



VOLUME 10, NUMBER 2
JULY 2015

The PROGRESSIVE

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

The President Speaks...



Reverend Remer Baker and the Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church of Kissimmee, FL. I am grateful to both of these Pastors for taking on this awesome challenge of hosting us this week.

Also, I want to express my appreciation to our Director, Dr. H. G. McCollough, and Dean Dr. J. L. Downing, and the entire Congressional staff for their untiring labor to ensure that we have prepared instructors, and a curriculum that addresses the needs of our constituency.

We are looking forward to a spirit-filled week of teaching and preaching! I pray that your stay will be fruitful and that you will have safe travel back to your various locations.

*Reverend Dr. Bartholomew Banks,
President*

To the Progressive Constituency, Visitors, and Friends:

Greetings in the name of our Christ, and welcome to the 42nd Annual Session of our State Congress of Christian Education!

God has once again shown Himself to be faithful and has brought us to the beautiful city of Orlando where we have convened to study the word of God, and fellowship with one our brothers and sisters.

This year's session is being hosted by Reverend Dr. Rollie Murray and the Bethel Missionary Baptist Church, and co-hosted by

The 42nd Annual Session of the Congress of Christian Education

THEME:
**“Learning From
the Past, Applying
It to the Present,
to Succeeding In The
Future”**

THEME SCRIPTURES:
Psalms 105:1-45; 106:48
1 Samuel 7:1-12,
Philippians 2:12-16,
Jude 5-25,
Romans 11:13-36,
Hebrews 11:32-40; 12:1-2;
18:24



Greetings From Lady Banks

It is with Jesus joy I greet you this day, and I take this time to thank all the Pastors and all the members for how you supported our President, and my husband, down through the years. I praise God for all of your efforts. This year, I am especially thankful because we are hosting our National Youth Director, Rev. Dr. Terrance D. Grant-Malone, as well as paying tribute to the past presidents of our Youth and Children Convention, of which I had the pleasure of serving as one. To God be the Glory.

Thank you to my St. John family for all you do, the St. Paul family for all you do, and the Progressive M & E family for your untiring service. I shall never be able to thank God enough for my extended family and for my God-given family - daughters Kenya and Dr. Barmeithia, and my sons Bartholomew II and Dr. Barron. I also thank God for my drivers, Godsisters, and all the people working behind the scenes to make Lady Vanessa the person I am today. Thank God for my Godly mother, Directress Elizabeth Rosier. Thank God for my husband who stands by my side through all of my illnesses and in health.

To God be the Glory.

Lady Vanessa Banks





Progressive Missionary and Educational Baptist State
Convention of Florida, Incorporated

Dr. Barbara F. Wright, Ministry President
Dr. Bartholomew Banks, Sr. Convention President

Greetings to each of you in the Name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ! It is with fervent joy that we humbly recognize and celebrate that God has allowed us another opportunity to come together in Christian love and fellowship to praise, worship and study His Word!

It is most astounding that we are a few days past the half year mark! The first part of 2015 has been quite busy and spiritually fulfilling as we celebrated our SWM Centennial in March. We have traveled across the state and beyond carrying out the vision of our ministry of Mission. In so doing, we have been able to touch lives, near and far, spiritually, educationally and physically in meeting needs, showing love, sharing a Word, and reaching out as far as Africa. In fact, as you many of you know, the Lord has granted me favor and the opportunity to join other women of the National Baptist Convention of America, International, Incorporated, to travel to the Baptist World Alliance Women's Leadership Conference and 21st Baptist World Conference in Johannesburg and Durban, South Africa. We will be departing from Washington, D.C. on July 16th and returning on the 30th. We, therefore solicit your prayers as we praise God for the wondrous things that He has blessed us to do, our safety and His continued compassion in all our efforts.

With all that we've done as a result of His grace and mercy, we know that there is so much more to do. We recognize that as long as our world, nation, and communities remain in the condition we find ourselves, we must remain true to our calling. We must continue in our efforts, as missionaries, to align our work with our spiritual purpose as we daily walk on this missionary journey.

I want to remind each of you that there is a malady that affects the immature believer and causes frustration, depression, and defeat. I label this malady as "Spiritual Myopia" or spiritual short-sightedness. It is a condition that hampers our field of vision or one's limited point of view, thus causing us to not see the big picture of things. We only see a few isolated facts, while the hidden connections, the far-reaching purposes, and the external consequences of God's ways are covered from our eyes.

Jacob's spiritual sight was blocked by perceptible facts. He was unable to see the all-wise and all-good hand of God shaping and directing the course of circumstances and events. He suffered from "Spiritual Myopia".....shortsightedness. Had he developed a deeper dimension of spiritual vision on what he knew about God, he would have known that, far from being against him, the miserable developments he mourned were working out

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precisely in his favor...

