

NOVEMBER 2022 NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER THEME: ODD FOR GOD

November Fighter Verse—Hosea 14:9

Who is wise? Let them realize these things.
Who is discerning? Let them understand.
The ways of the LORD are right;
the righteous walk in them,
but the rebellious stumble in them.

OUR WORSHIP

**IN-PERSON
LIVESTREAM, FACEBOOK & YOUTUBE @ 11:00AM**
www.centralbaptistnyc.org
Adult Sunday School 9:45AM via Zoom
Youth Sunday School 11:15AM—2nd, 3rd and 4th
Sundays. Ages—Kindergarten to High School

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Blessed and Happy Thanksgiving



*"Let us make it a memorable
Thanksgiving by counting our
blessings and expressing our
gratitude to God for all His love."*



THANKSGIVING by Paulette Forbes-Igharo

On the fourth Thursday of each November in the USA we celebrate Thanksgiving Day. It is a public holiday and is believed to be the most widely celebrated in America. Miriam Webster Dictionary says that Thanksgiving is "a public acknowledgement or celebration of divine goodness; the act of giving thanks; a prayer expressing gratitude."

The story of the origin of this holiday in America is so long and complicated that it cannot be addressed in this publication. However, the main purpose is to thank God for **all** His blessings throughout the year. Even when we grumble, we should remember that the ability to grumble is a blessing because that means that we are alive and possess the physi-

cal and emotional capability to feel and respond. So let us endeavor to thank God daily with special emphasis on Thanksgiving Day. The poem below reminds us to be grateful for all things even when we are undeserving.

A Thanksgiving Poem
Paul Laurence Dunbar

The sun hath shed its kindly light,
Our harvesting is gladly o'er
Our fields have felt no killing blight,
Our bins are filled with goodly store.

From pestilence, fire, flood, and sword
We have been spared by thy decree,
And now with humble hearts, O Lord,
We come to pay our thanks to thee.

We feel that had our merits been
The measure of thy gifts to us,
We erring children, born of sin,
Might not now be rejoicing thus.

No deed of our hath brought us grace;
When thou were nigh our sight was dull,
We hid in trembling from thy face,
But thou, O God, wert merciful.

Thy mighty hand o'er all the land
Hath still been open to bestow
Those blessings which our wants demand
From heaven, whence all blessings flow.

Thou hast, with ever watchful eye,
Looked down on us with holy care,
And from thy storehouse in the sky
Hast scattered plenty everywhere.

Then lift we up our songs of praise
To thee, O Father, good and kind;
To thee we consecrate our days;
Be thine the temple of each mind.

With incense sweet our thanks ascend;
Before thy works our powers pall;
Though we should strive years without end,
We could not thank thee for them all.

This poem is in the public domain.



Paul Laurence Dunbar
1872-1906

Born in Dayton, Ohio, on June 27, 1872, Paul Laurence Dunbar was one of the first African American literary figures to garner critical acclaim on a national scale. Although he lived just thirty-three years, Dunbar's contributions in a variety of genres left a legacy that endures today.

<https://corescholar.libraries.wright.edu/exhibit/>



Pastor's Devotional

Do Not Forget the Lord

Deuteronomy 6:10-12

"When the Lord your God brings you into the land he swore to your fathers, to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, to give you—a land with large, flourishing cities you did not build, houses filled with all kinds of good things you did not provide, wells you did not dig, and vineyards and olive groves you did not plant—then when you eat and are satisfied, be careful that you do not forget the Lord."



The book of Deuteronomy contains God's final instructions for the people of Israel as they prepare to cross the Jordan and enter the Promised Land. These instructions come in the form of three speeches that Moses gives to the people of Israel. The focus of most of these speeches is on Israel's covenant responsibilities and how Israel should live in light of their relationship with God.

But every once in a while, Moses will pause to remind Israel how important it is not to neglect God when they get into the Promise Land. In Deuteronomy 6:10-12 and Deuteronomy 8:10-11 Moses knew that the greatest threat facing the Israelites as they enter the Promised Land is not the influence of the Canaanites, but the people's newfound prosperity. The Israelites will move from an existence characterized by daily dependence on God for everything, to an existence where everything they could have ever hoped for is right at hand. And this newfound prosperity could potentially cause them to forget where they came from and who got them there. The Israelites impending prosperity could potentially move them away from God.

When you have eaten and are satisfied, praise the LORD your God for the good land he has given you. Be careful that you do not forget the LORD your God, failing to observe his commands, his laws and his decrees that I am giving you this day.

Deuteronomy 8:10-11

And still today the greatest threat that the people of God face is not an enemy attack or persecution but their own prosperity. In its history, the church has survived and thrived when it has been persecuted and attacked but then dwindles and declines when it enjoys sustained periods of prosperity. The church is growing in other parts of the world where its members are attacked and abused, but it is declining especially in America because of its prosperity. Jesus said that it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of needle than for the rich to enter the kingdom of heaven. And Scottish historian Thomas Carlyle

observed, "For every 100 men that can withstand adversity, only one can withstand prosperity."

