Winter Quarter 2024

# THE WALL

Zion Wall FWB Church 4944 Wall St. Linden, NC

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## **Pastor's Brief**

#### This Same Jesus Is Coming Again the Second Time

"Now when He had spoken these things, while they watched, He was taken up, and a cloud received Him out of their sight. And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as He went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel, who also said, Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven" (Acts 1:9-11). "Behold, He is coming with clouds, and every eye will see Him, even they who pierced Him. And all the tribes of the earth will mourn because of Him. Even so, Amen" (Revelation 1:7).

God, and to His Son, the Christ, for the Great Love that is bestowed upon us and to the indwelling of the Holy Spirit who abides with us forever. We also thank God for you as well, for your labor of love and for your support and laboring in this great ministry He has entrusted to the Zi-

#### Beloved, It is with great joy we first take this opportunity to give thanks and praise to the Most-High

		on Wall Church Family. Please know that your labor is not in vain.
	2	In this moment in time, Beloved, we would like to take this opportunity to encourage you
on-	3	concerning your labor and reward. We challenge you to continue set your heart and mind on the
		promises of His Word to help strengthen and keep you as you continue to labor in the Kingdom
	3	of God. Hold on to God's Word to keep you motivated when the trials, tests, and the tasks seem
nt	3	more than you can bear. There is a sure reward for the Faithful. For the Scriptures assures "This
sing	4	same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw
0		Him go into heaven" (Acts 1:11); and when He comes His reward is with Him "to give to every
u!	4	one according to his work" (Revelation 22:12).
	5	Jesus is coming again as He promised. The Word of God will not have us ignorant to this fact,
r	5	but it is filled with the evidence of His promise to return. We may not know the day nor the
	5	hour, but as believers, we know, firstly, that His Second Coming will entail the Rapture of the
	6	Church out of this world, and we shall celebrate the Wedding Feast with Him, as the Church is
		the Bride of Christ. Secondly, He will come back to judge the world, and there will be a day of
i-	6	reckoning where He will make all things right and forever reign on the throne of David for all
		eternity.
	6	Time will not afford us the opportunity to recite all the verses filled with all the promises of
	6	His return and His reward to His children; however, we will end on this encouraging note – "
	7	

cite all the verses filled with all the promises of wever, we will end on this encouraging note – "... Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him" (1 Corinthians 2:9). God has great and eternal rewards awaiting His children – crowns to be worn, streets of gold to be trodden, mansions to be occupied, leaves that are good for the healing of the nations, the privilege to reign and rule with Him, and greatest of all – the blessing to commune with Him for all eternity.

Behold He Comes and His Reward Is With Him!

Pastor and First Lady

Elder Jerry L. Jones and Sis. Alicia Jones

## 2024 Theme: All of me Worshipping all of Him!

## Words of Encouragement

#### Don't Give Up

#### **By Eldress Frances Harvey**

The Bible says it is necessary that we learn to trust God regardless of what we see happening around us. In some very important ways, our trust in God is preparing us for life after death. The Bible teaches that we should expect great difficulties because we are citizens of another world. Although this present world has become corrupted by man's disobedience, God is determined to use it to accomplish His purpose. Because we are forced to use our spiritual muscles, we are able to grow in out spirits. God could suddenly and permanently destroy all evil as He one day will, but for now He has a plan you and I have been asked to fit into that plan. Despite the problems we face, we have God's promise to bless us if we trust Him. He promises to use everything that goes on in this world as a tool to teach us what we need to learn. Although He warns us that life on earth will be difficult, He promises that one day we will understand. He says everything that to us here on this earth will be used for our good. We don't understand everything, but we can also tell Him. God understands our weakness. He says, "I will work everything for your good as you trust me."

The lists of people who have learned that God can be trusted are endless, don't lose hope. God is with us. He won't abandon us because our faith gets weak sometimes. He loves us and wants our faith to grow. God is using everything that is happening to us for some good if you are His child. You and I are being prepared for eternity. Our lives here will enable us to forever enjoy the things He is preparing for us. This life is often hard, but every problem will be used by God to help us grow in Christ. He only wants us to accept whatever comes and believe that He is using it for our good. God is a God of love.

