

MISSION STAR

VOLUMN 18. ISSUE 4
DECEMBER 2018

Special Holiday Wishes

May your holidays be filled with much laughter and happiness. Other than Jesus, the best gifts of the season are family and friends. This season always has a very special touch of joy, peace and expressions of love. As we celebrate this Christmas, let us remember those who are less fortunate and may our blessings shower among them as well.

"Faith shines through amazing women like you. Like Ruth, you're always there for family and friends. Like Anna, you keep hope, even when it's hard to hang on to. Like Mary Magdalene, your life follows your heart."

(Hallmark card)



Have a Truly Blessed Holiday!

*Sister Jean H. Whitley
President*

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

"Here Am I, Send Me"	2
Missionary Society Anniversary	2
Stepping Down, But Not Stepping Out	2
Season's Greetings	3
The Bulletin Board	4
Science Tells Us	4
Let There Be Peace On Earth	4
Baby Jesus Word Search	4
T'was The Night Before Jesus Came	5
Birthday Celebrations	6
Greetings from Editorial Staff	6
Remembering Hazel Reese	6
Newsletter Correction	6
Scenes from 14th Annual Community Fair & Pre-Thanksgiving Dinner	6

Season's Greetings to All



Can you believe that we're about to ring in a New Year, 2019? As we say, "my, how time flies." That cliché reminds me of one part of the vision that our Pastor has for First Rising, and that is, "to seek the salvation of those in our community and in our close relationships." Time is flying; have we sought the salvation of those in our community and especially those in our family. Have we approached our family members in a non-confrontational way to share the good news or to refresh their memory that Jesus was born to die for our sins and that He is coming back for His church.

Continued on Page 3

EVENTS CALENDAR

- December 10 Founders Day
- December 22 Missionary Society Christmas Party
- December 25 Christmas Day Service
- December 30 Missionary Sunday & Dime-A-Meal
- December 31 Watch Night Service
- January 1 New Year's Day
- January 13 Mt. Bethel Baptist Association Meeting
- January 14-17 National Baptist Convention, Mid-Winter Board Meeting
- January 21-25 Progressive National Baptist Convention Mid-Winter Board Mtg.
- February 23 Body Meeting & Dime-A-Meal
- March 28-29 Lott Carey Spring Conf.

“HERE AM I, SEND ME”

(Isaiah 6:8b)



Missionary Dorothy E. Fowlkes is the daughter of a sharecropper in Keysville, Virginia and the oldest of eight children. She moved to the Washington, DC area with a job offer at the U. S. Department of State. Soon after relocating, Sister Fowlkes joined First Rising Mt. Zion Baptist Church under the leadership of Rev. Ernest R. Gibson, Sr. and joined the Choral Choir where she could use her God-given anointed gift to sing. As a little girl she sang in her hometown church choir with her late father who was Chairman of the Deacon Board. He would always have her stand beside him and sing. Even today she sings many of the songs he taught her. Thus, we was able to build confidence in singing before a small or large audience.

She retired from the U.S. Department of Energy in 2010 and is currently semi-retired and employed as a Substitute Teacher in the Archdiocese of Washington at Holy Family School.

She was appointed to lead the Annie Barnes Missionary Circle by our late President, Etta C. Gibson. The Circle has always been small in number but she declares, “If God be for us, He is more than the world against us.” She is also a substitute Sunday School teacher, as well as a “Teacher” for Adult Class Number 3 on Third Sundays of each month. In addition, she is President of the Senior Choral Choir and VP of the

Women’s Volunteer Missionary Chorus. Music is an integral part of her life. She thoroughly enjoys ministering with the Jubilee Majestic Concert Choir that includes membership from a variety of churches and denominations under the direction of Dr. Kirdell Minor of Washington, DC.

Sister Fowlkes is actively involved in her neighborhood Civic Association and the PG County Citizen Advisory Council. She firmly believes that if one lives in a neighborhood, one should not just “exist” but should be an integral part of the community. She adds, “And we can’t do that unless we become actively involved in what is happening around us.” She enjoys every minute of it. She is also a member of St. Paul’s College Alumni Association and the Washington Intercollegiate Association Chapter of the United Negro College Fund (UNICF).

