

Summer Edition

New Antioch Baptist
Church of
Randallstown



Becoming Whole Women In Christ



Message from the First Lady



Sister Ellen P. Barney

Praise the Lord! I am excited to introduce the Summer Edition of our ***Becoming Whole Women in Christ*** newsletter.

I pray that the enclosed articles and information will be a blessing. Also, I would like to thank the contributors for this newsletter.

For those persons who wish to write, I strongly encourage you to consider contributing articles for future newsletters.

Finally, there is a list of women's ministries on the back page. Please review this list and prayerfully consider where you can serve the Lord.

However, if you already serve on a particular ministry, that's wonderful! May our Lord continually fill you with joy as you serve Him to reflect His incredible grace towards others.

I hope you find the Summer edition enjoyable.



2013 Women's Retreat Women in Pursuit of Christ's Righteousness

"...and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness."
Ephesians 4:24

agency Chesapeake Bay Golf Resort, Spa and Marina.



Registration is underway for the 2013 NABCOR Women's Retreat. We pray that you are able to join us on Thursday, November 7th through Saturday, November 9th for a blessed time in the Lord at The Hyatt Re-

We are blessed to have excellent speakers to include our very own First Lady, Ellen P. Barney and there are a host of sessions that are sure to encourage and enlighten.

Please be sure to sign up immediately following morning service in the information corridor. A \$50 non-refundable deposit is due at the time of registration. We look forward to seeing you there!

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Praising God Through the Fiery Trials

By Sharbonda Ford

Let God's people rejoice!

*"I will praise You with my whole heart; Before the gods I will sing praises to You. I will worship toward Your holy temple, And praise Your name For Your loving kindness and Your truth; For You have magnified Your word above all Your name. In the day **when I cried out**, You answered me, And made me bold with **strength** in my soul" (Psalm 138:1-3).*

In the midst of our trials, God will hear our prayers. In the midst of our fires, praise Him and rejoice. We can then ask God to activate our strength so that our weakness will not prevail.

The word of God reminds us in 1 Peter 1: 6-7, "*In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials, that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is **tested by fire**, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ*".

As believers, we are all experiencing days when our personal life becomes an inferno. It seems that no matter what we do, the fire continues to burn. Whether we try to extinguish the fire by blowing on it, or fanning it, or putting water on it, or smothering it, the fire still exists. Nevertheless, fires in our lives are not sent to paralyze us, nor are they sent to burn us out. Instead, they are sent to keep us warm during the cold times in our lives. When we experience these cold times, they are nothing more than trials

and tribulations. Our trials are like dry ice. They are so cold that we cannot touch or handle them without feeling the sting. Usually, we try to get through them or overcome them, but our touch is not strong enough to warm the cold, so the cold becomes colder.

While in the fire, we are not able to extinguish the flames alone. God, however, comes alongside of us, as our



spiritual fire fighter and R-E-S-C-U-E-R. Amazingly, God delivers us from the fire; then He places us in His secret place. There, He fills us with His Holy Spirit so that we are C-O-M-F-O-R-T-E-D. However, we must take our hands continuously out of the fire, and allow Him to handle the burning infernos while praising Him through the trials.

Heavenly Father, I thank You for being an amazing rescuer and for always inclining Your ear to hear my prayer. Dear Lord, I am terribly guilty of attempting to extinguish the blazes in my life. Lord, for I struggle to trust You at times. I need You to comfort, keep, and protect me from feelings of doubt, despair, and pain during the time of these fiery trials. I cast my cares on you. I trust You with my life and my life is in your hands. I surrender my will for Your will for my life. In Jesus name, Amen.



All Praises to God; It's Not About Us

By Chanel Trussell

"Great Job!"

"What a wonderful program you coordinated."

"I really liked your presentation on..."

"Atta Boy!"

"Atta Girl!"

Yes, we all like to hear words of praise for something that we have done or said. It is a normal part of human nature to want to receive positive feedback and approval from our peers or those in a position of leadership. While words of praise are certainly nice to have, we should be careful how we respond to words of praise.

When we receive words of praise from others, we should be quick to acknowledge and give it back to the Lord to which all Glory is due. We can quickly say, "thank you and I am grateful that God gave me the ability to ..." When we *shift the focus* of praise **to the Lord** and away from ourselves, we do not become prideful.

When we do not get the praise we feel we deserve, we may covet someone else's praise or begin to resent others. That is also a manifestation of pride. Our response to the lack of praise from others should also be toward God. We still need to thank Him



for our abilities and gifts; and, if our motives are genuine, we can rest assured that we will receive our reward from our Heavenly Father.

We received spiritual gifts (*charisma*) from the Lord when we accepted Him as our Lord and Savior. Our gifts were chosen uniquely for each one of us (I Corinthians 12:11).

One person's gifts may bring that person into the spotlight more often while another person's gifts may keep that person behind the scenes. In keeping with the analogy that Paul uses beginning in I Corinthians 12:15, we cannot say that the arms or legs, parts we can clearly see, are any more important than the veins and arteries. We cannot see the veins and arteries, but we are sure they are there behind the scenes making sure that our blood flows to and from the heart.

When we take the time to seek the Lord and ask for insight regarding our gifts, then we can begin to operate the part of the body that He intended for each of us. Once we all realize our gifts, avoid looking to man for validation but looking towards Christ, we can become more like the well-oiled machine of the body and work in harmony and love without worrying about who is getting more attention. *Let everything that has breath praise the Lord* (Psalm 150:6).



Prayer for Stewardship

Stewardship is often viewed in the context of money and finances, but stewardship can be connected to so many other areas of our lives. Christian stewardship however, is actually being faithful over everything that God has entrusted us with. Being a good steward is being obedient to what God would have us do with our time, talents, finances and everything He has given us. Wanting to be a good

steward should be the desire of every believer (1 Corinthians 4:1-2).

So how can we become better stewards? First, by seeking the Lord through His Word and in prayer (Jeremiah 29:13), then, asking Him for wisdom and direction in every area of our lives (Proverbs 3:5-6). We must then work heartily, steadfastly, have integrity and be trustworthy in all things. God requires this

obedience of us because it brings glory to His name (1 Peter 1:14-16).

Heavenly Father, please help me to acknowledge all that You have placed in my care and how I can be a good steward of those things. Lord, show me ways to bring You glory as I work to be obedient and faithful with my time, talents, and finances. In Jesus name I pray. Amen.

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Women's Ministries

A.C.T.S. of Faith Drama Ministry

Bodies of Clay Dance Ministry

Diamonds in the Rough Ministry

D.R.I.V.E.N Ministry

Ministers' Wives' Fellowship

Mom-to-Mom Ministry

S.W.E.E.T Ministry

Titus II Ministry

Walk/Run Gospel

Aerobics' Ministry

Women Connected in Christ Ministry

Women's Card Ministry

Women's Comfort Ministry

Women's Grief Support Ministry

Women's Intercessory Prayer

Women's Maturing Class

Women's Newsletter Ministry

Women's Prison Ministry

To contribute articles, email
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