- Joseph was alive and well in Egypt
- Simeon would be released
- Benjamin would not be harmed
- Ultimately, there would be a blessed family reunion.

Recognizing that life has its adverse circumstances, conflicts and contradictions, i.e., struggles and challenges in our families, friends and even the church, we must consider where we stand as children of God. We must by our relationship with the Divine, our experiences with the Eternal, our assessment of the assurances given in the Word of God, develop a "Spiritual Farsightedness" that sees beyond the present facts to the finished future. It is only as we mature spiritually that this happens.

Jacob's lament in Genesis 42:36..."all these things are against me", it is noteworthy that there is no mention of Father God. It seems that his past associations with God had been forgotten, that is, his past victorious associations with God.

Whenever we, in our shortsightedness, allow dark days to overshadow, eclipse and erase from our recollection the hand of God in our yesterdays, we make our burdens heavier. The Holy Word tells us in I Corinthians 4:5 to "...judge nothing before the time, until the Lord come, who both will bring to light the hidden things of darkness, and will make manifest the counsels of the hearts: and then shall every man have praise of God".

Contrary to our human feelings, not all burdens, trials, situations and unpleasant events are against

us: God is present and works in all experiences of His children's lives. We must learn that the first thing we ought to say in every trial is, "It is the Lord". Trouble never overwhelms us as long as we can see God in it. We must grow up, rid ourselves of shortsightedness and learn never to pass judgement or condemnation of God's work until it is complete.

Romans 8:28 ends differently than Jacob's lament, affirming..."all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to His purpose."

Jesus had a right to say as Jacob did..."all things are against me". For, in His final days, there was rejection by Jews, Herod's contempt, the religious ruler's hatred, Pilot's cowardice, Peer's denial, Judas's betrayal, Satan's assaults and our own sins and iniquities. However, His belief was, God was at work, working things for His good. In that belief, He died and His faith and spiritual farsightedness were vindicated and on the third day morning, He Arose! We must take a stand! I take a stand with Jesus, what about you?

Additionally, be reminded that we must reclaim the mission of the church as written in Matthew 28:19-20. The message is clear that we must "Teach"! The magnitude is "to all nations". The messenger is "Ye". Our motivation is that "all power is given unto me.... Lo, I am with you always. Our urgency is "Go Ye.... For multitudes are perishing without Christ and without hope. This message to us is not optional! It is a mandate of the Master! Remember, there is an even greater work to be done. We must move forward in the work that is set before us!

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DATES TO REMEMBER

August 29th-30th, 2015

SWM Planning Session (Saturday) 12:00 PM

Thousand Women In White(Sunday) 3:00 PM

Dr. Bartholomew Banks, Sr. & St. John Progressive Baptist Church(Speaker)

Dr. Samuel Maxwell & 1st Baptist of Progress Village (Host Church)

September 13-18, 2015

NBCA 2015 Annual Session

Innisbrook Resort & Golf Club ~ Palm Harbor, Florida

Dr. Bartholomew Banks , Sr. ~ Host Pastor

Special Request from President Wright

All Sisters are requested to join us during the afternoon session on September 17th for the Parade of States Unity March (Banner March).

Finally, I am prayerful that we will have a blessed session as we continue our study book entitled, "The Legacy of Biblical Womanhood" with Sister Dorothy Jenkins and Sister Ola W. Johnson serving as our teachers.

Dr. Barbara F. Wright

Ministry President

**The 42nd
Annual Session of
the Congress of
Christian
Education**

HOSTED BY:
First South Florida Association, Moderator C. R. Taylor

The Reverend Rollie Murray, Jr., Host Pastor
Bethel Missionary Baptist Church, Host Church
Orlando, Florida

&

The Reverend Remer Baker, Jr., Co-Host
Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church, Co-Host Church
Kissimmee, Florida



“So then just as your received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live in him, rooted and built up in him strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness. (Col. 2:6-7)

Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior,

We are grateful to our Lord and Savior for the privilege of allowing us to gather in Orlando for the 42nd Annual Session of the Congress of Christian Education for the Progressive Missionary & Educational Baptist State Convention of Florida. We give blessings, honor and praises to His Holy Name!

Our Teachers, Sister Ruth Johnson and Sister Mary Priester are excited about sharing God’s Word with the Deaconesses that are expected to be in attendance. Special invitation is extended to Deaconesses in the Central Florida and surrounding area to please do not miss this opportunity to again hear great teaching via these two great women of God.

