

HIGHLIGHTS

First-Generation College Students: Please Share Your Story

Were you the first in your family to attend college? We want to hear from you! Berean Baptist Church wants to celebrate first-generation students; no matter how long ago!

If you were the first in your family to go to college, please share your experience; it could very well encourage someone else.



Congratulations to Sister Tangy Morgan



Tangy Morgan is the niece of **Elder Hattie Murph**, formerly from Augusta, GA. She now has dual citizenship in London, England, and the USA. Tangy recently received this great honor in London.

The Freedom of the City has an over 800-Year History. People such as Franklin Roosevelt, The late Queen, Winston Churchill, Margaret Thatcher, Nelson Mandela & Morgan Freeman have received this award.

The award, given by the City of London Corporation, dates back to the 13th century and is bestowed upon individuals who make outstanding contributions to London and public life.

It was an honor to have the 695th Lord Mayor of the City of London Corporation (guy with funny hat), to nominate me to attend my ceremony (his name is on my scroll as Lord Mayor, again highly unusual and special)...it was a lot of history yesterday from the times of the Romans in the City of London (the Square Mile and financial district) different from Greater London.



THE SCHOLARSHIP MINISTRY



Attention All 2024 Grads! Berean Baptist Church would like to celebrate you and your awesome achievements!

If you will be graduating in 2024 from Pre-School/Kindergarten, Elementary, Jr. High/Middle, High/Trade School or College, please complete the **Recognition of Graduates' Form** (located in the foyer) and submit the completed form to the Scholarship Ministry or church office by the **Deadline Date of Sunday, May 19, 2024.**

From the list of graduates who would like to participate, we will also sponsor an essay contest. There will be 1st, 2nd & 3rd prizes awarded for the best essays. For the essay, there will be five topics from which to choose:

- Tell us about a time that you were not successful and what you learned from it.
- What are your academic/career goals?
- Describe a person you admire and why?
- What is your dream job and why?
- What are you thankful for and why?

Elementary Graduates | 50-100 words
Jr. High & Above Graduates | 150-250 words

Essay contest winners will be chosen at the discretion of the Scholarship Ministry; **deadline to submit essays is Sunday, May 19, 2024. also.



BIRTHDAYS



April 6
Sister Lyric Ellison
Sister Nettie Huff

April 13
Sister LaKeisha Temple

April 16
Sister Barbara Battle

April 17
Elder Brenda Sackel

April 19
Sister Elizabeth Crudup

April 24
Sister Denise Hood-Smith



BEREAN BAPTIST CHURCH MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



BEREAN

Baptist Church

"Where Traditions & Innovations Commune"

PUBLISHER: Volume No. 4 | Issue 1 | Date: April 1, 2024
2425-33 West Indiana Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19132-1304
Website: www.bereanphilly.org | Email: bereanvision@yahoo.com
Reverend Dr. Michael W. Couch, Pastor

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Why Did Jesus Fast?

Question: Why Did Jesus Fast?

Answer: Fasting is a practice found throughout Scripture. A fast in the Bible is usually a voluntary, total abstinence from food for a set time for the purpose of devoting oneself to seeking God. Fasting denies our flesh what it wants so that we can focus more clearly on strengthening our spirits.

It doesn't seem that Jesus fasted often. In fact, His critics condemned Him for "eating and drinking" (Matthew 11:19). There is only one recorded instance in Scripture of Jesus fasting. This fast immediately followed His baptism (Matthew 3:13), which inaugurated Jesus' public ministry. Matthew 4:1-2 says that Jesus was led by the Holy Spirit into the wilderness to fast for forty days and nights.

During that time of fasting, Jesus was repeatedly tempted by the devil. This testing time prepared Him for the three-year ministry that would change the world.

During those forty days, when Jesus' flesh was at its weakest, He endured relentless temptation from Satan. Satan offered Him alternatives to God's plan, compromises that would satisfy His natural desires, and attacks upon His very identity as the Son of God (Matthew 4:3).

Jesus used the Word of God, not His own strength, to defeat those temptations and remain victorious over sin. He demonstrated for us that fasting can strengthen us spiritually when we use it to draw closer to God.

After Jesus' fast, the devil left Him and "angels came and attended him" (Matthew 4:11). Luke 4:14 concludes the account of this testing time by saying, "Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit." He had conquered temptation and was ready to embrace the purpose for which the Father had sent Him. He would not rely on His humanity to perform miracles, deliver the oppressed, or defeat death. Fasting was a way to declare mastery over His human nature so that He would live every moment directed by the "power of the Spirit" (Luke 10:21). He set the example for us who "are not in the realm of the flesh but are in the realm of the Spirit" (Romans 8:9). If the Son of God did not rely on His flesh to live in obedience to God, then we can't either.



Article taken from gotquestions.com



Family Corner



Hurt feelings, disappointments, and lack of agreement are common problems in families. The cause of breached relationships is endless. Problems can build over time until family members stop communicating and repairing a damaged relationship may seem beyond hope.

What steps can a Christian take to repair a broken relationship?