Prosperity has a way of making you more enamored with the gift than the giver; and trusting more in your resources than your source. Prosperity will have you on the golf course Sunday morning when you should be in church; and it will have you checking your investments rather than spending time on your knees. Moses knew that it would be easier for the Israelites to trust God when they had nothing, than it would after God blesses

them with everything.

For Moses, the only way to deal with the threat of prosperity is to cultivate a spirit of gratitude that recognizes God as the giver of every blessing we enjoy. If the people of God are not cultivating a spirit of gratitude, then they are sowing the seeds of apostasy. If

Deuteronomy 26:5

Then you shall declare before the Lord your God: "My father was a wandering Aramean, and he went down into Egypt with a few people and lived there and became a great nation, powerful and numerous."

you are not thanking God for what you have then you are moving away from God, and you may not even recognize that you are. Deuteronomy 26:5 is a ritual designed to cultivate the seeds of gratitude in the lives of the people of Israel. It is a ritual intended to be performed annually at the end of every harvest season; you may even call it ancient Israel's version of Thanksgiving.

In this ritual, whenever they are presenting some of the first ripe grain of the harvest, the Israelites recite their history beginning with the patriarchs. This reminds Israel of her humble beginnings. In verse 5, God wants Israel to remember where they came from. All Israel is descended from a man whom God through the words of the speech identifies as a wandering Aramean. Israel traces its origins to three patriarchs Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and all three can trace their roots back to Aram.

Aram was a region in what is now modern-day Syria and as a people, they were known for their weakness and fragility. The description of Israel's genealogy is also shown by the word "wandering" which has a range of meanings in Hebrew. The term can mean either sickly or homeless. It can also mean either ailing in health or destitute without shelter. This description of Israel's ancestor Jacob is harsh, brutal, but true. Israel came from nothing. And if they were tempted to glorify their paternity in anyway, this confession would remind them of who their daddy was.

Verse 5 contrasts Israel's humble beginnings with her present condition, they began as nothing but now at the end of verse 5, they are a great nation powerful and numerous. The implication from where Israel started to where they are now is that Israel didn't become great and powerful by themselves. God took them from where they were to where they are now, and God alone deserves credit for their present condition.

I should not have to remind any African American of our humble beginnings. Regardless of where you are now, just about all of us came from poverty and oppression. I am moved every

time Michelle Obama reminds us: the mansion that she and President Barack Obama lived in, was built by slaves. That is our past origins! Places you go to now, you were once denied entrance; the schools you now attend, you were once kept out of, services you now enjoy, you were once refused.

Our history maybe different but some of our experiences are the same. We came from nothing. For all of us if we dig deep enough into our past, we will find some element of poverty, some degree of humiliation, some level of trouble. And whether your family came here on a slave ship or the Mayflower or on an immigrant boat, we all started from the bottom. And too often our story is one of how hard our parents or grandparents or great grandparents worked to create opportunities for us; and the truth is, if God did not get involved, open a door, have his hand on our lives, we would all still be at the bottom. So, in this Thanksgiving season remember as Moses encouraged the Israelites to do where you came from, and then thank God for how far he has brought you.

November Birthdays

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

May your path be like the morning sun, shining ever brighter till the full light of day.
(Proverbs 4:18 NIV) **

Cameron Davis	11/5
Leroy Chisholm	11/7
Guerline Marcelin	11/9
BJ McDonald	11/10
Jackson Gee	11/13
Lisa Copeland	11/14
Tianna Newkirk	11/18
Destiny Jean-Michel	11/20
M. Esther Romero	11/23
Maya Newkirk	11/24
Sharaé Moultrie	11/24
Savannah Eaddy	11/27
Dorothy Lambiri	11/30

NOVEMBER MISSIONARY OF THE MONTH

Marvin and Denise Robinson Mission Board: Missions Door



Marvin and Denise Robinson have been serving as missionaries for over 42 years. Marvin originally came to faith at Central Baptist Church in 1957. For over 20 years beginning in the early 80s, Marvin and Denise served among the homeless population of Coney Island. This was an area with great needs and many challenges. Drug use and death

were rampant. But the Robinsons recognized that a Christian must be ready to go into any area to serve. "Do we have fear? No, because God has called us!" After serving for in Coney Island, the Robinson moved to Rochester, NY, and continued the same ministry outreach to the needy of that area.

Earlier this year, Marvin was having trouble with his leg. It put him on crutches and made serving a challenge. The Lord was gracious and healed him and in June he resumed his regular missionary work.

