

This is the year of Abundant Release

Greetings to all the saints in the mighty name of Jesus Christ!

This is the year of Abundant Release! Bishop James has declared this to be the theme for 2017. We are anticipating a great move of God in the lives of His people. There is nothing that can stop God from blessing our lives. For some us, we are in a situation that seems impossible to come out of. We have focused so much on the circumstances and neglected to see how big our God is in comparison to it. What we are dealing with is only temporary. Things will not remain the way they are. We have to look forward to the great things that lie ahead. We have to live with the expectation that God is about to do something wonderful in our lives even if we can't see it right now. We must be ready at all times to receive the abundant overflow. Let this theme resonate with you and every time the enemy tries to show you otherwise, lift your hands and give God thanks that this is your year of abundant release!

I love you all & God Bless you!
First Lady Rosenda James



The Power of Unity

Greetings to all the saints!

First, I would like to thank the WOK Family for their contributions to the newsletter each month. This would not be possible without each and every one of you! It is nice to see everyone join together as one unit in order to accomplish one goal. There is so much power in unity! There is nothing the devil fears more than when Christians come together as one. That is why he works diligently to bring separation and division within the body of Christ. He knows that a kingdom divided against itself cannot stand.

When there is disunity and disharmony, then the body of Christ is crippled and will no longer be effective. The enemy will bring disunity through gossip, backbiting, dissension, division and the like. He will use these things to put a wedge between you and your brothers and sisters in Christ. These are all distractions that would take us further away from unity. When the people of Babylonia came together to build the tower of Babel, God said, "'Nothing they plan to do will be impossible for them!' They had the wrong heart, but they were united. As a result, God had to step in and confound their language so that they would not be able to understand each other. This would put a stop to their plans! They would no longer be able to accomplish their goal. That is the power of unity!

Let's all make it a priority to become a united front and not contribute to anything that would bring division and disunity. Together we can accomplish great things for the Kingdom of God. There is no telling how far we can go, if we do it together. We can become a mighty force on this planet when we are unified!

Have an awesome February!
Abundant Blessings,
Pastor Bridget





Women's March of 2017: Where do we stand?

The Women's March was a worldwide protest that took place on January 21, 2017 with the central protest in the heart of Washington D.C. The protest was started by a grassroots organization that was looking to fight for equal rights for all women all around the world during the 2017 presidential election. The organization recent social and political activity was done with hope and belief that president elect, Donald Trump, would step down from his position as president as many believed wasn't suited for the position. Donald during his campaign was no stranger to very controversial topics and was constantly under fire for a number of contentious and contestable statements he made during the presidential race. Many of his controversial statements were directed towards members of the immigrant/minority and female population and caused a public uproar in America and internationally as well. It was particularly his misogynistic comments towards women over the years that caused many women to speak out and protest against him during his campaign. It baffled many Americans that someone so unapologetically controversial could hope to run for president of one of the most powerful and multicultural countries in the world.

The final outcome of the election left many people, even Canadians, worried about who would win. On November 8th, 2016, America's fate was sealed as Donald Trump would become their next president.

Although this wasn't the outcome many were hoping for, it didn't stop people from speaking out about be treated equally and fairly in the country they call home. In January just after the presidential inauguration, according to data compiled by the University of Denver, over 3.3 million people participated in over 500 marches in solidarity with the Women's March at Washington. Researchers claim that it was the largest demonstration in US history and estimates show that 1 of every 100 Americans participated in the march that day (Haltiwanger, 2017). A number of female and male celebrities also spoke out and took part in the protest as well. It is believed that this protest also sparked over 673 other female lead protests worldwide within the same weekend. In Toronto, organizers estimated that over 50,000 people participated in the Women's March on January 21st, 2017 in solidarity with our friends south of the border (Rankin, 2017).



*Imagine how God can move through us when we band
together in his name to help this nation.*

As an advocator for women's rights I can't help but celebrate in the success of this protest and can only hope that it will bring about some form of positive change. But then this brings me to another question-- where does the church stand in today's politics? The agenda of man is being pushed quite heavily, but where does God's agenda stand in all of this? I think the church has become too quiet in a critical time where their voices need to be heard. God is looking for a church that will represent him in every area of society and I sit back and wonder when will the church be ready to stand up. As I write this to you, I write this to myself as well, and I wonder if I myself am really doing enough to help spread God's agenda in my own community. Christianity is the most practiced religion in the world with a population of about 2.1 billion people currently practicing. Maclean's author Aaron Hutchins states, "With Christianity on a global rise- as one example, there could be 220 million Christians in China by 2050" (Hutchins, 2015). When you look at the facts more closely it looks as though the odds are in our favour, yet it seems like there is no place for God in our society anymore.