- Pray.** Prayer is the first step in resolving any problem. Ask God for wisdom and guidance and an opportune time to begin the process.
- Forgive.** Forgiveness is the decision to let go of resentment and vengeful thinking. It doesn't mean you deny or minimize the other person's responsibility for hurting you. Accept the situation and move on. Forgiveness has scientifically proven health benefits. But moreover, the Bible commands us to forgive: "Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you" (Ephesians 4:32).
- Look for the good in the person.** Conflicts make it difficult to recognize positive characteristics, but it may soften your anger.
- Be the bigger person.** In a statement, someone has to make the first move. We may ask, "Why should I have to do it?" I didn't do anything wrong. Ask yourself this question: "Do I value being right more than I value the relationship?" Remember: almost no conflict is entirely one person's fault.
- Provide reassurance.** When reaching out, let your family member know you love them and want to start fixing things. Let them know the feud is not as big as your love for them. If you need to apologize, do so.
- Speak words of understanding.** These words may be helpful in defusing conflict: I see what you mean. Ok, you have a point. Tell me more about that.
- Give time.** Lower your expectations of others. If your request is rejected, give some space and try again at another time.
- Don't involve the children.** Guard your discussions and comments about family members in the presence of children.

God has to touch the heart and mind in mending a relationship. We can't control another person's reactions. The other party may choose to be unresponsive or heighten their abuse, although your intentions are sincere. God may lead you to focus on a healthy detachment. The important thing is to allow the Holy Spirit to lead so we can live without regrets. "In all thy ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct thy paths" (Proverb 3:6).

Reference: Mayo Clinic 2011, Forgiveness: Letting Go of Grudges and Bitterness

Berean Baptist Church
2425-33 W. Indiana Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19132

Prayer, Praise & Study



Every Wednesday on "Zoom"
at 6:00 P.M.

Connect on your Computer or Smartphone for Free:
Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84441541339>
Connect via FREE Phone Conference:
Dial: (301) 715-8592, At the prompt, enter Meeting ID: 84441541339

Join to Study God's Word With Us!



"Let the little children come to me...."

MATTHEW 19:14

We invite you and your children, of all ages, to join us,

for Sunday School every Sunday morning @9:00 A.M.

We look forward to seeing you!

Love Lifted Me † Hymn #411

1 I was sinking deep in sin, Far from the peaceful shore,
Very deeply stained within, Sinking to rise no more.
But the Master of the sea, Heard my despairing cry,
From the waters lifted me - Now safe am I.

[Refrain:]
Love lifted me, Love lifted me,
When nothing else could help, Love lifted me.
Love lifted me, Love lifted me,
When nothing else could help, Love lifted me.

2 All my heart to Him I give, Ever to Him I'll cling,
In His blessed presence live, Ever His praises sing.
Love so mighty and so true, Merits my soul's best songs.
Faithful, loving service, too, To Him belongs. [Refrain]

3 Souls in danger, look above, Jesus completely saves;
He will lift you by His love, Out of the angry waves.
He's the Master of the sea, Billows His will obey;
He your Savior wants to be - Be saved today. [Refrain]

The Homeless Outreach

"Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest" (Matt. 11:28, KJV)

The Outreach Team met on February 9, 2024, in front of a local church in the Kensington section of Philadelphia. This small church hosted several local and out-of-state Christian ministries as they came together to serve the community.

A man who looked as if he could not hold his balance and had difficulty walking approached a member of the Outreach Team. It appeared that the man was in pain and could have fallen over at any moment. It was assumed that he had recently undergone a medical procedure on his foot because it was bandaged with white gauze, and he wore a black hospital boot on it. The man humbly asked for assistance in going into a rehab facility. He stated with urgency, "I am ready!" The team member contacted a drug rehab facility by phone, but they denied the man's admittance due to his lack of photo identification. Photo identification is one of the requirements for entry into such programs. The team member then contacted an organization that helped special groups obtain identification but was told that they would not open until Monday morning. This took place on a Saturday. Ultimately, the team member was able to assist the man in receiving shelter and rest inside the hosting church for a short time.

Unlike the facilities that rejected this man, Christ will accept us as we are, right now. He will not turn you away because you do not have something or make you wait for another day. He is asking you to come to Him with all of your imperfections and hurts. He wants to provide you with rest and shelter for eternity. He only asks that you are ready to come and accept Him into your life as your Lord and Savior.

Submitted by Sister Charlene Howard

Sick & Recovering
"Naked & Ye Clothed Me; I Was Sick & Ye Visited Me"
(Matthew 25:36)

+++++

Sisters:

Eloise Ball	Elizabeth Crudup (Watch Care)
Mother Mary Beamon	Eld. Louise Jones
Pearlie Burrows	Bertha Marshall
Mary Chapman	Juanita Parker
Sandra Chestnut	

Brothers:

Lincoln Bowen	Ocie Rhoden, Jr.
Theodore Hall	

Nursing & Rehabilitation Center:

Bro. Albert Chambers
Genesis Spring Nursing
& Rehabilitation Center
1113 Easton Road
Room #423A
Willow Grove, PA 19090-1901



Please remember to pray for our sick and recoveries
*Visit*Send Cards*

"Worship by Giving"

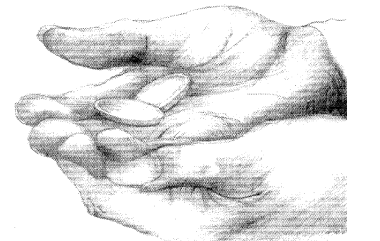
Worship Leader - 8. Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings. **9.** Ye are cursed with a curse: for ye have robbed me, even this whole nation. **10.** Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.

Worship Leader:
"Worship by Giving!"
Congregation:
"Praise the Lord!"

Worship Leader:
"Worship by Giving!"
Congregation:
"Praise the Lord!"

Worship Leader:
"Worship by Giving!"
Congregation:
"Praise the Lord!"