Marvin and Denise were married in 1975. Their children, Paul and Maria, are a great source of joy to their grateful parents. Paul and wife, Erica, have blessed the Robinsons with four precious grandchildren, Macey, Justus, Theo and Sadie.

Recent Events

The Robinsons have kept at it as COVID has been winding down! In June, Marvin lead their annual Big Man/Little Man Father's Day event. The name comes from the reality that for many boys, their father is not in the home. Their home may have a single mother or the man living there is not the father of the child. Marvin tries to provide Godly counsel and direction to these men and youth so that they can have a positive future.

In September of this year, they were able to provide over 80 backpacks to the children of Rochester. Each backpack contained school supplies and scripture messages.

Looking ahead to Halloween, the Robinsons will be handing out tracts, praying and providing candy to the children of his area. In November, they will give away Thanksgiving Baskets. Many people in Rochester are struggling financially and this food outreach is an annual blessing. December will provide another major outreach opportunity when they provide not just food but toys and gifts for needy families.

As COVID restrictions have toned down, both Marvin and Denise have been able to reestablish connection with assisted living homes in their area. Each Wednesday, Marvin and Denise go to separate locations to talk and pray with the residents. "For many

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older people, going into a nursing home is the final call. Families don't come to visit. You expect to go in for a short visit and everyone wants to talk for a while because they haven't had any other connection besides the staff," Marvin said. On Sundays, Marvin and Denise return the facilities to do devotions with the residents.

Denise graduated in May with a Bachelor of Science degree with a focus in Christian Counseling from Liberty University. She has just enrolled in the Counseling Program at Denver Seminary to continue her studies. She hopes to use this training to make better connection to women in her area.

The Robinsons welcome support whenever it can come, but particularly in the summer. As Marvin said, "I want people to see what we do. Roll up your sleeves and get into it!"

For more information on the Robinsons, please visit: <https://www.missionsdoor.org/missionary/robinson-marvin-and-denise/>

Prayer Requests

The Robinsons request that you pray for the following:

- That they stay on the narrow path as they follow Christ.
- That they keep sharing Christ in the right way with the different people they connect with in their area. "If you make one wrong turn, they're not going to trust you anymore."
- That they remain healthy to be able to serve more fully.
- That the nursing homes they visit remain free from COVID. The one that Marvin visits had a small outbreak and it meant he couldn't visit the residents for a while.
- That doors reopen for their prison ministry.

Remember: 10% of your tithes and offerings go toward the support of our missionaries.

A Prayer for Domestic Missionaries**

We pray over domestic missionaries sharing the hope and love of Christ on our very own soil. So many in our country have been shown a false view of what it means to follow Christ, but we pray through Your Holy Spirit missionaries would be given the words, guidance, and access to share Your true heart and love with those they come into contact with. Help missionaries to be tender to Your Spirit, knowing when to speak and when to listen. Help them not to fear the wrath or harshness of men, but to know what matters is Your opinion in the end. Father, help Your children as they proclaim Your Name in this land. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

**<https://www.christianity.com/wiki/prayer/prayers-for-missionaries.html>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Opportunities to come together to learn, pray and fellowship.

Bible Study

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Adults—9:45AM

Youth — 11:15A, 2nd, 3rd and 4th Sundays

Join in person and via Zoom by Phone: 646-558-8656

WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY

7:00—8:00PM

Join Zoom by Phone: 646-558-8656

Prayer Meetings

Mid-Week Prayer:

Wednesday

12:00-1:00 PM

**Join Zoom Prayer
Meetings**

**by Phone:
646-558-8656**

Prayer Meetings by Phone

Conference Call

(712) 770-4711

Access Code: 667293#

Monday & Thursday

6-6:30 AM

WOMEN'S MINISTRY "POWER HOUR"

Sunday, November 20

@ 12:30PM

Join by phone at

646-558-8656

EVENING PRAYER,

Due to the Thanksgiving
Holiday,

Evening Prayer will meet

Friday, November 18 @
7:00PM

Dial into the Zoom Meeting
phone number:

