

PURSUING THE VISION

ONENESS REHOBOOTH

Annual Ministry Report 2021

ONENESS REHOBOOTH APOSTOLIC CHURCH Inc.



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CHURCH BOARD



Seated (*left to right*): Pastor A. Thomas, Glasmin Brown, Daphne Lawrence
Standing (*left to right*): Leon Bertram, Kenneth Henry, Paul Bailey, Michael Thomas

"And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;
For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:
Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man,
unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ."

Ephesians 4:11-13 (KJV)

PASTORAL REPORT



To the Broad of Directors, Ministers, Leaders, and the entire family of the Oneness Rehoboth Apostolic Church, I greet you in the worthy name of our Lord Jesus Christ. It is certainly a great honor that has been afforded to me as I stand here with you this evening, celebrating the Lord Jesus Christ for all He has done. It is with a deep sense of appreciation in our hearts that we submit to His sovereignty and Lordship over us. Indeed, it is through his grace and mercies that we were able to navigate our way over the past twelve months.

The journey has been a challenging one. Nevertheless, despite the changing political and social winds of the day, the Lord has remained faithful to us and has caused us to triumph. COVID-19 has disrupted much of this world's economy, and the church is no exception. However, the Lord has helped us continue ministry, although at a limited pace. The words of Paula Coelho states, "Not all storms come to disrupt your life; some come to clear your path." If it was never true before, it is certainly true now. Jesus declared, "Without me, you can do nothing." And so, we continue to depend upon the Almighty to guide our path and to grant us the grace to follow His leading.

We are grateful to the Lord for the faithful men and women who stood as vanguards against the prevailing corona virus and provided us with a safe

environment so that we could come together and worship the Lord throughout the past two years. Other church groups were unable to open their doors, and even now, some are still not open. I want to salute all the COVID-19 Task Force members who devoted their time and talent to ensure that all our parishioners were kept safe. Their job is by no means completed each Sunday; they are here to see to your safety.

As we stand on the threshold of the year 2022, we have no idea what it holds for us as individuals or as a church. The voices of the prophets of doom and gloom are the loudest; however, I recall the history of the people of Israel getting ready for their exodus. While the Egyptians were in darkness and confusion, there was light in Goshen. If there is anything to be learned from their history, we can be confident that the Lord will be with us. Phil. 1:6 (NIV) "Being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus." I encourage the people of God to stand your ground; deepen your faith in God and flee from the church's enemies. They are not acting in your eternal interest. You need the church, and you need to connect with the body of Christ.

Ps. (73:1-3,17) KJV declares:

1. Truly, God is good to Israel, even to such as are of a clean heart.
2. But as for me, my feet were almost gone; my steps had well nigh slipped.
3. For I was envious at the foolish when I saw the prosperity of the wicked.
17. Until I went into the sanctuary of God; then understood I their end.

1 Cor. 15:58 "Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord."

Our times demand a strong sense of commitment, not for us to flow with the tide, but we need to go against the wind to accomplish the purpose of God for our lives. One cannot stand aside and assume what should be done. We must join the ranks and help to achieve the task.

There are some outstanding ministry accomplishments of the past year. We baptized 29 precious souls in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, 6 souls received the gift of the Holy Ghost, and 1 soul was reclaimed. We presented 15 babies to the Lord in Holy dedication. Our average weekly service attendance was 227.

We embarked on a two-service schedule to accommodate as many saints as possible in worship. This concept worked very well initially, but the PM service started tapering off in the past months. Therefore, beginning in February, we propose having one service at 10:00 am. This will give us a little more time for extending the altar appeal and for the saints to interact with each other. COVID-19 has thrust us into areas of ministry without any training or preparation. Our listening audience has become far more significant than we imagined, and we are beginning to have responses from our listeners. Therefore, there are some things we must monitor and adjust to realize the most impact as we forge ahead.

New Property Renovation

We have not yet obtained the necessary permits to continue our new church building renovations. The process seems to be slow because the information we receive is inconsistent. However, we seem to be making progress in the past few weeks. I have finally gotten a chance to speak to some key people, so please be patient with me. I had no idea that things would be so difficult. I am requesting your continued prayer on this matter. We still believe we are in the will of God, and it will all work out for our good. Meanwhile, we are being pursued by at least two developers for the opportunity to develop the parking area at Franklin Avenue. We will

not consider such proposals until we are comfortably situated at 208 East Lincoln Avenue.

To all the saints who have faithfully stood with us throughout these difficult times, I want to say thank you, and may the Lord bestow upon you all the blessings of heaven. Without you, we could not have made it. Your giving, your prayers and words of encouragement are all sources of blessings to this ministry.

On behalf of our Church Board, I want to specially recognize those who have served in their respective leadership roles. Please know, we are eternally grateful for your dedication and commitment to the work of the Lord.

I want to thank the brethren who served on our Church Board for their support and commitment especially during these difficult times. I want to assure you your labor will not be in vain.

Sister Thomas and I are grateful for the opportunity to serve this great church. The call of God is never without challenges. However, we continue to trust the Lord for the needed grace and strength to accomplish His purpose. In closing, I want to leave with you this thought, "Beware of destination addiction, a preoccupation with the idea that happiness is in the next place, the next job, and with the next partner. Until you give up that idea that happiness is somewhere else, it will never be where you are." (Robert Holden)

Respectfully Submitted,

Pastor A. Thomas



COVID-19 Task Force COMMITTEE



DEACON BOARD



Ralston Brown



Oliver Buckle



Steve Carty



Patrick Drummond



Leroy Johnson



Jethro Livermore



Douglas Matthews



Dermoth Mattison



Desmond Ormsby



Richard Robinson



Caulter Spaulding



Huntley Virgo

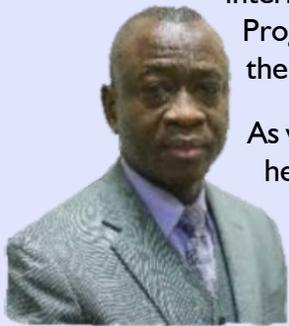
“Through many dangers, toils and snares I have already come;

'Tis Grace that brought me safe thus far and Grace will lead me home.”

These words of the song written by John Newton aptly describe the year in review, 2021. It was a year of challenges caused especially by the ongoing pandemic. At one point during the year, when it seemed the spread of the virus was under control, we were encouraged to drop our guard. However, a new variant emerged and we were once again in turmoil.

Like the Apostle Paul, we can say, “Having therefore obtained help of God, I continue unto this day,” (Acts 26:22). Through the grace of God given to us, we did not shutdown; but we were able to continue ministry in the areas allowed using the means we had. The presence of God was evident in our services, the word was preached, people responded, some were baptized, some filled, and some were renewed. The saints were encouraged to be faithful to God, charged to be engaged in witnessing, and warned against drifting away in the current climate of “staying home and watching church.”

We are thankful for and greatly appreciate the services of our many ministry teams that worked faithfully! even in the present distress. The Prayer Ministry, Courtesy Team, COVID-19 Task Force, Multi-Media, Missions, Christian Education Teachers, First Responders and Public Relations teams along with our Deacons and Special Committees facilitated the congregation and community at large. Youth and Family Life Ministry teams consistently ministered, internally, to the various subsets of the ORAC family. The teams reaching out, through the Catalyst Program, Outreach Ministry and Food Services Ministry, profoundly impacted our community, at the individual's point of need, by being His caring hand extended.

