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# The St. Mark Messenger

VOLUME I ISSUE VII

SEPTEMBER 2010



ST. MARK UMC CHURCH  
911 ST. MARK RD.  
TAYLORS, SC 29687  
PASTOR: JANICE FREDERICK-WATTS

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## God's Trombone

James Weldon Johnson noted African-American author, journalist, poet, educator, songwriter, activist, and politician said the trombone reminded him of the compelling and persuasive nature of a gospel preacher. For him, the trombone was “the instrument possessing above all others the power to express the wide and varied range of emotions encompassed by the human voice.”

Join the **St. Mark Youth Ministry** and **The Phyllis Wheatley Repertory Theater** as they present *God's Trombones: Seven Negro Sermons in Verse*, Sunday, October 17, 2010 at 6:00 p.m. This production promises to be an electrifying journey of the faithful from earth, on up through the pearly gates to the great white throne.

More than fifty young talented singers and dancers will come together for the first time presenting excerpts from Johnson's most celebrated work including:

"Listen, Lord — A Prayer" — an invocation

"The Creation" — a retelling of the creation story of the Bible

"The Prodigal Son" — from the biblical parable of the prodigal son

"Go Down Death — A Funeral Sermon" — in which Jesus is depicted as sending his servant, Death, to bring to heaven a weary woman who is old and ready to die, so that she can rest

"Noah Built the Ark" — retelling the biblical stories of Adam and Eve, a story of how sin entered the world, and of Noah and the Great Flood sent to cleanse the earth

"The Crucifixion" — telling the story of Jesus' crucifixion

"Let My People Go" — telling the biblical story of Moses and his work freeing the Hebrew slaves from Egypt, which has often been the basis of comparisons to the African-American slavery experience in the United States

"The Judgment Day" — the prophetic story of the Apocalypse

Under the direction of Brenda Benson, The St. Mark Voices of Hope (VOH) Choir has contributed to the St. Mark United Methodist Church music ministry for nearly twenty years. VOH comprises teenagers 12 – 18 (or high school graduation), who through the years have developed musical and fine arts talents extending far beyond VOH ministry. Notably, VOH graduates have been auditioned and been selected to the Claflin University Concert Choir, the South Carolina United Methodist Annual Conference Spirit Singers, and the Greenville County School District Fine Arts Center.

Founded in 1919 as an etiquette class for young African-American women of Greenville, South Carolina, the Phillis Wheatley Association expanded over the next 75 years to include tutoring and counseling, sports, visual art, and music appreciation in after-school and summer programs. By 1985, the culminating summer camp talent show inspired the idea to engage young people in musical theater. Under the direction of Dwight Woods the Repertory Theatre for Youth was established, challenging young participants to achieve - to reach beyond their potential. The only Black youth, community-based theater company in South Carolina, the Repertory Theatre for Youth has nurtured more than 500 participants since its inception.

Proceeds from this performance will be shared to support the ministries of St. Mark Church and programs the Phillis Wheatley Association.

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## All Male Chorus Singing

Family Ministries will be sponsoring an All Male Chorus Singing on Sunday Sept 19 at 4pm. This program will feature All Male Chorus groups from around the area. Our own Boys of Praise Mime Team will also be ministering. Please come out and support this event.



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## Salkehatchie Devotions

This year during Salkehatchie three of St. Mark's youth contributed to the devotional booklet for Salkehatchie. Each month for the next three months we will feature one of the devotions. The three youth were Alexis Dillard, Bria Dillard, and John Garrison. This month's feature is John Garrison.

*A whole year has gone by since the last time I went to Salkehatchie (my first). So many things have happened. I passed junior year. I grew, but the one thing that didn't pass was my excitement to go to Salkehatchie. The things I won't forget are the relationships I have with all the campers there. But when I left I noticed people went for the wrong reasons. Because their parents made them, to be with friends, or to gloat that they helped out. But my reason was different. I heard about Salkehatchie years before I went. It intrigued me, because of the work I could do for God's people. I've always loved hard labor, but when God is put in the mix, I love it. This week remember the reason you're here. When you do work for one of God's people you're doing it for him. Remember that and this week will be so much more enjoyable.*

Scripture Psalms 63: 1-7

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## Sick and Shut-in Members

Mr. Harold Cheeks – Bellaire Place, 23 South Pointe Drive Rm. #115, Greenville 29607	234-9542
Rev. Oliver N. Greer – 317 Garrett Street, Mauldin 29662	234-7341
Mrs. Minnie Louther – Residence Unknown	
Mr. Donald Talley – 3204 Culpepper Crossing, Duncan 29334	486-9472
Mrs. Ella Mae Whiteside – 202 Frank Street, Greenville 29601	271-1537
Mrs. Lillian McKinney- 5501 Hwy 101 North, Taylors, 29687	895-1933
Mrs. Mildred Martin—Piedmont Living Center, Room 11B, 401 Chandler Road, Greer, 29651	



## From the Pastor's Desk

What does the Lord require of you but to do justice and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God?" Micah 6:8

"Lent is the season of repentance, self-examination and awareness of the hurts of the people of the world. One Great Hour of Sharing calls the Church to share the goodness of life with those who hurt". (paragraph 263.2, *The United Methodist Book of Discipline 2008*).

