

THE ECHO



PASTOR APPRECIATION *Celebration*

Saint Rebecca P. B. Church 256.828.5304 Vol. 34 No. 10 October 2025 strebeccapbchurch@gmail.com

Church's Pen

Show Appreciation for Pastor

As usual, this issue is dedicated to our Pastor, Elder Dr. Perry Clark as he and his family celebrate their 24th Pastoral Anniversary. Congratulations from the church and it is our prayer that God will continue to bless you to continue the charge that He has given you. As followers, below are some ways to help the pastor in his journey.

1. **Show your gratitude.** A simple note of thanks for something they've done will go miles. Even if it was a long time ago, saying thanks today will help your pastor face another tomorrow that might be difficult.
2. **Celebrate special occasions.** Pastoral work is mostly about caring for others, so receiving care by way of celebration is a special treat. You may never know the importance of a small celebration.
3. **Encourage rest and self-care.** Pastors are prone to burnout due to the demands of their role. Encourage them to practice self-care and to spend quality time with their families. Everyone deserves a day off each week.
4. **Offer support.** The burdens of the pastorate are heavy. Being present with a listening ear, a kind word, or speaking up to that business meeting bully will be long remembered. Church members, it requires faith on your part that your pastor is seeking God's direction for your church.
5. **Pray for your pastor.** Regularly pray for your pastors' well-being and that of their families. Pray for their work! So much of a pastor's work is hidden and may never be known. Prayer brings strength to that work. And if you don't like the way your pastor "pastors," then pray about that. Few are encouraged by overly negative criticism, but all are lifted and changed by prayer. Even the person praying is changed!
6. **Encourage pastor with your words.** All of us need encouragement. Sometimes for pastors, encouragement can be rare. Encouragement goes a long way. Let him know that you are growing under his leadership.
7. **Send a text/email/card.** It may only take 30 seconds to write a text or a couple of minutes to write an email. These gestures can be kept and read again and again over the years.
8. **Pray for your pastor.** Prayer is one of the most powerful ways to show love for your pastor. Pray for his spiritual health, wisdom and discernment as he leads the congregation. Intercede for his family, asking God to bless and protect them.

Homecoming 2025

The church celebrated homecoming weekend beginning with a picnic on the church grounds. However, due to inclement weather, the fun was moved inside. There were games and other activities for all ages including ring toss, cake walk, bingo, painting, etc. The children really enjoyed painting their masterpieces and of course getting paint on themselves as well. The event included plenty of food and drinks. Thanks are extended to those who grilled and fried fish despite the weather. Your commitment to Saint Rebecca is appreciated.

Homecoming 2025 continued on Sunday, September 7, 2025 at 8:30 a.m. with Sunday School review. Following dismissal, Zion Progress and Pastor Hernandez Ford were in charge of the worship. From beginning to end, Zion Progress entered the presence of God and ushered praise into the building with prayer, songs and the Word of God. Pastor Ford brought a life-changing message from 2 Kings 5:1-2, 8-10 and the topic was "Hope for Your Hidden Pain and Unspoken Struggles." He



lifted up that sometimes we find ourselves desiring to be in other peoples' place because they seem to have it all. It's easy to look at people and make quick judgements about their present and past, but you'd be amazed at the tears and pain a single smile hides. The outside gives the impression that they have no problems, but if we could see the inside, we'd likely change our minds about being in their place. All of us have pain that we want God to take away. There is help for hidden pain and struggles.



Hats off to the Homecoming Committee on planning a successful, fun, and spiritual weekend. We have been fellowshiping with Zion Progress for many years and always look forward to this special worship service. Thanks to them for always being a light in a world that needs Jesus more than ever. May God continue to smile on you.

Women's Day Worship

The Annual Women's Day Celebration was held on the second Sunday in September at 9:00 a.m. The special guest for the occasion was Pastor Trevor Briggs from Peace of Jesus Ministries. Pastor Briggs' Praise Team provided a most spiritually led song ministry. The song selection was meant for praise and worship. Pastor Briggs brought the message from Luke 10:38-42 with a topic of "Sitting at the Feet of Jesus." She lifted up that life can be brutal at times, filled with ups and downs but God promised He would see us through. Sometimes we are too busy to spend time with Jesus when we know guests are coming. However, in the presence of the Lord is joy. Mary didn't let anything separate her from Jesus' coming. Pastor Trevor shared with us that in order to sit at Jesus' feet, we will need to lay some things down and stop our busyness. It's all about our relationship with Jesus.