"...she... put in everything - all she had..."
Mark 12:44



Core Commitments



- I. **Bereanites**, start each day the Right Way:
 - Commit to personal development by reading one chapter of the Bible every day and every night.
 - Listen to fifteen minutes of an inspirational audio/video.
 - Reflect on your action steps for that day.

 - II. Stay Connected:
 - Discipleship Training Zoom “Bible Study” on Wednesday at 6:00 P.M.-7:00 P.M.
 - Discipleship Training “Sunday School” 9:00 A.M.-9:45 A.M.
 - Discipleship Training “RightNow Media” our streaming library of more than 20,000 Bible Study videos for you and your family.
- rightnow MEDIA | Free Gift for Your Family**
- III. Commit to planting two seeds Every Day:
 - Share your story or the Gospel story with two people every day.
 - By texting, emailing, tracts, social media, Berean Newsletters, and by any means necessary = (48 seeds planted every month).
 - Proverbs 11:30

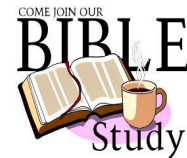
 - IV. Attend weekly service with Guests:
 - Invite guests each week by sharing your story or the Gospel story to grow the ministry.
 - Make a 52-week commitment.

 - V. Help new members get started right:
 - Help new members plug into Bible Study on Wednesday at 6:00 P.M.-7:00 P.M.
 - Help new members plug into Sunday School from 9:00 A.M.-9:45 A.M.
 - Help new members plug into RightNow Media
 - Help new members to share their story or the Gospel story by texting, emailing, tracts, social media, Berean’s Newsletter, etc.

 - VI. Retain membership:
 - Pray for the Berean family every day and every night.
 - Check-in with other Berean members.
 - Show love and encouragement to all your Berean family and guests.
 - Follow-up with Berean family and new members.

 - VII. Find a Biblical workout partner:
 - Partner with someone who will hold you accountable, motivate you, and help you stretch for more.

 - VIII. Be here next year if the Lord allows it:
 - Commit to the commitments.
 - We will see a harvest in you and the ministry.
 - Strength & Honor



Submitted by Pastor Couch

GOD is SO GOOD!

UPcoming EVENTS



Sunday, April 7, 2024, 10:00 A.M.
(Focus on Evangelism)



Sunday, April 14, 2024, 10:00 A.M.
(Youth & Young Adult Sunday)
(Baptism, Graduation & Right Hand of Fellowship)



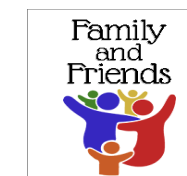
Every Wednesday in April at 6:00 P.M.
(Bible Study on Zoom)



Sunday, April 21, 2024, 10:00 A.M.
(Holy Communion)



Sunday, April 28, 2024, 10:00 A.M.
(Focus on Family Harmony)
(Mission Sunday)
(Second Chance Sunday)
Min. Anthony Gamble ~ Delivering the Word!



“Those who walk with God, always reach their destination!”

APRIL IS NATIONAL AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH



The first **National Autism Awareness Month** was declared by the Autism Society in April 1970.

The aim of this month is to educate the public about autism. Autism is a complex mental condition and developmental disability, characterized by difficulties in the way a person communicates and interacts with other people. Autism can be present from birth or form during early childhood (typically within the first three years). Autism is a lifelong developmental disability with no single known cause.

People with autism are classed as having Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and the terms autism and ASD are often used interchangeably. A wide spectrum disorder, people with Autism have a set of symptoms unique to themselves; no two people are the same.

Whilst no two people with Autism will have the same set of symptoms, there are common characteristics found in those with this complex disability.

Briefly, these characteristics include:

Social Skills - people with autism have problems interacting with others; autistic children do not have adequate playing and talking skills. Mild symptoms on one end of the spectrum may be displayed through clumsy behavior, being out of sync with those around them and inappropriate or offensive comments being made. At the other end of the spectrum, an autistic person may not be interested in others.

Empathy - empathy is the ability to recognize and understand the feelings of another person. People with autism find it harder to show empathy to others although they can be taught to acknowledge other's feelings.

Physical Contact - in some cases, autistic people do not like physical contact such as hugs, tickling or physical play with others.

Sudden Changes to Their Environment - a sudden change in the surrounding environment may affect a person with autism. It could be a loud noise, a change in intensity of lighting or even a change in smell.

Speech - speech can be affected in people with autism. 'Echolalia' is a typical speech symptom of which the person repeats words and phrases that they hear. The speech tone of an autistic person may be monotonous. Where symptoms are more extreme, the person may not speak.



April is National Autism Awareness Month, continued...

The Puzzle Ribbon Is The Symbol For this Event

Changes to Behavior and Routine - people with autism often display repetitive behavior in which they repeat the same action many times over. For example, a person with autism may repeatedly pace around a room in a certain direction. Any change to their behavior or routine can be unsettling for them. This could be a reordering of daily activities, such as when a person brushes their teeth, takes a shower, and has breakfast when they get up in the morning,

Other characteristics of autism include an unpredictable learning rate, obsessions, and physical tics.

Autism Is Widespread, Awareness About This Condition Is Not - In the United States, autism affects 1 in every 110 children. **National Autism Awareness Month** aims to make the public more aware about this widespread disability and the issues which arise in the autism community. As about 1 in 150 people in America have autism; the chances are that you know someone with this disability. A better-informed public will be more empathetic and supportive towards people with autism.

The month of April is backed by the Autism Society of America which undertake a number of activities to raise awareness about autism. The Autism Society has local chapters throughout the United States which hold special events throughout April.

