Dear CBCGM family, this edition of the newsletter is somewhat abbreviated because of the rescheduling of the Deacons and Leadership Councils. We will give a full accounting of the outcomes in our March edition.

UNITY SUNDAY Worship
I once again offer gracious thanks to God for the second UNITY SUNDAY of the Year! I felt inspired and enthused by the spirit-filled worship and congregational reception of the morning message: “Getting God’s House in Order: “Regulating Worship” (1 Timothy 2:1-10). One important emphasis of the message was that celebrating, utilizing and encouraging a variety of worship styles and formats within the church can help us to deepen and appreciate our own spiritual and cultural contribution to the church universal. As for the Apostle’s Creed, we will use the traditional reading on our next Unity Sunday. I would also like to thank the Deacons and Choir for their inspiring contributions to the worship. The women deacons did an excellent job offering the Lord’s Supper. We celebrate the equality of ministry at CBCGM. As far as I know, we are the only Baptist church in the area that has women deacons. Let’s keep them encouraged! Lastly, how could I forget our faithful ushers? They, to be sure, help to “regulate worship” by helping to keep order as worshippers enter into the sanctuary. Keep up the good work! NOTA BENE (“NOTE WELL“): Every first Sunday is now UNITY SUNDAY – Sunday School starts at 8:00 AM and Worship starts at 9 AM!
Bible Study: Ash Wednesday Service/Lenten Bible Study
On this past Wednesday (Feb. 6th) we held our Bible Jeopardy contest. Sister Imani Perry, Sister Starda Kelly-Howard and I formulated the questions based upon the bible basics study guide. Brother Richard Stephens was our scorekeeper. We divided the class into two groups and as providence would have it, there was a tie. Many participants remarked how much fun was had and also how much real learning took place. We will have our next Bible Jeopardy in the fall of the year. On this coming Wednesday, February 13th, we will have our third-annual Ash Wednesday service staring at 6:30pm, which will initiate our Lenten Bible Study. I encourage all of CBCGM to come our and participate in both the Ash Wednesday service and the Lenten Study. Come out and grow in the knowledge and grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ!

Black History Month
I could not close without mentioning Black History Month. I would encourage us to find a book or do an internet search on some noteworthy figure of our history who can serve as an exemplary model for us emulate. You might discover, as I have, that there have been so many figures of our past that have overcome some of the same struggles and challenges that we face. Let’s allow them to speak to and instruct us in our walk today! Let us also remember our Black History Month celebration. Our dynamic speaker will be our own, Sister Thelma Sias. I’m certain that we are all in for a treat!

Until next month, may God bless and keep you!