



THE LORD REIGNS!

In this month's issue:

- Returning to In-Person Worship Services — Sunday, October 4 @ 11AM
- Congregational Meeting Notification — Page 1
- Member Highlight: Deacon Betty Johnson — Page 1
- Devotional by Pastor Fils-Aime "A Word About Prayer" — Page 2
- October Fighter Verse — Page 3
- Announcements — Page 4
- October Birthdays — Page 4

CENTRAL REOPENS FOR IN-PERSON WORSHIP SERVICE SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4TH AT 11AM

On Sunday, September 20 and Sunday, September 27, Central had what we called a "soft opening." A few people were invited for In Person Worship to help gauge the effectiveness of a worship experience that combined live and pre-recorded components. It gave us an opportunity to see what works well and how to fix or eliminate what did not work. We were also able to put in place sanitizing stations and train the Ushers and Greeters so we can all worship in a safe environment for those who choose to attend while continuing with access to worship service through Livestream, Facebook and YouTube.

Congregational Meeting In-Person and via Zoom Sunday, October 25 immediately after service In Person Meeting in Chapel Agenda : Financial Report

Member Highlight: Deacon Betty Johnson



Interview by Paulette Forbes-Igharo

How are you?

I am well and grateful. I am the blessed mother of 3 children and 4 grandchildren. At 80 years old I was diagnosed with cancer in 2018 I found it unbelievable. It was not a matter of accepting the information but trying to decide what to do. However, throughout the process I had faith that I would be OK whatever the decision we made. After praying and discussing with my family, I decided on chemotherapy, but during the treatment it affected my liver. It was trying time, but I trusted in God and made peace with God's will. I decided on surgery. To God is the glory.

Also, I am a diabetic, but my diabetes

is under control as I stay active through walking and yoga.

What lessons have you learned?

When you feel that all is lost, trusting in God will bring you through even if the answer is not what you are hoping for. Always be grateful.

What has been most surprising during these past few months?

I see that people are disconnected, anxious and afraid. People see now that we need each other, that we cannot hold onto things. I am praying that people acknowledge God who accepts each of us. The virus is impacting everyone and people are coming together.

What has been most encouraging?

The protesting is good. Change is coming. People now understand what



Betty Johnson interview (continued)

equality is about. God can do all things in His time and in His way.

How have you been keeping busy?

I was elected a deacon this past year and this has added to my life. I have many interests such as making jewelry, reading and knitting. I also co-facilitate the Senior Book Club and do volunteer work with Goddard Riverside and Caring Kind. We are never too old to keep doing and serving.

Is there anything you would like to add?

My mother was my model. She took us seven children to church every Sunday and prayed with us, telling us who Jesus was, so even when I was young and didn't understand, I always knew that she worshipped someone who was greater than her and this has been a part of my journey, to know who He is and how He allows me to serve Him.

Senior Ministry Resumes

- **In Person Church** service will begin **Sunday, October 4, 2020** at 11:00am.
- **Senior Ministry Bible Study** will be conducted in the Sanctuary every other week starting October 7, 2020 through 2020.
- **Senior Book Club** resumes on Saturday, November 7, 2:00pm to 4:00pm in Miss Ann's room or the Parlor. This request is pending confirmation approval.
- **Senior Ministry Monthly Meeting** will take place on November 21 2020, from 2:00pm to 4:00pm in the Upper gym to comply with Covid-19 social distancing requirements.

A Word from the Pastor — “A Word About Prayer”

From 1 Timothy 2:1-10

I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people—for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. This is good, and pleases God our Savior, who wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth. For there is one God and one mediator between God and mankind, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all people. This has now been witnessed to at the proper time. And for this purpose I was appointed a herald and an apostle...a true and faithful teacher of the Gentiles.

First Timothy 2:1-10 is the longest passage devoted to the subject of prayer that we have in the New Testament. It is a call for all Christians to practice and prioritize the spiritual discipline of prayer on every occasion and for all peoples. This call to pray may have been a response to the absence or shortage of prayer in the church at Ephesus. Like so many of Paul's letters, 1 Timothy is written to address a specific problem among the churches of Asia Minor. The church in Ephesus was being

threatened by some heresy that was undermining the work and message of the apostle Paul. And because Christianity and the heresy were growing and spreading in Ephesus, Paul could not address the problem by sending a letter to a particular congregation.

So in 1 Timothy, Paul employs a new strategy to combat the heresy. He sends a letter to one of his trusted co-workers, in this case Timothy, and advises him on how to deal with the problem. The purpose of the letter of 1 Timothy is for Paul, through his spiritual son Timothy, to once and for all deal with the false teaching and teachers that were plaguing the church in Ephesus. **1 Timothy 1:3 says, “as I urged you when I went to Macedonia stay there in Ephesus so that you may command certain people not to teach false doctrines any longer.”**

We do not know all that this false teaching advocated, but what we do know is that this teaching had a preoccupation with the law and an

emphasis on withdrawing from the world and all worldly pleasures. This withdrawal from the world possibly led to a prayerless lifestyle by many of the people who adopted this false teaching. As hard as it is to believe, prayer was not happening in the churches at Ephesus. Paul wants the church to return to the practice of prayer. In chapter 2 of 1 Timothy, Paul will urge the church to make prayer a significant part of their public gathering and their private lives. When Paul writes, **“I urge you then first of all,” he is stressing both the priority and importance of prayer.** Under no circumstances should Christians and the church ever be accused of not praying. In Acts 2 we learn that when the church was first formed, the earliest Christians devoted themselves to prayer. And in 1 Thessalonians 5:17 Paul says that Christians should pray without ceasing. **If prayer is a crime, then for Paul, all Christians should be found “guilty as charged.”**

What follows in verse 1 is an exhortation for Christians to pray every kind of prayer for every type of person. Verse 1 contains a series of prayer related terms which Paul says Christians should offer to God: *petitions, prayer, intercession* and *thanksgiving*. These words are synonymous with prayer and indicate the scope and the totality of the Christian responsibility to pray and since there is a way to address God in and through prayer, then the people of God should be doing it.

