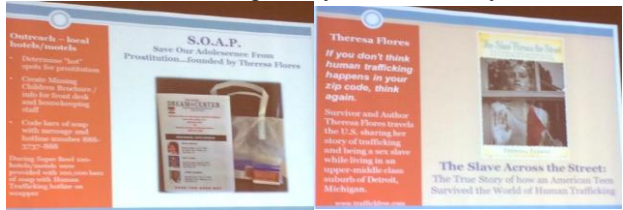


Sis. Linda McGary, Louisiana YPD Southeast Region, introduced the presenters for the morning workshop on Addressing Human Trafficking, a difficult but necessary topic for those working with young people to understand. Quoting I John 3:17-18, Ms. Kay Bennett, Director of the Baptist Friendship House stated that her work with the homeless, led her into her work with victims of human trafficking as many of them are targeted because they are homeless. “Human trafficking has become the second largest segment of the criminal industry, following illegal drug trafficking. It is the fastest growing industry because victims are sold 1-15 times per day, producing a 32-34-billion dollars in revenue daily.”



In giving the profile of human trafficking victims, Ms. Bennett cautioned against making quick judgments based on appearances stating that they are “taken by force, misled by fraud, and manipulated by coercion” by their abductors and pimps and can come from any segment of society, including those who attend our churches. Ms. Kendall Kay, Evangelist Catalyst also working with the Baptist Friendship House, provided information on how the internet and social media, especially a site named Back Page, described as “a Craig’s List of Adult Entertainment,” are used to both lure young women and advertise their services.

Ms. Diane Amos, Executive Director of the New Orleans Dream Center, characterized human trafficking as “modern day slavery.” She was led by the Lord to reach out to women in the exotic dancing industry. Through her Midnight Outreach, she began targeting Bourbon Street and ministering to women who work in strip clubs, presenting them with a single rose with information about how to reach the Dream Center if they wanted help in escaping the industry. She realized that the men who work in the clubs were just as much victims of the industry as the women, and began offering them chocolates with the information card. The mission is not a one-visit outreach but an ongoing visitation to develop a relationship so that when someone makes the step to leave the lifestyle, he or she has a trusted resource. “97%-98% of the women in this industry have been sexually abused as a child by someone they thought they could trust, such as a family member or friend.” Ms. Amos related the story of one young woman who came to her and said, “I’ve been holding onto your card for 2 years.”



An additional outreach has been to hotel and motel workers. They are trained to spot signs of victims of human trafficking and to report their suspicions to the proper authorities for investigation. High-traffic times include sporting events and festivals such as Mardi Gras and the Decadence and Voodoo Festivals. “Pimps move their stables from city to city to take advantage of these events that draw large crowd, including men seeking ‘entertainment’ that pimps are glad to provide.” Bars of soap with the Human Trafficking Hotline number on them are placed in bathrooms. It was a bar of soap that helped save Theresa Flores, who has written a book about her ordeal and started S.O.A.P., Save Our Adolescents from

An explosion of youth marched in to Preservation Hall-style trumpeteering, cheering and waving pom-poms for Christ s they rolled out the red carpet for NBC visitors to Louisiana. In their welcome greetings, Bro. Andrew Griffin of the LA Westside Missionary Baptist Association, and Bro. Zane Fitzgerald of the LA Cornerstone Association told everyone assembled what foods and sites to enjoy while in New Orleans, and told all visitors to make sure to do 3 things while in the Big Easy: 1) eat beignets; 2) have a snowball, and 3) give God the praise for being able to make this trip and return home safely. He instructed all assembled to take out their phones and take a selfie and Tweet it out “National Baptist Convention #Best



Time” because they will want to capture the warm hospitality of the Who Dat Nation. Those sentiments were echoed by judges, a professor, and council persons, who thanked youth workers assembled for taking on the difficult task of molding and guiding the very fiber of youth and young adults to “worship and honor God and have fun in the process.” Rev. Dr. Melvin C. Zeno, Pastor of St. Joseph BC and retired judge of the 24<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Court brought greetings and also offered intercessory prayer for the Young People’s Department, praying that young people will “stand your ground for the Lord and make no compromise concerning the God we serve.”



