



# THE ECHO



Saint Rebecca P. B. Church □ 330 Grimwood Road □ Hazel Green, AL 35750 □ 256.828.5304 □ Vol. 35 No. 1 □ January 2026



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## *From the Pastor's Desk*

### A Brand New Year

A New Year does not simply signify a change in the calendar but an opportunity to bring about positive changes in the world around you. Therefore, in 2026 work with your best abilities and show the world that you have power to create wonderful and superior things. Be the change that you wish to see and take initiatives to make things better.

Remember that happiness depends upon your outlook on life. Find the good in all situations. Attitude is just as important as ability. Keep your attitude positive. Stay focused and stay positive. You are unique with special gifts. Use them and never forget that you have talent.

Years go by too quickly, enjoy them. Take care of yourself and appreciate life. Don't take anything for granted. Live each day as if it is your last. Relax and take time to reflect this year. This will help you keep a balance in your life.

God is doing great things in the lives of His people. Resolve this year to reach up and grab your blessings.

A new year is a time to get your options clear and to make a significant decision to do what it is that makes you really happy. The real issue here is that you must take each day as a new opportunity to keep moving towards what you want. Do not look at what will happen in a year, but more what will you do each day you awake to change, to move forward, to put something into action knowing that each day wasted can never be found again. Each day is a new beginning and a chance to do with it what should be done; and not to be seen as simply another day to put in time.

When you think how quickly a year goes by it emphasizes the importance of how quickly life goes by. And if we are not focused on this, the years fly by and we look back and wonder where the time went. What have we accomplished in life? Are we fulfilling the purpose we were put here for? Not just on New Years day, but every day it is important to remember what we do each day really does matter!

Happy New Year!

## A Blessed Little Life

Jesus truly loves all the little children of the world, and He loves Baby Logan Everson Ayers. Baby Logan was dedicated back to God on December 14, 2025 during morning worship. He was brought to the altar by his parents, Victoria Miller and Terence Ayers. Pastor Clark performed the dedication ceremony and prayed over this little one. He gave his parents a charge to rear him in the fear and admonition of



God. He also charged those standing around the altar as well as the entire congregation to be willing participants in the rearing and guidance of Baby Logan.

Victoria and Terence were presented with a Certificate of Blessing. Little Logan was surrounded by family, friends and so much

love. Congratulations to his parents, grandparents as well as the extended family. Congratulations to his Godparents, Brent and Sabrina Thompson. Each of you now have a monumental responsibility to mold and guide the life and path of Logan. May God cover each of you with His grace and continued love.



## A Christmas Angel

God continues to give new life, and so it is with Baby Korben Aston Humphrey, born December 1, 2025, in Winter Garden, Florida to Alex and Na'Kia Humphrey. Korben weighed in at 6lbs. 12 oz., 18 ½ inches. Korben quickly became the darling of his parents and siblings' eyes. He has two big brothers, Kylen and Kohen and one big sister, Krimsyn. They generally line up to hold and help spoil him. Congratulations to the Humphrey family on the arrival of this new little life. Congratulations are also extended to his Granny, Jessie Humphrey and his TT, Danielle Humphrey, who calls him Sugar Plum. His parents and his entire village have just undertaken a new spiritual, emotional and physical job – taking care of Korben. Keep God first in his life.



Jesus  
Loves Me  
THIS I KNOW  
FOR THE  
Bible  
TELLS ME SO

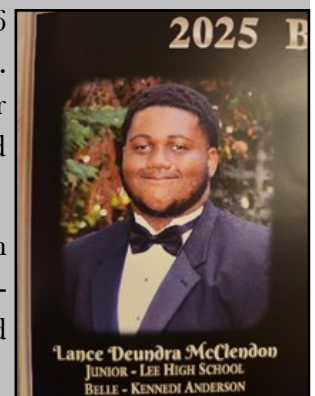
## A Special Moment

Lance McClendon continues to show that he is an all-around young man. He was 1 of 26 selected to participant in the Fun Set Social and Charity Club 2025 Beautillion Season. The Season concluded with the Beautillion on Nov 15, 2025, at the Von Braun Center where they were presented to the guests. As a part of the presentation, they performed formal dances with their belles. The Beau also had a Beau and Mother dance.