Let’s look at each more closely. The first, **petitions** speaks of an urgent request addressed to God. The second, **prayer** is the generic term for prayer and it is the most common word used in the New Testament to describe prayer. The third, **intercession** is a rare word used only two times in the New Testament and this term speaks of formal and specific requests made on behalf of others. And the fourth, **thanksgiving** is an expression of gratitude in prayer in anticipation of God answering our prayers; and, however God answers prayer, as his people we, should be grateful for his response.

Christians should prayer every **kind of prayer** for every **type of person**. At the end of verse 1 Paul says we should not restrict our prayers to a particular group of people or a particular type of person. Rather,

prayer should be made for all people. If you grew up like me then you grew up in a home where you had to pray at night before going to bed, and your nightly prayers probably sounded something like this: “bless mommy and daddy and my brothers and sisters and my teacher and my friend.” As we grew older our prayers became more sophisticated but the focus of our prayers remained the same, we continue to prayer for the people around us and for the people we like. Paul says that our prayers should not be that restrictive and limited, rather we should be in the habit or praying for everybody.

The phrase **all people** refers to all the people we who we know and all the people we are aware of who are in need of prayer. This means we have a responsibility to pray for those who have wronged us, the people who have hurt us, the people we don’t like, and don’t care much for. Those people are included in all people. If they come to your mind during a period of prayer, regardless of how you feel about them or their intentions towards you, Paul says that you should be praying for them.

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT

Is there or has there been anyone in your life that you were reluctant to pray for and why?

Would you consider praying for that person now?

October Fighter Verse:
Psalm 93:1-2

The LORD reigns, he is robed in majesty; the LORD is robed in majesty and armed with strength; indeed, the world is established, firm and secure.

Your throne was established long ago; you are from all eternity.

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Office Hours until further notice:
Tuesday — Thursday 9:00AM — 4:00PM

Bible Study, Prayer Meetings & Announcements

WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY
Conference Call Connection—7:00PM
(712) 770-4711 Access Code: 667293#

Prayer Meetings by Phone
Conference Call
Connection
(712) 770-4711
Access Code: 667293#

Sick and Shut-In:
Monday & Thursday
6-6:30 AM

Men’s Ministry:
Tuesday and Thursday
6:45-7:30 AM

Mid-Week Prayer:
Wednesday
12:00-1:00 PM
Join Zoom Prayer Meetings
by Phone

WOMEN’S MINISTRY
“POWER HOUR” MEETING
Sunday, October 18 @ 12:30PM
Dial in phone number: 646-558-8656
“Prayer is our most powerful weapon!”

EVENING PRAYER
Friday, October 30 @ 7:00PM
Dial in phone number: 646-558-8656
This is a time when we pray as a church family for
our church, our city, and our communities.
Pray for those who are suffering with and recovering
from COVID-19.

Youth Ministry: BASKETBALL UPDATE

Basketball Coaches and Youth
Mentors are needed from our
CBC community. If you are
interested, please contact Pastor
Jay at jay@uws.younglife.org for
more information.



Office of
Council Member
Helen Rosenthal



November 3rd Election: Absentee Voting

If you plan to vote by Absentee Ballot, please request
your ballot as soon as possible.

- Call 1-866-868-3692 to have a ballot mailed to you.
- Apply on-line at nycabsentee.com.
- You can also request a ballot by mail, email, or fax.
Download the application at: vote.nyc.
- Check "temporary illness or disability" if you are not
voting in-person due to COVID concerns.

If you applied for an absentee ballot for the primary
election, you must apply again for the general election.

- You must request your absentee ballot by **October 27th**. If you are mailing your application, it must be
postmarked by this date.
- You can check the status of your ballot request on-
line. Applications take up to 3 days to be entered into
the system. Go to: nycabsentee.com/tracking.
- Follow the instructions on your Absentee Ballot to
mail it back properly. You can also drop off your
completed ballot at any polling site, or at the
Manhattan Board of Elections office -- 200 Varick St.

Election Day: Tuesday, November 3rd

Deadline to register to vote in the November 3rd
Presidential Election: **October 9th**.

Go to vote.nyc, or call 1-866-868-3692, to confirm you
are registered / obtain registration instructions.

Once I'm registered, how do I vote in the election?

- Vote early from **October 24th -- November 1st**
- Vote on Election Day: **November 3rd**
- **Vote by Absentee Ballot**. Turn this sheet over to
learn more!

To find your Early Voting poll site, or your Election Day
poll site:

- Visit the NYC Board of Elections website: vote.nyc,
or
- Call 1-866-868-3692

All poll sites will be open from
6am to 9pm on Election Day.

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Chantay Buie	10/2
Sonya Tonge	10/4
Elizabeth Cole	10/4
Darryl Davis	10/6
Annie Slade	10/6
Brown (William) Bailey	10/8
Edwidge Marcelin	10/15

Alex White	10/17
Patricia Marcelin	10/17
Adrian Dorsey	10/17
Ulrick Marcelin	10/22
Karen Perry	10/24
Naomi Foster	10/25
Brooke Major Reid	10/26
Jean Thelusme	10/26