



the *Mercy* and *Might* Connection

January 2015, Vol. 37 No. 1

Dr. Jerry Young, President, National Baptist Convention USA, Incorporated

“Envision the Future Exceptionally”

A Publication of the Home Mission Board of the National Baptist Convention USA, Incorporated

Mid-Winter Board Meeting

Jackson, Mississippi January 12 - 15, 2015

Welcoming Our New President

Dr. Jerry Young, President, NBC USA, Inc.

**New Leadership:
Envision the
Future Exceptionally**



Rev. Gilbert Pickett, Sr.
*Executive Secretary
Home Mission Board*





Caring and Sharing the Master's Mercy and Might

Mercy and Might Connection Mid-Winter Board Meeting

JANUARY 2015 Edition Volume 37 No. 1

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Home Mission Board Mission Statement

To promote Home Mission Ministry in partnership with the constituency of the National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc. throughout the United States, Virgin Islands and Overseas U. S. Military related Ministries.

Home Mission Board Goal

To spread the Gospel message of Jesus Christ and advance the Kingdom of God in ***Envisioning the Future Exceptionally in Caring and Sharing the Master’s Mercy and Might.***

Home Mission Board Vision Statement

The Home Mission Board of the National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc. seeks to witness to the Mercy and Might of Jesus Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit and to the glory of God. We fulfill the vision through biblical messages, ministry and mission education.

In keeping with our Master’s Mercy and Might, we believe that Jesus Christ’s ministry was restorative, reconciling, and redemptive by nature. This three-fold ministry is therefore holistic, dealing with every facet of human life. Our priorities for holistic ministry include the following foci: spiritual, mental, physical, social, finance and the environment. Only by addressing human life holistically can we be faithful in empowering others to realize the abundant life for which Jesus Christ died and arose.

We partner with the constituency of the National Baptist Convention, its State Presidents, District Moderators, Pastors, and other clergy to provide relevant resources. These resources are designed to assist in the establishment, and/or development of Home Mission Ministry in cooperation with churches across local, global, multi-cultural and multi-ethnic territories.

Executive Secretary Report



Rev. Gilbert Pickett, Sr.

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! To our esteemed President-elect, Dr. Jerry Young, General Secretary, Dr. Calvin McKinney and the entire Parent Body cabinet; Happy New Year to the delegates of our great convention.

As we embark upon not only a new year, but also a new administration under the leadership of President Young, I am excited about the challenges that lie ahead of us. 2014 gave the Home Mission Board (HMB) the opportunity to show our convention our commitment to being the outreach arms of our mission to bring about “Solidarity with the Savior”. Though we can celebrate our accomplishments of 2014, namely: the fundraising rally and worship service in Dallas; the Mission Day project in New Orleans and the numerous Pastors, churches and community organizations that we have assisted, we are moving forward with great expectation as it is time to “*Envision the Future Exceptionally!*”

Mission Day Family Fun Fest 2014 New Orleans



The HMB once again has invaded the urban center of one of the major cities in America – New Orleans, the

Crescent City. The Progressive Baptist Church, Rev. Dr. Willie Gable, Pastor is located in the "Central City" community. The community outreach project included a cookout that fed over 300 people; clothing giveaways, medical screening and HIV/AIDS testing, free haircuts; gospel singing and much, much more.

Many thanks to Pastor Gable and the great people of Progressive Baptist Church. Thank you also to the people of the Mount Horeb Baptist Church of Corona, NY where I pastor who came to help and serve alongside the dedicated Home Mission Board members.



Where Do We Go From Here?

As we are excited about the possibilities that 2015 will bring about, we are looking forward to Detroit, MI in June and Memphis, TN in September. Both of these cities are strong in Home Mission Support. With Dr. Lee Bernard in Detroit and Dr. Eugene Henson in Memphis, I know that we can make a major impact in these cities.

We want and need your support financially so that the HMB can continue to do the needed mission minded work. Sowing into the work and ministry of the HMB is sowing into "good ground". Please consider making the HMB a part of your annual budget. Please consider becoming a contributor of our work.

I want to take this opportunity to thank our top contributors for 2014. Our top three are:

1. Emanuel Missionary Baptist Church, Colorado Springs, CO, Rev. Cleveland Thompson, Pastor

2. First Institutional Baptist Church, Phoenix, AZ, Rev. Dr. Warren H. Stewart, Sr., Pastor

3. Brown Missionary Baptist Church, Southaven, MS, Rev. Bartholomew Orr, Pastor

These churches have contributed \$10,000 or more to our work. To God be the glory for the great things that they are doing to assist us. To these churches and pastors I say thank you.

I'm Grateful for the Opportunity to Serve

Our President, Dr. Young has given me the opportunity to serve in our convention as Executive Secretary of the HMB. As a member of the board for the past 17 years and having the opportunity of serving as Chairman for the past 3 years, I am extremely grateful for the confidence that our board and President Young has in me to serve in this capacity as well.

I'm reminded of what Jesus stated in *John 12:26* "If anyone serves Me, let him follow Me; and where I am, there My servant will be also. If anyone serves Me, him My Father will honor." (NKJV)

This particular passage of scripture along with verses 25 and 27 gives us a chance to look at:

1. The Life of the Servant
2. The Love of the Servant
3. The Labor of the Servant

With the model of servanthood that Jesus gives onto us, I too "COME TO SERVE". The plan is:

1. Follow the vision of our convention president, Dr. Young that he will institute for the work of the HMB.
2. Continue to raise the necessary and needed funds to do the work of our board.
3. Raise the awareness of the history and purpose of the HMB.
4. Establish relationships with Regional Vice-Presidents and State Presidents in order to gain full support of said work.
5. Encourage and support the work of our field workers, regional coordinators and board members in their local area and district associations pertaining to

rallies as well as financial assistance to those who are in need.

