

# The Valley Weekly

"Most leaders spend time trying to get others to think highly of them, when instead they should try to get their people to think more highly of themselves. It's wonderful when the people believe in their leaders. It's more wonderful when leaders believe in their people!"

- Booker T. Washington

FREE

ONLINE EDITION

[www.valleyweeklyllc.com](http://www.valleyweeklyllc.com)

December 28, 2018



## UAH King Day Event to Feature Tuskegee Choir

The life and work of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., will be the focus of a community gathering featuring renowned concert ensemble, The Tuskegee University Golden Voices Choir, internationally acclaimed baritone James Martin and pianist Lynn Raley.

The Thursday, January 17, event is being sponsored by

The Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, The UAH Music Department, Minority Graduate Student Association, and Minority & International Student Organizations.

The activity will be held in the Conference Training Center at 4 p.m.

This event is free and open to the public.

## Kwanzaa Events Set Thru December 28



It's Kwanzaa time again! That time of year to celebrate the seven days which represent the seven principles of Kwanzaa!

Organizers want all of "the beautiful people in Huntsville" to come out to Bridge Street December 26 and find out what Kwanzaa is all about, as they light

the first candle to represent the first day - OMOJA (UNITY) from 2-4 p.m. in the center of Bridge Street. Come one, come all!

On December 28, the third day, planners will celebrate Kwanzaa UJIMA (COLLECTIVE WORK AND RESPONSIBILITY), at the Richard Showers

Center, 2-7 p.m. all are invited to enjoy a taste of African cuisine, family friendly activities and some beautiful music from the motherland!

While enjoying Kwan-

zaa activities, do not forget to bring something gently used (or new) to keep the homeless warm this winter.

These Kwanzaa events are totally free and open to the public.

## Fundraiser for 2nd Chance Scholarship Set

A benefit to support the Jack & Annie Anderson 2nd Chance Scholarship and the 212 Community Service Scholarship will be held December 31.

The event will be held at Huntsville Botanical Garden's Nichols Arbor from 8 p.m.-12 midnight.

"Have Yourself a Jazzy Little New Year" will feature Micha 'ML6' Logan as Mistress of Ceremony, along with live music by saxophonist Ryon Schultz.

Tickets are on sale at [eventbrite.com](http://eventbrite.com).



## County AHOF 2019 Announced

Three women and nine men have been chosen to be a part of the 2019 Class of the Huntsville-Madison County Athletic Hall of Fame.

The dozen new members will be formally inducted at the Hall of Fame's annual induction banquet April 15, 2019, at the Von Braun Center North Hall. The 27th class of Hall of Fame encompasses a broad spectrum of the local landscape, featuring nine sports.

In alphabetical order, the class includes Linda Burgess

(basketball), Randy Bunn (coaching), Chris George (ice hockey), John Kirk (coaching), David Moon (football), Teresa Lewis Orcutt (swimming and decathlon athlete), Horace Rice (tennis), Adolph Scissum (wrestling), Tracy Valenzuela (softball), Johnny Walker (baseball), Barry Williamson (track and field) and Richard Wilson (coaching).

Two other longtime Huntsville residents, Bill Homer and Doris McHugh, have been selected for Hall of Fame Special Achievement Awards.

## Charity to Host Fair

The Patricia Haley Charity, a 501c3 organization, will host a "Nonprofit & Community Rainbow of Knowledge Fair" on February 28, 2019, at the Huntsville Marriott (U.S. Space and Rocket Center) from 3:30-7:30 p.m.

The Second Annual Day of Awareness and Knowledge Fair. Organizers will raise awareness and knowledge of the many resources that are available to the community in the Greater Huntsville, Ala., area.

Participating organizations will include the medical field, nonprofit organizations, foundations, and many other agencies that support the community through resources, knowledge, or providing a service. Representatives will also be on site to discuss the resources and support available through the organization. For more, call (256) 693-4709.

The Valley Weekly  
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# Washington in One Minute



Here are the top issues in Washington, D.C., for this week's Christmas Eve edition.

