

## **PASTORAL REFLECTIONS, SUNDAY, JANUARY 1, 2012**

Praise the Lord and Happy New Year Trinity! God once again has extended His favor toward us by allowing us to crossover into a brand new year. While 2011 had its share of challenges, frustrations, and unfortunate experiences; we must celebrate with the Psalmist David in his declaration that he had never seen the righteous forsaken nor his seed begging bread, let us in 2012 continue to praise God for His overwhelming sustainability.

Moreover, I am elated and privileged to declare that this is the season of answered prayer. In order to be a celebrating participant in this season, you must be praying. In the progressive teaching of our Lord about prayer and the wonderful promises given on His last night on earth (John 14:16) concerning the works we are to do in His name and the fruit we are to bear, one thing is clear: Only when the church yields itself to this holy work of intercession can it expect the power of Christ to be manifested on its behalf. God the Father longs to hear the prayer of faith, and to give us whatever we ask for in Jesus name. We tend to limit the simplest and clearest statements of our Lord without adding qualifying clauses. The church needs to learn that God intends that prayer have an answer. We have not yet fully conceived what God will do for the one who truly believes his prayer is heard. The truth that God hears prayer is universally admitted, but very few understand its full meaning or experience its full power.

Many have found unspeakable blessings in learning how completely Christ is our very life and how he undertakes to be and to do everything in us that we need Him to be and do. The question remains as to whether we have learned to apply this truth to our prayer life. Some complain that they lack power to pray in faith, to pray effective prayers that accomplish something. But Jesus is waiting, longing, to teach us this. Dr. Andrew Murray suggests in heaven Jesus ever lives to pray for us. His life in us is always praying life, if we only trust Him for it. Christ teaches us to pray not only by example, instruction, command, and promises but also by showing us that He is our ever-living intercessor. When we believe this and abide in Him for our prayer life too, our fears of not being able to pray correctly will vanish; we will joyfully and triumphantly trust our Lord to teach us how to pray and to be the life and power of our prayers.

Trinity May God open our eyes to see what the glorious ministry of prayer is to which we as His royal priesthood have been set apart. May God help us to believe what mighty influence our prayers can have, and may all fear of being unable to fulfill our callings vanish as we grasp the truth that Jesus is living in us and interceding for us.

Lord Teach Us How To Pray!

Rev. John D. Tolbert, Senior Pastor  
Trinity Missionary Baptist Church

## **CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT**

Go Therefore And Make Disciples Of All The Nations

Galatians 2:20

We believe that everyone should live for Christ and not for himself. And, should, by the indwelling Spirit, allow Christ to manifest His life through him to God's glory. By yielding to the Holy Spirit and obedience to the Word of God, each believer should mature and continually become more conformed to the image of Christ.

John 17

We believe that the Church is the body of Christ of which Jesus is the Head, and whose members are those who have truly received Christ by faith. Trinity Church, which is the local church, is a tangible expression of the body of Christ in a particular location. Our purpose is to make Christ known to lost men, to make disciples, and to glorify God on earth.

Matthew 28:18-20 (KJV)

And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world.

## **VISION STATEMENT**

**To Become a 21<sup>st</sup> Century Model Christian Community**

Our Church family would faithfully and intentionally prioritize ministry initiatives following the examples of Jesus, the Apostles, and the New Testament Church.

We would be devoted to the practices and disciplines of personal discipleship, witnessing, evangelism and servant ministry/leadership.

The presence and power of the Holy Spirit would be manifested and evident in our congregation through love, and our knowledge and employment of the *Spiritual Gifts*.

We would deliberately engage in maturing the *Fruit of the Spirit* in our private and public life.