The State Deaconess Council offers our heartfelt congratulations to Congress Director Dr. H.G. McCollough and his administration for their leadership. Likewise, we offer the same to the

Director and Directress of the Youth/Children Convention. We are thankful for this wonderful and blessed opportunity to come together and study more of His word in a group setting.

Special Notice:

You are cordially invited to attend 6th Annual Marlvn Phillips Brotherhood Unity Day & Deaconess Council Summit August 21 – 22, 2015. The Host Association & Host Church: Kissimmee Valley & First Missionary Baptist Church Dean’s Court – 906 NW 9th Avenue & 9th Street – Okeechobee, FL 34972.

Host Hotel: Hampton Inn Okeechobee – 1200 State Road 70 East, Okeechobee. Telephone #: (863) 824-0003. Rates are \$89.00 king size and 99.00 two-queen size Blocking Code: Kissimmee Valley Association. Cut-off date: August 10th. Ladies and gentlemen, please do not miss this great event in the South Florida area.

Have a wonderful and blessed time in the Lord always!

Sister Gerri McCallister
State Deaconess Council President

CHILDREN AND YOUTH CONVENTION



*"I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me."
Philippians 4:13*

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

How blessed we are to be together in Orlando again for our Annual Congress session. God is just so good. I am a living testimony of His goodness and His grace. We give thanks that we are able to host our National Youth Director, Rev. Dr. Terrance D. Grant-Malone, as well as paying tribute to our past Youth Presidents. I thank God and I praise Him that He has spared my life to come from being on life support for 18 days in 2009, to 2015 where I am still in the land of the living. What a mighty God we serve.

I praise God for my son-in-law, our President, Rev. Dr. Bartholomew Banks, Sr., for his strong leadership and loving guidance. My special thanks go out to all of the Pastors and Counselors for bringing their young people to learn and experience the fellowship that we have in Progressive M and E. I give a special thank you to Congress Director, Dr. H.G. McCullough for his continual prayers and support.

The Lord has truly blessed me to see my children one more time! For that, I give thanks! He has been better to me than I deserve. And for that, I say "Thank you, Lord!" I am so proud and honored to serve as your State Directress, and I look forward to a wonderful session here in Orlando! God bless you all!

With all my love,
Directress Elizabeth Rosier
State Directress of Youth and Children
PMEBSCF



WOMEN'S INTERMEDIATE AUXILIARY



Greetings to each o you in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ! I would like to take this opportunity to thank each and everyone for your support, love, and encouragement shown during my first Persident's Hour. Our session together was truly blessed and it was because of each of you and your willingness to let go and let God. The Women Intermediate Auxiliary also traveled to Biloxi, MS to celebrate the 16th Annual NBCA WIA Conference. It was a wonderul time of fellowship and worship with sisters from across the country.

We eagerly anticipate a blessed time in Orlando, FL as we gather for the 2015 Congress of Christian Education. We continue to solicit your prayers and support as we endeavor to serve.

In His Service,
Kathy Jackson



South Florida Progressive Baptist Association
The Centennial – Celebrating our

100th ANNUAL SESSION

Theme: To God be the Glory!

Reverend Dr. C. T. Kirkland, Moderator
Reverend Dr. J. L. Downing, Vice Moderator
Reverend Brian K. Brown, Vice Moderator
Reverend Dr. Joseph Gordon, Moderator Emeritus

COMMISSIONED AND COMMITTED
- THE CONFERENCE -

October 9 – 10, 2015
(Pastors October 6, 9, 10, 2015)



PASTORS

The

COURAGEOUS

Standing on the promises



BROTHERHOOD

Called to

LEADERSHIP

Restore / Refresh / Renew



WOMEN

On

PURPOSE

Strong Women of God



St. Mark Missionary Baptist Church, 1301 37th Street South, St. Petersburg, FL
Reverend Brian K. Brown, Pastor / Hosting
(727) 321 – 6621

42nd Annual Session

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Monday, July 20

7:00 P.M.