1. The House and Senate are in session this week and convened on Thursday (Dec. 27) in attempt to find a compromise to reopen the federal government, parts of which shut down on Saturday morning at 12:01 a.m. 800,000 federal employees at Agriculture, Commerce,

EPA, Homeland Security, Interior, Justice, NASA, State, Transportation, Treasury, and HUD are either on the job now with pay deferred as essential workers or furloughed without pay. In a dramatic turn of events on Friday afternoon, the Senate GOP leadership held a vote open for a record 5.5 hours waiting for Senators to jet back to town to cast a vote on the motion to proceed to

the House-passed continuing resolution to fund the federal government through Feb. 8 with \$5 billion for the Mexican border wall and \$8 billion in national disaster funding added. In the end, Vice President Pence had to break a 47-47 tie vote to allow the Senate to at least proceed to debate the House bill as the pending business – but there is still no deal and Acting White House Chief of Staff Mick Mulvaney predicted on Sunday that the government may remain closed until after Democrats take over the House on January 3. The Washington Post reported that incoming Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) sent a letter on Saturday to House Democrats assuring them that the new House Demo-

cratic Majority would move swiftly to reopen the federal government next year, if necessary.

2. President Trump canceled his scheduled flight to Florida last Friday and will stay in D.C. while the government is shut down. Mrs. Trump will return from Florida so that the First Couple can spend Christmas together. On Sunday, the President announced that Deputy Secretary of Defense Patrick Shanahan will become Acting Secretary of Defense on January 1 to replace outgoing Secretary James Mattis, who resigned last week reportedly due to the President's decision to withdraw U.S. forces from Syria. In related news, on Saturday U.S. Special Envoy in Syria Brett McGurk also

resigned.

3. On Saturday, Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin attempted to calm jittery stock markets stating that the President will not try to fire Federal Reserve Chair Jerome Powell, as had been reported by Bloomberg News on Friday. Last Wednesday, the Federal Reserve raised interest rates to a range of 2.25-2.50%, drawing the ire of President Trump who believes that rising interest rates will stifle the economic recovery.

4. The House voted 358 to 36 to overwhelmingly passed a major overhaul of the nation's criminal justice laws on Thursday after the legislation passed in the Senate on Tuesday. The passage of S. 756, the FIRST STEP Act of 2018, marks a

bipartisan achievement for lawmakers in both chambers and President Donald Trump in the waning days of the 115th Congress. The final House vote followed a year-long lobbying effort from an unexpected group of allies including Trump's son-in-law Jared Kushner, Kim Kardashian, the American Civil Liberties Union, liberal Democrats and conservative Republicans and the Koch network. The bill, which creates more rehab programs and ease mandatory minimum sentences for some drug-related crimes, was signed into law by President Trump on Friday.

Hamm Consulting Group  
400 North Capitol Street, NW  
Suite 585  
Washington D.C. 20001  
T: 202-596-8384

## Valley Scopes by Melissa Wilson/Seloma



**GEMINI** - The sun is at a semisextile with benefic Jupiter in your 3rd house of sibling concerns which, in laymen's terms, indicates fortunate developments for you that may have an intrinsic connection along those lines.

**TAURUS** - Juno is in your 2nd house. Additionally, the sun is at a conjunction with Saturn, showcasing your painstaking ability to wisely form opinions in order to authoritatively make decisions that are helping you with your goals to defend human rights. Heightened concentration is leading to the uncovering of

the emulous true nature, of someone who desires what you already have.

**ARIES** - With Mercury being at a tension rich, square with malefic Mars, you'll likely have a need to assert yourself when it comes to expressing how you feel in communication.

**PISCES** - Benefic Jupiter is at a tension rich square with Neptune in your ascendant influenced 12th house, as your plans mature in some way, which should help you feel a bit more balanced.