#### SEEDS FOR HOPE -By Dr. Barbara A. Smith-

God will sometime deliver us from things that hinder our progress/growth in Him. Sometimes God will deliver us through the things that hinder our progress/growth in Him. We know the story of the three Hebrew boys (Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego) who were bound and thrown into the fiery furnace for not following the command of King Nebuchadnezzar (Daniel 3). King Nebuchadnezzar was an idol worshipper of himself. (He had built a golden image which was gigantic sixty cubits-90 feet high and six cubits wide-9 feet and found out they did not bow to the giant statue when the music was played. The Hebrew boys worshipped the God of Israel and would not bow to another.) When they were seen again, they were walking around fully clothed in the fiery furnace and loose! The fire had burned the things that had them bound. God uses the fiery trials to unbind, burn away whatever is binding us and keeping us from being distracted from His will.

Sometimes we have to go through the fire in order to be loosed from the things God wants us free from. Trials come to make us stronger in Jesus. As we go into the fiery trials, we must remember that God is with us as we go <u>thru</u> the fire. We grow in faith as we come thru the fire unscathed but loose from the thing(s) that had us bound. If God is with us, our trials have no authority over us, as God walks with us.



#### Prayer for Your Relationship with God Author Unknown Submitted by Sis. Jeanette McNeill

Everlasting Father, Thank you for the blessings and mercies you have bestowed upon me. Thank you for your protection and guidance. As we begin a new month, I pray that you, Lord, will assist me in focusing my thoughts on you and remaining in you. Guide me in letting go of any distractions that may be interfering with my connection with you. Teach me to love you and guide me in focusing my attention on you. Cleanse me of my sins and assist me in letting go of anything that does not reflect well on your Holy Name. Help me in living a Christ-centered life. Allow your Holy Spirit to lead me in whatever I do. Let it serve as a constant reminder to always put you first no matter what. Help me to study your word more thoroughly and to gain the wisdom and understanding necessary to apply it in my life. When things don't go as planned, please remind me that your plan for me is better than what I believe I desire. As each day passes, please strengthen my faith in you, in Jesus' name, Amen.



By Eldress Frances Harvey

As Christians, some think that the Great Commission belongs to few who serve among the hardest to reach places, but that is not so. The reality is that the Great Commission belongs to every Christian, it's not an individual, it belongs to the church. We are all called to support missions as disciples of Christ. Just remember it is not about you or me, it's about our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. It is so important to share the Gospel.

#### We Are God's Covenant People Submitted by Mother Veronica Smith

You and I are the seed of Abraham through faith in Jesus Christ. Therefore, God's covenant to Abraham is also with us. So now the mercy of God comes upon your life through Jesus Christ. When the Bible says the mercy of the Lord endures forever, it never ends, and it is steadfast, it simply means that from generation to generation to generation there will be a people God will have mercy on, be kind to, show tenderness to, and forgive. There will always be a generation because there is always a seed of Abraham. Now through faith we are the seed of Abraham, which means that you must understand, trust, and believe in the mercy of God. God's loyalty to covenant extends His mercy into your life. God is merciful to you because of covenant, and if you have a covenant through Jesus Christ with God, you can expect His mercy to be upon your life. Abraham was called the friend of God which means he had a covenant relationship with God. He was a covenant friend, which means he was committed to God and God was committed to him-to take care of him and preserve him and then take care of his seed from generation to generation.

From: God's Covenant With You For Deliverance & Freedom By: John Eckhardt

## Music Praises God

"The church knew what the psalmist knew: music praises God. Music is as well or better able, to praise Him than the building of a church and all its decoration. It is the church's great ornament."- Igor Stravinsky

B' 6-H' 10-K' 11-E' 15-E' 13-C' 14-C Vusweks: 1-I' 5-D' 3-1' 4-T' 2-V' 9-N' 2-W' 8-

#### 12 Ways To Be A Blessing To Your Church Katie McVeigh (p. 11-24) Submitted by Dr. Barbara A. Smith

#### Way 2 – Pray Daily for Your Pastor

If you really want to get the most out of church, pray for your pastor and his family every day. Pray that God will give him wisdom and keep him strong. Ask the Lord to give him the right message every time he speaks. If you see something, in your church or something about your pastor that you don't agree with, pray! Instead of talking about the problem, you should pray. Ask God what you can do to be a blessing.