She was blessed while married to birth two sons, William and Daryl. She is now the proud grandmother of four grandchildren – Lil’ Daryl, Leah, Isaiah and Anaiah. During her spare time, she loves to bowl and play scrabble. One of her favorite scriptures is Mathew 6:33 - “But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you.” Sister Fowlkes says, “To God be the glory for the things He has and is still doing in our lives.”

MISSIONARY SOCIETY MINISTRY ANNIVERSARY

On Sunday, November 25th, the Missionary Society Ministry celebrated its 66th Anniversary. The Theme was “One Body, Mind, and Spirit. Scriptures were Philippians 1:27 and 3:2-8. The guest speaker, Reverend Dr. Rita L. Twigg, of Dallas, Texas, delivered a soul searching message of hope that she titled “Even Now.” She challenged our faith to continue to believe that ‘in the midst of all that is going on in our world as well as in the church today’, God can still turn the situation around, if He chooses, EVEN NOW. We must trust Him knowing that He can. He is still in charge of everything. It was a very timely, spirit-filled, and inspiring message!

Evangelist Naomi Martin of the Master’s Touch Praise Ministries located in Temple Hills, Maryland was our guest Worship Leader. Some highlights included: Missionary Charge given by Lady Edna Owens; Time of Remembering former missionaries who have passed from labor to reward presented by the MUMS; as well as greetings from representatives from the LOTT Carey and Mt. Bethel Associations; the Baptist Convention of Washington, DC and Vicinity; and General Baptist Deacons Association of DC.

If you missed the celebration, you MISSED a treat! It was a GRAND celebration! But, there is good news! You can add the message to your library by purchasing a tape of the recording. Why not pick it up next Sunday. It will bless your body, mind and spirit! Congratulations to our Program Chair, Missionary Harriett A. Penny!

Prepared by: Sister Dorothy E. Fowlkes (Leader, Annie Barnes Circle)

STEPPING DOWN; BUT NOT STEPPING OUT

The Margaret Newell Circle, once known as the Christian Striver’s Circle, has been an important part of my being since 1978. In 2012, I was overjoyed to be consecrated as Circle Leader of this magnificent group of missionaries. It truly is a delight working and studying the Word of God with the members of my Circle. It, however, saddens me to announce that for health reasons I am stepping down from the leadership role, effective January 1, 2019. You may be assured, however, that while I am relinquishing my leadership role, my membership and desire to work for the Lord will continue.

I am forever grateful for the opportunity to have served as Circle Leader and the spiritual growth and friendships I obtained from this experience. My special thanks to the Margaret Newell Circle, fellow Circle Leaders and missionaries for your support over the years.

Have a Blessed Holiday Season!

Sister Anna Smith
Circle Leader

SEASONS GREETINGS

IMMANUEL – GOD WITH US.



CHRISTMAS IS THE CELEBRATION OF THE BIRTH OF JESUS, THE SAVIOUR OF MANKIND

And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shall call his name JESUS for he shall save his people from their sins. Matthew 1:21

Wishing our fellow Sisters in Christ a **“Very Merry Christmas”** and a **“Prosperous New Year.”**

May God Bless everyone throughout the coming “2019” year.

THE ETHEL DUDLEY / BESSIE WALKER MISSIONARY CIRCLE
Sister Annie White, Circle Leader

- Geraldine Ford • Deaconess Lillian Jones • Ruby Morgan
- Barbara Walker • Mary Jackson • Grace Mims • Gloria Veney

*Thanks be unto God for
his unspeakable gift.
2 Corinthians 9:15*

Continued from Page 1, Seasons Greetings to All

Ask them the question, do you want to be in that number when Jesus comes back? If the answer is “yes,” that will be your opportunity to offer them the gift of salvation. Don’t let another year fly by without offering that perfect gift.