**AQUARIUS** - Vesta, in transit within your sign

reflects that you're probably eliciting results from persuading someone else to do something. Fortune is in your 11th house also and your resilience, along with devotion from others, is creating a positive outcome where a financial challenge existed.

**VIRGO** - The Vertex is in transit within your 6th house, so if your spirits are even a tad down or if you're feeling a need to acquire more experience in some area; you're likely to feel a great deal better when participating with competent people who you are connected to in some way.

**CAPRICORN** - Malefic Saturn, which is at a sextile with Neptune, in your 11th house, means that your closest pals are likely to be there as you celebrate advancing in some area.

**SAGITTARIUS** - Mercury is at a trine with Uranus; therefore, a new pattern that

you're adopting is obviously beneficial to you and likely to be noticed within the public eye.

**CANCER** - With the node in your 4th house, your accommodating mood, has you bending, without breaking-- bouncing back from a situation. A mentor or boss is likely, to offer sound guidance as far as advising you to accomplish something that you've been aiming to do.

**SCORPIO** - Benefic Venus is at a sextile with Pluto, within your 8th house, indicating that, you're probably

in the mood to spread the good fortune that you have been granted, while working towards some advantageous venture.

**LEO** - If you're not being called fiery or quick tempered, these days, chances are, that you're being called nonchalant, as your daring and strong-willed nobility of mind is being showcased. Your magnanimous character is seasoning your 5th house, inducing you to create something from your souls' deepest desires for peace & happiness.

**LIBRA** - Pallas is in your 7th house, so you're more

inclined to feel like you're advancing, if you're testing out the capability of something that you expect can be done, with a partner. Other people might think that you're wasting your time, by being too forceful about something that's considered non-viable, although, you're likely to end up flossing/displaying your success in a particular matter. Right now, you have a need to see if things are workable or not, on your own. Be sure to give proper attention, to someone special, who could be feeling neglected in some sense.

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[lwomack@womackassociatesllc.com](mailto:lwomack@womackassociatesllc.com)

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Huntsville, Alabama 35802

256-534-1360



**BIRTHDAY - December 28 - DENZEL WASHINGTON** - Academy Award winner Denzel Washington was born in Mount Vernon, N.Y. He starred in "Malcolm X," "Glory," "Hurricane," "Training Day," "Deja vu," "American Gangster," "Out of Time," "Man on Fire," and "The Manchurian Candidate."  
- *BlackinTime.info*

# The Valley Weekly

## Publisher

The Valley Weekly, LLC

## Editor-in-Chief

Dorothy W. Huston, Ph.D.

## Editorial Consultant/ Senior Editor

Jerome Saintjones, Ed.S.

## Editorial Assistants

Linda Burruss  
Phyllis Chunn  
Gary T. Whitley, Jr.

## Advertising Associate

Phyllis Chunn

## Writer/Sales/Photography

Reginald D. Allen

## - Contributing Editors -

Reginald D. Allen  
Lamar A. Braxton, Jr.  
Minister Preston Brown  
Ron Hamm  
David Herron  
Pastor Michael D. Rice  
Melissa Wilson-Seloma

## Website Administrator

Calvin Farier

## Mailing Address:

The Valley Weekly  
415A Church Street - Suite 100  
Huntsville, AL 35801  
(256) 651-9028

[www.valleyweeklyllc.com](http://www.valleyweeklyllc.com)

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Items for consideration for publication in The Valley Weekly should be submitted at least TWO weeks in advance to above address or by e-mail to [info@valleyweeklyllc.com](mailto:info@valleyweeklyllc.com). Items do not necessarily reflect the views of The Valley Weekly, LLC.

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## The Valley Weekly

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## From the Editor

Happy Friday! On Monday, I had the good fortune of visiting with two of my most favorite elders - Mr. and Mrs. Bill (Earnestine) Hall. God knows that I love everybody, but I don't 'fool' with everybody because some things just don't align.



All of us are uniquely and specially made, with similarities and differences that distinguish us. So, we get to show love in many different ways. Love is indeed an action word; it's what we do. Sometimes we love from a distance, looking out for the good of others, blessing their children, grandchildren, taking loving actions and whispering a prayer without talking about it.