Since 1949 One Great Hour of Sharing has been observed by different faith communities as a special worship hour whereby people of faith have given above and beyond their regular giving to respond to the hurts of people around the world.

Traditionally, it is celebrated on the fourth Sunday of Lent. Through our giving, food, shelter and clothing are provided to persons who experience disaster, providing relief for people all around the world.

The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) through our offering assists the most vulnerable people at a time of their deepest need.

When Hurricane Hugo struck South Carolina over ten years ago, UMCOR was there. Most recently when an earthquake devastated Haiti, UMCOR was there and now as

a more severe earthquake has shaken Chile, UMCOR is there (Chile Emergency Advance 3021178).

UMCOR promises to give 100% of designated gifts to the specific causes it supports. UMCOR is called on to provide immediate relief and long term recovery wherever and whenever needed.

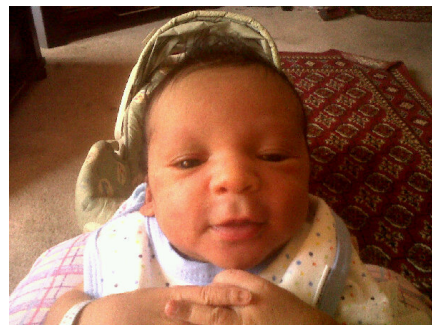
Through UMCOR, we express the compassion of Jesus to a world that Jesus loves. "UMCOR offers the world the church's heart and hands."

Please come prepared to give on the fourth Sunday of March. Only if we give can we share God's gifts with others around the world. Give so that others may live.

Janice L. Frederick-Watts

## Big Congratulations

Big Congratulations to Roosevelt and LaTonya Hunt on the birth of their son Channing Ian Hunt. Channing was born on July 20, 2010 weighing 6 lbs 13 oz and 19 inches long. Channing was welcomed home by big sister, Breasia. Channing is the grandson of Sandra Check and the great-grandson of Frank L. Garrison.



## Keeping you connected

All student recognitions, achievements, and other accomplishments will be announced on 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday only. Parents and students please get this information to the Church office by Wednesday before the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday.

**DEADLINES!** Don't forget---the deadline for newsletter articles is the **3rd Sunday** in each month. Please note this change. Articles may be submitted to any member of the Messenger Staff.

Church news at your finger tips. Visit the new St. Mark Info Line. This telephone service features

voicemail, weekly activities and Sunday school updates. Simply dial the church's main number, 864-848-7141, and follow the prompts.

Effective immediately, weekly reminders and meetings will be printed inside your bulletins and not read aloud during announcements.

Please be sure to read these and govern yourselves accordingly.

All announcements and reminders will also be sent out in a weekly email. If our secretary does not have your email contact information, please be sure to give it to her so that you will receive this email.

### St. Mark United Methodist Church

#### Communications Committee

1st Sunday Announcer: Juana Slade

2nd Sunday Announcer: Open

3rd Sunday Announcer: Linette Sawyer

4th Sunday Announcer: LaSonia Williams

Church Office Manager: Karen Culbertson

Newsletter Editor: Tanya M. Dillard

Chairperson/Web Mistress: Gena Garrison

**We are on the web**

**[www.stmarktaylorssc.com](http://www.stmarktaylorssc.com)**

## Coming September 28, 2010

The latest novel from the Black Expressions Best-Selling author that brought you "Prodigal"



Available Nationwide!  
ISBN-10: 1601628706

Grammy award-winning gospel singer and Christian actress Sharmaine Cleveland is having a bad year. She has been arrested and charged with the attempted murder of her husband, Leon. This follows on the heels of another scandal involving sex tapes allegedly starring Sharmaine that have been distributed to news stations across the country. Can God save her before she goes under?



Mark your calendar for these upcoming ministries and events.

### Oct

God's Trombone – October 17; 6pm

Zaria Garrison's book release celebration for 2nd novel "Losing it" October 23; 6pm

### Nov

Greenville-Spartanburg District Youth Retreat - Nov. 5-7, Asbury Hills

Soup and Cornbread Service Nov 23 at St. Mark Dinner 6pm Service at 7pm

### Dec

100 Voices of Christmas – December 19; 6pm

Annual Parsonage Open House December 5; 3 -5 pm

Charge Christmas Program December 24 at St. Mark