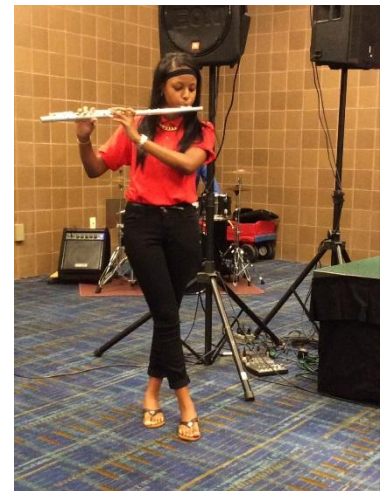
were not only blessed with welcome proclamation with a certificate of presented to Director Hockenhull for with the special recognition that many the work of the NBC through local directors and counselors were also



Director Hockenhull and the Regional Directors gifts but made honorary New Orleanians by recognition. A plaque and proclamation were the entire National Baptist Convention USA, Inc. of those who brought greetings were products of districts and associations. District and local youth presented with special gifts of welcome.



Liturgical dance renderings by the LA Fourth District, East Carroll, and United Associations, a drill team performance by the Ideal Association, choral selections by the Purelight Association Community Choir, and a flute solo by A’Jeannine White of the First District Association displayed the gifts with which the young people of Louisiana are blessed to the highest magnitude.



## YPD Musician Sister Alice Boyd Feted for 60 Years of Music Ministry Service



Sister Alice Clinton Boyd was recently honored for her 60 years in the ministry of music. Faithfully serving as the much-loved musician for the YPD, she was honored both by the NBCUSA, Inc. Music and Arts Department and in the city of Des Moines, IA, where she resides. She began her career at the age of 11 playing for the Sunday school at Shiloh Baptist Church. She is the current musician at Faith Missionary Baptist Church. Sis. Boyd also plays for three other congregations.



Sis. Boy's outreach is wide and varied. She provides free piano and organ lessons and materials to community children. She also plays for many social and political events in Des Moines, including serving as the pianist for the Stoner Theater production of *Ain't Misbehaving*, playing the role of Fats Waller, and the Moingna Girl Scout production of *Daisy*. She has played for the Iowa Arabian Horse Association horse shows and entertains at Merle Hay Shopping Mall with holiday

music.

Sis. Boyd is a retired educator, who now teaches science and social studies at the Joshua Christian Academy. She is the choreographer and composer of the waltz used in her local Alpha Kappa Alpha Chapter Scholarship Cotillion.

### Director Hockenull's Address (Cont'd from p.1)



In addition to the Mid-Winter Board meeting, Director Hockenull attended three Regional Youth Conferences the Western Region in Salt Lake City, UT, the Southwest Region in Jackson, MS, and the Midwest Region in St. Louis, MO. Sis Gloria Simmons represented her at the Southeast Region, which was held in Charlotte, NC, because of a scheduling conflict with another region. The Northeast Region did not have a conference this year, and the YPD is asked to be in prayer Director Lisa Malone and the entire region.

In reflections on the theme, "Solidarity with the Savior as We Face the Future" based on Philippians 2:5-8, Director Hockenull stated, "As directors and youth leaders, we must be humble and remember that our positions are servant positions. I give thanks for the opportunity to serve him in this capacity." When one reads Acts 1:8, what is most evident is unity. "We should be together in purpose, which comes through Bible study. Then we will be witnesses with power that will change hearts and power that will change lives." She raised the questions: What kind of witness are you? Would you be convicted of perjury? "A true witness tells the Good News that Jesus loves us. Tell what he has done for you." Stating that she was convicted as a young child and wished she had accepted Christ at a younger age, she proclaimed, "But I am glad I accepted Him. I can't play church. Like the preacher said this morning, I seek to have the mind of Christ in all that I do."

Relating the story of a young girl who was challenged by her mother to make two words out of the letters in the word good, she said the little girl came up with our mandate: Christ wants us to GO and DO. "We must not be question marks but rather exclamation points for Christ!"

The ministry in song as Dr. Valerie Francis, accompanied by Dr. Imani Francis, beautifully rendered "If I Can Help Somebody" put a powerful capstone on Director Hockenull's address as that has been her mission as a servant of God throughout her life.



## Annual Director's Luncheon



The Director's Luncheon is dedicated to Home and Foreign Mission with the theme emphasis being "Love in action" based on the scripture I John 5:3. In her welcome and occasion, Sis. Roseland Jackson spoke of our work as a Convention in Africa and the Caribbean as well as here at home. She stated that in years past, former Foreign Mission Secretary, Rev. William Harvey used to paint vivid mental pictures of the poverty, illness, and death by starvation that many of us had not seen firsthand. "Today, we see these things daily on our televisions and in our newspapers invading our comfort zone, and we are called to respond as never before."

The LA Westside Missionary Baptist Association Young Adult Ensemble opened the luncheon program with a soul-stirring rendition of "He Is Wonderful" followed by the invocation by Rev. Damian Brown of the same Association and St. Joseph Baptist Church. Sis. Janice Perkins blessed us with her angelic and heartfelt "Jesus, Jesus, Jesus, There's Something about that Name."