*The Halls*

The Halls always appear happy to see me, and, without failing, I leave blessed by the love and compassion in their home. Although Mr. Hall was in bed, he looked over and said, "The Doctor," and I smiled. He appears happy to see Bill and me whenever we stop by for short visits. He has a loving spirit and persona that stirs my soul a bit when I see him.

Mrs. Hall is another story.

She is talkative and full of wisdom. When I don't get by for a while, she tries to catch me up really fast on what has been going on with her and "Papa Hall, Nick and his family." She is a woman of love and sacrifice. She loves the Lord, her family, friends and First Missionary Baptist Church, unconditionally. Although in her 80s, she is a devoted, skillful caregiver for Mr. Hall, never complaining about the responsibilities associated with daily caregiving. She reflected about "doing what has to be done," and she moves forward. According to her, when she wakes up, she begins each morning with prayer--giving thanks for each day and all of its provisions.

My parents passed away too soon, in my opinion. However, I didn't get to choose those appointments. With that said, we have tried to stay near to Christian elders for the benefit of our children and ultimately ourselves. Like me, Mrs. Hall grew up in a big family. There are many lessons to be learned from our elders. Each time I visit with her, I grab another nugget of wisdom--when I can keep up with her. I have to listen with intent so that I don't miss what she packed in for me.

We hope you enjoyed your family and friends during this past week. Many times, time to relax, reflect and meditate is time well spent. For additional fuel, visit a wise elder. It should be time well spent.

At 12 noon on March 9, 2019, we will honor a group of local elders for their contributions to this community during the Rosetta James Foundation 13th Annual "Honoring Our Elders" Celebration. Mark your calendar for lunch time and expect more to come.

Happy New Year until next week ...

*How far you go  
in life depends on  
your being tender  
with the young,  
compassionate  
with the aged,  
sympathetic with  
the striving and  
tolerant of the weak  
and strong. Because  
someday in your life  
you will have been  
all of these.*

- George Washington Carver

*Dorothy*

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Fellowship Presbyterian Church

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House of Hope and Restoration

Huntsville Bible College

James Smith - AllState Insurance

Lakeside United Methodist Church

Lucky's Supermarket

Marshall England - State Farm Agent

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Nelms Memorial Funeral Home

N. Ala. Center for Educational Excellence

Oakwood University Post Office

Regency Retirement Village

Rocket City Barber Shop

Sam and Greg's Pizza

Sav-A-Lot

Sneed's Cleaners

Starbucks (Governors Drive, N. Parkway at

Mastin Lake Road/University Drive)

Union Chapel Missionary Baptist Church

## UWC Granted Nonprofit Status

United Women of Color is proud to announce it is officially a nonprofit with tax-exempt status under Section 501(c)(3) of the United States Internal Revenue Code. Contributions donated to United Women of Color are fully tax-deductible. United Women of Color is also now eligible to apply for government and foundation grants, which will further broaden its access to resources and strengthen its ability to serve the North Alabama region.

"Obtaining 501(c)(3) status is a major milestone for United Women of Color," remarked Executive Director Angela Curry. "This opens doors for us to expand fundraising activities and fully realize our goals as a community service organization invested in improving the lives of women, girls, families and communities. It also allows benefactors and philanthropists opportunities to financially support our organization with one time, legacy, or ongoing donations.

"We began our public service in 2018 encouraging civic participation, conducting surveys and providing nonpartisan materials to voters. In 2019 we will expand and launch our interview skills and business etiquette workshops based on local workforce development and employment needs." United Women of Color exists to provide opportunities of advancement and equity through educational programs, civic engagement, and the provision of community resources to fill gaps of need specific to our area. We believe that every time we invest in a woman, we empower a family which in turn benefits the community."