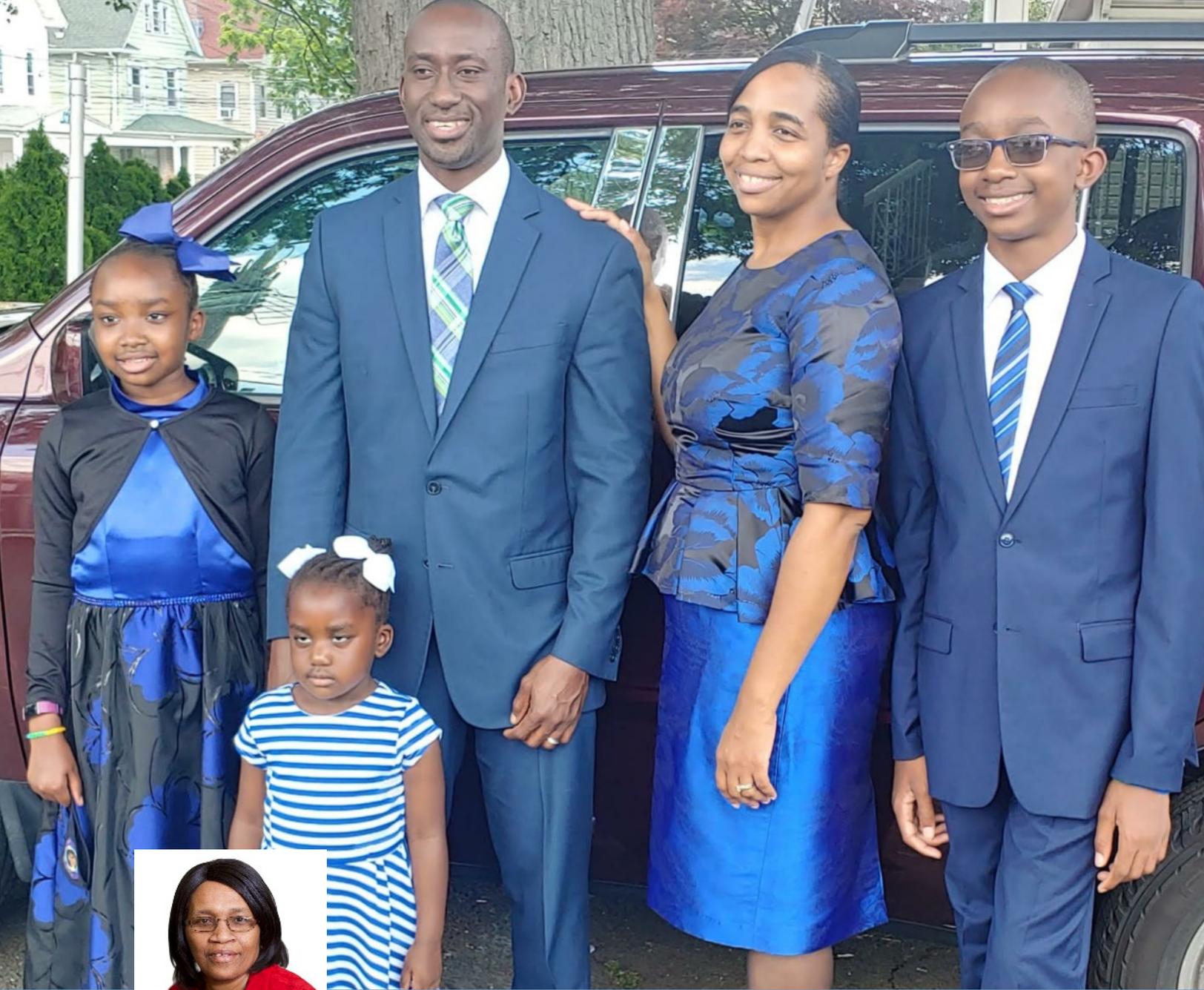


As we continue Pursuing The Vision in 2022, let us seize the moment like the Apostle Paul did when he said, “... *A great door and effectual is opened unto me, and there are many adversaries.*” (1 Corinthians 16:9). Be assured, though, that despite the many challenges “*Through God we shall do valiantly: for he it is that shall tread down our enemies.*” (Psalms 60:12). The Church will be victorious!

Paul Bailey

MINISTRY REPORTS





Glasmin Brown

Family Life Division



Men's Ministry



The Men's Ministry began the year with prayer and continued in prayer throughout the year. We began our planning as a leadership team in the month of February. In the process of planning, our theme for the year "*Intentional Outreach*" was identified. Our goals for the year were to grow numerically through intentional outreach efforts and to strengthen our bond as a group by making intentional efforts to establish meaningful relationships with each other and new brothers in our congregation.

Despite the COVID-19 pandemic, we were able to organize several Zoom sessions on Saturdays throughout the year. The sessions focused on health, finances, and relationships. In the month of April, we organized a

workday at the new sanctuary and several men gathered to apply seal to the roof of the building.

In the month of June, we held a very special Father's Day service. The theme of the service was "*Rise Up Again*". Two candidates from the Catalyst Program shared testimonies about how they rose up from past challenges. It was a very inspirational service. Throughout the year, we also led the second service in months with five Sundays.

In the month of October, a group of men came together to help pack a container with medical supplies to ship to Liberia. This voluntary effort helped to provide much needed supplies to a country in need. During the Fall, we also resumed our monthly prayer on Saturdays in the sanctuary. This was followed by a fellowship breakfast.

Throughout the year, we reached out to the men on our contact list. We appointed fourteen cell group leaders to contact our men. Each leader was assigned six to eight men. They shared reports on a weekly basis. We are grateful for another year, and we look forward to what God will do through the Men's Ministry in the future.



Men at lunch: Painting Roof at Lincoln Avenue Campus



Men at work: Painting Roof at Lincoln Avenue Campus



Men at Prayer:



Ladies Ministry

In 2021 the Ladies Ministry goal was to continue with strategies that provided opportunities for growth. This enabled the ladies to pursue their divine purpose in the kingdom of God.

During the first quarter, the ladies were reconnected to the group leaders by the month of birth. They continue to connect with the ladies via phone calls and text messages. The ladies were encouraged to attend in-person gathering with the assurance that the CDC guidelines are in place for their safety.

In the 2nd quarter, the first ladies' meeting was "LIVE ON ZOOM" on Saturday April 24, 2021.

The theme was *"Striving to maintain our faith in God in spite of."* Sister Shirley Palmer used 1 Peter 3:15 to encourage the ladies not to lose hope in God. She further stated that we should capitalize on every opportunity to share the hope we have in the Lord Jesus. The ladies expressed their gratitude for the timely word.

Mother's Day service, May 9, 2021, was filled with presence of the Lord. COVID-19 restrictions did not hinder the powerful presence of God as worshipers were engaged both in the sanctuary and extending into the overflow area. Sister Shirley Palmer addressed the mothers and expressed gratitude for the prayers, calls and words of encouragement as she recovers from her illness. Special tribute was made to First Lady Evan Thomas who exemplifies a woman of impeccable character.

