



VOLUME 6, NUMBER 3
DECEMBER 2011

The PROGRESSIVE

Progressive Missionary and Educational Baptist State Convention of Florida, Inc.



The President Speaks...

Greetings, Progressive Constituency.

It is another year that the Lord has allowed us to come together in another conventional setting, our Winter Board! We give God all the praise and Glory that He so rightfully deserves for His continued love and mercy. This year has passed

rather quickly, and it has taken some of our constituents as well as loved ones of some of our constituents, who supported this convention. Today as we pause to remember those who have made their final transition and are now resting in arms of the Almighty God, let us pick up their torch and carry it to higher height. There is yet work to be done, and we have the opportunity to do a little more for kingdom building.

For each of you who traveled to the beautiful city of Saint Petersburg for the annual session of our Winter Board, we pray that our session will be spirit-filled, and that you will plan well for our 2012 annual convention session.

I wish to extend my personal appreciation to Reverend Troy Adams, and the New Jerusalem Missionary Baptist Church family, along with Union Foreign Association and Moderator Fleming Tarver, for sharing in the hosting of this 2011 Winter Board Session. We know that a lot of time was spent in preparation for our arrival and please know that your efforts are greatly appreciated.

To all of our officers, pastors, and ministry leaders, we are always grateful for your continued support, we could not do this job without your support. I wish you much success as you plan for the upcoming session. I hope you will plan to make a great spiritual impact on the lives of the citizens in the city where we will be meeting next year.

May God bless you richly; have a great session and a safe trip back to your various homes. You are Welcome!

Rev. Dr. Bartholomew Banks, Sr., President



SENIOR WOMEN'S MINISTRY

December, 2011

SENIOR WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Progressive Missionary and Educational Baptist State Convention of
Florida, Incorporated

Dr. Barbara F. Wright, Ministry President

Dr. Bartholomew Banks, Sr. Convention President



As we gather together in love, unity and fellowship, we praise and glorify Almighty God, for kindness never ceases, and whose unfailing compassions are new every morning. I humbly thank God for His love, grace and mercy as we glorify Him for the richness of the many blessings that He continues to pour out on our work.

Moreover, I am most appreciative of the many prayers, support, and kindness that has been extended to me and my daughter, Lacritia "Clee" Kight, as she has been faced with this time of testing since June. Be assured that after the shock, our faith is certain and we are standing on faith, not facts.

Have you considered your vantage point in life? Is it really faith or facts? We can assume that anyone who is redeemed by the blood of Christ, sealed by the power of the Holy Spirit, and called to be a witness to the reality of the Eternal Father, desires more than anything else, to be successful.

In light of this assumption, we recognize the importance of the question...How does one define success? Is it marrying well? Is it having the right friends or associates? Is it gaining prestige, position and power? Or, is it acquiring fame and fortune? Surely, these are society's definitions of success. However, as serious students of the Word of God,

we find another definition. Through our studies, we find that success is achieved by heeding the Word of our Lord, who says to each of us, "Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give you a crown of life". Success then, according to the Scripture, is obeying the known will of God, no matter the consequences by:

- Operating in obedience when we are able to understand
- Functioning in obedience when we are unable to envision
- Just trusting GOD by saying to Him, "Nevertheless, at "Thy Word..."

Always, it is neglecting this "No matter the consequences", which produces conduct by the believer that sidesteps the known will of God. We have all known the frustration, disillusion, and the encumbrances that hinder our obedience to the known will of God.

In my own struggle to get beyond the anxiety that accompanies this "No matter the Consequences," I was led to understand the manner in which the believer conducts himself in the awesome responsibility of servanthood is dependent upon his or her vantage point. Following that revelation, a prayerful search of God's Word brought me to understand the two basic vantage points available

Continued on page 3

to the believer. These vantage points are Facts and Faith. Both of these vantage points have the ingredients to influence and motivate our conduct.

When you think of the numerous times that the word“ BELIEVE” is in the Bible, we find that in each of these writings, we are encouraged to believe(Matthew 9:28; Mark 5:36; and Luke 24:25) . In each of these instances, I realized that the Lord was saying to us that although the facts that surround our situations are grim and grievous, harsh and horrendous, bare-faced and bold, we must believe. I have discovered that absolute truth can be ignored and overcome by what you believe.