6. Continue to build upon the great reputation of the areas of outreach and assistance that we have done in the past. Namely, the Virgin Island Missions, Student Internship program and being second responders to the work of the Disaster Management Office, just to name a few.

7. Work in a spirit of cooperation with other auxiliaries of our great convention in the areas of outreach, evangelism and social justice.

Again, I am excited about the challenges that are in front of us. The men and women, pastors and laity of the HMB are some of the most dedicated people that God could ever create. I thank God for their love and passion for this work and their commitment to lifting up the blood stained banner of Jesus Christ and our convention.

In closing, I stand on the shoulders of great men such as former Executive Secretaries, Rev. Dr. Warren H. Stewart, Sr. and Rev. Dr. Charles E. Mock. These men of God have been mentors to me and exceptional leaders of this work. As it is an honor to be in the history books of our great convention to be able to serve in this position, it is my goal to be able to build on the foundation and legacy of my predecessors as well as reach higher heights as I stand on their shoulders and look to the Holy Spirit for vision and guidance for this present age and future. I solicit your earnest prayers.



Vice Chair Report



Rev. Dr. Angelique Walker-Smith

First and Foremost, I would like to extend my heartfelt congratulations to our new National President, the Rev. Dr. Jerry Young! Another era begins as another one ends even as we enter the historic launch of the United Nations Decade of People of African Descent this year!

Secondly, so much has happened since September regarding the matters of prayer, protest and policies so familiar to our Black Baptist history, present and future. I have been very involved with meeting with those involved as well as linking with them in my work. Here are my reflections with our African American Churches, movements, our beloved Convention and the next generation and most of all, prayer. I hope this reflection helps us reflect on our missional work going forward given the reality of the changing landscape that in many ways is still the same but with a new generational direction.

Prayer, Protest, and Policies: The Racial Pain and Politics of a New Anti-Poverty Movement for Peace in Our Local Communities

Not a Time to Be Silent-Black Lives Matter Sunday (December 14, 2014)

On Sunday, Dec. 14th I witnessed a teenage African American young man walking down the center aisle to the altar area of our own Mt. Airy Baptist Church in Washington D.C. on the day of the Black Church Sunday initiative. On that day many of our African American churches wore black as a symbol of stating this is “Not a Time to be Silent” and that “Black Life Matters.” The Pastor, the Rev. Dr. Larry West, had given a powerful message from Luke 2 and 10 about

being a divinely chosen agent by God whether young or old. He placed emphasis on insuring that we are nurturing the leadership of our youth and how he was glad to see this about the "Justice for All March" the previous day. The young man's walk was a response to the invitation to follow Christ by the Pastor. He was received with great joy by the church even as the Pastor cautioned the deacon and spiritual mentor to stay close to the young man and mentor him in his renewed journey in Christ.

Although the young man and his mother had been building a relationship with the church prior to the announcement of the Black Church initiative, this wonderful moment of renewal of life in Christ in this young man's life may still be viewed as a one snapshot of invitation and affirmation by African American churches' to receive and nurture black lives. This recommitment may also be viewed as a follow up response to part two of the "Justice for All" March the day before. Towards the end of the March at the Capitol, the attendees, especially the youth, were invited to continue their movement in a Black Church the next day for the "Not a Time to Be Silent"-Black Life Matters Sunday. This invitation was stressed in a way that suggested that the March was to continue the next day. The invitation was extended by the Rev. Jamal Bryant (son of the co-signatory Senior AME Bishop John Bryant of the "Not a Time to Be Silent"-Black Life Matters Sunday).

Justice for All March (December 13, 2014)

This peaceful March of approximately 20,000 (up to 10,000 were initially expected) was an invitation for all. The March did end up with attendees and speakers who were representative of a broad spectrum of people and groups that included the most visibly grieved families we have come to know (Brown, Garner, Crawford, Martin families), youth from various local communities. Many of the youth were organized in sub-groups before, during and after the March. The March provided an opportunity to show support for the families and the youth as well as an opportunity to invite Congress to embrace the following Congressional agenda:

- 1) Hold hearings on police misconduct and brutality that will lead to legislation.
- 2) Enact legislation to address the jurisdictional threshold regarding when Department Of

Justice can investigate and/or prosecute cases of police misconduct.

- 3) Appropriate additional funding for the Department of Justice to fund a designated division to address police misconduct and brutality.
- 4) Remember the 1950's and 1960's when the Civil Rights Movement was enforced by Congress through legislation with the drafting and passing the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and Civil Rights Act of 1965 and do what Congress has done in the past.
- 5) Implement concrete actions that extend beyond this current Administration.

To this end, various speakers from the Jewish community, political leaders such as Congressman Al Green from Texas, Marc Morial from the Urban League, the NAACP, the National Black Lawyers Association, the families, various church and youth leaders as well as groups from the affected areas of the affected families spoke to this agenda during the speeches at the March (see flyer and photos). Media from all over the world was present. I was honored to serve as a member of the Program Committee of the March and was therefore responsible for working with my team leaders in greeting the various persons, groups, the families and the media as well as provide them their credentials. I was able to provide some reflection in an interview with Russian radio and the Associated Press as to why the March mattered to so many. The "Justice for All" March, previous protests and protests to come have and are providing an opportunity for African American churches to re-commit and innovate their ministries to deepen their historic primary concern for nurturing the spiritual, mental, and physical needs of African American men and women, young and old.

Young, Gifted and Black

The historic and present perils of being black in America have once again come to a more visible light led by young African American men and women with the accompaniment of technology and renewed vigor of mobilized relationships and vision. This new visibility is exposing again the ongoing and historic truth that the sin of racism that continues in institutional ways that are unacceptable and violent. While the re-education of this reality is happening in mainstream society, older and more established

African Americans and their institutions', like the African American churches are finding new ways to affirm their a historic prophetic role and to be bolder in this pastoral and prophetic witness. Many African Americans had hoped and prayed that the past and present horrors of racism were and could be systematically addressed through established institutional grievance processes and practices from the public and private sectors of law, economic enterprise, religious movements and institutions, educational institutions etc. Once again, however, our young people are telling us this is not enough. These youth, like the youth and adults in the Civil Rights movement of the 1950's and 1960's, are reminding us again that such conventional means are not adequate and that new localized, state and national method need to be created to address local urgencies of peace and justice. This unique mix of young voices from the African American community and their partners represent the working class, the underclass and the middle class. They are speaking to all of us and leading us in this movement of today.