#### Your Pastor Is Only Human

We have to realize that pastors are people too. They're human; they are not perfect. They have flaws just like you and me. You know, sometimes ministers have a bad day, just like you do. They don't always do everything - that's why we should "cut them some slack" and pray for them.

You may think your pastor is not friendly, but the truth could be that he's just shy. While he's preaching under the anointing, he may come across as confident and bold. However, when he is not under the anointing, he might have to work at being more outgoing.

#### Take It To The Throne, Not To The Phone

Sometimes when you see things that aren't quite right in your church, you may have a tendency to talk about it. Negative things may irritate you, and your concerns may even be legitimate. However, it is never our place to speak negatively or gossip about our pastor, church, or leadership. We don't ever want to be used by the enemy to cause trouble or harm in our church. I'm sure all of us have said things at times that we wish we hadn't said, so the best thing to do is ask God to forgive us and never do it again.

Never let the devil draw you into the trap of gossiping about your pastor. Have you ever heard of "roast pastor"? That means people have the pastor for lunch! In other words, instead of looking at the positive things, they roast the pastor at lunchtime after church by picking apart all the things they didn't agree with in the service.

**Praying the Word Over Your Pastor** It's important that we pray God's Word and His will, not our will, over our pastor. Sometimes people have a tendency to pray things over their pastor, such as, "Lord, change this or that about my pastor," or "Lord, make him not preach so long," and so forth. The truth is, the things you think may need to be changed may not be the things that need changing at all. That's why it's important to pray God's will over him instead of your own.

We can: pray for insight and revelation, for help in preaching the word, for blessing, for divine appointments, for every need to be met, for protection, for supernatural wisdom and Holy Spirit guidance and for the gifts of the Spirit to flow freely.

## 

Happy Birthday to You! May God Bless You on Your Special Day!

> March Mother Cora Cameron- 26<sup>th</sup>

> > <u>April</u> Sis. Bridgett Bell- 12<sup>th</sup>

> > > May

Deacon James Smith-1<sup>st</sup> Mother Lucille McNeill- 19<sup>th</sup> Sis. Teresa Elliott-20<sup>th</sup> Mother Emily Byrd-27<sup>th</sup> Sis. Phyllis McNeill-27<sup>th</sup>



#### God, You're Killin' Me Kingdom Devotional Rev. Tony Evans

Most of us have felt at some time—and if you haven't there'll likely come a time when you do—that God is doing a number on us. When hard things come our way, we wonder why God didn't step in and make everything better. Why didn't He put a stop to it before we had to experience the pain and suffering?

He could have made it better...and He didn't. He could have changed it...and He didn't. He could have fixed it...and He didn't.

When this happens, we can become disappointed with God and wonder if He really cares about us. And honestly, the pain feels like it is killing us.

Over the years, I've talked with many people who felt like they were dying. They were unraveling emotionally. Their circumstances were desperate. They were hurting. And in many cases, God seemed nowhere to be found.

Why does God allow this to happen? In 2 Corinthians 1:9 Paul answers this question when he writes, "Indeed, we had the sentence of death within ourselves so that we would not trust in ourselves, but in God who raises the dead." God lets us go through these challenging circumstances because He wants to change our focus. He wants us to learn to trust.

As we trust in Him, we'll get a fresh new perspective on the things we are going through. They may still feel challenging, but we can be assured that God is allowing them so we can learn to trust Him more. We may struggle, but we can know that He is with us, even when He feels far away. God isn't killing us. He's making us stronger by teaching us to trust in Him.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL CORNER Coming Up Next Quarter March, April, May 2024

## 'Examining Our Faith'

In this quarter, we explore the fullness of faith as a response to God's desire to be in relationship with us. To be faith-less is to turn away from God-to put trust in something, or someone, other than God. The lessons of this quarter ask: Is your faith stead-fast? Are you contending for the faith? What can to-day's Christians draw from these ancient accounts that will help us grow more deeply in faith?