With the love of Christ, I wish you all a Very Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

First Lady Linda Young

The Frances McMullin Circle thanks Sis. Pricilla Coleman for her attendance at the 138 National Baptist Convention, in Minneapolis, Minnesota on September 3 - 7, 2018.

Our sick and distressed were sent cards during the year

*The Frances McMullin Circle
wishes everyone a blessed
and safe holiday!*

Virginia Robinson, Circle Leader

John 3:16

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.



BibleStudyTools.com

The Breakfast Ministry of First Rising thanks God for allowing our ministry to serve for another year. We send greetings to our beloved church family, wishing you a happy holiday season, and thanking you for your support and encouragement.

God Bless.

*Dorothy Wells-Fowlkes
Chair, Breakfast Ministry*

From the Heart of God To Yours

To our very special leaders, I would like to share these words with you.

God is not unjust!

He will not forget your work,

And labor of love which you have shown toward

His name, in that you have ministered to the saints, and do minister.

And we desire that each of you show the same diligence to the

Full assurance of hope until the end. (Hebrews 6:10,11)

J. H. Whitley



THE BULLETIN BOARD

◆ A church bus trip is planned to see the play "JESUS" at the SIGHT AND SOUND THEATRE in Lancaster, PA on Tuesday, April 16. The trip includes a ticket to the play, a family style meal at the Plain and Fancy Farm Restaurant and shopping. Tickets donations are \$70 for children age 3 to 12, and \$110 for those above age 12. A payment plan is available. Trip sponsors are:

Ethel Dudley/Bessie Walker Missionary Circle
 Willa Mae Hinton/Lucy Davis Missionary Circle
 Flower Ministry

Contact Mary Jackson, Gloria Veney or Barbara Boyette for more information.

◆ In observance of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration, First Rising attends the MLK Shabbat at the Washington Hebrew Congregation, 3925 Macomb Street, NW, Washington, DC. Plan to attend on Friday, January 18, 2019, from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. The event is informative and is a wonderful dedication to Rev. King. It is for all ages. Call the church to reserve transportation.

Science tells us that we need at least 4 basic elements to survive:

1. Water
2. Air
3. Food
4. Light

And look what the Bible tells us about Jesus:

1. I am the Living Water.
2. I am the Breath of Life.
3. I am the Bread of Life.
4. I am the Light of the World.

Science was right, we need Jesus to live.

FB.com/Gods411

Let There Be Peace On Earth



Let there be peace on earth
 and let it begin with me
 Let There Be Peace on Earth
 The peace that was meant to be

With God as our Father
 Brothers all are we
 Let me walk with my brother
 In perfect harmony.

Let peace begin with me
 Let this be the moment now.
 With ev'ry step I take
 Let this be my solemn vow;

To take each moment and live
 Each moment in peace eternally
 Let there be peace on earth
 and let it begin with me.

Baby Jesus Word Search

Christmas is a very joyous holiday for Christians all around the world. This holiday marks the celebration of the birth of God's son Jesus. It is celebrated by attending church and the giving of gifts to others, just as God gave us the gift of his Son, Jesus.

Directions:

Find all the words in the word list. Words are hidden in straight lines, going frontwards, backwards and diagonally.



Word List

ANGEL
 BABY
 BETHLEHEM
 BIRTH
 DONKEY
 GIFT
 GLORY
 GOD
 HEAVEN
 HOLY
 INNKEEPER
 JESUS
 JOSEPH
 KING
 MANGER
 MARY
 MERCY
 PEACE
 REST
 SAVIOUR
 SHEPHERDS
 SON
 STAR
 VIRGIN
 WISE MEN