WELCOME PROGRAM

The Director's Request:

Please be present and support the local Churches' Programs

Presented By:

First South Florida Association

Reverend Dr. C.R. Taylor, Moderator

*Bethlehem Missionary Baptist Church,
Winter Garden*

The Reverend Rollie Murray, Jr., Host Pastor

*Bethel Missionary Baptist Church, Host Church
Orlando, Florida*

&

The Reverend Remer Baker, Jr., Co-Host

*Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church, Co-Host Church
Kissimmee, Florida*

OFFICIAL OPENING OF CONGRESS

Director, H. G. McCollough, Presiding

8:00 P.M. Worship Service

Devotional Period Deacons of Zion Hill, *Orlando*
Deacons of Christian Fellowship, *Sanford*

Selections.....Zion Hill Choir
Christian Fellowship Choir

Sermon:.....Reverend Charles Williams, Jr.
Zion Hill M. B. Church, Orlando

Alternate: Moderator Otis Raines
Christian Fellowship, Sanford

Offering, Announcements and Adjournment

LATE NIGHT SERVICE

Dr. Kendrix J. Gardner, *Chairman*

Reverend Alonzo Lewis - *Shiloh, Fuller Height*

Tuesday July 21

ALL CLASSES WILL BE HELD AT THE
DOUBLETREE HILTON ORLANDO at
SEAWORLD

Reverend Dr. Fred Brown, Presiding

8:30 A.M.Devotion
Brotherhood Ministry

8:45 A.M.Registration and Class Instructions,
Dean Jimmie Downing

42nd Annual Session

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9:00 A.M. – 9:50 A.M.....FIRST CLASS PERIOD

PASTORS' and MINISTERS' CONFERENCE

MINISTERS' ENRICHMENT

***“First Century Ministries Mixed with 21st Century
Methods” - by A.H. Parker***

Dr. Samuel Maxwell, Instructor

BROTHERHOOD & MEN'S MINISTRY

“No Man Left Behind”

Deacon Eddie Norman, Instructor
(Books Available)

WOMEN'S MINISTRY & MINISTERS' WIVES

***“A Life Embraced: A Hopeful Guide
for The Pastor's Wife”***

Dr. Victoria Kirkland, Instructor
(Books Available)

SENIOR WOMEN'S MINISTRY

“The Legacy of Biblical Womanhood”

Sister Dorothy Jenkins & Sister Ola Johnson,
Instructors
(Books Available)

DEACONESS' MINISTRY

“Working Women of the Bible”

Sister Ruth Johnson, Instructor
(Books Available)

WOMEN'S INTERMEDIATE MINISTRY

“By Design”

Reverend Brian Brown, Instructor
(Books Available)

JUNIOR WOMEN'S MINISTRY

“Leading Women Who Wound”

Sister Francesca Henderson Kirkman
(Books Available)

MUSIC MINISTRY

“The Art of Devotional Praises”

Reverend Greg Davis & Sister Cynthia Kendrick,
Instructors
(Materials Provided)

HOSPITALITY/USHERS

***“History, Leadership and Technique of Ushers/
Hospitality Ministry”***

Dr. Carolyn Collins, Instructor
(Materials Provided)

COMPUTER SCIENCE - ADVANCE

“Mornings”

Dean Jimmie Downing, Jr.
(Materials Provided)

10:00 A.M. – 10:50 A.M..... SECOND CLASS
PERIOD

(Continue First Period Studies)

PASTORS' and MINISTERS' CONFERENCE

11:00 A.M. – 11:50 A.M.....GENERAL
ASSEMBLY
(State Congress in Charge)

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Sermon:..... Moderator C.R. Taylor
Winter Garden
Moderator of First South Florida Association

Alternate: Reverend L. Wilson
St. Matthew, Sanford

Choirs and Ushers of both churches
are asked to serve

12:00 P.M. Offering, Announcements &
Adjournment for lunch

1:30 P.M. – 2:20 P.M. THIRD CLASS
PERIOD

GENERAL ELECTIVES “ONLY”

All students are to select an afternoon course from
the following electives:

Computer Science – Beginners
Dance & Drama

Ideal Plays for your Church will be given to the
ones participating in this course:

PASTORS’ and MINISTERS’ CONFERENCE

2:20 P.M. – 3:25 P.M. FOURTH CLASS
PERIOD
(Continue Third Period Studies)

3:30 P.M. – 4:30 P.M.GENERAL ASSEMBLY
(State Congress in Charge)

Sermon:..... Reverend Herman Dericho
New Hope, Apopka

Alternate:Reverend Alexander Smith
Associate Pastor, New Hope, Apopka

Offering, Announcements & Dismissal

7:00 P.M.
YOUTH & CHILDREN’S
CONVENTION MUSICAL
(See Supplemental Program)

LATE NIGHT SERVICE
Dr. Kendrix J. Gardner, *Chairman*
Reverend Michael Rue - *First Baptist, Sebring*



42nd Annual Session

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Wednesday, July 22

Reverend Dr. Samuel Maxwell, Presiding

8:30 A.M.Devotion
Brotherhood Ministry

8:45 A.M.Registration and Class Instructions
Reverend Dr. J.L. Downing, *Dean*

9:00 A.M. – 9:50 A.M.....FIRST CLASS PERIOD
(See Tuesday's Classes)