These young men participated in several workshops focused on character building and to help mold them into leaders of tomorrow. They also performed community service at the Boys and Girls Club.

Lance was escorted by Kennedy Anderson. In attendance with pride and joy were his parents and member of his family. We are proud of the young man you are choosing to be. Lance, your parents, family and church family love you and support your every endeavor. Continue reaching for the stars.





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## Christmas 2025

For the first time since COVID, the church enjoyed an evening of fun, food, games and fellowship for Christmas. On December 13, 2025, the Christmas Banquet Committee held a Christmas Social for the church and friends. The event included games for children as well as adults. Some of the games were A Minute to Win It, Don't forget the Lyrics, Left Right. The winners of each game received a prize. In addition, there were numerous door prizes. As part of the entertainment, Minister Yutta Tibbs made her debut as the comedian for the evening. Her act included memories of her childhood, especially her grandfather. She was absolutely wonderful and funny. Additionally, Sister Sabrina Thompson and her daughter, Paityn Thompson, provided a musical selection, This Christmas, and they were amazing. Paityn sang her part without hesitation or trepidation.

Of course, there was a great Christmas meal that consisted of chicken, dressing and all fixings. The food and the service were great. Following the meal and the last games, Dr. Clark gave closing remarks as well as encouragement for the Holiday Season. Each guest was given a candy bag upon departure.

Special thanks to Sister Danielle Humphrey for graciously assuming the role of emcee. Thanks are also extended to Sister Carol Stewart who became a part of the committee this year. Her ideas, assistance, and willing spirit were greatly appreciated. Of course, the committee thanks Sister Joanne Haggart for decorating the fellowship hall for the event. Congratulations to the Committee on a job well done.



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## Christmas Drama

The Christmas Drama was held on December 21, 2025 during morning worship at 9:00 a.m. It was entitled "Who's Going to Tell Them." The drama was centered around ensuring that the children especially understood that it's their job too to tell the world about the Savior that was born and died for all. Somebody has to tell the world that God can turn their night into day and that there's a better way. That person should be those who profess to be Christians. Initially, the children were hesitant and gave all kinds of excuses as to why it should not be them. After being convinced by the minister, they understood that there is an entire world of people who need to know that goodness of God.

It's up to the believers, young and old to spread the word, even if some don't believe. The drama included the full story of the birth of Christ – shepherds, wise men, a manger, etc. It was a reminder that we shouldn't take Christ out of Christmas because He is Christmas. The message was delivered through song and praise dance. The world really needs to know that He came to save the world.



The drama was written and directed by Sister Kay Miller. She thanks everyone who participated in any way to make the message a great success. She is grateful for your dedication and time. Congratulations Sister Miller on another inspiring and uplifting drama. May God continue to bless and increase your gifts

## Helping Others

Minister Yutta Tibbs ministered again to those in need at Tent City in Huntsville on December 13, 2025. She collected gloves, scarfs, socks, blankets, to help ensure that they could be as warm as possible during the coldest days along with toiletries. Not only did she provide tangible items, she and her helpers made sure they had a warm meal. They served the residents spaghetti, crackers, green beans, corn and hot chocolate.

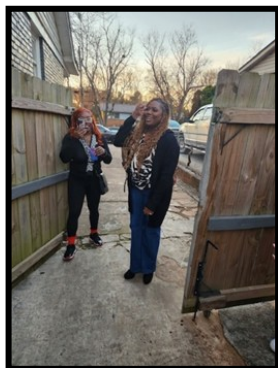


Yutta thanks Sisters Evelyn Drake, Jere Eaton and Karol Hersey, Silver Jewel Chapter 508, and her co-worker, David, for volunteering to help with this ministry. She will always remember your kindness. Yutta, your love and desire to help others is evidenced in all that you do. Continue being a willing vessel for God and for others.