First lady Evan Thomas addressed the ladies. She encouraged us to keep the faith, calling us to remember Moses' mother, Jochebed, who through faith designed a way to protect her young child.

The main speaker was Sister Charmaine Bailey. The Lord anointed her, and the word was dispensed with clarity. In her discourse she reminded us that faith is putting our confidence 100 percent in the only wise God who remains constant.



In the “Call to remembrance,” she provided practical applications to solidify our faith in God: the use a covered jar to store our records of answered prayers; embroider items in the home, like a pillowcase, with words that declare who God is (God is omniscient); and a collection of songs for the night seasons, that is, when we face challenging times.

We will always remember the focus scripture that Sister Bailey used: Hebrews 11:6, *“But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.”*

Workshops with our new converts were scheduled for the second Saturday of each month. These sessions were designed to assist the new convert ladies, as they transition from the Discipleship Class, to integrate with the wider church body. The presentations were done after prayer in the sanctuary with the Ladies’ Ministry.

For the first workshop, held September 11, 2021, the facilitator, Sister Miriam Edwards, taught on the subject “Why you were chosen.” The second and third sessions were held during the 4th quarter. The

facilitators were sisters Janett Bertram and Sheigla Smalling and they focused on “Adorning - the doctrine of the Christ” and “Holiness unto the Lord” respectively.

After each presentation, there was a question-and-answer segment and the following ladies were selected to respond to questions posed by the attendees: Sisters Candace Spencer, Paulette Carty, Sheigla Smalling and Minister Glasmin Brown. There were many questions that the panel addressed in each workshop and the participants expressed gratitude for the valuable information that they received.

God blesses the faithful! We were delighted that our own Sister Shirley Palmer was honored October 30, 2021. She was the 2021 recipient of the Pillar of the Church award.

The final event for 2021, the End of Year Ladies Fellowship, was held on December 4th. The Ladies joined forces with the Men’s Ministry under the theme “Fret not thyself.” Brother Dejon Reid exhorted us to occupy our minds with the things that bring praise to God and not worry. The focus scriptures were Psalms 27, Philippians 4:6-7, and Matthew 6:28-34. We were blessed by the exhortation of our Bishop, Arthur Thomas. He encouraged us from the scripture, Psalms 24: 1-2, regarding God’s lordship in the world, and our responsibility to impact the world with the life we live. We anticipate 2022 will be a great year, therefore, we will pursue with purpose.

In appreciation to the ladies for their support throughout the year, they were presented with a gift. The men present collected on behalf of their wives.



AGAPE



Agape leaders embraced the 2021 year with great exuberance especially knowing that 2020 was a taxing year for many couples who were still dealing with various isolation issues as we continued to operate in the remote

environment. The pandemic prolonged and so did the atmosphere of fear and anxiety mixed with uncertainties. This required Agape leaders to be sensitive to the needs of the ministry members as we planned the year's events.

The pandemic allowed the ministry to intensify its outreach to our couples, by continuing to operate on the Zoom platform during 2021 in solidarity with our Pastor's vision *"In Pursuit of Unity."* While the remote environment presented challenges to operate, Agape leaders felt the need to reinstate the small group concept and met with nine couples to share our vision and form partnership. During the meeting, we solicited ideas on how to reignite the small cell groups for the long term and better serve our couples while simultaneously unifying the larger group. The small group concept allows everyone to be more connected and let their voices be heard; which is of extreme importance to the Agape leadership team.

Agape's first general meeting was held on April 17, 2021. Despite being virtual, our couples had a great time of reconnection and fellowship. Group facilitators were introduced to their small group team followed by break-out sessions for group members and team leaders to gain acquaintance and plan accordingly how best to keep in touch and move forward. This year, Agape leaders were intentional in making calls to couples who were absent from this meeting to ensure that they were advised of the group facilitator assigned to them.

Our next meeting was the Agape retreat August 5-7, 2021, under the theme *"In Pursuit of Unity"*. This retreat was our first in person meeting since 2019. The first two nights we met in the ORAC Fellowship Hall, with approximately 25 couples in attendance each night. It was a great time making the "unity stew" together. Couples had a chance to put their unique ingredients in the stew – a flavor or ingredient that allows for unity to blossom or something that caused disunity in their marriage in the past. It was a time well spent, as each couple went home assured about what it takes to be unified. Couples shared in fellowship, enjoying a pot of stew, as well as an outing of food, games, fun and fellowship at the Croton Point Park on the Saturday afternoon.

In approaching our year-end celebration, it was with great disappointment that the Agape group had to cancel our well sought after Back to Eden gala and overnight stay at the Crowne Plaza Suffern, New York. However, despite that cancellation, our Zoom-A-Bration year-end celebration was held on December 10th with approximately thirty (30) couples in attendance. Agape leaders provided a recap of the year, and shared hope and commitment to strengthen the resolve of our members as we closed the year. Minister Glasmin Brown shared words of encouragement with our couples.

As we close the curtains on 2021, where dreams, goals and aspiration might not have come to full fruition, we want to encourage our couples to continue to be steadfast as we hold onto the promises of God in 2022. As Philippians 1:6 reminds us *"Being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus."* Be encouraged as the good work has already begun in you, your spouse and children. Let us be patient as we wait for the completion in Jesus' name!





Senior Care Ministry

The Senior Care Ministry for apparent reasons was unable to effectively reach the seniors in person as was hoped for and intended. These challenges are beyond the pandemic and coupled with our Seniors' limited use of phone apps and virtual platforms. As such, within reach was to ensure that all our Seniors were continuously connected to the on-line services and ministry. Of prominence was the growth and involvement of the Seniors on the prayer conference line. This was a hub and a deep source of connection to God and the ministry and for that we are grateful. They were often able to participate, lead as well as get support in prayer for their peers who were in need.

Team Leaders were assigned to reach out to encourage the Seniors and to find out what their needs were while the ministry tried as best to assist. Biweekly meetings were conducted via phone and was effective in keeping Seniors connected to each other and providing an outlet. In these meetings, the Team Leaders and the Seniors were supported by much encouragement from the word of God which brings hope in the Lord. A few Bereavement and Nursing Home visits were done as these times would allow. Where possible, small groups of two to three were able to meet. We will continue to work with and maximize the tools we have because "little is much when God is in it."



Food Services Ministry

The ministry was delighted to reinstate some semblance of service to the community in 2021 by the means of the Thanksgiving Dinner. Though the format was different from prior years it was a breakthrough back into our community. There were just a handful of events that were held on campus requiring our support and in compliance with all the governing guidelines the ministry was able to facilitate. The time for change is here and 2021 provided glimpses of some things that can be achieved if we just change our model. So, with that in mind the ministry plans to maximize its function where feasible to get back to pursuing the Vision.



Care Ministry

Weddings



Mr. & Mrs. Roger Nelson

Est. July 1, 2021



Mr. & Mrs. Carlton Taylor

Est. March 27, 2021



Mr. & Mrs. Cautler Spaulding

Est. May 7, 2021

Baby Dedications



Baby Joshua Buckle



Baby Malachi Vaughan



Baby Amora Mendez



Candace Spencer

Great Sunday Schools:
Build Great Churches.