The 'Puzzle Ribbon' is the symbol for Autism Awareness and is promoted by the Autism Society as means of supporting awareness for autism. The Puzzle Ribbon may take the form of a pin attached to clothing, a fridge magnet or a sticker and are available to purchase from the Autism Society website.

The Autism Society of America also run a year-long campaign through their 1 Power 4 Autism initiative, when people are encouraged to hold events to raise awareness and support for those affected by autism.

Philadelphia Sheriff's Office presents
2nd Annual Autism & Neurodiversity RESOURCE FAIR & FAMILY FUN DAY
Saturday, April 27, 2024
10:00 am - 3:00 pm
Food Giveaway begins at 11:00AM
The Salvation Army Ray & Joan Kroc Center
4200 Wissahickon Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19129

*Autism Q&A / Panel Discussion *Resource Tables *Moonbounce *Refreshments *First Responder Vehicles *Facepaint and more..

Autism Foundation, Autism Institute, Temple University, Jefferson Center for Autism & Neurodiversity, and many more.

For more information contact:
Community Outreach Liaison Darryl Roberts (215) 683-4827 / darryl.roberts@phila.gov

HIGHLIGHTS

Free New Parent Support!

CONGRATULATIONS!

Let us take care of you as you care for your new baby.

COMPLETE CARE FOR YOU AND YOUR BABY!

- Healthy meal and snacks!
- Breastfeeding Help!
- Mom and Baby Health Checks!
- Emotional Support!
- Meet other new parents!
- All services and gift bags provided at no cost to you!



Fridays
9 AM - 12 PM
This 4 week program will give you and your baby the healthiest start.



SIGN UP HERE!

Your start date: _____

DR. ALA STANFORD
CENTER FOR HEALTH EQUITY
2001 W Lehigh Ave, Philadelphia, PA 19132
484-270-6200



MOVEMENT AND MEMORY NAVIGATING PARKINSON'S AND MEMORY DISORDERS

Saturday, April 27, 2024
10:30 am to 1:30pm
One Bala Plaza
231 Saint Asaphs Road
Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004



DIVERSITY PD, a collaborative effort to provide education and resources for people of color to include partners from Penn, Jefferson, Cooper, Temple, VA's PADRECC, Salem Baptist Church Abington, Enon Tabernacle Baptist Church and The Parkinson Council invites you to a **FREE** community-focused, family-friendly and hope-driven event designed for families of color living in the Philadelphia region.

Join the conversation with experts in movement and memory that educates and empowers!

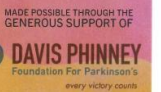
ADVANCED REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED. SPACE LIMITED.

For info on email info@theparkinsoncouncil.org or call 610.668.4292.

Register at <https://events.theparkinsoncouncil.org/movement-and-memory2024>

Program

- 10:30 AM - Check in**
First Floor - Community Room
- 11 AM - Community Welcome**
- 11:05 AM - Navigating the Parkinson's Journey**
 - Sharing stories:
 - Community members
 - Experts in Parkinson's and memory care
- 11:40 AM - Audience Q&A**
- 12:00 PM**
 - Interactive session - who's got your back and where to go from here?
 - I want to know...
- 12:30 PM - Health Break**
 - Resources and Lunch
- 1:15 PM - Wrap Up/GoodBye**



DR. ALA STANFORD
CENTER FOR HEALTH EQUITY

WOMEN'S MAMMOGRAPHY SCREENING

- ✓ >40 YRS. OLD
- ✓ EVERY 1-2 YEARS
- ✓ 365 DAYS SINCE LAST MAMMOGRAM
- ✓ CANNOT BE PREGNANT
- ✓ NO SYMPTOMS: LUMPS, DISCHARGE, PAIN OR CANCER

5/10/24

PRE REGISTRATION REQUIRED
484 270-6200

SCAN THE QR CODE AND MAKE AN APPOINTMENT TODAY!

Dr. Ala Stanford Center for Health Equity (ASHE)
2001 W. Lehigh Avenue
(20th & Dr. Ala Stanford Way)
Philadelphia, PA 19132
1-844-4-BDC-DOC (1-844-4-232-362)
www.BDCARES.com



AARP TAXAIDE TAX PREPARATION

CENTER IN THE PARK
Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10:00 A.M.- 2:00 P.M.
5818 Germantown Avenue - 215-848-7722

WEST OAKLANE SENIOR CENTER
Mondays and Wednesdays, 10:00 A.M.-2:00 P.M.
7210-12 Ogontz Avenue - 215-685-3511

PHILADELPHIA SENIOR CENTER
Mondays and Wednesdays, 10:00 A.M.-2:00 P.M.
509 South Broad Street - 215-546-5879

SOUTH PHILADELPHIA OLDER ADULT CENTER
Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10:00 A.M.-2:00 P.M.
1430 E. Passyunk Avenue - 215-685-1697

-FREE SERVICES FOR ALL-

Guest Column: The Upside of Hiring an Ex-con
Published 09/13/18 | Updated 08/19/21 | Opinion
 (Article continued for March 2024 Newsletter)

Organizations like Connection Training Services, PACareerLink, and UpLift Solutions Inc., are just a few local regional community agencies committed to helping move ex-offenders from unemployment into successful training programs and gainful employment. On Aug. 20, 2018, in collaboration with UpLift Solutions and Temple University, I hosted an employment open house event exclusively for ex-offenders on Temple University's campus, the event drew more than 500 ex-offenders, all eager and desperate for employment!