A Multi-Cultural, Multi-Sector and International Movement of Solidarity

The good news is this movement does have the eyes and ears of a multi-cultural and multi-sector populous. This, for example, was demonstrated with multi-ethnic Congressional staffers who came together in solidarity with African American Congressional staffers and an African American Senate Chaplain when they walked out of their Capitol Hill offices as a sign of protest and prayer and communicated to our nation in such dramatic fashion. I was honored to be a part of this call to prayer and voice. This was also demonstrated in the candlelight vigil on the streets of Washington D.C. that I was a part of with churches throughout the D.C. area and my Bread for the World sister and brothers. The vigil attracted a variety of people who walked or drove by who expressed solidarity. This was also recently demonstrated at the international Christian community conference I was a part of, along with Jean Duff, at the International Religious Trends of Development and Advocacy Conference in Berlin, Germany. Here I was able to present a prayerful vision of ending hunger and alleviating extreme poverty and how it relates to the advocacy agenda of these movements. This presentation included the new 2015 Hunger Report which was shared with all of the attendees after my presentation that lifted this up.

The conference included a meeting with the State Secretary of the German ministry (government) office on development. Here they presented a model for listening to their people "on the ground" in the creation of their One World, Our Responsibility Charter for the 21st century.

Going Forward

Now a 21st Century Community Policing Task Force has been created by the White House. It includes one of the young adults I met in Ferguson at a national Faith Leaders' Gathering where we visited the historic and contemporary places of race and class challenges. Her name is Ms. Brittany Packnett and she comes from a strong Historic African American church in St. Louis, Central Baptist Church, where her father was Pastor (deceased), our own Rev. Ron Packnett who was the editor of our National Baptist Voice magazine years ago. Will a new charter representative of the "people on the ground" be as representative as it needs to be? Further, we are still left with the following questions given the advocacy agenda of protesters like Ms. Packnett, her partners, the affected families and the Marchers. What about the response of Congress? What about the response of the Judiciary and the disproportionate numbers of African Americans who have been mass incarcerated and the role of justice in the courts for abuses? What about the role of local municipalities and State governments?

Most of all, as Christians, what about our role to call for the transformation of the hearts and minds of these leaders, many of whom claim Jesus the Christ to be their Lord and Savior? The churches have a critical role to play. Recently, I was also at the Emancipation Proclamation service in Indianapolis. The churches and community leaders were asking many important questions consistent with the aforementioned questions and still the hope in Jesus Christ it is the correct missional answer.

Let us all always be grounded in prayer and the scriptural teachings of God's love for all life, justice and mercy. May we find new and innovative ways that can inform renewed relationships with our young people who are leading the way and with engaging our government leaders that Bread for the World has been committed to since its beginning.





**NATIONAL MARCH
AGAINST POLICE
VIOLENCE!**

**SATURDAY,
DECEMBER 13TH, 2014**

**10:30AM GATHER
12PM MARCH**

**WASHINGTON, D.C.
FREEDOM PLAZA
13TH ST. & PENNSYLVANIA AVE. NW**

JOIN THE FAMILIES OF ERIC GARNER,
MIKE BROWN, AKAI GURLEY, THE MOTHER
OF TAMIR RICE, THE FAMILY OF TRAYVON
MARTIN AND REVEREND AL SHARPTON.

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Reflections on Ferguson



By Dr. Samuel W. Hale, Jr.

Ferguson! It's not really the name – it's a symbol of a systematic condition! Ferguson! A reference point for so many issues of social, economic, political and governmental frustrations! Ferguson! A life situation that is mimicked across this nation!



Ferguson! A city that reflects so many of the social, ethnic, political, economic, governmental ills of so many towns and cities throughout the United States – small and large! In all reality, the deaths of a thousand Michael Browns and the “wrongful death” convictions of a thousand Darren Wilsons will not rectify the Ferguson Syndrome! Ferguson and the reactions to Ferguson reveals a human sickness – a lack of appreciation, respect, and mutual concern for ourselves and each other!

With all due respect, Ferguson is much more than our personal reactions to the questionable actions of Michael Brown and Officer Darren Wilson! Ferguson is much more than our personal reactions to the looters, news media, professional and volunteer protestors, and local and national governmental leaders.

Ferguson is a microcosm of the issues that impact race relations throughout this world! Ferguson is a mirror of human actions and interactions in moments of conflict, apathy, complacency, and selfishness. Ferguson is opportunity for people at the personal level to honestly take a look at their own values for community and interpersonal relationships. Ferguson is a “Jericho Road” experience! It is a challenge for all of us to honestly confirm “Who is my neighbor?” It is a challenge for all of us to honestly search our own hearts and decide to whom we will become a “neighbor”!

Are we willing to become a “neighbor” to the many youths in our communities who need to have their family, personal, and social “wounds” bound, and dressed, and helped to be healed? Are we willing to forgive an “errant brother” who has diminished our dignity and hampered our access to our futures? Are we willing to seek the intervention of a “Righteous Judge” who is able to humble the haughty and elevate the downtrodden? Ferguson is a reminder to Believers in Christ Jesus that our work is not yet done! Ferguson is an example of the “uttermost parts of the Earth”! It is not simply a geographical location, nor a political problem, nor a social dilemma.

Ferguson is wherever “sin” abides! Ferguson is where we ALL live! It is Our Town! Ferguson is wherever men, women, boys, and girls manifest a spirit and mindset of apathy, complacency, and selfishness. Ferguson is wherever people are more concerned for themselves than for each other. Ferguson is wherever God is not in control!