Following worship, the committee presented tokens of love to all of the First Ladies



of the church. Tokens were also given to Sister Jennie V. Garner as the oldest member of the church, and Sister Belinda Garner for her gift of help. All other women/young ladies were presented with treat bags sponsored by the Parker Team.

The theme was "Godly Women Sitting at the Feet of Jesus" -Luke 10:38-42. The church commends the committee on a job well done. The Committee is grateful to Pastor Briggs and her congregation for their willingness to serve. Saint Rebecca prays for continued blessings and favor on you.

Joined As One

A man who finds a wife, finds a good thing. Tremain Hampton has found his good thing. Yvonne Ford and Tremain Hampton exchanged wedding vows on Saturday, September 20, 2025. The nuptials were held at New Gooch Place in Madison, Alabama.



The formal affair was absolutely amazing. The couple was surrounded by so many family and friends as they pledged their love and commitment to each other.

Yvonne was adorned in a white lacy gown with a chapel length train made just for the beautiful bride she was. The smile on her face as she walked down the aisle said it all. She was escorted by her brother, Michael Ford. The ceremony was performed by Yvonne's nephew. The culmination of the ceremony was the bride and groom jumping the broom which was so sweet and special.

A reception was held following the wedding. Yvonne's reception attire matched the colors of her wedding party—pink and gray. The reception was festive and the food was delectable.



Congratulations Mr. and Mrs. Tremain Hampton on the start of your new life together. Your life is now a two-handed circle, and with God first, you can't go wrong. Your family and church family are happy for you. Be blessed.

Grandparents Celebrate

Most schools celebrate students, especially elementary age, with a special Grandparents Day. They allow grandparents to spend time with the children eating lunch, going to a bookfair, visiting the classroom, etc. This year, the newsletter committee wants to highlight just some of the grandparents who were able to visit with the children.

Wynter Fuller ate in style with grandmother, Nylese Green, and Aunt, Mary High on September 19, 2025. She is a 1st grader at Harvest Elementary School. Excited doesn't describe how happy she was to have them with her.



Zaccheus Hereford, a 5th grader at the Academy for Academics and Arts (AAA) is a very busy young man, but never too busy to take a moment to enjoy a meal with his grandmother, Gail Hereford. They partied on September 5, 2025. Keep that smile going Zaccheus.



Zamiya Hereford enjoyed every second she spent at school with her grandmother, Gail Hereford. The lunch was good, but the company was even better. Zamiya is a 7th grader at the Academy for Academics and Arts (AAA).



Karter Sledge, grandson of Sanford and B J Sledge enjoyed lunch on September 17, 2025 with two of his favorite people. Karter is an excellent student who attends Whitesburg Elementary School. What a great way to spend lunch—with those you love.



Caleb Thompson couldn't contain his joy when he spent lunch with his grandfather, Cleadus Thompson, on September 5, 2025. The meal was not as important as the event itself. Caleb is a 6th grader at Riverton Intermediate School.



Paityn Thompson continues to have her grandfather, Cleadus, wrapped around her finger. She was over the moon to have him eat breakfast with her on September 15, 2025. Paityn is a 3rd grader at Mt. Carmel Elementary.



NATIONAL
GRANDPARENTS
DAY

RECIPE CORNER

Breakfast Sausage Casserole

It's the ideal breakfast for when you have relatives or visitors staying over and need something to feed everyone that doesn't need a lot of effort or clean up. You may even brown the sausage ahead of time so that all you have to do in the morning is toss everything into the baking dish.