There are some current policies and financial incentives to urge employers to hire ex-offenders. Community Integrated Services, in Philadelphia, reports on its website that "Philadelphia Re-Entry Employment Program (PREP) grants a \$10,000 credit against Philadelphia's Business Privilege Tax to any eligible employer who hires an ex-offender. Employers can receive up to a \$10,000 tax credit each year for three years for each ex-offender hired for at least six months. The maximum amount of tax credit a business may receive for any one qualifying employee over all tax years is \$30,000."

Creative financial incentives like these give small businesses and large employers strong financial reasons to consider hiring ex-offenders. Employers like Brown's ShopRite Superstores and Fresh Grocer are great examples of two employers that hire ex-offenders.

John Shegerian, Chairman and CEO of Electronic Recyclers International, has 20 years of experience hiring ex-offenders. He's employed hundreds of ex-cons. In an article published by the Business News Daily ("5 Reasons to Consider Hiring an Ex-Prisoner"), Shegerian says ex-offenders, "... try harder to and take their job very seriously... Imagine what would happen to our recidivism rates, gang participation rates, crime rates and drug abuse rates if every business in the U.S. opened their doors and their hearts to hire just one ex offender."

For ex-offenders, it's important that they remain steadfast in their commitment and diligent in seeking out proven training programs, education, and support services that can greatly buttress their efforts to secure gainful employment.

If business and industry isn't willing to take a chance on re-purposing ex-offenders for gainful employment, then by default, we become guilty in aiding in their return to a life of crime. To blackball ex-offenders from workforce opportunities is further punishment and an added sentence to their rap sheet.

When legislatures and political leaders ignore initiating policies and procedures that support employment of hiring ex-offenders, they become a part of the problem of contributing to the escalating recidivism rate that's occurs throughout the American prison industrial complex. Let's make a concerted effort to give qualified ex-offenders a second chance to succeed.

Published by Michael Robinson | Daily Times

SECOND CHANCE SUNDAY
 WE ARE A **Second Chance Month partner!**



DID YOU KNOW?

One in 3 American adults—or approximately **70 million people**—has a criminal record.

There are more than **44,000 documented restrictions** affecting people with a criminal record.

More than **600,000 people** are released from prison or jail every year.

What You Can Do

- 01 Go to prisonfellowship.org/secondchance and learn how you can participate in Second Chance Month by writing to your representative, posting on social media, organizing an event, and more!
- 02 Consider introducing someone with a criminal record to a person who might be willing to hire them. Or if you own a business, consider giving them an interview.
- 03 Provide practical assistance to help people coming home become independent and successful, such as help finding work-appropriate clothing for a job interview, referrals to potential employers or landlords, and guidance on practical life skills like getting a driver's license or filing taxes.
- 04 Welcome returning citizens into your congregation. Offer fellowship, mentoring, accountability, and an opportunity to exercise their unique gifts in service to the Body of Christ.
- 05 Go to justicedeclaration.org to affirm your commitment to a biblical framework for our justice system. Signing the Justice Declaration will allow Prison Fellowship to provide you updates on justice reforms in your state and at the federal level.



1ST ANNUAL RE-ENTRY SECOND CHANCE JOB FAIR & RESOURCE VILLAGE!
 Meet with Reentry Friendly Hiring Employers and Community Agencies that Provide Services to Formerly Incarcerated Citizens!
Exclusively for Job Seeking Returning Citizens!
Friday, April 19, 2024, 10am-2pm



REENTRY JOB FAIR LOCATION:

Howard Gittis Student Activity Center/Temple University
 1755 North 13th St / Room 200, Philadelphia, PA 19122
 (corner of 13th & Montgomery / enter from middle of block building entrance)



FOR MORE INFO, CONTACT EVENT ORGANIZER:

Michael Robinson, M.S.
 Temple University Lenfest North Philadelphia Workforce Initiative
 215-204-0677
mike.robinson@temple.edu

A HUGE THANKS TO OUR EVENT PARTNERS/SPONSORS:



Adult Mental Health Resources

Mental Health has taken our community by storm. Here are some Resources available to help the Congregation and Community!

Community Behavioral Health

CBH is the city-operated health maintenance organization for persons needing mental health care. Most Medical Assistance patients must call this number first for information and referrals (215) 413-3100, or 1 (888) 545-2600 - Crisis Hotline (215) 686-4420
www.dbhids.org/community-behavioral-health/

Online Mental Health Screening

Through Dept. of Behavioral Health - Free online screening and resources.

Go to healthymindsphilly.org/screening to check it out.



National Suicide Prevention Hotline

24-hour a Day National Hotline. Call 1 (800) 273-8255 or go to website below:
<http://www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org/>

Mental Health Association of Southeastern PA

Organization that develops, promotes, and supports education and advocacy programs and serves children with mental health needs - 1211 Chestnut Street - (800) 688-4226 or (215) 751-1800.
www.mhasp.org

Magellan Behavior Health (Health Partners, KHPE, BCBS)

Call (800) 688-1911 for intake at:
www.magellanofpa.com



BHSI (Behavioral Health System Initiative)

City-funded agency for individuals without health insurance with **substance abuse**. 801 Market Street, (215) 546-1200. bhsi-dbhids.org



Drug and Alcohol Helpline

The Center for Substance Abuse Treatment hotline. Call 1 (800) 662-4357 to find a resource near you.
<http://www.samhsa.gov/>



Nar-Anon

Support for families of addicts. Call 1 (800) 477-6291
<https://www.nar-anon.org/>



Alcoholics Anonymous

Call (215) 923-7900 for information or go to their website below.
www.aasepia.org

Narcotics Anonymous (NA)

Support groups for clean addicts and active users. Call 215-NA-WORKS.
<http://www.naworks.org/>



CRISIS TEXT LINE: TEXT "MHFA" TO 741741

Available 24/7, 365 days a year, this organization helps people with mental health challenges by connecting callers with trained crisis volunteers who will provide confidential advice, support, and referrals if needed.
<https://www.crisistextline.org/>

Submitted by Pastor Couch



SEE SOMETHING,
SAY SOMETHING!!