Mrs. Emma Spears introduced the speaker her former Sunday School student Sis. Javon Bracy of New Zion Baptist Church, Rev. Crispus S. Gordon, Jr., pastor and President of the LA State Convention. She related that when Javon arrived for Sunday School, the now magna cum laude graduate of Xavier University, was always able to put others at ease and draw them out to participate in class. Today, she continues to do the same as she serves as a mentor to youth at Joseph Clark High School.



Stating that there are many ways and vantage points from which the theme "Love in Action" could be approached, Sis. Bracy said that Christianity is all about love. "The most commonly quoted scriptures are about love" John 3:16 being the ultimate expression of love. Yes, 'love is patient, love is kind,' but what does that look like? Love in action requires that we do, that we apply the concept that we've been studying for so long. The familiar story of the paralytic in the 2<sup>nd</sup> chapter of Mark is the true embodiment of love in action even though neither the word love nor action is explicitly used in the scripture.



"The first thing Jesus comments upon is not the paralytic nor his four friends who carried him but their faith." Ephesians 2:8 tells us that faith is the gift of God, for God so loved the world..." Jesus says, "Son, your sins are forgiven." God's gift of grace, the means of which we are saved through faith, manifested in the story of Calvary, his unmerited favor, salvation is the ultimate example of love in action. "You would think that the first thing Jesus would have done was to heal the man of his physical ailment; who knows how long he had suffered, but what good is it for man to gain things in the worldly realm but lose

his soul? Jesus had a task to perform much bigger than healing his body. Jesus loved him too much to leave him lost. Jesus loves us too much to leave us lost, and we should love our fellow human beings too much to leave them lost. Sharing the gift of salvation is the ultimate gift of love in action."

In the Baptist tradition, sermons generally end with a call-and-response conversation about Calvary, but I submit that is not where we should end but rather where we should start to show love in action. "Must Jesus Bear the Cross Alone" lets us know that we each have a cross to bear. We may not be called to lay down our lives as Jesus did, "but we are called to emulate his spirit of sacrifice. Sometimes that means we have to give things up; sometimes that means we have to give people up; sometimes we have to give bad habits, our own fleshly desires, or our personal agendas up in order to properly practice love in action. Love in action also means putting the needs of others before our own. We must intentionally seek to meet the needs of others out of our love for Christ. We



honor God by serving others.” We do not know what countless other places they may have had to go, how exhausted they were from carrying him around the house that day, and we’re never told what their personal and individual needs were. All we know is that they put their personal needs aside to ensure that the needs of their brother were met.



Sis. Bracy challenged us to consider how inclined we would be to meet the needs of our sister in a similar situation? How quickly would we be to meet the needs of a brother in a similar situation? “The situation is not hypothetical. We see these needs every day, and a love in action response is not an option. This is what is required of us as followers of Jesus Christ. If Paul were here today, I imagine he might write in I Cor. 13, “If I can post scriptures and scriptural quotes on FaceBook, Twitter, and Instagram but can’t speak to a person walking right next to me, and but have not love, I have nothing. If I can serve on every board and committee, attend church every Sunday and attend church conference after conference but do not apply the Word outside of the four consecrated walls, I am not showing love, so I am doing nothing. Sis Bracy concluded, “Love in action begins with the cross but must be able to sustain cross examination.” In court, witnesses are called to give an account of what

they have seen, what they know as is relevant to the case. They must then be able to stand cross examination from the other side. “If someone from the other side, someone who is not church, someone who is not saved were to cross examine you about how consistently you show love in action, would you be able to withstand cross examination?”

Following the dynamic presentation by Sis. Bracy, those assembled were challenged to give a sacrificial offering. Presider, Sis. Mary Hopkins, Southwest Region YPD Director, stated, “Sometimes foreign mission is right here. When you don’t know the person in need, he or she is foreign to you. When you meet that person’s need, that’s foreign mission right here at home.” Sis. Linda Scott-Farinas, daughter of our beloved Sis. Ethel Scott, whose heart for mission was legendary as she served as Mission Chairperson, has continued her mother’s legacy. She facilitated the Louisiana Youth Mission Project in which 50 youth and 20 young people visited The Raintree House for Abused and Neglected Youth on Monday morning. The impact of service was evident as a young lady recounted her experience during the Welcome Program on Monday afternoon. She explained that they had prayer, praise, and worship with the residents and then broke into groups and played games with them. They then presented them with gift baskets containing school supplies and Walmart and McDonald’s gift cards. Commenting that the weather was very hot, she paused and said, “Well, that was okay, because I did it for the Lord.” She stated that her favorite part of the day was going outside to release balloons. “My first impression of the youth at the home was that they weren’t going to be happy, but one girl had a balloon that said, ‘Peace’, and she released her balloon, and I could see that she was happy.” Established in 1924, the home provides shelter and much more for teenaged girls who have been abused or neglected. The sacrificial offering collected during the luncheon, including a special donation from the Louisiana YPD and a \$600 donation from the Great Lakes (MI) District Ministers’ Wives and Ministers’ Widows, will go to further the work of Raintree and our foreign mission work.



