

The Testament

March 2010

Lincoln Memorial Baptist Church • Durham, NC

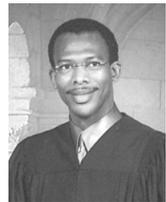
Vol. 7 No. 6

Pastor's Corner

Rev. Linzie B. Atkins, III

Making it Personal

Many times we are told not to "take it personal". Usually this is said when someone does or says something that could be considered offensive to us but beneficial to them. When such is the case the statement "don't take it personal" is supposed to soften the blow and reduce or eliminate the possible sting associated with a particular action or lack of action.



I would like to draw a distinction between taking it personal and making it personal. There are things we simply should not always take personal. For example, we should not take it personal when something affects others the same as it affect us. No one should take a specific outcome of this bad economy personal. You are not the only one to lose your job, house, or the potential to retire early - so don't take it personal.

Taking things personal can prove very stressful at times. However, making things personal can provide the needed motivation to start taking more responsibility and stop expecting more from others. When it comes to your health, make it personal. When it comes to your finances and family, make it personal. When it comes to your education and attitude, make it personal. And, when it comes to your faith in God, make it personal.

Coming to church, serving in the church, and supporting the church is something that you and I should always make personal (such is primarily between you and God). We need to see it as our responsibility to do whatever it takes to please our God through our Lord and Savior Jesus who is the Christ.

We should not take it personal when the preacher steps on our toes with the Word of God. We should not take it personal when we don't get a phone call or visit from the pastor or the deacons. We should not take it personal when others refuse to acknowledge what we have done. But, we should make it personal and do our best in everything we do for God.

As we close Black History Month and go further into the Lenten Season let us cease to take trivial and temporal things personal and make the matters of our faith, our family, and our future in Christ personal. We can no longer afford to keep taking the wrong things personal. We must start making the right things personal.

Let's "Transition to Win" in 2010 and make it personal, Pastor.

"What God Has Joined Together..."



Emmanuel and Amanda Ndingwan

Surrounded by family and friends and embraced by God's ever-present love, Emmanuel and Amanda transitioned into the next phase of their lives by exchanging wedding vows on January 16th and becoming husband and wife. Best wishes for happiness and prosperity!

Welcome New Members

-by Sis. Barbara Leathers

The Membership Ministry wants you to join us in welcoming the following New Members to the LMBC Family:

Nevaeh A. Hemmingway joined us 11/15/09. She is an 8 year old, 2nd grade student at Carter Community School. She sings in the Sounds of Joy and enjoys praying, cooking and doing puzzles. She is a member of the Nazzare Family.

Danielle Green and her sister, Felicia Holder, also joined us on 11/15/09. Their Mother, Sister Debra Washington, joined us on 12/6/09. Sister Washington states "that one day she and a friend were riding around looking for a church to attend and they were led to come to Lincoln. She has felt welcomed, is learning a lot and being spiritually fed by the ministry of Rev. Atkins. She feels it's a blessing to be a part of Lincoln."

Apryl Jernigan joined us on 12/6/09. Apryl is an 8 year old 3rd grader at Little River Elementary School. Apryl sings in the Sounds of Joy and now joins her parents, Dean and Pamela Jernigan and her sister Adrienne as an LMBC member.

We welcome Sister Sonya Hopson who joined us 12/6/2009. She not only is a part of the LMBC Family now, but also is sister to Sister Raquel Jackson and niece to Sister Joyce Bell.

Karl Brodie joined us on 12/13/09. Karl has been coming to LMBC so long that most people probably thought he was already a member. He has now made it official. He now joins his Mother, Mamie Brodie, Brother, Robert Brodie and 2 Sisters as part of the LMBC family.

At Lincoln "everybody is somebody" and we are pleased to welcome these new members into our family.

Seeing Through New Eyes

- by Sis. Janice Campbell

In 2009 for some of us, we suddenly experienced change, the death of someone very close to us, loss of a job, an illness or injury. Life is not the same and never will be again, everything's different. And we try to cope sometimes in healthy ways, sometimes not. Life goes on. The Props change, we're tempted to cling to the props as they are being dragged off the set. And sometimes we're hurt because of our inability to let go, so attached to the accouterments of the past that it's impossible for us to welcome the future.



Change requires courage, great helpings of it. My mind goes to Joshua in the Bible. For nearly forty years he has been an understudy to the great leader Moses. Now Moses is dead and leadership is thrust fully upon Joshua. Ahead is the Jordan River running at flood stage, and beyond that the fortified cities of Canaan - the "Promised Land" that seems so elusive. Talk about Change? Joshua has change swirling all around him. And God speaks to him a word: "Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go" (Joshua 1:9) God has promised to be with us wherever we go. He has promised never to leave us or forsake us. What he asks of us is faith to overcome our terror. Courage to meet our discouragement. And confidence to draw on his strength. Change is a constant. No part of our lives will endure unchanged for more than a few years, a few decades at most. But the Lord our God is unchangeable. He is forever. You can put down your roots into him, knowing that in this way you will never be utterly uprooted again.

As we enter a new decade the year 2010, let's gaze through fresh eyes the eyes of those whose lives were woven into change. See through the eyes of Zechariah, who saw that this child would be the rescuer we were waiting for, the answer to God's promise. See through the eyes of John, the child's cousin, who one day would prepare the world to meet Him. See through the eyes of King Herod, whose jealousy of this baby drove him to brutal extremes.

See through the eyes of the shepherds, who never expected to find themselves ushering in history's most dramatic miracle. See through the eyes of the Magi, whose search for truth led them from a distant country to the feet of their King. See through the eyes of a hardworking carpenter, who would fill in as the child's father, for the moment. See through the eyes of a peasant girl, the child's mother, whose fears were stilled in the presence of simple faith and pure love.