IF YOU HAVE INFORMATION REGARDING A CRIME OR ILLEGAL ACTIVITY IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD, OR IF YOU'RE IN NEED OF HELP OR COMMUNITY RESOURCES, PLEASE REACH OUT TO ANY ONE OF THE 39TH DISTRICT'S COMMUNITY TEAM MEMBERS:

Captain Joseph Busa - Commanding Officer - Joseph.Busa@phila.gov

Sgt. Dawn Thomas - Sergeant - Dawn.Thomas@phila.gov or 215-685-3035

P/O Tarik Stroman - Community Relations Officer - Tarik.Stroman@phila.gov or 215-686-3390

P/O Raymond Sutton - Crime Prevention Officer - Raymond.Sutton@phila.gov or 215-356-6204

P/O Julianne Bruhns - Victims' Assistance Officer - Julianne.Bruhns@phila.gov or 215-685-3034

311 - Report Nuisance / Blight issues
215-546-TIPS - Citizen's Crime Commission (report anonymous tips)

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

PSA 3 Meeting with Lt. Oneeka Noble (Oneeka.Noble@phila.gov) - Wednesday, April 17th, at 7:00pm - 2850 N. 22nd St. (22nd St Business Association Building)

Captain's Townhall Meeting - Monday, April 22nd, 6:00pm - 39th District, 2201 W. Hunting Park Ave.

As always, follow us on social media at:

@PPD39Dist - X
39th District Community Team - Facebook
ppd_39th_district - Instagram



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SEPTA JPP HIRING EVENT

RECRUITING FOR BUS OPERATORS AND MAINTENANCE CUSTODIANS

April 10, 2024
10am - 1pm
2500 Jackson Street
Philadelphia, PA 19145

Scan to RSVP!

for any questions please email
jobspluswilson@pha.phila.gov

Come dressed to impressed and with resume

GotQuestions.org

What does the Bible say about Christian Tithing?

Many Christians struggle with the issue of tithing. In some churches giving is over-emphasized. At the same time, many Christians refuse to submit to the biblical exhortations about making offerings to the Lord. Tithing/giving is intended to be a joy and a blessing. Sadly, that is sometimes not the case in the church today.

Tithing is an Old Testament concept. The tithe was a requirement of the Law in which the Israelites were to give 10 percent of the crops they grew and the livestock they raised to the tabernacle/temple (Leviticus 27:30; Numbers 18:26; Deuteronomy 14:24; 2 Chronicles 31:5). In fact, the Old Testament Law required multiple tithes - one for the Levites, one for the use of the temple and the feasts, and one for the poor of the land-which would have pushed the total to around 23.3 percent. Some understand the Old Testament tithe as a method of taxation to provide for the needs of the priests and Levites in the sacrificial system.

After the death of Jesus Christ fulfilled the Law, the New Testament nowhere commands, or even recommends, that Christians submit to a legalistic tithe system. The New Testament nowhere designates a percentage of income a person should set aside, but only says gifts should be "in keeping with income" (1 Corinthians 16:2). Some in the Christian church have taken the 10 percent figure from the Old Testament tithe and applied it as a "recommended minimum" for Christians in their giving.

Although no tithe is demanded of the Christian, the New Testament talks about the importance and benefits of giving. We are to give as we are able. Sometimes that means giving more than 10 percent; sometimes that may mean giving less. It all depends on the ability of the Christian and the needs of the body of Christ. Every Christian should diligently pray and seek God's wisdom in the matter (James 1:5). Above all, offerings should be given with pure motives and an attitude of worship to God and service to the body of Christ. "Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver" (2 Corinthians 9:7).

Parkside Association of Philadelphia

EMERGENCY FOOD DISTRIBUTION

EVERY - THURSDAY
9:30AM - 12:00PM

Fruits, Vegetables, meats, Breads, Eggs and more

Food distributed first come first served while supplies last

1719 N 52nd Street, Suite G.
Philadelphia, PA. 19131

CALL FOR MORE INFO: 215-877-1198

STATE REP. JOANNA E. MCCLINTON & STATE SEN. ANTHONY WILLIAMS' WEST PHILADELPHIA SHRED DAY

April 20 - 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Motivation High School Parking Lot

5900 Baltimore Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19143

Please enter parking lot on 59th Street side of the building.

Let us help you get organized and give you a greener sense of security!

Bring your:

Old documents • Folders • Correspondence

Berean Baptist Church

Mission:

"Evangelize, Edify & Empower"

Berean Baptist Church's Mission is to be a biblically centered ministry, designated to Evangelize to the lost, Edify the people of God, and to Empower persons through the sharing of our Lord's love toward the saved and unsaved. We seek to unapologetically, provide a holistic ministry to our congregation first, community second, and to the crowds and masses of humanity, third.