There may be those who are already “over” Ferguson. But rest assured, Ferguson is not yet “over”! In a matter of weeks and months, when the “protesters” shall have returned to their regular routines; when the looters shall have disbursed their newly-acquired resources to family and friends, or sold them for immediate gain; when the media, public and social, shall have found more “exciting” topics to discuss; when the arsenals of newly purchased guns shall have been returned to their hiding places; when politicians shall have completed their pre- and post-holiday agendas; when social and political community organizations shall have wearied themselves with unending discussions and conferences on profiling, and local police sensitivity training; when the cries for

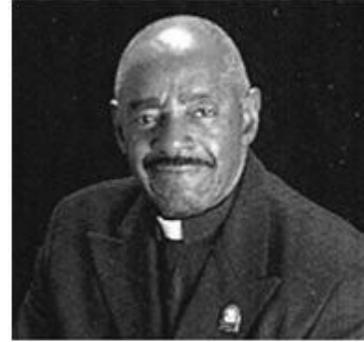
Ecclesiastical Endorser Report

“racial dialogue” shall have become bogged down in the blame game; when political promises shall have become “prioritized” by fiscal limitations; when “blacks” and “whites” and Hispanics and Asians and Jews and Muslims shall have retreated to their respective habitats and habits, when pastoral sermonic topics shall have turned from “social justice” to the Birth of Jesus Christ; THEN shall still remain the saying that is written, “Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?”

Who in Ferguson will represent the Lord in the resolution of all of the contributing factors of this heart-wrenching experience? Who outside of Ferguson will represent the Lord in the resolution of the many contributing factors that manifest themselves in the various forms of racism?

Here is where the water hits the wheel for every vestige of Ferguson in this nation and this world! Whatever is wrong with Ferguson - or wherever YOU live - and its legal system, police department, governmental structure and operation? WHO among the Saints of God in Ferguson - or wherever YOU live - shall avail themselves for office at the next election? WHO among the Saints of God in Ferguson - or wherever YOU live - shall run for School Boards, City Councils, Mayors, Prosecuting Attorneys, or Chiefs of Police? WHO among the Saints of God in Ferguson - or wherever YOU live - shall apply to become policemen and firemen? WHO among the Saints of God in Ferguson - or wherever YOU live - shall set the example of establishing Godly Relationships with their neighbors - regardless of their ethnicity? WHO among the Saints of God in Ferguson - or wherever YOU live - shall work with and encourage their white and black brothers and sisters to exercise honesty, mutual respect, and righteousness among all? Don't forget! Ferguson is wherever YOU live!

Pastor Samuel W. Hale Jr.
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By Dr. Charles F. Thomas, Sr., Chaplain

Congratulations to the Chaplains below who completed USAF Basic Chaplains Course at Ft. Jackson, SC. May the Lord continue to bless you and your families as you continue to do the Lords business on behalf of our Armed Forces.



**Graduation: Basic Chaplains Course 14D, Friday
September 19, 2014.**

(L – R) CH (1Lt.) Brandon Stewart,
CH (1Lt.) Kevin Pugh, and CH (Cpt.) Paul V. Harris
(All USAF)



Needed: Breathing Room



By Rev. Charles E. Mock

The Huffington Post carried a story connected to Daniel Pantaleo, the New York police officer who placed an arm hold (choke hold) around the neck of Eric Garner. The New York coroner determined the arm hold to be the primary reason for Eric Garner's death. Other contributing factors were Eric's weight and asthmatic condition.



Eric Garner was the black man who had a history of arrests and a history of selling untaxed cigarettes, on New York pavements in front of businesses. By selling untaxed cigarettes business owners felt Eric was guilty of illegal competition and thereby meddling with their potential profits. The store owners would therefore call the police on Eric. Eric is now dead because a confrontation between him and the police officers that responded to a business owner's call.

The business owner had enough of Eric placing a choke hold around his business profits. He had enough of fighting for his financial breath. We can almost imagine

the store owner in question that called the police complaining with the words, "My store cannot breathe...I cannot breathe...my family cannot breathe!" Come and do something!

Across this nation it now seems that anyone and everyone is "doing something." As responses continue across this nation in the form of sit-ins, die-ins, boycotts, marches, etc., I join those who are encouraged by the fact that diverse groups of people are "doing something" to register their protests over a history of very questionable police and other law enforcement policies and laws.

The Huffington Post ran a story by Antonia Blumberg that challenges my own response as a faith-based leader (The Huntington Post, 12/8/2014). Blumber's story highlighted a coalition of African Americans and Latinos that arrived unintentionally and simultaneously at a prayer protest on Monday, December 8th at New York City Hall. Members of the Black and Latino Caucus had planned a protest when the faith coalition of African Americans and Latinos unexpectedly arrived. One might ask if this was human coincidence or divine providence.

"We came here today to New York City Hall and wonderfully found New York City council members were on the same page, "Linda Sarsour, Executive Director of the Arab American Association of New York, told HuffPost from the protest. Chanting, "God can't breathe" and singing spirituals, the clergy were out Monday to protest the grand jury decision not to indict police officer Daniel Panteleo for the death of Eric Garner.

The New York Christian clergy, citing problems within the New York police department as "a spiritual problem" were supported by Muslims and Jews. Christians, Jews and Muslims looked at their respective faith values that are related to the God-given value life, dignity and respect for all people. These faith leaders signed a letter that was delivered to New York Mayor de Blasio encouraging him "to stand on the side of what is moral, just and right."

In a press release Rev. Peter Goodwin Heltzel, Associate Professor of Theology and Director of the Micah Institute, said, "Eric Garner couldn't breathe. And as a pastor and man of faith, I know that my faith

can't breathe until we transform our sadness into a faith-rooted movement for real police reform, working for the restoration of a broken criminal justice system.”