As people of faith, we should never allow ourselves to be held hostage by the frightening facts of a situation. Everything depends on our vantage point. Is it one of facts or faith?

Operating from the vantage point of faith means that we refuse to be intimidated by circumstances, even if we've been thrown into the fiery furnace ...so be it ! Faith says that God will be present when we get there. We must be reminded that FAITH.....

- Only needs to be the size of a mustard seed
- Can reverse the irreversible
- Can move mountains
- Picks up that which is down
- Can open closed doors
- Speaks things that are not as though the y were
- Can adjourn the council of despair
- Without which, it is impossible to please God
- Can turn midnights into daybreak
- Is the confirmation of things not seen
- Is the measure that God has given to every man and woman

I encourage us today, whatever the situation, ignore the facts, hold onto our faith, and trust in God. The finished work of Jesus on the Cross allows us to live from the vantage point of Faith and not facts. When

I look at the cold and cruel facts on that dark Friday when Jesus was crucified , I am reminded of these facts:

- He was crucified
- He was pierced with nails in His hands
- Rivets were driven into His feet
- A spear was thrust in His side
- A crown of thorns was placed on His head
- He bled and died
- They took His body down and buried Him
- The tomb was sealed

Nevertheless, despite the facts of the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus , He is now ascended into heaven and is now seated at the right hand of the Father making intercession for us, his saints. And, God has promised never to leave or forsake us, but to be with us always-even to the end Of the world. We can, therefore be assured through our sincere faith.

In reflecting on this faith-filled song written by V. Michael McKay, *The Battle Is Not Yours, It's the Lord's*, I am reminded that:

- There's no pain that Jesus can't feel,
- There's no hurt He cannot heal.
- All things work according to His holy will.
- No matter what you're going through, remember God is using you!
- The battle is not yours, it's the Lord's.

So we know that it is the faith that we live by. What is your vantage point, fact or faith!

May Your Christmas Season Be Filled With Love, Joy and Peace For You and Your Family!!!

Your Sister and Servant,
Dr. Barbara F. Wright





GREETINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT...

If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.
Galatians 5:25

Deaconesses Serving Within & Beyond the Walls!

Welcome to the 2011 Winter Board and the Deaconess Council Session in the beautiful city of St. Petersburg, Florida. We count it a blessing for all the Constituents that are here today.

It's Holiday Harvest time! The Deaconess Council will once again distribute food baskets in the cities of Tampa and St. Petersburg, Florida.

The Deaconess Council held two annual Green Tea events. The first one was held in the city of Tampa, which was hosted by Sister Clara Cobb, Sister Cheryl Burnett and the Mt. Tabor Missionary Baptist Church Deaconess Ministry, Reverend T.D. Leonard, Pastor. The second tea was held in St. Petersburg, at Galilee M. B. Church, Reverend Earnest Jones, Pastor and hosted by Sister Gerri McCallister, Sister Ruth Johnson and Sister Jura Philpot. I applaud all whom participated in both spiritual fellowships.

We started out with **God's amazing grace, empowered with his divine wisdom and his infinite goodness**, which has continued to the present. The Deaconess Council traveled to The Annual Joint Marlvn Phillips Brotherhood Unity Day & Deaconess Council Summit, which was

held at Galilee Missionary Baptist Church in St. Petersburg. The host association was Union Foreign, of which Dr. Fleming Tarver is the moderator. The theme was "Walking Together" (Amos 3:3). The theme speakers were dynamic in their presentations at this occasion. We were wonderfully blessed and God Almighty received the glory.

What a glorious time we had in Christ Jesus at the State Congress. We were spiritually enriched, encouraged and blessed by the powerful teaching we received, along with the preaching of God's Holy word by the men of God.

God wants us to celebrate the good things he has done for us by giving him **thanks, honor, and praise**. We invite all Deaconesses from all over the state of Florida to come and fellowship with us as we continue to do God's work, in our local churches and in the field to reach the masses beyond the walls.