Vision:

"Community, Commune & Christ"

Berean Baptist Church's Vision is to build a Community of Revitalized servants and saints, to Commune in Reconciliation through the message of Salvation, and to Demonstrate a Christ-like Redemption to the world.

Values:

"Faith, Hope & Love"

Berean Baptist Church surrenders its heart, mind, and spirit to the abilities that enables our ministries to be Fruitful.

"Where Traditions & Innovations Commune"

The Ophelia Moses Missionary Circle Ministry

"Mission Day Service" | Sunday, April 28, 2024



Min. Anthony Gamble ~ Delivering the Word!

Theme: "Live for Christ" | His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and goodness" (2 Peter 1:3).

Missionary's Prayer: "Heavenly Father, we dedicate ourselves to your service anew, in the certain knowledge that You will provide everything that we need to live an abundant life."

HOLY COMMUNION SERVICE

*Church Covenant.....Responsively
 *Communion Medley of Hymns
 Consecration of the Elements & Benediction.....Pastor Couch
 **Organ Postlude



The Order of Worship Service
 Sunday, April 28, 2024, 10:00 A.M.
 Worship Leader: Sis. Ruby Simpson



**FOCUS ON FAMILY HARMONY | SECOND CHANCE SUNDAY
 & MISSION SUNDAY (THEME: LIVE FOR CHRIST, 2 PETER 1:3)**

Devotional & Testimonial Service.....The Praise Team
 Processional.....Choir

*Call to Worship:
 Leader: "Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world" (Matthew 25:34)
 Cong: "For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in" (Matthew 25:35)
 All: "Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me" (Matthew 25:36).
 *Doxology.....**"Glory Be To The Father"**.....#538
 "Glory be to the Father, And to the Son, And to the Holy Ghost, As it was in the beginning, It's now and ever shall be, World without end, Amen! Amen!"
Enter His Gates

**
 Invocation.....Eld. Brenda Sackel
 Welcome & Announcements.....Sis. Charlene Howard
 Welcome Song.....Bro. Tyrone Davis

Enter His Gates
 Moment of Silence for Deceased Members

*Congregational Hymn.....**"Love Lifted Me"**.....#411
 Responsive Reading.....**"World Missions"**.....#563
 Selection.....Men of Berean (M.O.B.) Chorale
 **
Enter His Gates

*Altar Call.....Min. Felisha Poteat
 Selection.....Men of Berean (M.O.B.) Chorale
 Presentation of Associate Minister.....Worship Leader
Sermon.....**Min. Anthony Gamble**

Associate, Berean Baptist Church, Philadelphia, PA

***Invitation to Christian Discipleship**
 *Worship by Giving.....(See Page 15).....Worship Leader
 "All things come of Thee, O Lord, and of Thine own have we given thee. Amen"

*****Roll Call of Churches*****

Remarks.....Eld. Patricia L. Stewart, Ministry Leader
 *Closing Words & Benediction.....Min. Gamble

Newsletter Update: Please submit all items, articles, anniversaries and birthdays to the office by the 15th of each month so they can be published in our monthly newsletter. Thank you for your cooperation. "It's All About Ministry: Serving the Lord With Gladness" (Ephesians 4:11-16).

PAL CAREER EXPO

Information on summer jobs, internships, and full-time employment. Work permits issued on site.

YOUNG ADULTS AGES 14-24

JOIN US!

FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

APRIL 16, 2024
 4:00PM - 8:00PM
 THE CRANE COMMUNITY CENTER
 1001 VINE STREET
 PHILADELPHIA, PA 19107
 FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT
 TERRI.KERWAWICH@PHILLYPAL.ORG

JOIN US FOR OUR 2ND YOUTH VIOLENCE PREVENTION BASKETBALL EVENT

TEMPLE UNIVERSITY'S MCGONIGLE HALL
 1800 N BROAD ST
 APRIL 26TH
 10AM-1PM

FREE FOOD ENTERTAINMENT *RESOURCE TABLES* JOB OPPORTUNITIES*

LIMITED SPACES AVAILABLE

TO RSVP OR FOR MORE QUESTIONS CONTACT:
 SGT CROZIER - EUGENE.CROZIER@PHILA.GOV
 P/O NANCE - IAN.NANCE@PHILA.GOV

2024 GREATER PHILADELPHIA STEM CENTER SUMMER CAMP

Activities

- ✓ **Mission Possible Mondays:** Exploring electronic circuits, drones, and virtual reality applications
- ✓ **SEADAP Tuesdays:** Experimenting with Planaria and making real world connections
- ✓ **Coding and Robotics Wednesdays:** Various coding and underwater robotics challenges
- ✓ **Makerspace Thursdays:** Integrating engineering design principles using cutting-edge technology
- ✓ **Field Trip Fridays! (optional):** Session 1 trips are 6/28 & 7/5 and Session 2 trips are 7/26 & 8/2

You Choose! Session 1: JUNE 17 - JULY 11 OR Session 2: JULY 15 - AUGUST 8

FULL ATTENDANCE COMMITMENT IS REQUIRED program is offered free of charge

Open to all students entering grades 6, 7, or 8 in the fall of 2024

Meets Monday through Thursday from 8:30am to 4:00pm @ Temple University's Main Campus

Registration is OPEN!

<http://stem.cst.temple.edu/>

THE DEADLINE TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION IS MAY 15, 2024!