Nowadays it's better to be politically correct then to rely upon the Godly principles that our society was built on. When I look at how a grassroots organization can unite so many women in solidarity, why can't we as Christian women do the same? The Women of the Kingdom between Durham and Downsview is made up of at least 600 members and I believe that God has positioned us in 2017 to be a positive force in our communities. Imagine how God can move through us when we band together in his name to help this nation. Our founder, First Lady Rosenda James, has laboured a countless number of years to make sure that Revival Time Women of the Kingdom remain a powerful and relevant source in our surrounding community. It is now our time to make sure that her legacy is carried forward and that God once again is able to reign amongst his people. So let us take a page of out of this protest's book and take a stand for the things that matter in our lives. If God be for us than who can be against us! Together let us win back this nation in the name of Jesus Christ!

~ Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit (Matthew 28:19 – NIV). ~

It Makes Sense to Trust God

BY KATHY LEWIS



Fear and anxiety are inevitable, ranging from severe to chronic, a non-liberating defence. They are dead weights. Like other emotions, they are inherent, like

our ability to breathe; however, we do not inhale toxic air willfully. At times, we open our windows to detoxify our homes and offices or even our cars if they are stuffy. We take our vehicles to the garage to get them checked when we smell fumes, a sign that something has gone wrong. Further, some of us are very sensitive to mild scent or fragrance in general. We feel stifling or have significant allergic reactions. Whenever we find ourselves in situations where we are gasping for air, we desperately try to swim to the surface trying to breathe freely. Some say fear and anxiety are an automatic response, a defence mechanism against the unknown. However, this is a masked security, camouflage, a trap to lower us into the pit of despair. It is a senseless hope, a hopeless hope. There is a Jamaican proverb that goes: when people don't like you, they give you a basket to carry water. Well, in this case, it is Satan giving us a basket to carry water, our inevitable failure. To be blunt, it is nonsensical grabbing air. It is illogical. We shouldn't try grabbing onto air because it is an impossible task. Trust in God. He is our cushion to fall on. Otherwise, we will keep floating until we finally hit ground zero, asphalt. How do we allow God to cushion us? We swap the thin air for His embrace. Let go, and let God. Our hope is secured. It is this hope that liberates us.

Be Encouraged

BY SIS WINSOME

May someone be encouraged and know that God still answers your prayers. Never give up, never doubt him, just keep pressing on, there is a light at the end of the tunnel. I know, it continues to work for me and my daughter when she was going through her time of turmoil. Trust God and wait and he will come though for you. May someone be encouraged.

Psalms 27:4 "Wait I say on the Lord: be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart."

A Moment of Reflection

BY SIS SHARMAINE

As I stood at the sink washing up a few dishes after dinner last night, deep in the tunnel of my thoughts, I heard a small voice from behind me saying, 'Sharmaine, you're getting very old!' That shook me back into the reality that surrounded me; the kids playing and one of the 4-year-olds, reminding me that I am a year older today! She didn't stop there, 'You will soon have old dogs, be eating cereal and drinking coffee!' I burst into laughter because she was actually describing her 60-year-old grandmother!

Wow... the innocence of a child can paint a picture that depict their concept of understanding!

In the silence of my quiet time, I reflected on what forty years of life has been for me! I conclude that God is great and greatly to be praised! He has kept me through struggles and troubles that should have killed me! He has kept me through false happiness and loneliness that should have sunken me into depressive rot of no return but He saw worth in me, when others saw nothing worthy!

Today I rest at a place of total gratitude unto God for sparing my life to see another birthday! I've had some good days, had some hills to climb, had some weary days and some lonely nights! But when I look around and I think things over, I can truly say that all my good days outweigh my bad days, I won't complain! I give God praise!



IN THE SPIRIT OF NAOMI

Serenade the Soul

BY LEILA SPRINGER LIFE COACH, AUTHOR AND PUBLIC SPEAKER

This past weekend I heard a song that was probably familiar to everyone in the room but me. The words of that song so gripped my heart that to this day I am still singing it over and over as it continues to serenade my soul.

If you stop for a moment and listen to a bird as it chirps you will undoubtedly hear the voice of nature, the sound of music in its purest form. In the book of Genesis 1: on the fifth day God said let the birds increase on the earth. Is it possible that God wanted music in the world from the very start?

Music plays an important role in our lives as it has an incredible charm to calm the agitated heart and fill the soul with delight. There is a type of music for every soul. From the Caribbean we lean towards calypso, soca, or reggae.