The United Women of



Color Tax Identification Number (EIN) is 83-1581223. The IRS letter granting United Women of Color its 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status is available upon request. Donation and media inquiries may be sent to Angela Curry at theunit-edwoc@gmail.com or (256) 527-1013.

About United Women of Color: United Women of Color is a 501(c)(3) non-profit membership organization that create and foster opportunities of advancement, equity, and empowerment. We seek to unite women of all ethnicities to build and shape the development of our communities. We believe that lives can be transformed and changed through involvement with our 4 areas of service (civic engagement, education, income and self-sufficiency, and community outreach in partnership with other organizations) and we are honored to be a part of enriching our community. United Women of Color has a rolling membership and provides a monthly casual environment every fourth Friday for supporters of our mission to meet, connect, share ideas, discuss innovative solutions to the complex problems identified in the United Way Needs Assessment and our live survey results.

For Additional Information: Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/UWOC> Web: [www.unitedwoc.org](http://www.unitedwoc.org) (currently under construction); Twitter: @unitedwoc LinkedIn Company Page: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/unitedwoc> Instagram: @4unitedwoc

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## DLC Accepting Applications for 11th Cohort

**DLC**



Applications are being accepted for Cohort XI of the Diversity Leadership Colloquium until February 26.

Classes will begin March 5 and end April 23, running 6-9 p.m. every Tuesday evening. Graduation will be held on

April 30.

Applications are available online at [www.diversityleadershipcolloquium.com](http://www.diversityleadershipcolloquium.com). Questions should be emailed to Mrs. Georgia Valrie at [gvalrie1971@gmail.com](mailto:gvalrie1971@gmail.com) or call (256) 656-4698.

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# The Valley Weekly Calendar of Events

## Thru January

Tinsel Trail  
Big Spring Park  
200 Church Street  
Huntsville, Ala.

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at UAH, Winter Term OLLI at UAH is a learning community designed for adults 50+. Daytime and evening courses begin **Jan 28**. Details: [Osher.uah.edu/Catalog](http://Osher.uah.edu/Catalog) or 256.824.6183.

## December 27-29

36th Huntsville City Classic (Boys High School Basketball)  
Huntsville High School

## December 29

Pre-New Year's Eve Holiday Gala - 100 Black Men of Greater Huntsville  
Von Braun Center-North Hall  
7 p.m.

## December 31

"Have Yourself a Jazzy Little New Year"  
Sponsor: 2nd Chance  
Featuring: Micha "ML6"  
Loganm Ryon Schultz  
[eventbrite.com](http://eventbrite.com)  
Huntsville Botanical Garden  
8 p.m.-12 a.m.

## "Fire & Ice"

Masquerade Ball  
Featuring Alex D. Banks II & Company  
Sponsor: The Delta Theta  
Lambda Chapter of Alpha

PhiAlpha Fraternity, Inc. and the Central North Alabama Alumnae of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.  
Von Braun Center  
North Hall  
8 p.m.

## January 10

"Birds & Brews"  
Nichols Arbor  
Huntsville Botanical Garden  
Members - \$20; Non-members, \$25  
6:30-8:30 p.m.

## January 13

106th Founders Day Observance  
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.  
Guest Speaker: Dr. Gwendolyn E. Boyd  
22nd National President-Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.  
First Missionary Baptist Church  
3509 Blue Spring Road  
Huntsville, Ala.  
3:30 p.m.

## January 19

Martin Luther King, Jr. Parade  
Host: Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.  
Downtown Huntsville  
Huntsville, Ala.  
12 noon

## January 26

Spades & Dominoes Tournament  
House of Alpha Complex,

4301 Oakwood Avenue  
Deadline for tournament registration is December 30, 2018  
Heavy hors d'oeuvres and beverages will be provided  
For more details contact host Adria Jones at 256-527-1235 or [adriajones88@gmail.com](mailto:adriajones88@gmail.com)

## February 12

Black History Month  
The Beyond Normal Lecture Series  
Presenting Dr. Bernice A. King  
Alabama A&M University  
RSVP:  
<https://form.jotform.com/83167566954168>  
Knight Center  
12:30 p.m.