Please join us at our **special Deaconess session**, which will be held at Mt. Moriah Missionary Baptist Church, 3500 18th Avenue South, St. Petersburg, Florida, on Thursday, December 8th, at 1:30 P.M. Reverend Robert Ward, Pastor.

In Christian Love,

Sister Patricia A. Ball
Deaconess Council President

Annual Report For Our Annual Donation Day – November 22, 2011

All honor and praise to an Almighty God for the many blessings that He continues to bestow upon us!

The report for the Progressive Missionary and Educational State Convention's Senior Women's Ministry is as follows:

District Association	Moderator	Senior Women Presidents	Donations
East Florida & Bethany	Dr. Kelly Brown	Sister Carolyn Burney	\$7,015.50
Equal Rights	Reverend E.Q. Truss	Sister Lela Grooms	No Report
First South Florida	Reverend C. Redding Taylor	Sister Barbara Wright	\$20,610.00
Greater South Florida	Reverend Roosevelt Cooper	Sister Verdell Bolden	\$10,200.00
Gulf Coast	Reverend Thomas J. Reed	Sister Pauline Porter	No Report
Kissimmee Valley	Reverend Kenneth C. Holley	Sister Annie Ola Parker	\$3,275.00
Middle Florida & Clay County	Reverend Eddie Henry	Sister Mary Bradley	\$835.00
Mount Pilgrim	Dr. H. L. Daniels	Sister Aquilla Morgan	\$21,170.00
New Central	Reverend Robert Lewis, Sr.	Sister Joy L. Leonard	\$690.00
New Gulf Coast	Reverend Aldredge L. Young	Sister Gloria D. Beamon	\$2,570.63
Progressive of West Florida	Dr. Rufus Wood, Jr.	Sister Norma J. Hartfield	\$2,496.04
Second West	Dr. H.G. McCollough	Sister Florida McMillan	\$2,888.69
South Florida Progressive	Dr. C.T. Kirkland	Sister Mamie Rogers	\$2005.00
Union Baptist	Reverend James Harvey	Sister Lauretha Rittman	\$1,096.64
Union Foreign	Reverend Fleming Tarver	Sister Marsha Tarver	\$4,651.00
Additional Donations			\$330.00

Total Donation \$80,004.44

Thank you for your support of Florida Memorial University!



Expresion of Gratitude

“The family of the late Wanda Rose Blount Henderson would like to take this opportunity to express our deepest thanks to Rev. Bartholomew Banks and all the officers and members of the Progressive Missionary & Education Baptist State Convention of Florida, Inc. for your loving compassion and expressions of love shown during the passing of our dear loved one. The outpouring of love from the various officers, ministries and churches of the convention were indeed humbling and helped us to see how much our wife/mother/grandmother/daughter/sister was loved by many. Words can never express how much you mean to us and have helped uplift us during this difficult time. May God bless and keep you is our prayer.

In honor of our loved one we have established a scholarship fund. The Wanda B. Henderson Memorial Education Scholarship will be awarded to a junior or senior education major at Chipola College in August of 2012. Those wishing to make a donation in memory of Wanda Henderson may send a check to the Chipola College Foundation, 3094 Indian Circle, Marianna, FL 32446. For more information on the scholarship, phone the foundation at 850-718-2478 or Rev. Riley J. Henderson at 850-263-4853.”

Junior Women

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I greet each of you in the name of Jesus. I would like to take this time to thank President Banks and all of Progressive M & E, for all the love shown to the Henderson-Blount Family during the Homegoing Celebration of our beloved Wanda R. Blount Henderson. Continue to keep our family in your prayers as we will do the same for you.

The Junior Women Ministry will have a Junior Women Membership Drive for the month of January 2012. We are asking all Pastors/Churches to have this drive held at your church for the month of January. If you would like to get more information on the activities and ideas that we have planned for that month please contact me at pmejw@yahoo.com

We are excited about our upcoming State Convention and our goal is to have 75 Junior Women in attendance for 2012. WE CAN DO IT!!

