Thank God for a Pastor of Honor and Grace

Rev. Dr. Renee F. Washington Gardner
Our Senior Pastor

Sunday, October 16, 2011
And now, friends, we ask you to honor those leaders who work so hard for you, who have been given the responsibility of urging and guiding you along in your obedience. Overwhelm them with appreciation and love!

1 Thessalonians 5:12-13 (The Message Bible)

It is with much love, appreciation and gratitude that we, the disciples of the Memorial Baptist Church celebrate, salute, and honor our Senior Pastor, the Reverend Dr. Renee Frances Washington Gardner on this your Seventh Pastoral Anniversary.

You are truly a Pastor of Honor and Grace, one in which God has picked just for us. Your giftedness, ability to lead with distinction, humble spirit, charismatic nature, gracious attitude and intellectual abilities are what make you the best at what only you can do, and that is to be a Pastor of Honor and Grace. We can all attest to the fact that no matter what life brings your way, you are always willing and ready with a servant’s heart to bring comfort, lend a word of encouragement, teach and bring a Word from the Lord that is always right on time and much more, to say the least.

Please know that we do recognize and are grateful for the many nights you go before the Lord on our behalf in prayer, while we are yet asleep. We acknowledge the many sacrifices that you make which can never be counted. Your heartfelt love never waivers even when we don’t show appreciation and drive you a little crazy. That we should not forget.

Therefore, let it be resolved that we, the entire congregation of the Memorial Baptist Church acknowledge the fact that:

The Reverend Dr. Renee Frances Washington Gardner is an anointed woman of God, appointed by God to be the shepherd at the Memorial Baptist Church for such a time as this;

The Reverend Dr. Renee Frances Washington Gardner embodies the qualities of the virtuous woman portrayed in the Book of Proverbs and attested to by her sons, grandchildren and her husband, the Rev. Dr. Sean P. Gardner, Sr., and whereas she is the “phenomenal woman” about whom Maya Angelou speaks of;

Pastor Renee is a friend to those who have known her over the years; whereas she is “Sister Girl” to her fellow female preachers; “Daughter” to Rev. Dr. Betty A. Spencer and Rev. Dr. Joe Albert Bush, Sr; “Ma” to her sons, and “Baby Girl” to the Rev. Dr. Sean P. Gardner, Sr., and whereas, we, the Memorial Baptist Church Family are blessed and proud to call her “Pastor.”

For these reasons and so many more that cannot be conveyed through words, be it resolved that we, the ministers, officers and disciples of the Memorial Baptist Church do thank God for this woman of Honor and Grace.

On this 16th day of October in the 2011th year of our Lord, we renew our Christian commitment to overwhelm her with love both today and always. We call on all those present, in Heaven and on earth, and all who will ever read this resolution, to bear witness to our testimony that we love our Pastor. We love the Rev. Dr. Renee Frances Washington Gardner and we thank her for preaching powerfully, counseling and catechizing conscientiously, mentoring ministers meticulously, administrating attentively, training us thoroughly, praying for us painstakingly, discipling us diligently and leading us lovingly.

We make these resolutions, which will be a part of the official Memorial Baptist Church record from now into perpetuity, in the Spirit of Christ and because of Calvary.

With Much Love,
Your Memorial Baptist Church Family
Reverend Dr. Joe Albert Bush, Sr.

Dr. Joe Albert Bush, Sr., a native South Carolinian, the second son of the late Tom Roscoe Bush and Mrs. Lenell Mitchell Bush. He received his undergraduate degree from Benedict College, and the Master of Divinity from Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary. He also graduated from the U. S. Air University where he completed training for the U.S. Air Force Chaplains Program. In May 2002, Dr. Bush graduated, with Distinction, from the Drew University Theological Seminary, where he earned the Doctor of Ministry Degree.

Dr. Bush has served as the Senior Pastor of the Walker Memorial Baptist Church, Bronx, since June 1982. With his leadership, there have been many visions and victories including a $3 million Grand Concourse Academy (K-5th grade) in the Bronx, a sister church in Port Limon, Costa Rica (ordaining its first female pastor) and a long and distinguished record of service supporting remote pastors in Malawi, South Africa.

Dr. Bush is head of the Theme Commission for the United Missionary Baptist Association, and formerly served as Executive Secretary for the Foreign Missions Board of the National Baptist Convention, USA. He continues in the vanguard of the effort to provide financial and spiritual support to those spreading the Gospel across the globe.