## February 19

Education Choice Summit  
Featuring Dr. Steve Perry  
Author, Speaker and Educator  
Calhoun Community College-Huntsville Campus  
Student Center  
5:30-8 p.m.

## February 28

Second Annual "Day of Action" Nonprofit and Community Rainbow of Knowledge Fair  
Huntsville Marriott at the U.S. Space and Rocket Center  
Huntsville, Ala.  
4:30-7:30 p.m.

## March 9

13th Annual Rosetta James "Honoring Our Elders" Celebration Luncheon  
The Jackson Center  
601 Moquin Drive (Cummings Research Park)  
Huntsville, Ala.



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January 11,  
9:30 - 11:30 am

### Winter Term Begins Jan 28. REGISTER TODAY!

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## Scholarships Available from FAITH Initiative

The FAITH Initiative announces that the application period for the Bobby Bodiford Memorial Scholarship and the Dr. Constance Dees Memorial Scholarship is now open. Each is \$1,000.00, and high school seniors in the Tennessee Valley may apply. For applications, please request by any of the following ways: email [faithinitiativeonprofit@gmail.com](mailto:faithinitiativeonprofit@gmail.com); phone 256-714-9399; or mail to P.O. Box 3858, Huntsville, AL 35810. The postmark deadline for receiving completed applications is March 18, 2019.



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# Valley Deaths

## - Nelms Memorial Funeral Home -

Funeral service for MS. YVONNE TAFT (b. 1961) was held Saturday, December 22, at the Nelms Memorial Funeral Home Chapel with the Reverend Felix Chew officiating.

Funeral service for DEACON ERWIN L. GRAY (b. 1936) was held December 19, at First Missionary Baptist Church with Dr. Julius R. Scruggs officiating.

Funeral service for MRS. JOAN MOSES ANDERSON (b. 1936) was held Tuesday, December 18, at First Seventh-day Adventist Church with Pastor Debleaire Snell officiating.

Funeral service for MR. HERNANDEZ POPE (b. 1969) was held Thursday, December 20, at Northwest Church of Christ with Brother John Branch officiating.

Funeral service for MRS. JOAN MOSES ANDERSON (b. 1936) was held Tuesday, December 18, at First Seventh-day Adventist Church with Pastor Debleaire Snell officiating.

## - Royal Funeral Home -

Funeral service for MR. THORNTON PRYOR, SR., (1930) will be held Saturday, December 29, at Fletcher's Chapel P.B. Church (30592 Hardiman Road Madison, AL 35756) with Elder Kenneth Lankford Jr. officiating.

Funeral service for MRS. JURALINE DOUGLASS ACKLIN (b. 1934) was held Saturday, December 22, at St. Bartley Primitive Baptist Church (3020 Belafonte Avenue Huntsville, Ala.) with Pastor Jaymes R. Mooney officiating.

Funeral service for MRS. ELNORA EWING SMITH (b. 1932) was held Saturday, December 22, at the First Church of God in Christ (3804 Oakwood Avenue Huntsville, Ala.) with Superintendent Curtis Banks officiating.

Funeral service for MR. ROBERT LEE "ROB" HUGHES GARNER (b. 1957) was held Saturday, December 22, at Madkins Chapel Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America (2403 Oakwood Road Huntsville, Ala.) with Pastor Endia J. Scruggs officiating.

Funeral service for MRS. PEARLIE MAE HARPER (b. 1946) was held Saturday, December 22, at Bethlehem Primitive Baptist Church (7565 Greenbrier Road Madison, Ala.) with Reverend Joe Cater officiating.

Graveside service for MRS. BETTY J. BRANTLEY (b. 1939) was held Monday, December 24, at the Oakwood Memorial Gardens Cemetery (7000 Adventist Boulevard, NW Huntsville, Ala.) with Minister Doug Simmons officiating.