Christian Education





Leadership Team



Sunday School

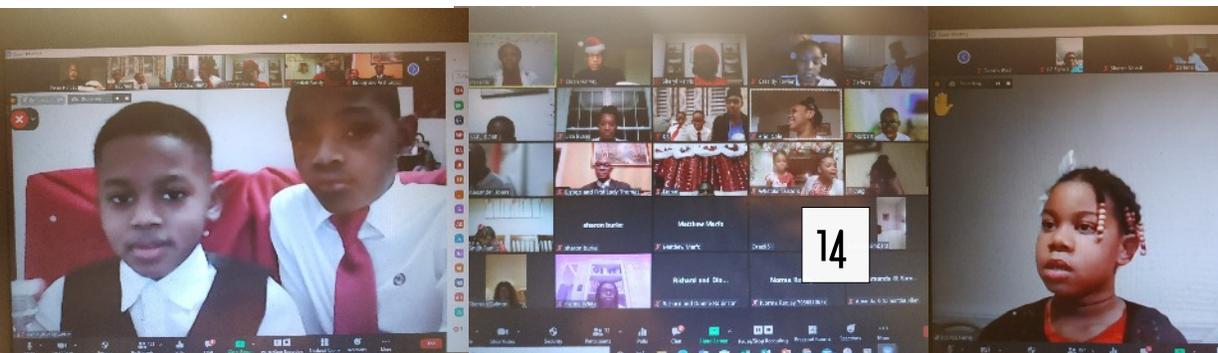
2021 was a challenging year for our Ministry but with the cooperation and adaptability of the Sunday School staff we were able to successfully minister to our children and adults. The Zoom platform was the medium of choice to reach and engage students. In this model, Sunday School classes with common age range denominators continued to be grouped together. During 2021, our teachers were able to become more proficient in utilizing Zoom. This was due to the NY Metro District Sunday School teacher training in February. Consequently, this enabled the students to become more engaged while at the same time developing teachers in their skill sets.

The Sunday School Ministry collaborated with the Youth Ministry and successfully used Zoom virtual break-out rooms to effectively minister to the population that they have mutual interests in. Additionally, the Together We Will (TWW) initiative was relaunched in 2021 and the Sunday School Ministry shared in the Vision and was able to contribute \$1,200 to this cause. In terms of the general church calendar of events, the ministry was able to participate virtually in the Kingdom Focus Conference and the Sunday School Pageant. The attendance was excellent and we were able to draw new viewers.

Junior Bible Quizzing remained stellar despite the pandemic! Though not in person for major competition on the National level yet, the Sunday School was victorious in claiming the championship yet again in our District.

As the tide changes in our environment so is the landscape of the Sunday School Ministry. To facilitate the “when”, “how” and “where” changes that can and should be made there were ongoing meetings with teachers, parents and leadership. On the horizon is on-site Sunday School with the sole purpose to boost attendance and interests. This will be for a limited and specific group. The goal is to provide a safe space where all students particularly the children and youth can be even more engaged. The ministry must grow and reach our community! Our reach is limited in the virtual realm therefore mindset changes are in play for 2022.

Nevertheless, we are quite thankful that seven (7) students were baptized in Jesus name! We desire that they will receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. We aim for all our students (children and adults) to be educated about the saving doctrine through the modules and to have a space for God to fill the whosoever will with His Spirit.



New Converts Care



EXPERIENCE	2021 QUARTERLY DISTRIBUTION				TOTALS
	1st QTR	2nd QTR	3rd QTR	4th QTR	
# Baptized Only	3	4	14	4	25
# Baptized & Filled	1	1	1	1	4
# Filled Only	1	0	0	1	2
# Restored	0	0	0	1	1
TOTAL # OF INDIVIDUALS	5	5	15	7	32

The two main goals planned for 2021 were to retain a minimum of 50% of baptized New Converts and to connect, involve and integrate New Converts.



Salvation Data

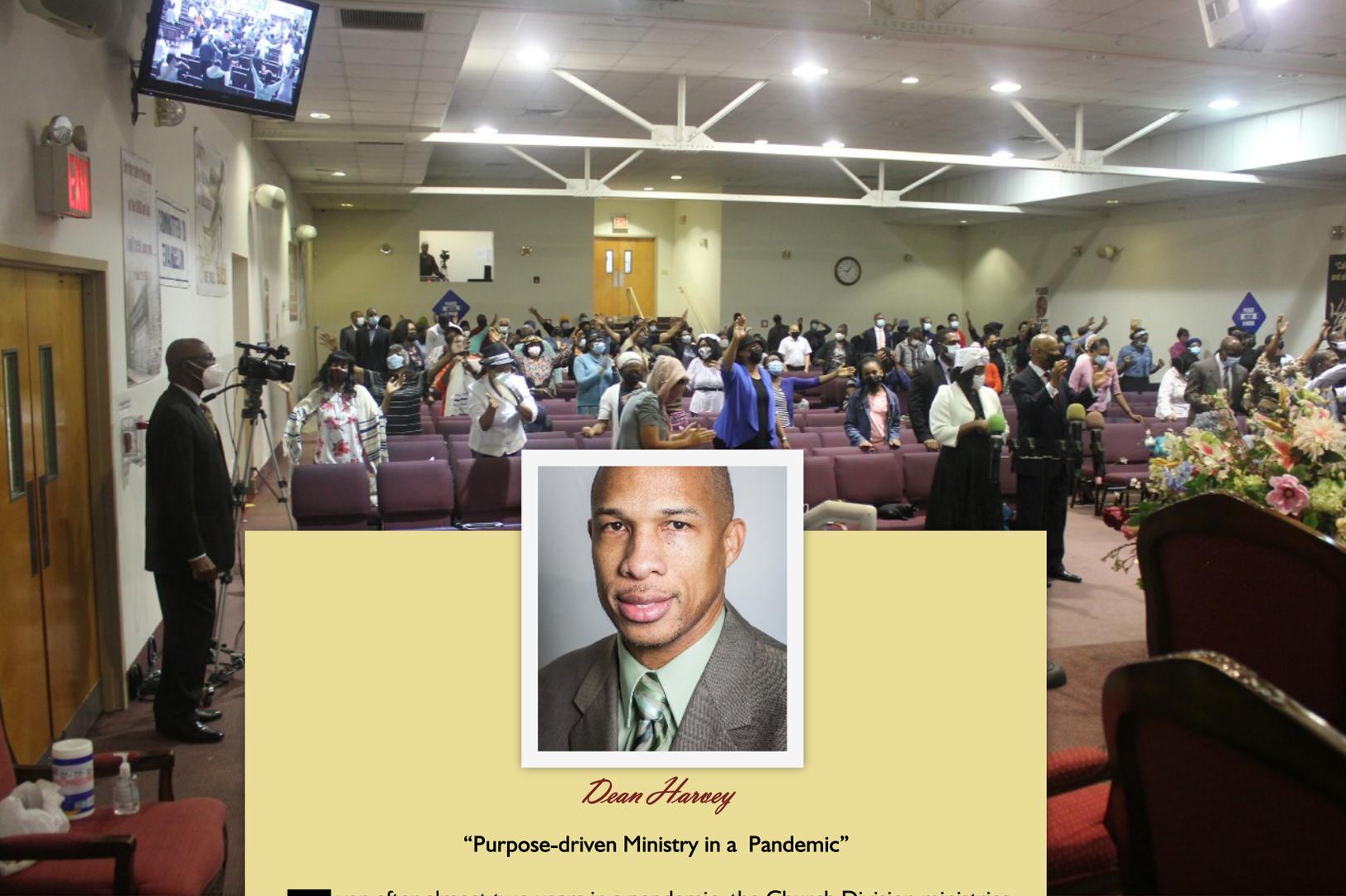
Baptized = 29
 # Filled = 6
 # Restored = 1