Ingredients:

- ✦ 1 lb. ground pork sausage
- ✦ 1 tsp mustard powder
- ✦ ½ tsp kosher salt
- ✦ 4 large eggs, beaten
- ✦ 2 C whole milk
- ✦ 6 slices white bread, toasted and cut into cubes
- ✦ 1 cup mild cheddar cheese, shredded

How To Make Breakfast Sausage Casserole:

1. Crumble sausage into a medium skillet.
2. Cook over medium heat until evenly brown; drain.
3. In a medium bowl, mix together mustard powder, salt, eggs, and milk.
4. Add the sausage, bread cubes, and cheese, and stir to coat evenly.
5. Pour into a greased 9×13 inch baking dish.
6. Cover, and chill in the refrigerator for 8 hours, or overnight.
7. Preheat the oven to 350 degrees.
8. Cover, and bake for 45 to 60 minutes.
9. Uncover, and reduce temperature to 325 degrees.
10. Bake for an additional 30 minutes, or until set.
11. Cut and serve.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

A birthday is a special gift from God.

Happy birthday to everyone celebrating this month. Spend your day with someone you love.

Kristen Thompson 4th
Diane Payne 4th
Kauritha Thompson 6th
Tameka Greer 11th
Vernice Caveness 12th
Spencie Jolly 12th
Sherrye Hereford 13th
Rickey Graham 16th
Deacon Joe Bellamy 17th
Mother Bettye Thompson 17th
Caleb Thompson 17th
Brad Thompson 20th
Torinka Corsey 23rd
Vincent Garner 25th
Latishia Garner 31st
Paige Henderson 31st

Happy Anniversary

Congratulations to the following couples celebrating another year of love.

Sanford & Debbie Sledge 13th
Clifford & Veronica Toney 14th
Dea. Joe & Mother Frances Bellamy 17th

A Prayer for Pastor

Almighty God, thank you for the gift of pastoral servants. Please give them rest, knowing they are fully loved, deeply valued, and appreciated beyond measure. Enable us, as lay individuals, to share your love with our pastors throughout this month. Provide us with the resources to care for our beloved siblings in Christ, knowing they are doing your work. Thank you for the talents you have bestowed on our pastors and their hard work. It does not go unnoticed. Continue to keep adoration, friendship, and you, God, in the center of our lives during Pastoral Appreciation Month. We pray for all this in your heavenly name. Amen.

A New Life

Welcome to the world Logan Everson Ayers. A little angel and bundle of joy born to Victoria Miller and Terence Ayers on September 10, 2025 at 12:56 a.m. He weighed in at 7 lbs. 8 oz and was 20 1/2 inches long. Logan is such a welcomed addition to the Miller, Ayers and Garner families. Congratulations Victoria on becoming a new mom. Welcome to the world of parenting. May your days be filled with the sweetest coos, cuddles and love. Logan will constantly bring you laughter and joy.



Congratulations are also extended to Sister Kay Miller on becoming a grandmother again. It's time for you to begin your job of spoiling by giving and doing all the things the parents won't, and then send them home. Your church family is here to assist in whatever way is needed. We are here to pray for you and this new chapter in your life. Know that God is your Guiding Light and your Roadmap. Lean on Him for guidance and Logan's path will be filled with one amazing chapter after the other.

Note: Correction on the baby shower for Victoria highlighted in last month's issue. The emcee was Yutta Tibbs, not Ashley Sparks.

CHRISTIAN HUMOR

Mildred, the church gossip and self-appointed monitor of the church's morals, kept sticking her nose into other people's business. Several members did not approve of her extracurricular activities, but feared her enough to maintain their silence. She made a mistake, however, when she accused Frank, a new member, of being an alcoholic after she saw his old pickup parked in front of the town's only bar one afternoon. She emphatically told Frank and several others that everyone seeing it there would know what he was doing! Frank, a man of few words, stared at her for a moment and just turned and walked away. He didn't explain, defend, or deny. He said nothing. Later that evening, Frank quietly parked his pickup in front of Mildred's house... walked home... and left it there all night. You gotta love Frank!

A guy walks into a store and asks the clerk if they have any Polish sausage. The clerk says "Are you Polish"? The guy says "I take offense at that. If I came in here and ordered Italian sausage, would you think I was Italian"? The clerk says "No". The guy asks, "If I came in here and ordered German sausage, would you think I was German"? The clerk again says "No". The guy asks "Then what makes you think I'm Polish"? The clerk says "This is a hardware store".