As citizens we must reserve the right to call into question certain outcomes in the criminal justice system, a system where race has mattered. However, secular and faith-based institutions or individual citizens will never reach consensus on the latest grand jury or future grand jury decisions on controversial cases involving police and citizen shoot outs. Monday morning quarterbacking will always call into question past judgments. Even incidents caught on Candid Camera or caught by camera-wearing police officers in the midst of arrests will be called into question based on subjective interpretations and context.

What should not be called into question are evidence-based facts that no public service institution on earth is perfect and some are far more imperfect than others. The degree of imperfections will be directly related to the unconscious prejudices, biases and racist thoughts we citizens have been programmed to carry, especially by thousands of hours of social indoctrination we receive through media and entertainment. For example, the reason the majority of us spend more money than we intend in grocery stores and at Christmas is because of the thousands of hours of commercial indoctrination to which we have been subjected. Advertisers know that commercial Indoctrination works. One cannot be exposed to television programs, movies, minority news casts, news articles, etc., and not think that such constant exposure does not frame, form and shape many of our thoughts and determinations about others.

What should not be called into question is the right to protest. Revisiting our history as a nation can help to inform our understanding of present protests. The mother country's royal leaders scratched their heads in disbelief when its colonial subjects protested as they did against what they felt were a series of unjust laws, policies and practices that weighed heavily on their lives. Colonialists felt they could not breathe because of the choke hold the mother country had on their finances and their future. Colonialists felt that their lives did not matter to the mother country. America's existence today is largely due to the colonial subjects of injustice who kept saying in many ways, “We can't breathe!

Thanks to the American Revolution protest has become normalized as a method to effectively address what for protesters have not being effectively and efficiently addressed. The Civil Rights Movement and all the benefits derived from it provided much needed breathing room for millions of minority Americans who suffered under the choke hold of racism, sexism, classicism, militarism and toxic environmentalism in low-income neighborhoods.

What should not be called into question is the moral right to disagree without victimizing ones opponent with the chokehold of political or racial correctness. African Americans who disagree with other African Americans over grand jury decisions regarding Michael Brown and Eric Garner are challenged by their moral conscience or faith values to give breathing room for differences of opinion. Since one of our protest chants is “All life matters” minorities and citizens of the majority community need to give each other breathing room to voice assessments and solutions in ways that do not dehumanize or denigrate others.

Faith-leaders are called by faith's conscience to contribute to movements dedicated to providing breathing room for people who are suffocating: suffering from neck holds or choke holds that interfere with their social and economic circulation and wellness.

Pastor Charles Mock
Community Baptist Church
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International Christian Fellowship for Mission Chicago Chapter, Inc.



By Sis. Wilma Jean Byrd



Sis. Wilma Jean Byrd sorting out gifts for the children.

Happy New Year and greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus the Christ. It is my pleasure to share with my Home Mission family and partner on the fantastic work that International Christian Fellowship for Mission (ICFM) is doing in the great City of Chicago. I am truly grateful for the thoughtfulness and support that Home Mission Board renders in helping the indigent.

During the Thanksgiving holiday, ICFM was able to feed over one hundred individuals and gave out fifty baskets and Turkey's.

Also during the Christmas holiday, ICFM partnered with First Bethel M.B.C., Pastor, Rev. Cornelius Parks. Pastor Parks was a blessing from God and a

great servant to have blessed ICFM ministry tremendously in helping to support kids in West Garfield community during this Christmas Season.

Faith truly opens doors to untold blessings. Faith is used to let God know that we trust Him in every situation. No matter how many failures we have had in our lives; no matter how many faults we have in our lives; or how imperfect we are, we can show God through our faith that we trust Him no matter what. God blessed our ministry collectively with over fifteen hundred gifts to touch and bless those who were less fortunate. We were excited, delighted, joyful and much love expressed in serving with the love of God. What a great time we had with the spirit of love in sharing. God loves a cheerful giver. We had a great, loving and fun time wrapping gifts, we had food, drinks and all the trimming on a glorious Friday night preparing to give with great joy.

We must understand that faith in God will render, supply, and give to us untold blessings and benefits. It is truly a blessing to serve, remember, only what we do for Christ will last. To gain friends, you must show yourself friendly.

Footprints of Ferguson and Beyond



*By Rev. Patrick H. Young
Pastor, First Baptist Church, East Elmhurst, NY*

On August 9, 2014, the nation's eyes were fixed on a city in the state of Missouri few had ever heard of... Ferguson. In disbelief, the nation witness a young man, Michael Brown (who was only 18 years old) gunned down senselessly by the hand of Ferguson Police Officer Darren Wilson.

The lack of justice shown towards this tragic incident unveiled once again, the footprints of racism, injustice and inequality on the landscape of American Society; Footprints that we thought have been covered up by the progress made through the civil rights era.

These same Footprints showed up in New York as we watched Eric Garner's life be taken from him and his family; at the hands of an aggressive NYPD Officer. Months later we experienced the ugly head of the injustice again by the judicial system with a no fault verdict in this case.

Like a bad movie, not long after; these same footprints would appear in Brooklyn, NY with the death of Akai Gurley, and in Cleveland, OH with the death of Tamir Rice.

Unfortunately, the impact of violence in the African-American Communities at the hand of law enforcement has reignited an atmosphere of distrust and disillusion with the law enforcement and judicial system of America.

Therefore, the Footsteps of the Faith Community in this 21st century must lend it's Prophetic Voice and demand legislation from Congress and enactment from the White House that ensure equal treatment under law for law enforcement and its officials who dare to violate the rights of a citizen of these United States.

These Footsteps must ensure every state mandates legislation that require adequate and intentional training for all law enforcement officers.

The Footsteps of the Faith community must make restoring our community a priority. We must provide ministries that reach those who are in the gang culture and victims of gang violence. We must develop economic programs that will provide jobs and job training for our youth. The Faith Community must become the center of hope and healing for those who are broken and bewildered in life.