A Discipleship Class transition exercise was held on October 4th under the theme, "More Love to Thee." Each graduate was presented with a Certificate of Course Completion and mementos. There were eight graduates, six females (Princess Agyepong, Kimesha Clarke, Felicia Douglas, Elaine Blair-Dennie, Valrie Warren, Rose White) and two males (Mark Longmore, Glenford Smith). Due to the Pandemic and changes in our service schedule, the graduates' attendance to Sunday School was challenged. Therefore, a new class was created and will be taught by Minister Glasmin Brown.

Five students transitioned from the Level 1 Discipleship Class to the Level 2 Discipleship Class. At our ministry team meeting concerns were raised regarding our inability to retain more of our converts as well as to connect them during this time of uncertainty due to the COVID-19 Pandemic.





Dean Harvey

“Purpose-driven Ministry in a Pandemic”

Even after almost two years in a pandemic, the Church Division ministries have kept the focus on creating the atmosphere that will facilitate “an unforgettable worship experience”. From our parking lot, we transitioned to the Courtesay area for COVID-19 screening, then were led by ushers into the sanctuary. We experienced engaging, energetic worship of our God, while meeting people of varying cultures. We tried to ensure that the music was God-centered in order to complement the preached word that was Bible-based and relevant to the challenging times we have been experiencing. With prayer as the oil that lubricates our ministries, we continued to prevail in prayer via our thrice daily prayer line, along with in-person prayer during the week. We were kept informed and connected via our Media and PR ministries, allowing participation through live-streamed services. The Church Division will remain focused in 2022, as we continue to pursue our purpose by supporting the core mission of ORAC, which is, to make Mt. Vernon and our world a better place, in Jesus’ name.

Church Division

Prayer Ministry

Luke 18:1, "And he spake a parable unto them to this end, that men ought always to pray, and not to faint;"



For the year 2021 we started out with our month of prayer and consecration and were guided by the writings in our Volume 10 family devotional. We focused on spiritual warfare and, indeed, we experienced the powerful move of God every time we met in prayer.

The Prayer Ministry continues to prevail in prayer three (3) times per day, every Monday through Friday, on the conference line. On Saturday mornings in-person and conference calls lines meetings are held concurrently. Twice per week, our Youth Ministry team facilitates virtual morning sessions and one session on Mondays (MAP).



Prayer Leaders are instructed to conduct the prayer sessions focusing on the specific theme/scripture assignment for the week. The third quarter ended with a call to three (3) days of fasting, in-person and dial-in prayer sessions and a very powerful Sunrise service.

Each month, the Men's and Ladies' Ministry teams are responsible for organizing the in-person prayer meetings held on 1st and 2nd Saturday mornings respectively.

On the 1st Saturday of December, the Ladies and Men's ministries joined forces to host a powerful prayer meeting in the sanctuary.

God is moving in these prayer meetings, there are signs and wonders, testimonies of healing and deliverance and other victory reports are aired far and wide. We intend to continue to move forward in prayer for the growth of our church and our spiritual well-being.

Music Ministry



The Music Ministry aimed to achieve these goals: adding more members to the Praise and Worship Team, Voice Lessons workshops and virtual and in-person recording.

Bishop Thomas addressed the choir members in a general meeting. There was a virtual Saturday morning prayer in the month of January. The protocol for team leaders on submitting songs, checking email, seating arrangements and wearing masks when singing on the lower floor level were discussed at the Praise Team Leaders meeting in February. From February to March, Voice Lessons workshops and recording was held; virtual choir production was streamed in March. Contact was made with senior choir members to update them about choir events, participation and the option to reach out to us if they are having difficulties accessing the internet.

We met with the COVID-19 Task Force to discuss the purchasing of singers' masks, maintaining the 12 feet distance on the platform, limiting singers to three individuals, reporting illness, and eliminating rehearsal in the sanctuary on Sunday mornings by utilizing the OABI room. Chain Fasting and Prayer was conducted for all Music personnel and concluded via Zoom in February. The revamping of the Praise Team included selecting individuals to sing on a given Sunday and on Friday Youth Service. In-person rehearsals enabled us to add more singers to the Praise Team;

The Music Ministry special choir, Voices of Oneness, ministered at the Kingdom Focus Conference which was held in July. The ministry was represented by the Praise Team at the 39th Anniversary Celebration including the Memorial Service; by a virtual production at the Pastor's Appreciation service; and by the virtual production of the Children's Choir at the Christmas Pageant on December 19th.

Courtesy Ministry



The Courtesy Ministry is coordinated by Sis. Sharon Marsh and Bro. Stephen Carty with the support of the Greeters, Ushers and the Response Team. The Ushers along with the Response Team continuously maintain order.

We continue to communicate and stay in touch with the team via WhatsApp / email / text messages. Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, all regular operations have been placed on hold, but the ushers and greeters continue to work collaboratively with the Covid-19 Task Force, under the leadership of Sis. Loren Bartley, assisted by Sis. Sharon Marsh.



Two (2) greeters gave the welcome address in both Sunday services during the Kingdom Focus Conference on July 11, 2021. Over the past year, our average weekly service attendance was 227 and we served an average of 3 first time guests per week.

Public Relations Ministry (PRM) is responsible for the institution and maintenance of communication systems within the church, as well as the promotion and dissemination of necessary correspondence within membership, and to the public.

In pursuit of these goals, the PRM reports the following achievements:

- the enlistment of Announcers for the beginning and ending of services who were provided with announcements and closing remarks for the service;
- the creation and use of the WhatsApp group, “ORAC Official PR”;
- the making of flyers, PowerPoint Presentations and photographic records relevant to special events, for example Kingdom Focus, 39th Anniversary Celebration/First Responders Award Ceremony);
- the promotion of all ORAC’s major announcements (in-service, online and via WhatsApp) and each ministry’s special announcements; and
- the online registration means for church services and special events were maintained and available in a timely manner

The following goals were not realized: the upgrade and use of the website to its potential; the banner at our new church site; an organized photographic record of events and the contact lists updates for WhatsApp and email promotion (New Converts, etc.)

It is concerning that, due to the dynamic nature of our church services, some announcements were not aired in a timely manner. It is proposed that we consider other options like sharing the announcements at a more prominent period during the service or pre-recording the announcements.

Public Relations



Multimedia Ministry

During 2021 most church services, including Wednesday night Bible study, were streamed. We provided multimedia support for the church calendar events and various other ad hoc events.