2024 STEM-UP Leadership Experience
 at Temple University

Join us! Program Dates: JULY 1 - AUGUST 8

FULL ATTENDANCE COMMITMENT IS REQUIRED program is offered free of charge

- 6-week STEM program open to students entering grades 9, 10, 11, or 12 in the Fall of 2024
- Meets Monday through Thursday from 9am to 4pm each week at Temple University's Main Campus
- Curriculum Focus: College level courses that include laboratory (Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Data/Computer Science, Mathematics (through calculus), and science fair/research projects
- Follow-up Opportunities: School year Saturday Academy, virtual academic support, and test prep (SAT/ACT)

THE DEADLINE TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION IS MAY 31, 2024!

Apply Now!

<http://stem.cst.temple.edu/>



The Order of Worship Service
 Sunday, April 7, 2024, 10:00 A.M.
 Worship Leader: Sis. Denise Ross



FOCUS ON EVANGELISM

Praise & Worship.....The Praise Team
 Processional.....Choir
 *Call to Worship:
 Leader: "For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised: he also is to be feared above all gods" (I Chronicles 16:25).
 All: "Give unto the Lord the glory due unto his name: bring an offering, and come before him: worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness" (I Chronicles 16:29).
 *Doxology.....**"Glory Be To The Father"**.....#538
 "Glory be to the Father, And to the Son, And to the Holy Ghost, As it was in the beginning, It's now and ever shall be, World without end, Amen! Amen!"
 **
Enter His Gates
 Invocation.....Diaconate Ministry
 Welcome & Announcements.....Deac. Kim Woods
 Welcome Song.....Dr. Josiah N. Rogers
 **
Enter His Gates
 *Congregational Hymn.....**"Love Lifted Me"**.....#411
 Responsive Reading.....**"Christian Living"**.....#561
 Selection.....Berean's Unity Choir
 **
Enter His Gates
 *Altar Call.....Min. Felisha Poteat
 Selection.....Berean's Unity Choir
 Presentation of Our Pastor.....Worship Leader
Sermon.....**Dr. Michael W. Couch, Pastor**
***Invitation to Christian Discipleship**
 *Worship by Giving.....(See Page 15).....Worship Leader
 "All things come of Thee, O Lord, and of Thine own have we given thee. Amen"
 *Closing Words & Benediction.....Pastor Couch



The Order of Worship Service
 Sunday, April 14, 2024, 10:00 A.M.
 Worship Leader: Bro. Sincere Root



YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT WORSHIP SERVICE & BAPTISM, GRADUATION & RIGHT HAND OF FELLOWSHIP

Devotional & Testimonial Service.....The Praise Team
 Processional.....Choir
 *Call to Worship
 Leader: "Young people, in the same way, be submissive to those who are older. All of you clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, because, "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble." Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that He may lift you up in due time" (I Peter 5:5-6).
 All: "Cast all your anxiety on Him because He cares for you. Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that your brothers throughout the world are undergoing the same kind of sufferings" (I Peter 5:7-9).
 *Doxology.....**"Glory Be To The Father"**.....#538
 "Glory be to the Father, And to the Son, And to the Holy Ghost, As it was in the beginning, It's now and ever shall be, World without end, Amen! Amen!"
 **
Enter His Gates

Invocation.....Diaconate Ministry
 Welcome.....Bro. Khyree Chapman, Jr.
 Announcements.....Sis. Brooklyn Chapman
 Welcome Song.....Sis. Kennedy Cruz
 **
Enter His Gates
 *Congregational Hymn.....**"Love Lifted Me"**.....#411
 Responsive Reading.....**"Christ's Concern for Children"**.....#598
 Selection.....Berean's Youth Choir
 Praise Dance.....**"Break Every Chain"**.....Sis. Skyy Byers
 **
Enter His Gates
*****Graduation & Right Hand of Fellowship*****
 *Altar Call.....Min. Felisha Poteat
 Selection.....Berean's Youth Choir
 Presentation of Our Pastor.....Worship Leader
Sermon.....**Dr. Michael W. Couch, Pastor**
***Invitation to Christian Discipleship**
 *Worship by Giving.....(See Page 15).....Worship Leader
 "All things come of Thee, O Lord, and of Thine own have we given thee. Amen"
 *Closing Words & Benediction.....Pastor Couch



The Order of Worship Service
 Sunday, April 21, 2024, 10:00 A.M.
 Worship Leader: Dea. Oliver Matthews



HOLY COMMUNION

Praise & Worship.....The Praise Team
 Processional.....Choir
 *Call to Worship:
 Leader: "Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink his blood, ye have no life in you" (John 6:53).
 All: "Whoso eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, hath eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day" (John 6:54).
 *Doxology.....**"Glory Be To The Father"**.....#538
 "Glory be to the Father, And to the Son, And to the Holy Ghost, As it was in the beginning, It's now and ever shall be, World without end, Amen! Amen!"
 **
Enter His Gates
 Invocation.....Diaconate Ministry
 Welcome & Announcements.....Deac. Kim Woods
 Welcome Song.....Sis. Loretta Jenkins
 **
Enter His Gates
 *Congregational Hymn.....**"Love Lifted Me"**.....#411
 Responsive Reading.....**"The Lord's Supper"**.....#581
 Selection.....Berean's Mass Choir
 **
Enter His Gates
 *Altar Call.....Min. Felisha Poteat
 Selection.....Berean's Mass Choir
 Presentation of Our Pastor.....Worship Leader
Sermon.....**Dr. Michael W. Couch, Pastor**
***Invitation to Christian Discipleship**
 *Worship by Giving.....(See Page 15).....Worship Leader
 "All things come of Thee, O Lord, and of Thine own have we given thee. Amen"