O	B	B	G	E	P	O	S	S	O	N	R	Y	Y	O
C	P	I	E	I	V	H	V	G	V	E	X	B	S	O
T	Z	E	R	T	F	D	C	I	P	N	A	R	P	V
O	G	Z	A	T	H	T	O	E	R	B	Q	H	H	U
C	B	O	C	C	H	L	E	N	J	G	M	T	R	O
G	C	N	A	C	E	K	E	S	K	O	I	J	H	M
O	Q	F	I	E	N	N	H	A	E	S	N	I	A	
D	R	S	P	N	E	E	J	L	E	V	Y	E	E	R
K	E	U	I	M	V	H	E	Y	Y	M	I	Q	P	Y
I	S	Y	E	A	R	G	R	C	U	J	H	O	E	H
N	T	S	E	E	N	O	R	Y	F	C	E	L	U	J
G	I	H	G	A	L	E	E	C	A	R	Z	S	C	R
W	A	N	H	G	M	Q	T	C	I	J	W	G	U	Z
I	A	H	O	L	Y	S	T	A	R	M	P	K	J	S
M	M	J	U	C	D	S	H	E	P	H	E	R	D	S

'Twas The Night Before Jesus Came'
written by Unknown Author

*'Twas the night before Jesus came and all through the house
 Not a creature was praying, not one in the house.
 Their Bibles were lain on the shelf without care
 In hopes that Jesus would not come there.*

*The children were dressing to crawl into bed.
 Not once ever kneeling or bowing a head.
 And Mom in her rocker with baby on her lap
 Was watching the Late Show while I took a nap.*

*When out of the East there arose such a clatter.
 I sprang to my feet to see what was the matter.
 Away to the window I flew like a flash,
 Tore open the shutters and threw up the sash!*

*When what to my wondering eyes should appear
 But angels proclaiming that Jesus was here.
 With a light like the sun sending forth a bright ray
 I knew in a moment this must be THE DAY!*

*The light of His face made me cover my head
 It was Jesus! returning just like He had said.
 And though I possessed worldly wisdom and wealth,
 I cried when I saw Him in spite of myself.*

*In the Book of Life which He held in His hand
 Was written the name of every saved man.
 He spoke not a word as He searched for my name;
 When He said "it's not here" my head hung in shame.*

*The people whose names had been written with love
 He gathered to take to His Father above.
 With those who were ready He rose without a sound.
 While all the rest were left standing around.*

*I fell to my knees, but it was too late;
 I had waited too long and thus sealed my fate.
 I stood and I cried as they rose out of sight;
 Oh, if only I had been ready tonight.*

*In the words of this poem the meaning is clear,
 The coming of Jesus is drawing near.
 There's only one life and when comes the last call
 We'll find that the Bible was true after all!*

MISSION STAR



Published quarterly by the Missionary Society
 First Rising Mt. Zion Baptist Church
 602 N Street, NW
 Washington, DC 20001

Rev. Oran W. Young, Pastor
 Sis. Jean H. Whitley, President
 Sis. Odessa White, Editor-in-Chief

Copy Editors
 Sis. M. Louise Fleming
 Sis. Teresa Hamm-Wooten
 Sis. Harriet Tweedy

Reporters
 Circle Leaders, Directors, Body Members

Pictures
 Photography Ministry, Sis. Mary Jackson, Chair

Phone: (O) 202-289-4480
 (H) 301-350-3223

Email: (O) missionstar@firsrising.org
 (H) owhite3223@aol.com

Deadline to submit articles for next issue: March 1, 2019

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

December 1	Kyle Ford	January 14	Frances Claiborne
December 1	Zymia Miller	January 15	Darlene Gaither
December 3	Tamara G. McRae	January 15	Laryn Reid
December 11	Delores Bennett	January 16	Jean Whitley
December 24	Avis Cook	January 17	Vanessa Jones
December 25	Geraldine Green	January 26	Mary Washington
December 27	Eula Jackson	January 28	Barbara Walker
December 28	Katie Crawford	January 31	Mattie James
December 30	Diane Jones-Washington	January 31	Ruby Morgan
January 1	Virginia McCray	February 14	Ivy Thomas
January 3	Carrie Johnson	February 15	Darlene Perry
January 4	Debbie Smoot	February 16	Loretta Wilson
January 7	Lela Banks		

Another year older is also another year of learning to pray, to love, and to feel God's grace. (Shutterfly.com)



CORRECTION: September 2018 Issue of Mission Star, page 4. The name shown on the memorial should have indicated "Hazel Williams" and not Ethel Williams. Apologies are extended to the Williams families and friends.