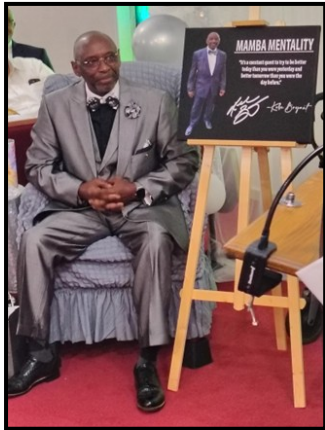
So, the head pastor wakes up one beautiful Sunday morning, and decides he's going golfing that morning. So he calls in sick, heads out to the golf course, and starts golfing. Meanwhile, the angels in heaven are upset. "Do you see that God?" They say. "Are you going to let him get away with this?" So, God gives the pastor a nice burst of wind as he hits the ball at the start of a difficult course, and the ball sails all the way to the green and rolls straight into the hole. The angels didn't like this. "Seriously? Why did you do that?" God calmly answers, "Who's he gonna tell?"

A pastor goes for a walk in the woods. He comes across a wild bear and it starts running towards him. The pastor prays "God, convert this bear into a Christian". Immediately the bear stops in its tracks. The pastor gives a sigh of relief. The bear then stands up and lifts up its hands to heaven and says, "Thank you Lord for this food I'm about to eat".

There was one little boy in the teacher's class who really struggled to learn. One day the teacher asked him who signed the Declaration of Independence, and of course he didn't know. The teacher asked him every day for a week but still he couldn't give the right answer. Finally, in desperation, she called the boy's father to come and see her. She said to him, "Your boy won't tell me who signed the Declaration of Independence." The father said to his son, "Come here, boy, and sit down." The boy duly did as he was told and then his dad said to him, "Now if you signed that stupid thing, just admit it so we can get out of here."

Preaching the Word

The church was honored to provide the worship service for our own, Pastor Joe Hereford, as he celebrated his 22nd anniversary at the helm of Moses Chapel. Dr. Clark brought the message and the Unity Choir provided the song service. The message was taken from Psalm 37:1-5 and the text topic was A Man Who is Established in the Lord.” He lifted up that all of us should want to be established in God. If we keep our hand in God’s, He’ll work things out. In order to be established in God we must, 1.



Learn how to trust in the Lord. Stop looking at things in the natural. 2. Find Jesus and let Him be your joy. We don’t have to go through alone. Find your joy in God. 3. Make up your mind about serving the Lord. Stay steadfast in your faith, serve, worship and praise Him regardless of the situation.

It had been several years since the two churches worshiped together and it was a wonderful blessing for everyone. Pastor Hereford was showered with several tokens of love and appreciation including a canvas with his picture and a quote from Kobe Bryant.

Congratulations Pastor Hereford and Moses Chapel Church on reaching this milestone. May you be constantly blessed by the Best.

Cancer Awareness Month

October is known nationally as Breast Cancer Awareness Month. There will be various events to recognize breast cancer survivors and those currently in the fight. The Liz Hurley Ribbon 5K Run will be held this year on October 18th starting at 8:30 a.m. Runners award will start at 10:00. Race begins at the corner of Lowe Avenue and Adams Street. Registration race fee is \$35.00 + \$2.80 sign up fee. There will be a free survivor’s walk/run at 8:00. This year’s race will help fund critical technology upgrades at Huntsville Hospital Breast Center, improving the accuracy of 3D mammograms and helping women get lifesaving answers sooner.

Team registration ends on October 7. Online registration for individuals ends October 14. In-person individual registration (at Fleet Feet Sports only) ends October 17.

Notice

The Fletcher’s Chapel Church family has planned a Retirement Banquet to honor Pastor Kenneth Lankford to be held on Saturday, November 1st at 6 p.m. at the Embassy Suites. Tickets are \$50 each and are available through October 19. Interested members are asked to see Sister Kay Miller to coordinate ticket purchase.

The Saint Rebecca Audiovisual Ministry Needs You! Helping hands are needed as we continue to expand our technology to enhance Morning Worship and other platforms. We welcome members to join us and help to expand and grow our team. Please see Deacon B.J. Thompson or Brother Carl Parker, Jr., for additional information.

Reminder to submit weekly announcements by Tuesday of each week for the upcoming Sunday to Jessie or Karol. This includes upcoming meetings, cards and thank you’s. This will ensure your announcement will be included when recorded for Sunday.