Memorial service for MRS. DONNA D. WWILHITE (b. 1934) was held Sunday, December 16, at the First Seventh-day Adventist Church (1303 Evangel Drive, Drive, Huntsville, AL 35816) with Pastor Debleaire Snell officiating.

## - Serenity Funeral Home -

Funeral service for MR. KERRY GRAVITT, JR., was held Friday, December 21, at New Jerusalem Missionary Baptist Church, 2562 Bob Wade Lane, Harvest, Ala., with Pastor Rickly L. Sykes officiating.

# Called 2 Preach

by Pastor/Founder Michael D. Rice  
Grace Gethsemane Mission Church

## The Stages of Our Sanctification

The late Alexander MacLaren, 19th century expositor, once wrote: "Oh! how different life would look if we habitually took hold of all its incidents by

that handle, and thought about them, not as we are accustomed to do, according to whether they tended to make us glad or sorry, to disappoint or

fulfil our hopes and purposes, but looked upon them all as stages in our education, and as intended, if I might so say, to force us, when the tempests blow, close up against God; and when the sunshine came, to woo us to His side."



This is in essence what the Apostle Paul meant when he used the word, knowing, in verse 3 of this pericope. It was this knowing that Paul said made the difference in how tribulations are viewed.

They are a part of the stages of our sanctification. Even though, as believers, we are justified (put right with God), the very moment that we put our trust in Jesus as Lord and Savior, our sanctification (being conformed to the image of Christ), includes the entirety of our saved lives.

There are no shortcuts to sanctification. We cannot morph into maturity. We cannot leap into legacy-leaving living. There are stages, and knowing that, says Paul, is what enables us to glory in tribulations. This is not vain or vague glory.

This is boasting that comes from knowing that tribulation is a stage not a stop; allowed, but not always.

*"Take away the miseries and you take away some folks' reason for living."*

- Toni Cade Bambara

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## Champion Game Plan for Life

by Preston Brown

Matthew 2: 7-8 says, *Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him.*

You know, one of the things that I have learned through my studies is that when we have a desire to seek God, guess what? He sought us first, and placed the desire to seek Him in our hearts. Remember the old song "Oh How I Love Jesus" ... because He first loved me.

So when we look at these "Wise Men," God sought them first and placed the desire in their hearts to search for the baby Jesus. They were convicted by the power

of the holy spirit to go to Bethlehem to see this child for themselves. And, as it relates to our own spiritual lives, I believe that when we come to church, most of us are convicted by the holy spirit to experience Jesus for ourselves.

Now, not only did He place the desire in the Wise Men's hearts to seek him, but he also gave them the desire to worship Him, because they came bearing gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. Now, these were not just *any* gifts. They all represented gifts fitting for a King. You see, these Wise Men knew that they were coming to worship a king and not just a little baby. Now how did they know this? Well it was because they knew prophecy, as well as the word of God. You see, If we want to find the message of Jesus, all we need to do is open

up our bible.

So many people miss the message of Jesus, as well as Christmas, because they either don't believe or they won't read God's word. But the good news is this: whenever we set our hearts to find God and know Him, whatever it takes and whatever is necessary, God will make sure that you find Him. Jeremiah 29:13 says, "And you will seek me and find me when you search for me with all your heart ... Stay encouraged, my brothers and sisters. Make sure you purchase your copy of my book "A Champion Game Plan For Life," at [amazon.com](http://amazon.com) or contact me at [pbrown@damson.com](mailto:pbrown@damson.com).



## Spotlight on Our Elders ... Featuring

# First Lady Hattie Pearl Harris

First Lady Hattie Pearl Harris is a native of Forest, Miss., where she was the fifth of 10 children born to Mr. Henry Jones and the late Mother Annie Mae Jones. She graduated from East Scott High School in Lake, Mississippi. She is a licensed evangelist in the Church of God In Christ (COGIC). Dr. Harris serves faithfully in various capacities in her local church, as well as on the district and jurisdictional levels. She has served diligently and faithfully in the gospel ministry for 32 years with her loving husband of 42 years—founder and pastor of True Light Church of God In Christ (Blessed Hope Ministry), Superintendent Dr. Terrell Harris, Jr.

