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Message from the First Lady Sis. Ellen P. Barney

It seems that we just entered the summer season, and now here we are in another beautiful season, Fall! Who could have made such a picturesque season with beautiful trees and changing foliage of bright colors? And then comes that cold and bitter winter season, with its beautiful flakes of snow gently falling to the ground. Who could orchestrate such wonder?!!! None other than God, our Creator, fashioned such splendor so glorious to the human eye!

As God spoke to Job (38:4) in a whirlwind, "Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? when the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy?" Wow! If only I were one of those angels who stood beholding the Lord's power?! Imagine witnessing such a spectacular manifestation of splendor that came together by the voice of an excellent and strong God! I am sure I would have been blown away by the Lord's omniscience and omnipotence! And to know that we, including insignificant me, have a personal relationship with such an incredible and mighty God! Who would not want to be one in intimacy with Him?! —John 17:21.

Only the Lord, in His sovereignty, can orchestrate the changing of a season! So being said, only God can transform the human heart. Jeremiah 17:9-10 notes that the human heart is desperately wicked and who can know it? Only God! For He is so sovereign that he knows our very thoughts and intentions of the heart (Genesis 6:5). He also knows our changing moods, as evident in the changing seasons and our changing lives. He is, however, constant in every way! Unlike the changing season, His love never changes, for He is unchanging. And may we pray for a continuous pursuit and passion for our God as we move from one season to another!

I also want to encourage you to take the time to read this Fall/Winter edition of the Becoming Whole Women in Christ (BWWC) Newsletter. Please contact the BWWC ministry leader listed on this edition's last page if you are interested in submitting articles. Enjoy our Fall/Winter edition.

Trusted with the Skin I am in

Sis. Carla Tucker



I didn't choose to have the black skin I'm in. I must be special because God chose me to have it. I am hated just because of it, but I know God doesn't make mistakes. He knows how much I can bear. It is up to me to choose what I do with it. He trusted me to use it for what is right and what is just and for that I am grateful.

Even with my black skin, I am human. I may not be as vocal or as visible in the fight for black life, but I fight with my mind!

I choose to love my neighbors as myself.
I choose to treat others the way I want to be treated.
I choose to be my brother's and my sister's keeper.
For we are one race: the Human Race!

You shall love your neighbor as yourself (Matthew 22:39).

Fill your Mouth with Life, Not Death Sis. Anita Anthony

A lot is at stake in what we say today. "Death and life are in the power of the tongue" (Proverbs 18:21).

Words Cause Death

People die because of something said. Tongues can be weapons of mass destruction, launching holocausts and wars. Tongues can also be the death of marriages, families, friendships, churches, careers, hopes, understanding, reputations, missionary efforts, and governments.

Words Give Life

But people also live because of something said. The tongue can be "a tree of life" (Proverbs 15:4). Tongues reconcile people and make peace. "Blessed are the peacemakers" (Matthew 5:9). Tongues can make marriages sweet, families strong, and churches



healthy. Tongues can give hope to the hopeless a better understanding, and tongues can also spread the gospel. So, what will come out of your mouth today, death or life? "Sword thrusts" or "healing"? –Proverbs 12:18

Fill your Mouth with Life, Not Death (continued) Sis. Anita Anthony

What Fills Your Heart?

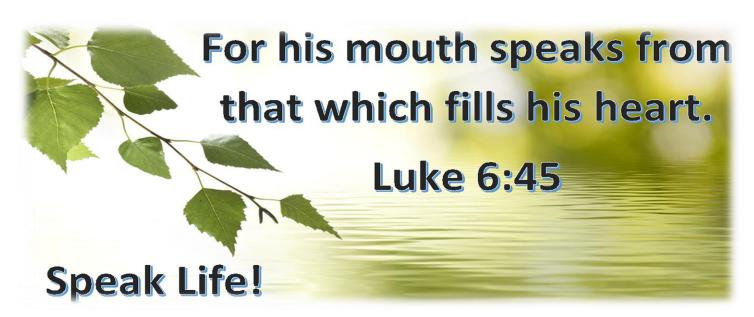
It will all depend on what's filling your heart. Jesus said, ". . . out of the abundance of the heart [the] mouth speaks" (Luke 6:45, bracket mine). A critical heart produces a critical tongue. A self-righteous heart produces a judgmental tongue. A bitter heart produces a bitter tongue. An ungrateful heart produces a grumbling tongue. But a loving heart produces a gracious tongue. A faithful heart produces a truthful tongue. A peaceful heart produces a reconciling tongue. A trusting heart produces an encouraging tongue.

Therefore, fill your heart with grace by soaking in the Bible Scriptures. Soak in Matthew 5; Romans 12; 1 Corinthians 13; or Philippians 2. Be very careful regarding the words of death noted in the newspaper, mentioned on the radio, TV, and the blog. As a reminder, we can pray: "Set a guard, O Lord, over my mouth; keep watch over the door of my lips" (Psalm 141:3).

The world is full of words of death. "The whole world lies in the power of the evil one" (1 John 5:19) who "was a murderer from the beginning. . . and the father of lies" (John 8:44). Let us not join him in his "restless evil" (James 3:8). For "we are from God" (1 John 15:19), and we believe in His Son, Jesus, "The Word" (John 1:1), "The Truth and the Life" (John 14:6), and who alone has "the words of eternal life" (John 6:68). Let us join Him in speaking these words of LIFE.

<u>Today</u>

Today, make your mouth "a fountain of life" (Proverbs 10:11). Be "slow to speak" in general (James 1:19). Encourage more than you critique or criticize. Seek opportunities to speak kind, tenderhearted words (Ephesians 4:32). Say something affectionate to a loved one at an unexpected time. Seek to only speak words that are "good for building up" and that "give grace to those who hear" (Ephesians 4:29). Be a person whose mouth is full of life. "And now I commend you to God and to the Word of His grace, which is able to build you up" (Acts 20:32).



New Antioch Baptist Church of Randallstown

A Church Anchored in Christ

Pastor Kenneth L. Barney, Sr., D.D.

Contact Info:

5609 Old Court Road Windsor Mill, MD 21244 Phone: (410) 521-7866

Intercessory Prayer Conference Line:

Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. Phone: (978) 990-5326 Access Code: 5944867

Website: www.newantiochbc.org

Director of Women's Ministry:

First Lady Ellen P. Barney

Leader/Editor/Layout:

Sister Chanel Trussell





New Antioch Baptist Church of Randallstown's Women's Ministry is designed to boost the spiritual, emotional, and physical awakening of women of all ages and life stages. We are especially committed to the salvation and progress of our youth, relationship seekers, and women who have lost their way.

To contribute articles or for any questions or comments, email: chanel trussell@yahoo.com

NABCOR Women's Ministries

Intercessory Prayer
Ministers' Wives' Fellowship
Women Connected in Christ Ministry
Diamonds in the Rough Ministry
D.R.I.V.E.N Ministry

S.W.E.E.T Ministry
Wholesome Warriors
Bodies of Clay Dance Ministry
Aerobics' Ministry
Newsletter Ministry

Card Ministry
Women's Fellowship
Comfort Ministry
Grief Support Ministry