Unit 1 has lessons drawn from Jude, Second Corinthians, First Peter, Acts, and Mark that invite learners to turn the challenges of life into opportunities for nurturing a vibrant faith instead of giving up, turning away from God, or rejecting faith. It includes the Easter lesson.

Unit 2, lessons from Luke and Matthew discuss the range of Christian faith.

Unit 3 from Romans encourages believers to continue standing in the faith. -Submitted by Mother Veronica Smith, Sunday School Superintendent

#### God is a Way-Maker Submitted by Sis. Jeanette McNeill

Just know that. The God you serve is a way-maker. He'll make a way to get it done, fix it, shift, turn it. Even when there doesn't seem to be a way. Get into agreement with God tonight that you're going to serve Him, maintain faith in Him, and wait on Him. Because His blessings are always worth the wait and always right on time.- Author Unknown

## The Greatest Man in History

He had no servants, yet they called Him Master. He had no degree, yet they called Him Teacher. He had no medicines, yet they called Him Healer. He had no army, yet Kings feared Him. He won no military battles, yet He conquered the



world. He committed no sin, yet they crucified Him. He was buried in a tomb, yet HE LIVES TODAY ~ Unknown~

Stroke Warning Signs-FAST Submitted by Mother Lois S. Murphy

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- Face Drooping. Does one side of the face drop or is it normal? Ask the person to smile.
- Arm Weakness. Is one arm weak or numb? Ask the person to raise both arms. Does one arm drift downward?
- Speech Difficulty. Is speech slurred, are they unable to speak, or are they hard to understand? Ask the person to repeat a simple sentence, like "the sky is blue." Is the sentence repeated correctly?
- Time to call 9-1-1. If the person shows any of these symptoms, even if these symptoms, even if the symptoms go away, call 911 and get them to the hospital immediately.



## Springtime Splendor By Linda C. Grazulis

Springtime dances in her fullest splendor— Just glance around most everywhere... Forsythia's blossom a bright, bold yellow And snowy-white lilies return so soft and fair. Green becomes the color of earth's blanket As white slowly dissipates, For the seasons arrive in perfect timing As God plans — not too soon or late! Warblers are heard chirping their tunes As nests of tiny newborns suddenly appear, For rebirth and resurrection Make springtime shine so precious and dear. There's a sense of joy and wonderment As we view her long-awaited garb of loveliness. The daffodils, tulips, and irises, Assure us Winter's white we will not miss. Cherish Spring and bow in humble thanks As sweet aromas filtrate the air. Fly a March kite, take a short, woodland hike — Toss off that wintry cloak of chills and care!



Words of Wisdom Submitted by Sis. Jeanette McNeill

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Sometimes God doesn't stop you from being thrown into the furnace because He has a point to prove to the people who threw you in!

Don't worry what people say behind your back, because God is going to bless you in front of them. **Author Unknown** 

## Mr. and Mrs.

February is a month of love! See if you can match these husbands and wives. Answers on page 4.

> Mrs. A- Rebekah

B- Zepporah

E- Elizabeth

C- Aquila

F- Deliah

G- Eve

H- Mary

I- Sarah

J- Hannah

L- Jezebel

M-Rachel

K- Bathsheba

D- Ruth

## Mr.

- 1. Abraham
- 2. Boaz
- 3. Elkanah
- 4. Ahab
- 5. Isaac
- 6. Elimelech

7. Jacob

- 8. Moses
- 10. Uriah



## Voting in 2024

Don't forget this year is a busy year as we go to vote. What is new that I might not know? Well, please remember that we need a photo I.D. If you do not have one, you get one at your county board of elections or at the Dept. of Motor Vehicles, and they are FREE!

## **Reminders:**

Early voting ends on March 2<sup>nd</sup> and the Primary is March 5<sup>th</sup>.

Many died so we may have the opportunity to cast our ballot.

## **Members Spend Thanksgiving Day with** Mother Emily and Deacon Isaac Byrd



Sis. Jasmine McKoy, Mother Veronica Smith, Mother Emily Byrd, Deacon James Smith, Bro. Reubin McNeill, Sis. Cellia McKoy. Seated, Deacon Isaac Byrd.