REMINDER

Progressive M & E Baptist State Convention

March 19-23, 2012

Brotherhood

On behalf of the Progressive M & E Baptist State Convention of Florida Inc., Brotherhood Ministry, we greet you in the matchless name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. We welcome you to this our Annual Mid –Winter Board Meeting. Our prayer is that you will be blessed during this time as we come together one with the other to Glorify God and thank Him for His Grace and Mercy that he has bestowed upon us.

During this Holiday Season let us be mindful of others rather than ourselves, for it is better to give than to receive. We look forward to seeing you at our Annual Session in March. May God continue to Bless and Keep you is our Prayer.

Happy Holidays.

President Wayne Herring
Brotherhood Ministry

2011 WINTER BOARD SESSION

December 7th – 9th

Theme:

“The Church...Powerful, Persuasive,
Perpetual”

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10; 2:1-7;

1 Timothy 3:14-15

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From Directress Rosier



Greetings In the Name
of Our Lord and Savior
Jesus Christ

Even a Child Is Known By His Doing

We Praise God for this opportunity to just to say thank you for sharing with us in the Winter Board Session. Thank you for your prayers during our time of sickness. The Lord has truly been good to us. He has shown us favor so many times and we are truly blessed to still be here.

We are happy to say that this November that we had another Birthday, and we made it to our eightieth birthday. All Praises go to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

We thank you for a beautiful session in Orlando, and for how you showed up in record numbers, both in attendance and finance. Thank you Directresses, Directors, Staff, Teachers, Musicians, Youth, Children, Parents, and especially Pastors, & Churches.

Thanksm Director McCullough, Director Cooper, President Banks, last but not least my daughter Lady Vanessa Banks, and to everyone. I am truly Blessed to have such wonderful people around me.

TO GOD BE THE GLORY
Directress Elizabeth Rosier
Youth & Children

2011 Winter Board Session

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Wednesday, December 7

9:00 A.M.

9:00 – 9:15 a.m. DEVOTION
Deacon Charlie Ball Jr.
Deacon Eddie B. Norman

9:15 – 9:30 a.m. REGISTRATION

9:30 – 11:00 a.m. “Sowing In the Kingdom
in Times of Famine”
Reverend C. Dollison

11:00 – 11:30 a.m. Question and Answers
Period

11:35 – 11:50 OFFERING AND
REGISTRATION

11:50 – 12:00 Noon..... REMARKS,
ANNOUNCEMENTS
AND DISMISSAL

1:30 P.M.

Dr. G. I. Bradley, Chairman
Reverend Clyde Lewis, Vice-Chairman

(Pastors, Ministry Leader, Ministers, Board
Chairmen, Convention Officers, & Constituencies)

“Growing Up Into a Christlike Leader”
Dr. Sam Maxwell

1:30 – 1:50 p.m. DEVOTION
Reverend H. Strafford, Medulla
Reverend W. F. Leonard, Lakeland

1:50 – 2:00 p.m. REGISTRATION

2:05 – 3:30 p.m. “Growing Up Into a
Christlike Leader”
Dr. Sam Maxwell

3:35 – 4:00 p.m. Question & Answer

4:10 – 4:20 p.m. Offering, Registration

WRAP UP AND DISMISSAL

7:00 - 8:00 P.M.

“Welcome Program”

****The President is asking everyone to please be
present for this program****

Presented By:
New Jerusalem Missionary Baptist Church

Held at
New Jerusalem Missionary Baptist Church
1715 18th Avenue South
St. Petersburg, Florida, 33712
Reverend Troy Adams, Sr. Pastor

Dr. Fleming Tarver, Moderator
Union Foreign Association

2011 Winter Board Session

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8:00 P.M.

Vice President Kelly Brown, Jr. Presiding

Union Foreign Association in Charge

Reverend Robert Ward, Mt. Moriah, St. Petersburg

Reverend Willie McClendon, Jr., Shiloh, Largo

Devotion

Deacons from both churches

Selections

Choir from both churches

Introduction of Preacher

Moderator Fleming Tarver

Sermon

Reverend Robert Ward

Invitation to Christian Discipleship

Offertory Appeal

Union Foreign Preachers & Deacons

Announcements

Remarks

President Bartholomew Banks

Benediction Moderator Fleming Tarver

Late Night Service

Reverend Dr. Frank O'Harroll, New Bethel, Winter
Haven

Thursday, December 8

10:00 A.M.