To facilitate the needs of the church services, four (4) more wireless microphones were added to the audio system. Brothers Delroy and Jordon Fleming joined our ministry team during the year in review.

There are plans for training of our current staff and other church members who will use the audio/visual system when a member of our team is not available. This involves bringing in an expert to train us on-site on audio/video operations and equipment maintenance.



Stewardship

In 2021, the Stewardship Ministry continued to promote financial giving of tithes and offerings, each week during our Sunday services at 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. Even though still in a pandemic, our membership and guests responded faithfully, utilizing one of our five (5) ways to give (online via www.orac.church, Text-2-Give, the Abundant Giving app, by mail or in-person). We thank God that our Faith Promise commitments to our missionaries remained constant. We also assisted in raising a special offering in memory of the late Dr. Zedekiah Mitchell on November 11th.





Youth Division



Michael Thomas

CrossHeirs, the Youth arm of ORAC, seeks to mobilize the young people of the church to fulfill God's purpose for their lives. Our mission is to: Honor Jesus with our lives, Equip the youth of ORAC to Impact others with the word of God, Reach the lost and help to Settle them in the body of Christ. It is our aim that Jesus Christ be glorified in all that we say and do. To this end, our meetings are geared to be dynamic worship and praise experiences while allowing for warm fellowship. In these services, we are always impacted by the ministry and gifts of our peers as they are used by God for His glory. We are committed to the propagation of the Gospel of peace. To this lost, confused and dying world we present Jesus Christ: the way, the truth and the life. We seek to be faithful to the doctrine of the Apostles: repentance, water baptism in the name of Jesus for the remission of sins and the receiving the gift of the Holy Ghost evidenced by speaking in other languages as the Spirit gives the utterance (Acts 2).



CrossHeirs

Prior to planning, the Youth committee sought God in prayer for direction on how to serve the young people at such a critical time.

Through prayer, we realized that we needed to take a dual approach to strengthening the ORAC CrossHeirs. This approach included dynamic and exuberant Youth services as well as supplemental study sessions that would tackle topics such as: Holiness, Christian Liberty, Marital Preparedness and End-time Prophecy. We understood the task was great, but we were ready for the challenge.

Spiritual Growth for our young people was paramount. This involved intentionally and prayerfully designed Youth services, weekly prayer sessions and small group meetings. In light of the ongoing pandemic, we had to approach our plans with the mindset of having everything remote. In March, after over a year of virtual services, we had our first in-person Youth Service. Our very first Friday night service back in-person was dynamic and powerful. This service was well attended with close to 80 present. Our young people were challenged to leave their doubts, mistakes, failures, and insecurities. Young people were intentional about their salvation by being engaged in prayer meetings on Monday nights as well as on Tuesday and Thursday mornings. The level of participation and involvement in prayer, worship, and life groups sessions increased noticeably as well as an increased level of ministry involvement by the youth.

Numerical growth was also a fundamental focus and goal. This began to manifest when guests who were consistently a part of our virtual services since 2020, decided to stick with our Youth group. One got baptized and received the gift of the Holy Ghost on February 14th and has been consistent ever since. Additionally, another consistent guest, received the gift of the Holy Ghost on October 17th and desires to be baptized in Jesus' name soon. Both of these converts were won through the intentional outreach efforts of brothers Davian Robinson and Jermaine Matthews on their College Campus. We are diligently reaching and praying for others.

During the year in review, sisters Danielle Marsh and Karla Goulbourne were unable to continue serving as the Assistant Youth Leader and Youth Secretary respectfully. Consequently, the following Youth Leaders served with Brother Arsenio Heslop for the rest of year: Brother Jermaine Matthews (Assistant), Sister Shayna Hutchinson (Secretary) and Brother Davian Robinson (Prayer Coordinator).

We had an average Youth service attendance of 50 individuals. Those who ministered in our Youth services included: Bro. Arsenio Heslop, Bro. Marc Palmer, Sis. Karla Goulbourne, Sis. Danielle Marsh, The Bartletts, The Smiths, Sis Melissa Hall, Pastor Michael Thomas, Bro. Jermaine Matthews, Bro. Davian Robinson and Sis. Shayna Hutchinson. The presence of the Lord was evident each and every Friday night! The Youth of Oneness Rehoboth Apostolic Church are truly blessed to be able to gather together, even if it is virtually. Where the spirit of the Lord is there is indeed liberty!

The Daughters of Zion (DOZ) Ministry had a few outings where the members of DOZ were engaged and supported. Group members were able to keep in contact with each other as well as with their families.

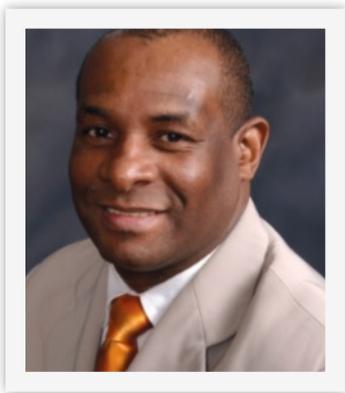


The Hyphen Ministry is working to form a leadership committee. Due to the global pandemic, Wednesday night Youth Bible studies were not held.

Ministry activities during the Summer included Annual Prayer Walk, Exceptional Graduation Banquet, Youth on Missions outreach, Youth Camp and Hyphen Six Flags outing. The young people raised funds for the CrossHeirs Youth Conference (CYC) but, due to pandemic related issues, the plans regarding CYC did not materialize.

We concluded the year with our annual "Spread the Cheer" event. This included a service at WestHelp on Friday, December 17th and Caroling at the Cross County Mall on Saturday December 18th. This weekend of services and outreach is a way to reach the community with hope as we endeavor to ensure that the Christ of Christmas is seen in us.





Leon Bertram

Global Missions is the evangelistic arm of ORAC supporting both local and global missions.

KINGDOM

FOCUS

Going into the second year of this pandemic, we were excited to host in-person Kingdom Focus 2021 July 9th to 11th. Even though not back to full capacity, social distancing restrictions were relaxed. There was a very large group in attendance and all the services were livestreamed. Conference speakers included Rev. Miguel Garrick, Rev. Paul Bailey and Bishop Dr. Derek Pierson. Bishop A. Thomas was our Sunday morning speaker. A young man was baptized and received the Holy Ghost in this service!

Due to inclement weather, the Kingdom Youth Service which was planned for the parking lot, was moved indoors. Rev. Garrick preached a powerful message, "Bring Back The Glory!" And who can forget the finale message preached by Dr. Pierson, "Let Judah Go First!?" It was indeed a night of praise and jubilee, as the people of God rejoiced in unison, danced, waved banners and handkerchiefs, and ran the aisles; giving glory to our God, who visited us in Kingdom Focus 2021!!



Awards Ceremony for First Responders

There is no doubt that the pandemic of 2020 thrust us into such uncharted waters that could only be skillfully navigated by the Divine hand of God. We were blessed to have individuals whose innovative skill sets, dedication and heroic acts of faith and service assisted so many in overcoming the obstacles that would have otherwise left them in a state of demise. They were among the many who comprise the class of First Responders, who worked tirelessly on the frontlines locally and nationally. On Sunday, September 19, 2021, we paused to recognize these men and women for braving the odds and for their selfless acts of service, sometimes at the risk of their own health and safety. Recipients of the Awards are as follows:

Mr. Xian Edwards, Residential Services Director, Arc of Westchester

Mr. Glenn Scott, Commissioner of Police, Mt. Vernon

Ms. Mavis Dehaney, ARM @Arc of Westchester

Dr. Vaughn Whittaker, MD

Dr. Keshia Gaye Anderson, MD

Dr. Loren Bartley, PHD

Min. Dean Harvey

Brother Ray Laird.