Dr. Harris is the proud and blessed mother of three wonderful children—Apostle Derek T. Harris

(Renee'), Trudy Harris Moore (Charles) and Mark Christopher Harris, all truly miracles from God. God graciously fulfilled Psalm 113:19 in her life: "He maketh the barren woman to keep house, to be a joyful mother of children. Praise ye the Lord." She is also blessed with four beautiful grandchildren.

In November 1972, Dr. Harris received Jesus Christ as her personal Savior and was later baptized and filled with the precious gift of the Holy Ghost. Dr. Harris believes in fasting and prayer, and she has a victorious testimony that prayer changes things. A loving, kind, caring and God-fearing woman, she has been anointed by God to teach the unadulterated word of God in power and to minister to young, hurting women.



A retired educator, Dr. Harris was an elementary teacher, principal, curriculum specialist for federal programs, and conflict resolution trainer. She is president of the Ministers Wives Guild on the local and district level.

Dr. Harris graciously embraces Philippians 4:13: "I can do all things through Christ which strengthens me."

## Q. Trying to Figure Out Jesus Christ? Consider Now 2018's British Royal Wedding, Pregnancy

by tim allston

"You believe in God, believe also in Me" -John 14:1, New King James Version.

This recently-past Christmas season served as our annual wake-up call to re-meet Jesus Christ who, according to researchers, is followed by one-third of the world's population - or, approximately 2,700,000,000 Christians. Still, most of our finite human minds struggle to grasp this fully-Divine/fully-human being - that is, until now, . . .

Thank you, Harry and Meghan: crossing the Pond, and . . .

On Saturday, May 19th, more than 29,200,000

Americans watched Britain's Prince Harry and Meghan Markle's royal wedding. In many ways, it paralleled Christ's aforementioned words to His disciples.

Prince Harry is the sixth in line of succession to the British throne, now occupied by his grandmother, Queen Elizabeth II; he's royalty - i.e., man-made "divinity"

But Harry went a step further than either his father Prince Charles (in marrying Diana Spencer, later Camilla Parker Bowles) or his brother Prince William (in marrying Kate Middleton) - both of whom married Brits

from the UK. Prince Harry was not only crossing "the pond" (Atlantic Ocean) in coming to America, but he was also . . .

. . . crossin' the Railroad Tracks!

. . . when he married an attractive Los Angeles-born/reared African American woman, educated there in a private faith-based school (yeah, copycat Harry: just like me in 1994, 3-for-3!); conversely commoner Meghan Markle took on the robe of royalty - but from her African-American-ness, brought across the railroad tracks to their royal wedding The Most Reverend Michael Curry (the Episco-

pal Church's first Black presiding bishop) to perform the homily, AND Black Londoner Paul Lee, who performed this December at Oakwood!

In marrying a commoner Meghan Markle, Prince Harry took on/accepted into his life voluntarily a garment of common humanity.

It was announced on October 15th that Prince Harry and Princess Meghan, the Duke and Duchess of Sussex, were now pregnant with their first child (or twins, according to the rumor mills and Irish betting parlors). Subsequently, their babies due in April will be fully royalty and

fully commoner -  
- Just like Jesus

Mrs. Ellen G. White, prolific 19th century author and co-founder of Oakwood Industrial School (now University) in 1896, described Jesus as "a real man. . . . Yet He was God in the flesh . . . The human did not take the place of the divine, nor the divine of the human."

Hopefully, your and my concluded Christmas gift-giving season re-introduced us to humankind's best-ever 2-for-1 bargain, Jesus the Christ.

**Happy New Year!**

tim allston is the author of the



free book, *7 Steps to Manage Ego Problems: The How-to Guide for "Someone Else,"* free and downloadable now at [www.GetEgoHelpNow.org](http://www.GetEgoHelpNow.org).

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