The Faith Community must Turn Up!!



Community and members of the faith community in Bethlehem, PA attend the Bethlehem NAACP's Stand for Justice Prayer Rally held December 7, 2014 at Bethlehem City Hall.



Lowbar Publications



By Rev. Calvin C. Barlow, Jr.

Below you will find three books published by Lowbar Publications and written by our home mission board member, Rev. Calvin C. Barlow, Jr.

Preparing Your Church for Pastoral Leadership

ISBN: 9780615318745

Page Count: 76

Price: \$6.95

Binding: Perfect

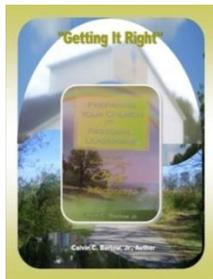
Bound/Paperback

Category: Administration,
Religion,

Available: Yes

In Print: Yes

Book Description: The author uses divine vision, pastoral experience and research to assist pastors and church members through transitional moments without chaos. This is a book for pastors and church members who seek understanding over confusion and growth over stagnation. This is an excellent resource for church development. It covers the functionality of the church's administration while addressing every aspect of the church life to enable spiritual and physical development. The book has examples and applications that can be used by the church for calling a pastor. In addition, the book has seven chapters with a review session at the end of each chapter. It can be used as a Bible study, textbook or a supplemental textbook for church administration.



Prophetic Building (A Nightmare or Vision)

An Insight into the Building Dilemmas

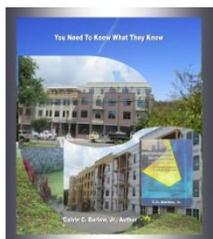
ISBN: 9780976417415

Page Count: 126

Price: \$10.00

Binding: Perfect

Bound/Paperback



Category: Building Trade, Home Improvement

Available: Yes

In Print: Yes

Book Description: Too often, we attempt to make our decisions on that which is seen. This is true when it comes to building, but the success or failure of your building initiative starts before the architect lifts his or her pen and before the general contractors look at your plans. Character and integrity belong to the person who holds the pen and not the pen. Prophetic Building (A Nightmare or Vision seeks to explore the major aspects involved in a building initiative while equipping the owner with a general knowledge of responsibilities, contractual understandings, and discernments of the building process. This book was written for homeowners, churches, and other property owners.

Grace Building Wealth One Penny at a Time

ISBN: 978-0-9827151-4-7

Page Count: 1 - 61

Price: \$5.00

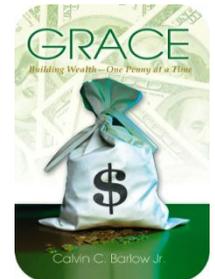
Binding: Perfect Bound/Paperback

Category:

Available: Yes

In Print: Yes

Book Description: Grace is a reflection of the author's business experiences and missed investment opportunities, cast in the light of twenty-first-century possibilities. Grace uses biblical principles to encourage people to create wealth, and it undergirds global economic realities. Grace presents the theory—based upon observational facts—that a reasonable, healthy, and rational person has at his or her disposal the tools to create wealth. The book will challenge its readers to choose lifestyles that allow for them and their families to create wealth. Grace is for persons who are serious about building wealth for themselves and their children.



Books can be purchased at local bookstores, Amazon, Barnes & Noble and

<http://Shop.Lowbarbookstore.com>

For more details and a list of other books published by Lowbar Publishing Company, please visit our bookstore at the above website.

National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc. - Home Mission Board

All information verified against Bank statements

September 1 through December 31, 2014

General Operating Account					Beg Balance	9/1/2014
Month	Income	W/D & Debits	Checks	Service Fees	Ttl Debt(s)	\$17,470.52
September	\$34,611.99	\$ (14,096.45)	\$(31,299.66)	\$ -	\$(10,784.12)	\$ 6,686.40
October	\$11,719.35	\$ (1,361.50)	\$ (8,127.81)	\$ -	\$ 2,230.04	\$ 8,916.44
November	\$ 466.66	\$ (1,693.58)	\$ (5,100.00)	\$ -	\$ (6,326.92)	\$ 2,589.52
December	\$ 5,217.04	\$ (2,458.83)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,758.21	\$ 5,347.73
Totals	\$52,015.04				\$(12,122.79)	\$ 5,347.73

NBC Ecclesiastical Endorser Account					Beg Balance	9/1/2014
Month	Income	W/D & Debits	Checks	Service Fees	Ttl Debt(s)	\$ 1,019.30
September	\$ 500.00	\$ (756.08)	\$ -	\$ (18.00)	\$ (274.08)	\$ 745.22
October	\$ 7,100.00	\$ (281.25)	\$ (3,333.33)	\$ (15.00)	\$ 3,470.42	\$ 4,215.64
November	\$ 7,000.00	\$ (27.26)	\$ -	\$ (18.00)	\$ 6,954.74	\$11,170.38
December	\$ 1,450.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (15.00)	\$ 1,435.00	\$12,605.38
Totals	\$16,050.00				\$ 11,586.08	\$29,755.92

Respectfully Submitted
Rev. Shawn L. Buckhanan, Treasurer

State Quarterly Contributions September 10, 2014 through December 31, 2014

ALABAMA

Aimwell Baptist Church	Dr. Michael Jackson	Mobile	AL	\$ 500.00
Alabama State Missionary Baptist Convention	Dr. Vernon Swift	Selma	AL	\$ 5,000.00
Bro. Otis Fryer		Lisman	AL	\$ 20.00
Christian Fellowship Baptist Church	Dr. Robert L. Webb, Sr.	Livingston	AL	\$ 500.00
Dr. Bennie Ford		Lisman	AL	\$ 20.00
Sis. Meratha B. Webb		Livingston	AL	\$ 20.00
Sis. Pat Fryer		Lisman	AL	\$ 20.00