The Honorable Mayor of Mount Vernon, Mrs. Shawyn Patterson-Howard, attended the event and was delighted to present the Awards to these individuals who were duly deserving of this honor.



Anniversary Services

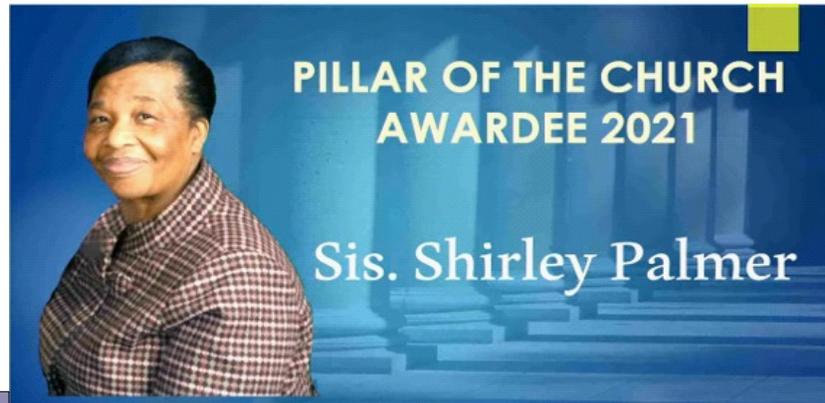
From October 29th to 31st, we celebrated ORAC's 39th year of ministry in the Mount Vernon Community. However, ORAC did not confine its efforts locally, but had a global reach that impacted several continents through partnership with World Evangelism Center and direct support and missions trips to foreign fields. The guest speaker for the services was Pastor Leon Gordon from the United Apostolic Church in Queens, NY.



AWARDS CEREMONY 2021

Our twentieth Awards Ceremony took place on Saturday, October 30th, 2021. This special event was designed to recognize the contribution of individuals and entities to the overall growth and development of our Church. There were six awards that were presented and these include:

The Pillar of the Church Award presented to **Sister Shirley Palmer** for her faithfulness, unwavering dedication and generous contribution of time and support to the Church. Sister Palmer is well deserving of this honor.



The Civic Award was presented to **The Mount Vernon Neighborhood Health Center** in appreciation of the years of outstanding and excellent service that the Center has provided to the Mount Vernon Community. The Health Center has remained a staple source to the constituents of Mount Vernon and has consistently supported our annual Health Fair and other major events.



The Religious Award was presented to Bishop Paul F. Sibblies for his untiring efforts and relentless endeavors in advancing the Kingdom. **Bishop Sibblies** has faithfully supported the Church over the years and is worthy of such honor.



Service Recognition Awards were presented to Brothers **Lascelles Myrie, Henry Marsh, and Calvin Meredith** for years of outstanding service, for their faithfulness, and for their consistency especially during the COVID-19 season. We also honored their wives by presenting each with a bouquet of flowers.

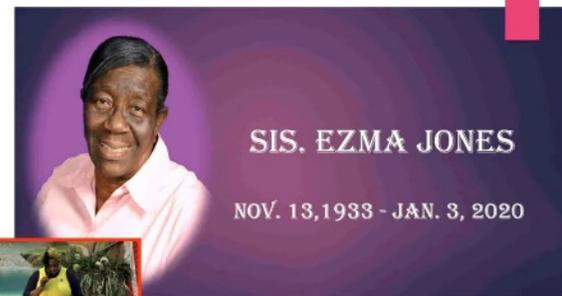


MEMORIAL SERVICE

During the 39th Anniversary services, we had a special memorial service for those members of the congregation that passed away during the pandemic and for whom a regular service was not held at the sanctuary.

List of some of those we lost about or during the pandemic up to the time of Anniversary Services Were:

- Sis. Ezma Jones.....NOVEMBER 13, 1933- JANUARY 3, 2020
- Sis. Verona Scott.....MARCH 29, 1957- APRIL 9, 2020
- Mrs. Leila Cousins.....AUGUST 24, 1925 -JANUARY 20, 2021
- Bro. Roy Lewis.....MAY 7, 1929- NOVEMBER 16, 2019
- Sis. Sandralyn Sawyers.....NOVEMBER 9, 1963- JANUARY 25, 2020
- Sis. Clansel Grant.....JUNE 18, 1935- AUGUST 12, 2020
- Sis. Carnetta Fields.....SEPTEMBER 5, 1948- DECEMBER 14, 2020
- Sis. Dahlia Hall.....SEPTEMBER 25, 1947- JUNE 26, 2021
- Bro. Maxwell Palmer.....APRIL 29, 1943- JANUARY 7, 2021
- Mr. John Samson Christopher.....MARCH 24, 1936- MAY 27, 2020
- Sis. Evelyn Stewart- Rose.....JULY 3, 1933- MARCH 11, 2020
- Sis. Theresa Miller.....JANUARY 29, 1925- APRIL 4, 2020
- Bro. Nigel Reid.....JULY 15, 1956- MARCH 29, 2020
- Sis. Carmelita Johnson.....JUNE 22, 1934- JULY 19, 2021
- Mrs. Violet Heslop.....FEBRUARY 12, 1932 - JUNE 15, 2021
- Rev. Eli Hernandez.....MAY 6, 1960- MAY 8, 2020



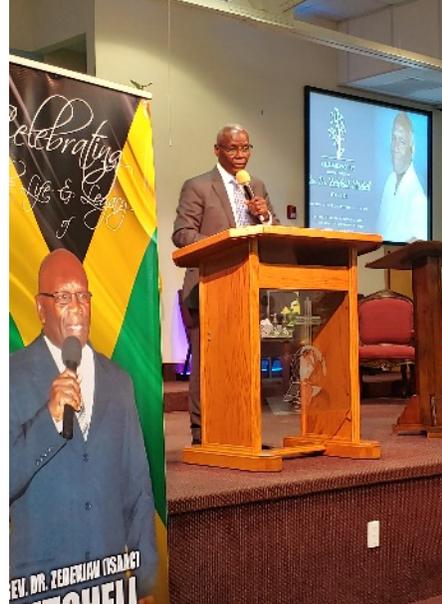
HONORING

Bishop Dr. Zedekiah Mitchell

We said farewell to one of the Apostolic giants of our time, Bishop Dr. Zedekiah Mitchell, a dear associate and friend of the ORAC family. On Thursday, November 11th, ORAC hosted the International Memorial Service for this great man, as part of a week-long celebration which began and ended at his home church in Highgate, St. Mary, Jamaica W.I.