## 50 Looks Amazing on You

Yvonne (Von) Hampton celebrated a milestone birthday on December 22, 2025. She turned 50 and is enjoying every minute of this new decade. Yvonne was thrown a surprise party by husband, Tremain Hampton, and her brother, Michael Ford. The party was held at her brother Michael's home on December 20, 2025 and it was a real surprise as she cried for a



while. She enjoyed the company and love of her family and friends. There was fun, fellowship, good food and the comradery of simply being together. Tremain took great pleasure in planning the gathering. It delights his heart to see his new bride happy. Yvonne thanks her husband for all he did to make her day special. Her proud mother-in-law, Sister Valeria Pruitt, expresses her love for her and wishes her many more birthdays. Happy birthday from your family and church family.

## Movie and Dinner

Members of the church enjoyed an afternoon at the movies on Sunday, December 7, 2025. The movie, Sarah's Oil, was enjoyed at AMC Theaters in Valley Bend. There were more than 20 in attendance, and only one man - Deacon Roosevelt Hersey. He took on the roll of security for the ladies, and he did an excellent job. The movie was based on a true story and was an eye-opening presentation of what sheer determination and faith can accomplish.

After the movie, the group had a fellowship dinner at Logan's on Balmoral Drive. It was great to be able to dine with each other in love. Thanks are extended to Sister Karol Hersey for organizing the outing. It was a good lead into the Holiday Season celebrations. The church looks forward to enjoying additional events.



## Notice

- ◆ MLK Day will be observed on January 19, 2026. There are various events planned in Huntsville.
- ◆ Elder Robert Peavy and Old Zion will be in charge of the worship on January 25, 2026 at 9:00 a.m.
- ◆ Minister Yutta Tibbs will preach her initial sermon on the third Sunday.
- ◆ Please submit announcements by noon each Tuesday.

# How to Have a Happy New Year

## Set Intentions, Not Resolutions

Why start the new year with rigid resolutions that will most likely result in stress and guilt? Creating intentions (and actively writing them down) is a much more realistic approach to setting goals for yourself. Draft up daily, weekly, and monthly intentions to help take the pressure off your daily schedule and allow you to focus on the big picture.

## Face Your Fears

We've all been advised to "do one thing every day that scares you," but it's a powerful sentiment that isn't exactly realistic for someone with a full-time job, responsibilities, and a comfortable weeknight routine. If your fears include skydiving, feel free to do just that, but know that more bite-sized acts of bravery apply as well—karaoke nights, meeting different people, and new hairstyles included.

## Practice Gratitude

Regularly expressing gratitude has been shown to shift your perspective for the better. Take stock of what's going right in your life by expressing it out loud or by writing it down. To make the act of gratitude expression even easier, jot down your daily thoughts in a bedside journal.

## Volunteer Your Time

Giving back to your community or a cause you're passionate about can make a lasting impact. Research where and when you can volunteer on a local level, whether it means collecting canned food or clothing donations.

## Put Down Your Phone

Between the onslaught of texts, emails, and news and Instagram notifications we receive hourly, our smartphones are now a permanent fixture in our everyday life. In an effort to be more present, spend less time on your phone with these simple tips that'll help you drastically cut down on your daily screen time.

## Treat Yourself

Daily life can get hectic, which is exactly why intentional self-care is crucial. Make time for a miniature reward with either a weekly manicure, morning meditation, or a new purchase that genuinely brings you joy. Whether you gift yourself with a new book or a few minutes of solitude, prioritizing time to do things for yourself will make you happy and keep you sane.

# Happy Birthday

A birthday is another blessing from God. The church wishes each of you celebrating this month a blessed day in the Lord. Enjoy your special day with someone you love.