ARKANSAS

Barraque Street Baptist Church	Rev. Robert J. Thompson	Pine Bluff	AR	\$ 500.00
Greater St. Paul Baptist Church	Dr. George E. Smith	Camden	AR	\$ 50.00
Mount Pleasant Baptist Church	Dr. William R. Boone	North Little Rock	AR	\$ 1,300.00

ARIZONA

Dr. Warren H. Stewart, Sr.		Phoenix	AZ	\$ 400.00
First Institutional Baptist Church	Dr. Warren H. Stewart, Sr.	Phoenix	AZ	\$ 4,999.98

CALIFORNIA

Beth Eden Baptist Church	Dr. Gilette O. James	Oakland	CA	\$	200.00
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COLORADO

Emmanuel Missionary Baptist Church	Rev. Cleveland A. Thompson	Colorado Springs	CO	\$	7,850.13
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DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Dr. Angelique Walker-Smith		Washington	DC	\$	600.00
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GEORGIA

Beulah Baptist Church	Min. Veon Williams	Camilla	GA	\$	150.00
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ILLINOIS

Dr. Derrick Jones, Sr.		South Holland	IL	\$	200.00
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Dr. O. C. Morgan		Chicago	IL	\$	100.00
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New Gideon Missionary Baptist Church	Rev. O. C. Dockery	Chicago	IL	\$	520.00
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Rev. Tony Dumas	Evening Star Baptist Church	Chicago	IL	\$	50.00
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Salem Baptist District Association	Rev. Carsie Barnes	Chicago	IL	\$	1,000.00
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Sis. Helen Parker	Evening Star Baptist Church	Chicago	IL	\$	20.00
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Sis. Wilma Jean Byrd		Villa Park	IL	\$	100.00
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Zion Missionary Baptist Church	Dr. Samuel W. Hale, Jr.	Springfield	IL	\$	300.00
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INDIANA

Dr. Michael Griffin	Jerusalem Baptist Church	Fort Wayne	IN	\$	175.00
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Sis. Judy Whitaker		Fort Wayne	IN	\$	20.00
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Sis. Cook	Community Baptist Church	Fort Wayne	IN	\$	5.00
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Sis. Anita Merriweather	Community Baptist Church	Fort Wayne	IN	\$	10.00
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MARYLAND

Minister Leslie Malacki		Waldorf	MD	\$	25.00
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Rev. Roosevelt Bell		Temple Hills	MD	\$	100.00
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MASSACHUSETTS

Canaan Baptist Church of Christ	Rev. W. C. Watson	Springfield	MA	\$	100.00
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Christian Faith Baptist Church		Springfield	MA	\$	50.00
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Joy Missionary Baptist Church, Inc.	Rev. Samuel Campbell	Brockton	MA	\$	100.00
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Mt. Zion Baptist Church	Dea. Steve Powell	Springfield	MA	\$	100.00
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New Hope Baptist Church	Rev. Kenneth Simms	Boston	MA	\$	600.00
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St. John's Missionary Baptist Church	Rev. Carlton Jones	Roxbury	MA	\$	100.00
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United Baptist Convention MA, RI & NH	Rev. Amos L. Bailey	Springfield	MA	\$	850.00
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MICHIGAN

Baptist Missionary and Education State Con.		Detroit	MI	\$	1,300.00
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Bro. Joe N. Crait, Sr.		Ypsilanti	MI	\$	50.00
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Bro. Nathaniel Calhoun		Saginaw	MI	\$	25.00
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Dr. Ceylon Williams-Bettis		Saginaw	MI	\$	25.00
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Greater Community Church		Detroit	MI	\$	100.00
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Greater True Vine Baptist Church	Dr. Lee M. Bernard	Detroit	MI	\$	230.00
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Mount Nebo Baptist Church	Rev. Marcus L. Thomas, Sr.	Ecorse	MI	\$	50.00
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Right Way Baptist Church		Detroit	MI	\$	200.00
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Sanctuary Fellowship Baptist Church	Sis. Hazel Whitney	Detroit	MI	\$	200.00
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Second Ebenezer Baptist Church	Dr. Wallace Mills	Detroit	MI	\$	300.00
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Sis. Barbara J. Davis		Flint	MI	\$	25.00
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Sis. Bernice Toles		Detroit	MI	\$	25.00
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Sis. Gwendolyn Charleston		Flushing	MI	\$	20.00
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Sis. Hazel O. Whitney		Dearborn	MI	\$	300.00
Sis. Jean O. Smith		Saginaw	MI	\$	50.00
Sis. Sharon M. Floyd		Saginaw	MI	\$	50.00
Wolverine Baptist State Convention	Dr. Henry Fuller, Jr.	Saginaw	MI	\$	200.00
MISSOURI					
West Side Missionary Baptist Church	Rev. Ronald L. Bobo, Sr.	St. Louis	MO	\$	125.00
Unity Baptist Church		Kirkwood	MO	\$	50.00
NEW HAMPSHIRE					
New Fellowship Baptist Church	Dr. Bertha A. Perkins	Nashua	NH	\$	100.00
NEW MEXICO					
Dea. Glen Chelf		Albuquerque	NM	\$	25.00
NEW YORK					
Bro. Hershall Ginn		Cambria Heights	NY	\$	100.00
Eastern Baptist Association of NY, Inc.	Rev. Alvin Barnett	Garden City	NY	\$	1,000.00
First Baptist Church	Rev. Patrick Young	East Elmhurst	NY	\$	500.00
Good News Baptist Church	Rev. Isaiah Holland	Jamaica	NY	\$	200.00
Min. Nautochia Webb		St. Albans	NY	\$	100.00
Salem Missionary Baptist Church	Rev. James A. Thornton	Brooklyn	NY	\$	2,500.00
Sis. Cynthia Jiles		Jamaica	NY	\$	20.00
Sis. Joy Mock		Baldwin	NY	\$	20.00
Sis. Mable Mitchell		Flushing	NY	\$	25.00
NORTH CAROLINA					
Dr. Leonzo Lynch	Ebenezer Baptist Church	Charlotte	NC	\$	3,000.00
OKLAHOMA					
First Baptist Church		Guthrie	OK	\$	40.00
Oklahoma Baptist State Convention	Dr. Burnis Burrell	Valliant	OK	\$	500.00
Rev. Jeff R. Mitchell		Edmond	OK	\$	40.00
PENNSYLVANIA					
First Baptist Church of Darby	Dr. Raymond Merriweather	Darby	PA	\$	500.00
Mt. Carmel Baptist Church	Rev. Donald D. Moore	Philadelphia	PA	\$	500.00
First Zion Baptist Church	Rev. Frank Allen	Harrisburg	PA	\$	100.00
New Gethsemane Baptist Church	Rev. Samuel Jordan, Jr.	Philadelphia	PA	\$	1,000.00
Pennsylvania Baptist State Convention	Rev. Clifford Carter	Pittsburgh	PA	\$	100.00
Siloam Baptist Church	Rev. John H. West III	Norristown	PA	\$	2,500.00
Sis. Shirley Carter		Steelton	PA	\$	25.00
RHODE ISLAND					
Saint James Baptist Church	Rev. Sammy C. Vaughn	Woonsocket	RI	\$	100.00
SOUTH CAROLINA					
Dr. William T. Johnson		Sumter	SC	\$	100.00
First Providence Baptist Church	Rev. Dr. Alex Pope, Jr.	North Augusta	SC	\$	100.00
Friendship Baptist Church		Spartanburg	SC	\$	300.00
Morris Street Baptist Church	Rev. Leonard O. Griffin	Charleston	SC	\$	500.00
Mount Canaan Association		Trenton	SC	\$	500.00
Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church		Sumter	SC	\$	100.00
New First Missionary Baptist Church		Edista Island	SC	\$	100.00
Reedy Fork Baptist Church		Simpsonville	SC	\$	100.00
Rev. Anthony Wilson		Beech Island	SC	\$	50.00