In attendance were distinguished guests and ministry associates from all over, whose lives were positively impacted by Dr. Mitchell over the years. The evening's proceedings were moderated by Rev. Miguel Garrick, one of Dr. Mitchell's spiritual sons. Several tributes were rendered, including from Rev. Robert Stewart, Rev. & Mrs. Winston "Sammy" Stewart, NY Metro District Superintendent, Rev. Devon Dawson. The message was delivered by our own Bishop Arthur Thomas.

It was a solemn but celebratory evening as we reflected on the life of a great teacher, pastor and evangelist. A special offering was given in aid of the Zedekiah Mitchell Scholarship Fund.





PASTOR'S APPRECIATION SERVICE

On Sunday November 14 we had only the 10am service, to give everyone a chance to get home, freshen up and be ready for our 2nd Virtual Pastor's Appreciation on Zoom. It was a beautiful evening of warm tributes, laughter, reflection and upliftment as we paused to celebrate Pastor and Sis. T for their unselfish service to the Kingdom. There were over 360 devices/participants, and way more attendees (some devices had families etc.). We salute Sis. Livermore and her team for a job well done.



Community Thanksgiving Dinner

Catalyst Program



Cheryl Dennis

The Catalyst Program celebrated its 8-year anniversary on November 20, 2021.

Designed to meet some of the social service needs of the community, we provide life skills classes, trainings and job-seeking skills to men and women on parole. In addition, we are open to teaching life skills to other populations in need.

This past year's highlights are as follows:

Anger-Management Life Skills

Due to COVID-19, the regular schedule of three cycles of life skills/anger management courses was reduced to two cycles. The graduation dates of the two cycles were June 2021 and December 2021. The average class size was 30. In 2021, 15 and 12 men respectfully graduated. Due to COVID-19, we did not hold in-person graduations. The June 2021 graduation was held via zoom and the December 2021 graduation was a celebratory dinner at a local restaurant. This marked the first time we had in-person fellowship.

Parenting Life Skills

This year marked the first time we graduated two students with a certificate in Parenting. The Parenting course comprises of 10 classes. The graduates have child welfare court cases pending in White Plains Court. The ORAC Parenting Life Skills Certificate will aide them in reunification with their children.

Curriculum and Graduation Delivery

Since March 2020, we continue to teach life skills via Zoom video conferencing platform in response to the pandemic. Our classes continue to be taught via Zoom until further notice.

The graduation which had historically been held during the ORAC Sunday evening service, continues to be held virtually via the Zoom video platform. At the June 2021 graduation, via Zoom, speakers included: Bishop Arthur Thomas; Min. Paul Bailey; and Michelle Walsh, Attorney at Law.

Graduates

In 2021, we graduated 27 men and 2 women with their certificate in Life Skills with a concentration in Anger Management and/or Parenting.

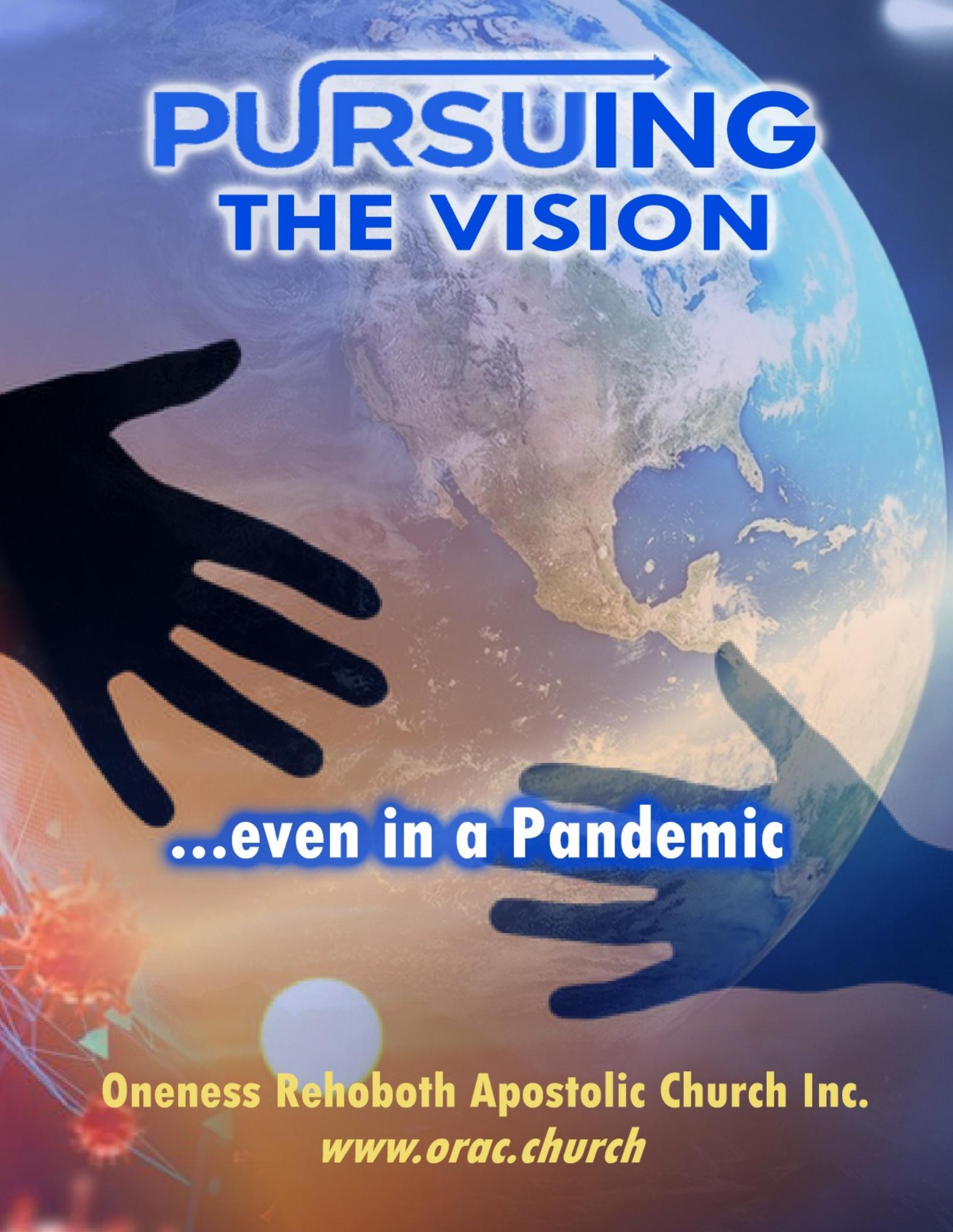


- **SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY**
- **SCHOOL OF LIFE SKILLS**
- **SCHOOL OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

OABI exists to train men and women to rightly divide the word of truth, thus facilitating their development in articulating the gospel of Jesus Christ and growth into effective leaders and workers in the kingdom of God.

The Oneness Apostolic Bible Institute admits qualified men and women (of the apostolic faith) to further prepare them for Christian service. We offer programs and courses that facilitate their development in the practice of spiritual discipline, in order to create an environment conducive to the movement of the Holy Spirit in the churches at all times.

A student studying at OABI can expect to become better in their current area of ministry and or find practical application as Sunday School Teachers; Ministry Leaders and Evangelists.



PURSUING THE VISION

...even in a Pandemic

Oneness Rehoboth Apostolic Church Inc.
www.orac.church