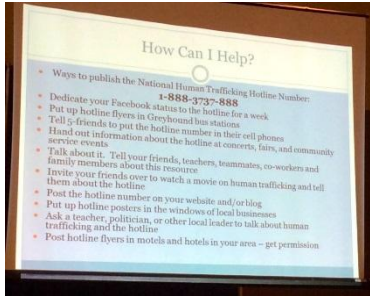
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*Cont'd. from page 2 – Human Trafficking*

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Although all of the presenters work in partnership with one another, the final presenter brought another perspective to the travesty of human trafficking. Detective Don Doner is an Investigative Specialist with the Louisiana State Police, and he works with a unit that collaborates with the local police, state and federal bureaus of investigation, and law enforcement and programs dedicated to stemming the tide of human trafficking across the country and the world. As did the other presenters, he related actual cases of human trafficking, putting a human side to the alarming statistics, including the case of Amber Rose, a 16-year-old from MS whose case caused the department to set up a special unit targeting human trafficking.

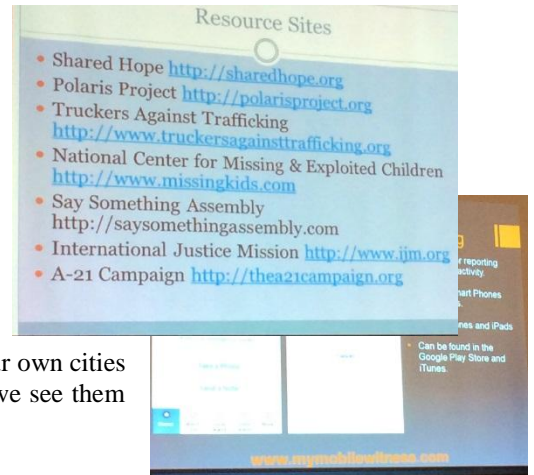
Detective Doner spends most of his investigative time providing operational support by other investigators by trolling websites for clues for girls being lured from sites, especially dating sites and chat rooms, and being offered for service on escort sites. He related that within 10 minutes of signing up for a site, he had 7 hits indicating that girls/women wanted to communicate with him even though he had not even filled out the profile. Investigators follow up on leads, and they have been able to both rescue victims and arrest perpetrators, some of whom include women who lure other girls and women into the life for their male pimps. The unit also provides support for special operations when large crowds are descending on the city for what are deemed “Man Events,” such as Wrestlemania, the Super Bowl, and the NBA All-Star game.



He said that the cases are complex because many girls are reluctant to identify themselves as victims or reveal who their pimps are both out of fear and a belief that their pimps love them. Girls are often threatened that if they try to leave, harm will be done to their families. Many of them have nowhere to go and are afraid that they will be worse off if they leave. Most often, no one has shown the girls love and made them feel that they are worthwhile, and the pimp provides that sense of belonging they have missed. Showing tattoos, which pimps use to brand their “stable”, Detective Doner stated that the girls are treated as property and branded, with many of the tattoos containing a crown, representing the pimp as king.

“See Something, Send Something” is a program that educates children in middle and high schools about human trafficking. By alerting youth how to take precautions, in activities as innocent as going to the mall, and about signs to look out for in their friends’ behavior and whom to contact if they see something suspicious, the program is proactively helping to prevent additions to the human trafficking statistics.

Resources, such as the hotline number, 888-3737-888, and the “See Something, Send Something” app, which can be downloaded on both Android and iPhone devices, were provided. Director Hockenhull will receive a more extensive list of resources by email, which YPD workers can request. Most importantly, the presenters have asked that armed with the knowledge we receive that we add to it by contacting agencies in our own cities and states, pass the information on to others, and act to report suspicious cases when we see them now that we know some of the signs.



Thank you Sister Rosie Weston-Hudson Louisiana YPD Director and your Dream Team for an exceptionally well-hosted NBCUSA, Inc. YPD Annual Session. Who Dat? You All Dat!!!!

Welcome to the YPD, new pastor, Rev. Ezra Tillman

***In Memoriam - “Precious Memories”***

Sister Lavern Jeffries, AK  
Sister Loretta Harris  
Sis. Ethel Mae Pruitt Scott, LA