Anthony Stewart 2nd  
Don Smith 2nd  
Elijah Parker 2nd  
Nikeesha Collier 2nd  
Donna Harris 3rd  
Emma J. Byers 4th  
Chelsea Edwards 4th  
Donell Robinson, III, 5th  
Mother Aline Thompson 6th  
Kiara Edwards 6th  
Jeremiah Young 6th  
Jonathan Lowery 7th  
Monday Salandy 8th  
LaDarren McClendon 11th  
Richard Thompson, Jr., 15th  
Yumond Edwards, Jr. 17th  
LaBlanc Dozier 19th  
Sharon Erskine 19th  
Jermaine Garner 19th  
Pamela Greer 19th  
Camryn Garner 19th  
Quenton Hawk 19th  
Kennedi Nia Sparks 20th  
Patricia Stewart 20th  
Carl Parker, Jr. 21st  
Shelby McGrady 22nd  
Mildred Bone 23rd  
Mother Arlean Hardin 26th  
Courtney Rogers 28th  
Kyle Parker 28th  
Alayna Ray 28th  
Kristie T. Henderson 30th  
Jacqueline McGrady 30th  
Brandon Garner 30th  
Brooklynn Parker 30th  
Carl Burress 31st  
Letha Hampton 31st  
Sharon Parker Love 31st  
Robbie Peavy 31st

# Happy Anniversary

A wedding anniversary represents another year of togetherness for a married couple. The church wishes each of the following couples a happy anniversary.

Othello & Ruben Cross 10th  
Dea. & Mo. Gilbert Thompson 28th



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## Potpourri

### Baskets Filled With Love

The Food Pantry Ministry prepared and distributed baskets for the patrons for Christmas. The baskets were filled with a variety of items to help make the holidays even more special. Sister Eunice Townsend thanks everyone who helped to prepare the baskets. She appreciates your time and love.



### Laughing All The Way

The Huntsville Bible College sponsored their annual Laughing All the Way on December 5, 2025 at the Eagles Nest Ministries DJR Kingdom Impact Center at 7:00 p.m. Unique Live Band provided the music. Deno Posey was the guest comedian. Saint Rebecca purchased a table and there were approximately 10 members present. Thanks to Deacon Gilbert and Mother Aline Thompson for their continued work with



### Gift Of Love

The church continues to show its love for our Security Office Lancaster. He and his wife were blessed with twins a few years ago, and each year Saint Rebecca blesses them with a Christmas gift. This year was no exception. Sister Karol Hersey oversees the effort each year, and she thanks everyone who gave a donation for them this year.

### Thanks Again

Thanks are extended to Sister Eunice Townsend and Mother Betty Thompson for the goodie bags they provided for Christmas. We love you.

## Celebrating Martin Luther King, Jr.

Many will celebrate Martin Luther King, Jr. Day on January 19th. He was a man of action and strength. He believed in fighting for what he knew was right. Because of warriors like him, there are certain freedoms that we all enjoy now. Below are a few facts about his life. How many did you know already?

In 1955, he was recruited to serve as spokesman for the Montgomery Bus Boycott, which was a campaign by the African-American population of Montgomery, Alabama to force integration of the city's bus lines.

In 1957, Dr. King was elected president of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC), an organization designed to provide new leadership for the \_\_\_\_\_ now burgeoning civil rights movement.

In 1963, he led a coalition of numerous civil rights groups in a nonviolent campaign aimed at Birmingham, Alabama, which at the time was described as the "most segregated city in America."

In 1964, at 35 years old, Martin Luther King, Jr. became the youngest person to win the Nobel Peace Prize.

Also in 1964, partly due to the March on Washington, Congress passed the landmark Civil Rights Act, essentially eliminating legalized racial segregation in the United States.

The next year, 1965, Congress went on to pass the Voting Rights Act, which was an equally-important set of laws that eliminated the remaining barriers to voting for African-Americans, who in some locales had been almost completely disenfranchised. This legislation resulted directly from the Selma to Montgomery, AL March for Voting Rights lead by Dr. King.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s less than thirteen years of nonviolent leadership ended abruptly and tragically on April 4th, 1968, when he was assassinated at the Lorraine Motel in Memphis, Tennessee. Dr. King's body was returned to his hometown of Atlanta, Georgia, where his funeral ceremony was attended by high-level leaders of all races and political stripes.

Later in 1968, Dr. King's wife, Mrs. Coretta Scott King, officially founded the Martin Luther King, Jr. Center for Nonviolent Social Change, which she dedicated to being a "living memorial" aimed at continuing Dr. King's work on important social ills around the world.