INTRODUCTORY WORSHIP SERVICE

Vice President James Harvey, Presiding

Devotion

Reverend Dr. A. L. Phillips, Sarasota

Reverend Roland Oliver, Palmetto

Theme Presentation

Dr. Alex Harper, Lakeland

Meeting Purpose and Agenda

President Bartholomew Banks, Sr.

Adoption of Agenda

Directions for Enrollment

Deacon Cleveland Raymond, Jacksonville

Selections

Kissimmee Valley Association Choir

Introduction of Preacher

Reverend Kenneth C. Holley

Selection

Kissimmee Valley Association Choir

Sermon

Reverend Dr. Gary McNealy

2011 Winter Board Session

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Invitation to Christian Discipleship

1:50 – 2:00 P.M. REGISTRATION

Offertory Appeal
Announcements

2:00-3:30 p.m. Worship Experience
Reverend Ernest Jones,
Galilee, St. Petersburg
Reverend Clem Bell, Shiloh, Dunedin
(Choirs of both churches)

Remarks

President Bartholomew Banks, Sr.

Benediction – Reverend Dr. Gary McNealy

OFFERING, ANNOUNCEMENTS

12 NOON

3:30 – 4:15 p.m. Planning Session
(All Pastors)

PRESIDENTIAL LUNCHEON
On Site

4:15 – 4:30 p.m. REMARKS AND
DISMISSAL

1:30 P.M.

7:00 P.M.

MINISTRIES PLANNING SESSION

Vice President J. J. Pierce, Presiding

2012 CONVENTION PLANNING

South Florida Progressive Association in-Charge
Vice Moderator Brian B. Brown, St. Petersburg
Moderator C. T. Kirkland, Tampa

1:30 P.M.

Devotion

Pastors'/Ministers' Development Conference

Dr. G. I. Bradley, Chairman

Reverend Clyde Lewis, Vice Chairman

Deacons of both churches

Pastors' Enrollment: \$50.00

Ministers' Enrollment: \$15.00

Selections

St. Mark Choir

Introduction of Preacher

Vice Moderator Brain Brown

1:30 – 1:50 p.m. DEVOTION

Reverend Dr. Rollie Murray, Jr., Orlando

Reverend O'Hara C. Black, Orlando

Selections

Mt. Pleasant Choir

2011 Winter Board Session

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Sermon
Moderator C. T. Kirkland

Invitation to Christian Discipleship

Offertory Appeal

Remarks
President Bartholomew Banks, Sr.

Benediction
Moderator C. T. Kirkland

Late Night
Reverend Dr. John Evans, Sr., Friendship,
St. Petersburg

Friday, December 9

9:00 A.M.
Dr. H. T. Rucker, Presiding

Devotion
Deacon Keith Haygood Sr.

Deacon Emmett McCallister

Congregational Singing

Introduction of President
Vice President J. J. Pierce

Scripture
Moderator H. G. McCullough

Hymn of Preparation
Moderator Rufus Wood, Jr., Panama City

Sermon
Reverend Dr. Bartholomew Banks, Sr.
President

Invitation to Christian Discipleship
Moderator A. L. Young

Offertory Appeal
Vice President W. D. Sims

Remarks
President Bartholomew Banks, Sr.

Introduction Session and 2012 Annual Program
Reverend Dr. W. J. Haynes, Tampa

Business Session and 2012 Annual Program
Development

Announcements and Dismissal

CLOSING OF THE WINTER BOARD SESSION

St. John Progressive Missionary Baptist Church presents

Lady Vanessa Banks
in

Sounds For Christmas



Sunday, December 18, 2011
2504 East Chipco Avenue
Tampa, Florida 33605
6:00 PM

A Christmas Recital *and CD Release*

Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year



REV. DR. BARTHOLOMEW BANKS, SR. & LADY VANESSA BANKS