10:00 A.M.The State Director's Hour
Dr. H.G. McCollough, *Director*
(See Supplemental Program)

*Everyone is expected to come and share in the
Director's Hour*

12:00 P.M. Offering, Announcements,
& Adjourn for lunch

1:30 P.M. – 2:30 P.M.SECOND CLASS PERIOD

PASTORS' and MINISTERS' CONFERENCE

2:30 P.M. – 3:30 P.M.FOURTH CLASS PERIOD

Sermon:..... Reverend Dr. Jimmie L. Downing
Pastor, Greater New Jerusalem, Lakeland

Alternate:Reverend Eddie Gilbert
Pastor, Macedonia, Bartow

Choirs and Ushers of both churches
are asked to serve

7:00 P.M.

**TRIBUTE TO:
SISTER ELIZABETH ROSIER,
YOUTH DIRECTRESS**

8:00 P.M. Worship Service

Devotional Period Youth Ministry

Selection..... Youth Choirs

Sermon:..... Dr. Terrence O. Grant-Malone
National Youth & Children Director

Offering, Announcements and Adjourn

LATE NIGHT SERVICE

Dr. Kendrix J. Gardner, *Chairman*
Reverend Detrick Leonard - *Bethel, Lake Alfred*

42nd Annual Session

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Thursday, July 23

Reverend Fleming Tarver, Presiding

8:30 A.M.Devotion
Brotherhood Ministry

9:00 A.M. - 9:50 A.M. FIRST CLASS PERIOD

10:00 A.M. - 10:50 A.M.SECOND
CLASS PERIOD

*(Please don't forget to complete
an Evaluation Sheet in your Class)*

PASTORS' and MINISTERS' CONFERENCE

11:00 A.M. - 11:50 A.M.GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Sermon:..... Reverend Riley Henderson
Pastor, St. Luke, Marianna
Moderator, Second West Association

Alternate: Reverend Aldredge Young
Pastor, First Mt. Moriah, Panama City
Moderator, New Gulf Coast Association

12:00 P.M.Offering, Announcements
& Adjourn for Lunch

1:30 P.M. - 2:40 P.M. THIRD CLASS PERIOD

PASTORS' and MINISTERS' CONFERENCE

2:45 P.M. - 3:20 P.M. FOURTH CLASS PERIOD

3:25 P.M. - 4:30 P.M.GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Sermon:..... Reverend Frank O'Harroll
Pastor, Bethel, Winter Haven

Alternate:Reverend Dr. J.J. Pierce
Pastor, First Institutional, Lake Wales

7:00 P.M.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Dr. Fleming Tarver, Presiding

Devotional Moments Deacons
Mt. Pleasant & Bethel

Selections Mt. Pleasant & Bethel Choirs

Sermon:..... Reverend J. Morrison
Pastor, Mt. Pleasant, Orlando

Alternate: Reverend Dr. Rollie Murray, Jr.
Pastor, Bethel MBC, Orlando

Choirs and Ushers of both churches
are asked to serve

42nd Annual Session

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Friday, July 24

Vice President at Large Dr. Rufus L. Wood, Jr., Presiding

9:00 A.M. Inspirational Devotion
Brotherhood Ministry

MUSICAL APPRECIATION
CHILDREN/YOUTH CHOIR

THE CONVENTION'S SCHOLARSHIP PRESENTATIONS

Reverend Torin Dailey, *Chairman*
Dr. Bartholomew Banks, Sr., *President*

PRESENTATION OF OUR
BAPTIST STATE PRESIDENT
Director H. G. McCollough

OPENING OF SUMMER BOARD
BUSINESS SESSION
President Bartholomew Banks, Sr., *Presiding*

CLOSING OF THE 42nd CONGRESS of CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

“It is our prayer that you return safely to your homes. May God richly bless each of you and thank you for attending this grand session in Orlando”





Friends of Lady Vanessa present

Jesus Girls That Rock

*Spotlighting Christian women of leadership
in the community, church, and workplace*

Saturday, August 1, 2015

1:00 p.m.

Tampa Marriott Waterside Hotel & Marina

700 South Florida Avenue, Tampa, FL 33602

Featuring



**Dr. Barbara
Wright**



**Elizabeth
Rosier**



**Alice Wynn
Maddix**



**Pam
Blocker**



**Sophia
Green**



**Brianna
Robinson**

And More

\$40.00 Donation

Proceeds from this event will be used to lift the least.

For more information & tickets, please see Lady Vanessa Banks or call 813-989-1056.

THANK YOU
**for attending the 42nd Annual Session of the Congress
of Christian Education.**