## Recipe Corner

### Alfredo Baked Spaghetti

#### INGREDIENTS

1 pound dried spaghetti noodles  
3 tablespoons unsalted butter  
3 tablespoons all-purpose flour  
3 cups whole or 2% milk  
1 cup heavy cream  
6 ounces low-moisture mozzarella cheese (about 1 1/2 cups), shredded and divided  
4 ounces finely grated Parmesan cheese (about 1 1/2 cups), divided  
1/2 teaspoon garlic powder  
1 teaspoon kosher salt, plus more for the pasta water  
Finely chopped parsley leaves, for serving (optional)

Arrange one rack in the top position and a second rack in the middle of the oven. Heat the oven to 375°F. Bring a large pot of heavily salted water to a boil over medium-high heat.

Add 1 pound dried spaghetti to the boiling water and cook according to package directions for 1 minute less than al dente. Meanwhile, make the sauce.

Melt 3 tablespoons unsalted butter in a medium pot over medium heat. Whisk in 3 tablespoons all-purpose flour and cook until it is golden brown and smells toasted, about 2 minutes.

Slowly whisk in 3 cups whole milk and 1 cup heavy cream.

Bring to a boil, whisking occasionally. Reduce the heat to maintain a simmer and cook until the sauce is slightly thickened, whisking occasionally, about 5 minutes. Remove the pot from the heat.

Whisk in 4 ounces shredded mozzarella cheese, 3 ounces of the finely grated Parmesan cheese, 1/2 teaspoon garlic powder, and 1 teaspoon kosher salt until smooth.

When the spaghetti is ready, drain. Add to the sauce and toss until combined. Taste and season with more kosher salt if needed. Transfer to an 8x8-, 9x9-, or 9x13-inch broiler-safe baking dish and arrange into an even layer. Sprinkle with the remaining 2 ounces shredded mozzarella and 1 ounce Parmesan cheese.

Bake on the middle rack until the edges are bubbling and the cheese is melted, about 20 minutes. For additional browning, move the baking dish to the top rack. Turn the oven onto broil and broil until the cheese is browned, 3 to 4 minutes. Let cool for 5 minutes. Garnish with finely chopped fresh parsley leaves if using before cutting into pieces like a lasagna and serving.



## Christian Humor

Everybody knew the roof was leaking, but the church kept putting off replacing it. Finally, some areas of the ceiling in the sanctuary began to sag. The church called a congregational meeting. A wealthy member rose and pledged \$300 toward fixing the roof. Just then, a small piece of the ceiling fell and hit him on the head. Somebody in the back of the church said, "Hit him again, Lord!"

During church, a boy pulled a few coins from his pocket to drop in the donation basket that was being handed around. He was surprised when he felt a tap on his shoulder. He turned around, and a man behind him silently handed him a \$20 bill. He was surprised at the man's generosity and wondered why he hadn't dropped it in the basket when it came to him, but nonetheless dropped the bill in the basket. He felt another tap on his shoulder, and when he turned around again, the man said: "That was your \$20. I was trying to tell you it fell from your pocket."

Says one humorist: "Life is unfair. I lost my car keys at a ball game and never found them. I lost my sunglasses at the beach and never found them. I lost my socks in the washing machine and never found them. I lost three pounds on a diet — I found them and five more."

Three people were visiting and viewing the Grand Canyon — an artist, a pastor and a cowboy. As they stood on the edge of that massive abyss, each one responded with a cry of exclamation. The artist said, "Ah, what a beautiful scene to paint!" The minister cried, "What a wonderful example of the handiwork of God!" The cowboy mused, "What a terrible place to lose a cow!"

A doctor calls his patient and says "I've got bad news and I've got terrible news. Which do you want first" Patient says give me the bad news" Doctor: you only have 24 hours to live. Patient: What's the terrible news? Doctor: I forgot to call you yesterday.

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# Puzzle Fun

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

## WORD LIST

EARMUFFS

FIREPLACE

FREEZING

FROSTBITTEN

HAPPY NEW YEAR

HOT COCOA

HYPOTHERMIA

ICE SKATING

JANUARY

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR

MITTENS

POLAR BEAR

QUILT

SHOVEL

SNOWBALL

SNOWFLAKES

TOBOGGAN

TURTLE NECK

WIND CHILL FACTOR

WINTER

ZERO DEGREES