646-558-8656

Happy Thanksgiving

Special Announcement

Capital Campaign & Thanksgiving Drive

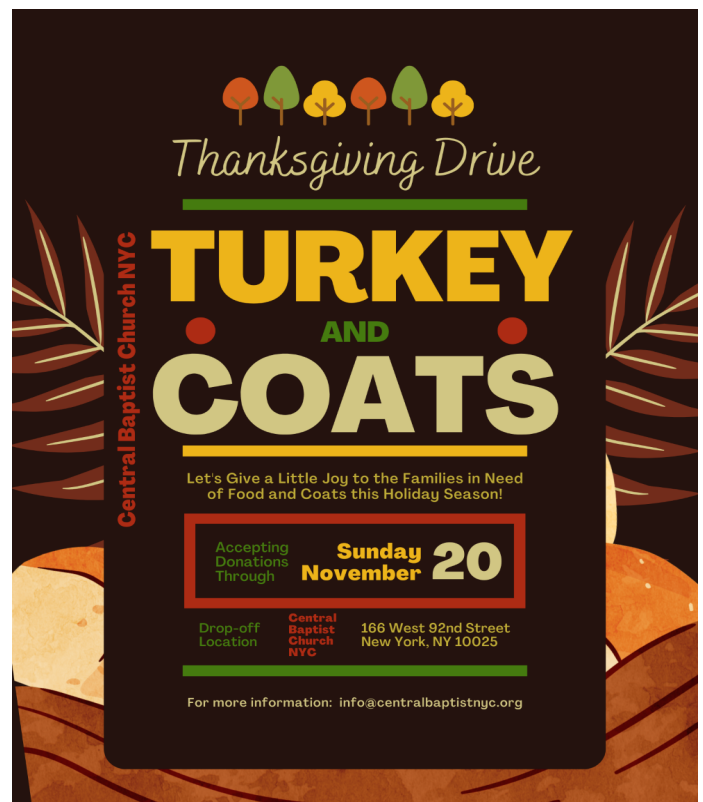
WHAT: CAPITAL CAMPAIGN—Raise \$100,000.00

WHY: To offset the \$500,000 overall cost of exterior facade repairs

WHO IS INVOLVED: Members and Friends of Central Baptist Church who open their hearts, minds and treasure.

HOW MUCH: A monthly donation total from each CBC Member: \$78 dollars a month for 8 months; totaling \$624 from each Central Baptist member. This is additional giving beyond tithes and offerings.

WHEN: Commenced on October 16th, 2022 through June 16th, 2023 a total of 8 months. Monthly donation totals will be announced and displayed during each month at the end of the month.



A vertical poster for a Thanksgiving Drive. At the top, there are five stylized trees in orange, green, yellow, orange, and green. Below them, the text "Thanksgiving Drive" is written in a cursive font. Underneath is a thick green horizontal line. The main title "TURKEY AND COATS" is in large, bold, yellow and white block letters. To the left of the title, "Central Baptist Church NYC" is written vertically in white. Below the title, there is a green box with white text that says "Accepting Donations Through" and "Sunday November 20". Below this box, there is a green box with white text that says "Drop-off Location" and "Central Baptist Church NYC". To the right of this box, there is a green box with white text that says "166 West 92nd Street New York, NY 10025". At the bottom, there is a green box with white text that says "Let's Give a Little Joy to the Families in Need of Food and Coats this Holiday Season!". At the very bottom, there is a green box with white text that says "For more information: info@centralbaptistnyc.org".

SAVE THE DATE



CBC'S Women's Ministry IN PERSON EVENT Discipleship Kickdown SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5

9AM-2PM

CHAPEL

Doors open at 9:00AM

Continental Breakfast and Lunch will be served.

We'd love to see you there!



The Women's Ministry Discipleship Groups just finished going through the Bible in a year. The theme of the Kickdown is ***"Finishing Strong: The End is Just the Beginning."*** The idea was born on the Women's Retreat at Spruce Lake in September of 2021 inspired by the retreat speaker Damaris Carbaugh and her passion for the word of God.

The project began on November 1, 2021 and the groups met through out the 12 month period finishing on October 31, 2022. They even met in the summer when traditionally ministries take a break during the months of July and August.

The Kickdown event on Saturday, November 5th is a mini-retreat and celebration of the reading through the Bible. The Discipleship Group Committee has planned a day of activities with the goal of exploring our experiences with the Word of God.

Save the date and join us in person. The day will full of reflection, fellowship and fun.

WE NEED YOU

The Central Baptist 180th Anniversary Committee needs **YOU!**

Do you have a talent you would like to share?

We need **YOU!**

Entertainers of all variety welcome. Singers, dancers, comedians etc.

Please submit a 1 -2 minute audition tape to

<https://share.vidday.com/e/a-xutprn>

Would you like to greet attendees and hand out programs?

We need **YOU!**

Greeters need to arrive by 2:30 pm on Dec. 10

Can you help with setup or cleanup December 10?

We need **YOU!**

Setup will take place 1:30 pm - 2:30 pm on Saturday Dec. 10

Cleanup will be from 8:00 pm - 9:00 pm on Saturday Dec. 10

We also need volunteers to assist with:

DJ/Emcee during dinner - Setup at 4:00 pm.

Audio/ Visual - On Friday, Dec. 9th during rehearsal and on Saturday Dec. 10th

Coat Room - 2:30 - 3:30 pm and 7:00 - 8:00 pm

Decorating the sanctuary and Lower Gym -Decorations will go up on December 9th

To volunteer, please email the CBC 180th Anniversary

Committee: CentralBaptist180Anniversary@gmail.com