The Mallard Creek Association will be held at Syler Tabernacle October 24-26, 2025. Morning worship will be held at the Tabernacle on October 26th with Sunday School starting at 9:30 a.m.

Trunk or Treat will be held on the church grounds from 1:00-4:00 on October 18, 2025. There will be a moon bounce, face painting, games, good food and more.

On the third Sunday in October, members are asked to wear pink and help paint the Sanctuary pink in observance of Cancer Awareness. Beginning Sunday, members can place a ribbon on our Wall of Honor in memory of or in honor of someone touched by cancer regardless of the type of cancer.

If you are not receiving messages through the caste system and would like to, please let Jessie know. Also if a requested message is not sent out in a reasonable time, please give her a reminder call or text. She will appreciate your help in ensuring that messages are sent out as needed.

Inspiration/Meditation

Below is a list of October Fasting Prayer Points. As seasons are changing, and the world is becoming more tumultuous, prayer is needed more than ever. It is the prayer of the Newsletter Committee that you will find these helpful.

1. Thank God for keeping you, your family and all that pertain to you, since this year began (Psalm 103:1-5; 118:1)
2. Repent of any sin or blemish that may prevent your prayers from being answered. Ask the Lord to have mercy on you and wash you clean by the blood of Jesus. Pray using Psalm 51.
3. Sing songs of praise and worship to God as led.
4. According to 2 Chronicles 20:15-25; as you praise God with commitment God will take over your battles, you will not need to fight this battle, your enemies will destroy themselves, you will come to take over the spoil (plunder, precious jewels, abundance of goods, valuable items, huge amounts of supplies etc.).
5. Worship Him for the great things He is going to do in your life in this new month of progress, joy, peace, and lifting.
6. Father in this new month, I will not die but live to declare your goodness and faithfulness in the land of the living.
7. Joy and peace be restored to my life, family, career, business, and destiny in Jesus name.
8. I recover everything stolen from my life, family and destiny, there shall be no loss again in Jesus name.
9. Father, as you draw people into your church, let there be genuine salvation, healing, deliverance and answered prayers.
10. Meet everyone at the point of their needs in Jesus name.
11. Let there be holiness, sanctification and consecration in my life in Jesus name.
12. Declare boldly 3 times: October is my month of open doors of greatness, salvation, acceleration, excellence, promotion, change, laughter, testimonies, etc. and I enter into the glorious doors that the Almighty God has opened for me in Jesus mighty name!
13. October is a month of open doors. Jesus said in Revelation 3:8 *Behold, I have put before you an open door which no one can shut*, Lord I enter into the glorious doors you have opened for me in Jesus mighty name!
14. In this month of October and beyond, powers that have vowed to bring me down, Oh God, let the table turn now; bring them down to the dust and make me stand tall in victory over them in Jesus name.
15. This new month and beyond, Oh Lord, direct my steps in Jesus name. Psalm 37:23.

Which Disturbs You Most?

1. A soul lost in hell or a scratch on a new car?
2. A sermon five minutes too long or a lunch half an hour late?
3. Your missing a worship service or missing a day's work?
4. Your Bible unopened or your newspaper unread?

5. Children late for Sunday School or late for public school?
6. Your child rebelling against you or your rebelling against God?
7. A rainy Lord's Day or a rainy work day?
8. A lazy employee or your laziness in God's service?

DOES IT DISTURB YOU TO GIVE GOD SECOND BEST?

PUZZLE FUN

H E R E H P S I M E H N R E H T R O N F L S
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O A L S U J C I V V Z U S J S I D W E L M I
S R T L U F M A U N A Y U V W P P L K I I K
W E X U O V D T R V P D K Q P Z T V R A N P
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U G S J E T O H A R V E S T F E S T I V A L
C T H R P W E Y I G F U Q E I C H A H P W E

WORD LIST

AVOCADO
CHESTNUTS
DRIED LEAVES
FARMERS MARKET
FOLIAGE
GARDEN CLEANUP
HARVEST FESTIVAL

HALLOWEEN
KALEIDOSCOPE
LUMINARIES
MAUSOLEUM
NORTHERN HEMISPHERE
OVERCAST
PUMPKINS

QUIVER
REMEMBRANCE DAY
SCARECROW
SQUIRREL
TRICK OR TREAT
WOODPILE
YANKEE CANDLE