Matthew 6:33; Philippians 2:1, 13; Colossians 3:14-16; Acts 2:1-4, 43-47, 3:1-6; Galatians 5:22-26

## **2012 CHURCH THEME**

*"The Lord is calling us Trinity to do our best in spiritually impacting our families, neighborhood, city, and state by Exalting the Savior, Equipping the Saints & Evangelizing the Sinners. (Ephesians 4:10-15).*

He that descended is the same also that ascended up far above all heavens, that he might fill all things. And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; for the perfecting of the saints for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ: that we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind your doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning crafti-

# TRINITY

## MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

ORGANIZED 1918



**Rev. John D. Tolbert, Senior Pastor**

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***Jesus the Christ, Our Lord and Savior  
The Head of the Church***

**ORDER OF SERVICE 11:00AM**

The Hymn of Praise  
*What A Fellowship*

The Responsive Reading of the Word  
*Matthew 6:5-15*

The Invocation

The Greetings/Announcements

The Ministry of Music

Trinity Prayer Time  
The Church Prays Together  
*Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we  
may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need*  
Hebrews 4:16

The Joy Of Giving...  
Where God's People Bring God's Money  
To God's House For God's Ministry

The Ministry of Music

*The Proclamation of God's Word*

***Rev. John D. Tolbert  
Senior Pastor***

The Invitation to Christian Discipleship

The Benediction

***What A Fellowship***

*Verses*

What a fellowship, what a joy divine,  
Leaning on the everlasting arms;  
What a blessedness, what a peace of mine,  
Leaning on the everlasting arms.

O how sweet to walk in this pilgrim way,  
Leaning on the everlasting arms  
O how bright the path grows from day to day,  
Leaning on the everlasting arms.

What have I to dread, what have I to fear,  
Leaning on the everlasting arms;  
I have blessed peace with my Lord so near,  
Leaning on the everlasting arms.

*Chorus*

Leaning, leaning, safe and secure from all alarms;  
Leaning, leaning, leaning on the everlasting arms.

**UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES FOR MINISTRY INVOLVEMENT**

Consecration (72 Hours of Prayer) - Consecration means to dedicate for sacred purposes. We will take time in the beginning of each year to thank God for a new beginning and a new opportunity to live Holy and Only for Him. We will consecrate ourselves as individuals and as a church family. We will consecrate the buildings and properties that God allows us to function in. We will consecrate and dedicate our church's calendar for the glory of God. This time of year will be inclusive of Bible Reading, Intercessory Prayer, Corporate Fasting, Anointed Preaching/Teaching, and anointing with oil and the laying on of Holy Hands.

Consecration will also be inclusive of a 3 day Priestly Prayer Period. (72 hours of Prayer) Pastor Tolbert will physically be available to the congregation for 3 straight days at (12:00am Tuesday, January 10, 2012 to 11:59pm Thursday, January 12, 2012.

**HOME DAILY BIBLE READINGS**

JAN 2	Interpretations Belong to God	Genesis 40:1-8
JAN 3	Restored to Office	Genesis 40:9-15
JAN 4	The Predictions Come True	Genesis 40:16-23
JAN 5	The Interpreter Remembered	Genesis 41:1-13
JAN 6	Pharaoh's Dreams	Genesis 41:14-24
JAN 7	The Dreams Interpreted	Genesis 41:25-36
JAN 8	A Discerning and Wise Leader	Genesis 41:37-45, 50-52

**UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES FOR MINISTRY INVOLVEMENT**

New Years day is the first Pantry Emphasis for 2012; remember to bring in your non-perishable food items or a monetary donation. In 2011 the Trinity family, through the Pantry served 232 households/720 individuals. Thank you Trinity for sharing your blessings with others! The holiday season giving has depleted our shelves of pretty much everything, so any of the basic food items would be appreciated—fruits, vegetables, pasta, breakfast foods, peanut butter, jelly, etc. The Clothes Closet is continuing to accept winter coats, hats, gloves, socks and boots for men, women and children. We are in particular need of clothing items for men and boys. Personal care items such as toothpaste, deodorant, lotion, toilet tissue, etc., would also be appreciated.

Trinity is looking for a new church logo. You may submit your suggestions to the church office or by email at [trinitymbc.pontiac@gmail.com](mailto:trinitymbc.pontiac@gmail.com) no later than Tuesday, January 31, 2012.

**SICK & SHUT-IN LISTING**

*Please contact the Church Office for a complete listing!*

**Church Email Addresses:**  
[trinitymbc.pontiac@gmail.com](mailto:trinitymbc.pontiac@gmail.com)  
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