

Flash Points



Issue 11, November 2017

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Ministry News

November is Stewardship Campaign Month. Please use your assigned envelopes for your tithes and offering to ensure that you receive proper credit for your giving. If you do not have your envelope with you, use one of the pew envelopes. Your offering is appreciated. Your pledge is welcome. Your tithe is encouraged.

- ☆ Officer's Day is on Sunday, **November 12**, at 3:00 p.m. A celebratory meal will be served after the Baptist Training Union (BTU) which will be in session at 12:00 p.m. Be sure to attend the 3:00 p.m. program and hear the dynamic Word of God from Rev. Dr. Winston C. Ridley, Jr. of Greater Mount Zion Baptist Church.
- ☆ Wanted, clean clothes in good condition for distribution at the Community Fair. Please donate your clothes (all sizes) for men, women and children to Trustees John Holland and William Thompson of the Coat and Sweater Ministry. The more you give, the more can be given!
- ☆ Time is running out! The 13th Annual Community Fair and Pre-Thanksgiving Dinner will be held on Saturday, **November 18**, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Members, ministries and friends are still needed to volunteer their time, talent and gifts in the preparation and presentation of this year's event. Help make this a memorable day of service. See Ms. Mary Jackson or any Community Fair members to sign up. Aid is also needed for the dinner portion of the Fair. See Mrs. Mary Samuels or Deaconess Ann Gilliard to help prepare or serve the meal. Please commit to the Fair and/or the Dinner immediately!
- ☆ Make plans to attend the Thanksgiving Day worship service on Thursday, **November 23**, from 9:00 a.m. until 10:00 a.m. The Combined Youth Choir will sing.
- ☆ The Family Week Ministry is sponsoring a family movie night on Friday, **November 24**, at 6:45 p.m. Come out and fellowship.
- ☆ The Missionary Ministry has its anniversary celebration on Sunday, **November 26**. The BTU starts at 12:00 p.m. and a delicious lunch will be provided at 1:00 p.m., prior to the 3:00 p.m. anniversary service. Don't miss this prestigious program.

In the House Spotlight

- ☆ Greetings to our November birthday babies: Deaconess Ernestine Hogue (November 2) Mrs. Millie Penny (November 6), Deaconess Yvonne Stewart (November 7), Miss Allyson Jones (November 17), Rev. Luci Horne (November 24), Ms. Vicki Fouch (November 24), Miss Melanie Matthews (November 26), Mr. Prince Jones, Jr. (November 27), Miss Tehjará McBride (November 27), Trustee Albert Smith (November 29), and Mr. Jovaé Jones (November 30).
- ☆ Miss Breana Carraway (daughter of Deacon Dyrel and Sharon Carraway) is a junior at Morgan State University and was accepted into Morgan State University Nursing Program. She has started her first clinical rotation and hopes to be a pediatric nurse. The family asks that the church keep Breana in prayer. Way to go, girl!
- ☆ Congratulations to Mrs. Loretta Wilson for having the most people in attendance on Homecoming Sunday. She won dinner for two and two tickets to see the Arena Stage play, "Native Gardens."

Help a Hero

Help overseas deployed members of the Armed Forces (Army, Navy, Air Force and Marines) unwind during their down time by sending popular books, DVD and video games. Visit the website <http://booksforsoldiers.com> to register on the organization's forum. You can also view troops request and can donate directly to service members.

Open Enrollment

It's time to review your insurance coverage and make any changes for 2018. **November 1 to January 12, 2018** is open enrollment deadline for people on the Affordable Care Act insurance plan. Medicare beneficiaries have from **November 1 to December 7** to make this decision. Here are a few things to consider as you make *your* choice.

- ☆ If you are young and healthy, look into a higher deductible plan. These plans usually have a much lower premium, potentially saving \$100 to \$200 every month.
- ☆ Consider a higher premium if you have a chronic illness; especially if it requires frequent procedures and/or lots of medication. Do some math first. Estimate a year's worth of health care visits and prescription costs, then add in the annual costs of the premiums. Calculate that for both the high- and low-deductible plans. You may be surprised which is cheaper.
- ☆ Check to see if your medication is covered by your plan. Don't assume every drug you're prescribed is covered. For example, if you take the antidepressant Abilify and it is not covered, the cost can be as much as \$1,000 a month of out-of-pocket expense.
- ☆ Don't automatically get vision and dental if you don't wear contacts or glasses, or have dental problems. Instead use your pre-tax health savings plan or your flex spending account. And, you can save a bundle in monthly vision premium by using one of the discount eyewear retailers.

Review your options. Compare high and low deductibles, and make your decision knowing that this is a choice that can be changed next year if your evaluation does not meet up to your expectations. Coverage can start as early as January 1, 2018. Lock your insurance down now before Congress takes it away!

Veterans Day Appreciation

Saturday, **November 11**, is Veterans Day. It is one of the few days that veterans and active military duty personnel are shown appreciation for their service to our country. One of the benefits is to enjoy a free meal offered by area eateries. Some of the participating restaurants are: Applebee's and Bob Evans, free meal from a limited menu; Cicis Pizza, free pizza buffet; Famous Dave's, free Two Meat Salute; Little Caesars, free \$5 lunch combo from 11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.; and Texas Roadhouse, free meal from 11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. Bring your military I.D. card and your appetite. Enjoy!

Thanks

The following are to be thanked for sharing information in this issue: Deaconess Sharon Carraway, Mrs. Chrisie Cobb, and Ms. Renita Melton.



BE A SHARE GIVER! Flash Points is a news sheet developed to point out activities in the church, accomplishments of its members, and opportunities available to all members of First Rising Mt. Zion. Please share your information with me at either of the contacts listed below. *"Will man rob God? Yet you are robbing me. But you say, 'How are we robbing thee?' In your tithes and offerings." Malachi 3:8 (RSV)*

Publication deadline is Sunday, November 21 for distribution on Sunday, December 4.

Send your Flash Point news to vivian.obianyo@gmail.com or leave a message at 301-322-4039.