And see through the eyes of the Messiah Himself, who put flesh on the promise that, for now and for all eternity, God is with us. Let us see through new eyes, allowing the miracle of that night that led to the cross to fill our hearts with joy and hope. Happy New Year!

HOW TO TELL A "WINNER" OR "LOSER"

- submitted by Deacon William Mayfield

A winner says, "Let's Find Out"

A loser says, "Nobody knows."

When a winner makes a mistake, he says, "*I WAS WRONG.*"

When a loser makes a mistake he says, "*It wasn't MY FAULT!*"

A winner goes *THROUGH A PROBLEM.*

A loser goes around it, but never gets past it.

A winner makes *COMMITMENTS.*

A loser makes *promises.*

A winner tries to *LEARN* from those who are superior to him.

A loser tries to *tear down* those who are superior to him.

A winner says, "*THERE MUST BE A BETTER WAY TO DO IT.*"

A loser says, "*That's the way it's always been done around here.*"

(Anonymous)

Be A Winner! - Transition to Win in 2010!

Happy Birthday

to our

March Birthday Celebrities

Virginia Brewer • Michael Wilson •
Roberto Figueroa • Alfred Nazzare •
Justin Bailey • Freddie Parker • Danel
Campbell • Domonique Hodge

Best Wishes for Many More!!

Birthday Wishes to Dan - from Janice!



"Aging gracefully over the years"

Around Lincoln...

RECALL NOTICE



Bro. Eugene Lofton and Bro. Reginald Davis enjoy the activities at a Carolina Panthers Football game.



Lincoln family members gather to enjoy the annual Super Bowl Fellowship sponsored by the Laymen's League.



Sis. Joan Lofton proudly displays her trophy for winning the LMBC Fantasy Football League Regular Season Championship. Bro. Eugene Lofton serves as Commissioner of the league.

The Maker of all human beings is recalling all units manufactured, regardless of make or year, due to a serious defect in the primary and central component of the heart.

This is due to a malfunction in the original prototype units code named Adam and Eve, resulting in the reproduction of the same defect in all subsequent units.

This defect has been technically termed "Subsequential Internal Non-Morality," or more commonly known as S.I.N., as it is primarily expressed.

Some other symptoms include:

1. Loss of direction
2. Foul vocal emissions
3. Amnesia of origin
4. Lack of peace and joy
5. Selfish or violent behavior

The Manufacturer, who is neither liable nor at fault for this defect, is providing factory-authorized repair and service free of charge to correct this SIN defect. The Repair Technician, Jesus, has most generously offered to bear the entire burden of the staggering cost of these repairs. There is no additional fee required.

The number to call for repair in all areas is:

P-R-A-Y-E-R.

Once connected, please upload your burden of SIN through the REPENTANCE procedure. Next, download ATONEMENT from the Repair Technician, Jesus, into the heart component. No matter how big or small the SIN defect is, Jesus will replace it with:

1. Love
2. Joy
3. Peace
4. Patience
5. Kindness
6. Goodness
7. Faithfulness

Please see the operating manual, the B.I.B.L.E. (Basic Instructions Before Leaving Earth) for further details on the use of these fixes.

WARNING: Continuing to operate the human being unit without correction voids any manufacturer warranties, exposing the unit to dangers and problems too numerous to list and will result in the human unit being permanently impounded.

DANGER: The human being units not responding to this recall action will have to be scrapped in the furnace. The SIN defect will not be permitted to enter Heaven so as to prevent contamination of that facility.

Thank you for your attention!

GOD

-submitted by Sis. Barbara Leathers

March 2010

“Transition To Win In 2010”

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 5:30pm Neighborhood PAC 6:30pm Pastor's Aide Committee 7:00pm Tri-Board Mtg	3 12:00Noon Noon Day Prayer 6:00pm Sounds of Joy 7:00pm Bible Study	4	5 6:00pm Praise Team 7:00pm Voices of Praise	6 10:00am Trustee Ministry Meeting 11:00am Nurse's Aide 12:00pm Women of Faith
7	8	9	10 6:00pm Sounds of Joy 7:00pm Bible Study	11 6:00pm Christian Board of Education	12 6:00pm Praise Team 6:00pm Deaconess Evening with Young Girls	13 10:00am Deaconess Ministry Meeting
14 Ushers Meeting- After Service 3:00pm Youth Missionary Meeting	15 7:00pm Voices of Praise	16 7:00 Leadership Meeting	17 12:00Noon Noon Day Prayer 7:00pm Bible Study	18 7:00 Church Conference	19 6:00pm Praise Team 6:00pm Family Fun Night 7:00pm Voices of Praise	20 9:00am Laymen's League
21	22	23 6:00pm Computing & Technology Committee	24 7:00pm Bible Study	25 6:00pm Neighborhood PAC	26 6:00pm Praise Team	27 10:00am Durham County Missionary Dept. 2:00pm Missionary Dept.
28	29 7:00pm Voices of Praise	30	31 6:00pm Sounds of Joy 7:00pm Bible Study	<p><i>To add an event to the church calendar, please contact Sis. Janice Campbell by calling the church at 688-1886, option 1. You may also email her at churchcalendar@mylmbc.org.</i></p> <p><i>Please send articles, photos or information for The Testament to newsletter@mylmbc.org by the 3rd Sunday of each month.</i></p>		

Church Calendar Updates Available Online at: calendar.yahoo.com/lmbccalendar

“Building the Church in the Community and the Community in the Church”