Perhaps you don't fancy any of these but you somehow gravitate towards classical music or traditional hymns. Maybe your favourite music is jazz or a more contemporary sound. If you are like me the sound is important but not all important, you like to pay close attention to the lyrics that can sometimes float in your memory for days after hearing them because the music has touched you in a deep and profound way, like that song did to me on Saturday.

Reflecting on the story of David in the Bible you will find that Music was used to calm the trouble soul as David played the harp for Saul to prevent him from losing his mind. We are often encouraged to listen to the sound of the

ocean if we are feeling depressed or stressed after a rough day at work. The ocean makes great musical sound that no one can duplicate, it is just unique and very therapeutic.

The psalms were written not to be read but to be sung in the temple in the presence of the Lord to bring peace and serenity to a soul in distress or bring joy and exuberance to enable you to praise God in the highest. Whatever you think, you cannot deny the importance of music in the lives of human beings and especially in the body of Christ. Music is one of God's greatest gifts, so bathe yourself in the music you love. Think of God as the great conductor, the ultimate musician. Music and worship fit naturally together. Let music lift your thoughts and emotions to God. The next time you enjoy your favourite music, thank God for it. Ask him to speak to you through a song, a hymn, or one of nature's melodies.

*And the night shall be filled with music,
And the cares that infest the day
Shall fold their tents like the Arabs,
And as silently steal away*
H.W. Longfellow

Prayer Corner

BY MARGARET MCKENZIE

This time of the year always reminds me that spring is near; when every plant life in God's creation is beginning to show some life in the farmer's nurseries. Farmers sow in the plant seeds in their nursery preparing for a new crop.

In many ways, we ought to be like a new bud as believers preparing to become much deeper in good soil to know Christ Jesus much more than the years before. In the book of (Jeremiah 32:41) God said he will rejoice over Israel to do them good and he will plant them in the land surely with his whole heart and his soul.

In the book of (Philippians 3:10) The apostle Paul said he wants to know Christ more and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of his sufferings being made conformable unto his death.

As the months' progress in this New Year we hope and trust that there will be a great change in us for God's Kingdom. We pray dear Lord help us to sow seed of righteousness where we will yield a good crop of blessings not only for us Lord but for all our generations to come.



A Little Black Canadian History

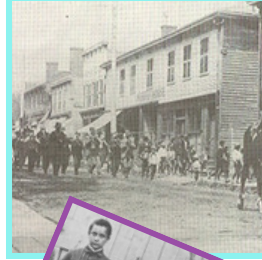
BY LALAA COMRIE

The debate surrounding the observance of Black History month has taken place for years. The truth is that Black history is Canadian history but the reality is that Black Canadian history is not taught in schools and has been largely left out of the dialogue of this country. That is the distinct reason why Black History Month must continue to be observed.

The accomplishments and sacrifices of Black Canadians is a large part of Canadian history and plays an intricate role in how this country was built.

Black history month has been celebrated across Canada since the 1950's when the Canadian Negro Women's Association brought the celebration to Toronto, Ontario. What began as a weekly observance in an attempt to share the accomplishments of Black Canadians throughout history has grown into a month of awareness.

The first person of African descent came to Canada over 400 years ago, in 1604. He was a man named Mathieu Da Costa, who reportedly arrived with French explorers and worked as an interpreter. Da Costa travelled as a free man and was invaluable in forming a link with the Mik'mag people.



Slavery existed in Canada from 1628 until 1793 when it was abolished. The first known slave brought to Canada from West Africa, was a young boy known as Olivier LeJeune, named by his owner, who was a French priest.

In 1793, the Abolition Act was passed in Upper Canada, now known as Ontario. This law freed slaves aged 25 and over and made it illegal to bring slaves into Upper Canada. Consequently, Upper Canada became a safe haven for runaway slaves. The Abolition Act also made Canada the first jurisdiction in the British Empire to move toward the abolition of slavery.

In 1995, Toronto Area MP Jean Augustine introduced a motion which was passed unanimously by the House of Commons to recognise Black History Month across Canada.

Black History Month is an opportunity to recognize the past and present contributions that African Canadians make to the lives of Canadians and to Canadian history as a whole. To read more about Black Canadian History and some of the obstacles Black Canadians face today visit:
<http://byblacks.com/news/opinion/item/759-5-biggest-challenges-blacks-face-in-canada>

John 7:24 - Judge not according to the appearance, but judge righteous judgment



Women in the Word is scheduled the last Friday of every month.

We look forward to seeing all the ladies there

If you'd like to contribute to this newsletter please email
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ADELFIHA'S CHRISTIAN ACADEMY
JANNA-LYN BAXTER | PRINCIPAL

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