Royal Baptist Church		North Charleston	SC	\$	100.00
Second Providence Baptist Church		North Augusta	SC	\$	500.00
TENNESSEE					
Annesdale Cherokee Baptist Church	Rev. Dwight Montgomery	Memphis	TN	\$	200.00
Castalia Baptist Church	Rev. Randolph M. Walker	Memphis	TN	\$	200.00
Christian United Baptist Church	Rev. J. L. Armstrong	Memphis	TN	\$	100.00
Greater New Bethel Missionary Baptist Church	Dr. Vernon Horner	Memphis	TN	\$	100.00
Lowbar Publishing Company	Bishop Calvin C. Barlow, Jr.	Nashville	TN	\$	100.00
Mt. Calvary Missionary Baptist Church	Rev. Kenny L. Anderson, Sr.	Columbia	TN	\$	300.00
Mt. Pisgah Baptist Church	Rev. Bassil Brooks	Memphis	TN	\$	300.00
New Bethel Missionary Baptist Church	Dr. Donald Ester	Germantown	TN	\$	150.00
New Mt. Zion Baptist Church	Dr. Luther R. Williams	Memphis	TN	\$	100.00
Riverside District Association	Dr. James L. Payne	Memphis	TN	\$	100.00
Second Missionary Baptist Church	Bishop Calvin C. Barlow, Jr.	Nashville	TN	\$	600.00
Tennessee Baptist M & E Convention	Dr. Marvin Mercer	Nashville	TN	\$	200.00
The Koinonia Baptist Church	Dr. Roosevelt T. Joyner	Memphis	TN	\$	100.00
WhiteHaven District Association	Rev. Brian E. Barlett, Sr.	Memphis	TN	\$	250.00
VIRGIN ISLANDS					
Virgin Islands Ministry	Dr. Bentley Thomas	St. Thomas	VI	\$	200.00
VIRGINIA					
Second Calvary Baptist Church	Dr. Geoffrey Guns	Norfolk	VA	\$	2,000.00
Shiloh Baptist Church	Rev. Keith I. Jones	Newport News	VA	\$	2,000.00
WEST VIRGINIA					
Sixteenth Street Baptist Church	Rev. Roy Terry	Huntington	WV	\$	500.00
WISCONSIN					
Providence Baptist Church		Milwaukee	WI	\$	500.00



NATIONAL BAPTIST CONVENTION USA, INC.

"Envision the Future Exceptionally"



Dr. Jerry Young, President
National Baptist Convention USA, Inc.

Mid-Winter Board Meeting – January 12-15, 2015

Jackson Convention Complex, 105 East Pascagoula Street, Jackson, MS 39201
(All events will be held at the Jackson Convention Complex)

Schedule of Events

Our Home Mission Board's Office and Board Meetings location will be in Room 207 and our Home Mission Booth will be located in Exhibit Hall A.

Highlights of the Mid-Winter Board Session

Monday, January 12, 2015

- 10:00 AM National Executive Committee Meeting
- 2:00 PM National Parent Board Meeting
- 6:45 PM National Inaugural Banquet – Dr. William J. Shaw, Preaching

Tuesday, January 13, 2015

- 9:00 AM National Official Opening Session
- 9:20 AM National Welcome Program
- 7:00 PM National Installation Service – Dr. Julius R. Scruggs, Preaching
- 9:30 PM Late Night Service

Wednesday, January 14, 2015

- 8:30 AM Home Mission Board Executive Committee Meeting, Room 207 – Complex Center**
- 9:00 AM National Regular Session
- 2:00 PM Home Mission Board Meeting, Room 207 – Complex Center**
- 9:30 PM Late Night Service

Thursday, January 15, 2015

- 9:00 AM National Regular Session
- Noon Closing of National Mid-Winter Board Meeting