Mother Veronica Smith, Mother Emily Byrd and **Deacon James Smith** 



Sis. Jasmine, in town for the holiday, spends the day with Deacon and Mother **B**yrd



Sis. Cellia serves the Byrd's housemates.

Photos Courtesy of Mother Veronica Smith

- 9. Joseph



- 12. Zacharias
- 13. Priscilla
- 14. Adam

N- Naomi Submitted by Mother Lois Murphy

#### The Redwood Tree Author Unknown

My father once told me a story about an old redwood tree—how she stood tall and proud—her sprawling limbs clothed in emerald green. With a smile, he described her as a mere sapling, sheltered by her elders and basking in the safety of the warm, dappled light. But as this tree grew taller, she found herself at the mercy of the cruel wind and the vicious rain. Together, they tore relentlessly at her pretty boughs, until she felt as though her heart would split in two.

After a long, thoughtful pause, my father turned to me and said, "My daughter, one day the same thing will happen to you. And when that time comes, remember the redwood tree. Do not worry about the cruel wind or the vicious rain—but do as that tree did and just keep growing." -Submitted by Sis. Jeanette McNeill

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## **Calendar of Events**

#### <u>March</u>

2<sup>nd</sup>- Unity Day@ CFA 10<sup>th</sup>- Pastor's 18<sup>th</sup> Anniversary 25<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup>- United Holy Week Services 31<sup>st</sup>- Easter Sunday 30<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup>- District Union



## <u>April</u>

20<sup>th</sup>- Ministerial Alliance Conf. @CFA 26<sup>th</sup>- Quarterly Conference 28<sup>th</sup>- Holy Communion

## <u>May</u>

12<sup>th</sup>- Mothers/Women's Day 18<sup>th</sup>- Mid-Year Conference @CFA 25<sup>th</sup>- Ushers' Banquet @ CFA 26<sup>th</sup>-Family and Friends' Day 27<sup>th</sup>- Memorial Day



#### Boost Your Memory and Smarts Submitted by Mother Veronica Smith

Feel smarter than ever before with these easy and effective ideas.

**Build Brain Volume.** Forcing the brain to find new approaches to solve problems builds connections between neurons-the cells responsible for receiving sensory input-similar to the way strength training builds muscle.

**Change up Your Activities.** Trying new things helps build new connections in the brain. Learning how to speak a new language and mastering an instrument, for example have been shown to increase the brain region crucial for memory.

**Calculate the Tip in Your Head.** Relying on your phone's calculator to determine tips at restaurants robs you of the chance to build and maintain brain pathways. Mathematical skill need to be reinforced, or the brain will eliminate neural connections that aren't in use. When it comes to the brain, it really is 'use it or lose it.

**Do a Puzzle.** Games and brainteasers are well known for providing mental perks but the ones that build new brain connections the best are the ones that make you think, Eureka! When you think, I get it! Or think, I see it! Imagination and reasoning come together. Suddenly your brain is expanding to function in a way it wasn't before you solved the riddle. What's more, regularly challenging your brain has been linked with greater volume in brain regions known to be damaged by Alzheimer's.

**Navigate with a Real Map.** Following GPS directions is also a missed opportunity to build areas of the brain that control spatial skills. A study of London taxi drivers who navigated the city's streets without technological assistance showed that cabbies' brains grew as they found their way around. Similarly, people in a driving simulation study built more accurate maps of the route in their minds than did people who followed a navigation system. - Source The Guide to Aging Slower-Your Bodies Complete Owner's Manual

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## We're Back in Our Remodeled Sanctuary!



**Consecration Service** 



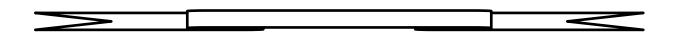
Pastor Jones and Eldress Harvey anoints the pews



Bishop McDowell anoints Eldress Harvey



Zion Wall's 120th Homecoming was awesome!



Quote: Easy is to judge the mistakes of others. Difficult is to recognize our own mistakes. - Unknown

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|                            | htt                        |                       |                            | RE P<br>lew                |             |                            | AT:<br>mes            |                            | om                         |             | COPY                       | (RIG                       | нт 2                       | 2016                               | ALL RIGHTS RE                                                                                                  | SERVED                                                                                         |