Dr. Bush is married to the former Ms. Mary R. Green. They are parents of four children: two sons (Derrick and Joe, Jr.) and two daughters: (Coretta Denise and Bridgett Nicole) and the grandfather of three grandchildren: Alanys, Charlize and Ethan Jeremiah.

Reverend Keith A. Bolden

This preacher’s son, one of nine children, was born and reared on the west side of New York City. To this very day, Keith Anthony Bolden attributes a wealth of life’s knowledge and his consuming love for people to his earthly hero, the late Haywood Benjamin Bolden, and his mother, the late Ruth Bolden. As a lad, young Bolden constantly preached from his imaginary pulpit to an audience of stuffed animals and his ever-attentive pet cat Sammy Davis, Jr. At age 16 he preached his first sermon in his father’s church, Little Mount Bethel Baptist Church.

Pastor Keith A. Bolden, Sr., was called by God to bring the light of the gospel to the masses. He has been preaching that gospel for over 25 years, and is currently the pastor of First Calvary Baptist Church. Pastor Bolden is married to the lovely Michelle Bolden and they have three children and three grandchildren.

Pastor Bolden is an amazing worker who tirelessly answers many calls of help from clergy and parishioners and is daily revived by the goodness, mercies and wondrous works of the Lord. He is a spiritual and financial adviser to numerous ministries, ministers and lay members of the body of Christ. He currently serves as Financial Secretary of the United Missionary Baptist Association.

Pastor Bolden masterfully delivers memorable sermons with dignified eloquence and is well noted for his humorous anecdotes. This man of impressive stature with a commanding speaking voice has also been blessed with a rich and tuneful gift of singing. He loves to sing the old songs of the church, which often lifts the spirit and stirs the soul.

This servant, Pastor Bolden, with a living testimony of faith in Jesus Christ, will very often exclaim “Jesus is alive and doing well, and because our God does well, we should do likewise”.
CELEBRATING REV. RENEE’S SEVENTH PASTORAL ANNIVERSARY

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

PROCessional ........................................................................................................................................... The Pastorium
CALL to Worship & .......................................................................................................................... The Pastorium
SCRIPTURE ..........................................................................................................................Psalm 150 .......................................................................................................................... The Pastorium
CONGREGATIONAL HYMN OF PRAISE (8AM) ................................................................................“What a Fellowship,” p. 211
PRAISE TIME (11AM) ......................................................................................................................... The Praise Team

THE MINISTRY OF CONSECRATION

MISSION Offering .......................................................................................................................... The PRW Friendly Ushers Ministry
SPECIAL GREETINGS .......................................................................................................................... The Pastorium
MINISTRY OF DANCE .......................................................................................................................... The MBC Praise Dance Ministry
MINISTRY OF MUSIC .......................................................................................................................... The MBC Ministry Choir
ALTAR CALL ............................................................................................................................................. The Pastorium

THE MINISTRY OF SEED PLANTING AND BELIEVING GOD

SCRIPTURAL READING & OFFERTORY PRAYER...... MALACHI 3: 8-12
Tithes, General, Altar, Special & Renovation Offerings
“Praise God from whom all blessings flow...”

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE MINISTRY OF PREACHING

INTRODUCTION OF THE GUEST PREACHER ........................................................................................ The Pastorium
SERMONIC SELECTION ......................................................................................................................... The MBC Ministry Choir
SCRIPTURE READING AND SERMON................................................................................................ Rev. Keith A. Bolden
Senior Pastor, First Calvary Baptist Church
RESPONSE TO THE GOSPEL MESSAGE............................................................................................ Rev. Keith A. Bolden
PREACHER’S OFFERING....................................................................................................................... The Diaconate Ministry
BENEDICTION ......................................................................................................................................... Rev. Keith A. Bolden

You are welcome to join us for continental breakfast following the 8am service
and for dinner prior to the 3:30pm service.
CELEBRATING REV. RENEE’S SEVENTH PASTORAL ANNIVERSARY

PROCESSIONAL ....................................................................................................................Clergy, Officers, First Family

INVOCATION & INTRODUCTION OF OUR WORSHIP LEADER ..............................Min. Earlise Vails Shelton

SCRIPTURE READINGS .........................................................................................................Min. Pamela Y. Smith

HYMN OF PRAISE ..................................................................................................................“Lift Him Up,” p. 411

WELCOME ..............................................................................................................................Sister Michelle Boozer

RESPONSE TO WELCOME ..................................................................................................Walker Memorial Baptist Church

MUSICAL SELECTION ..............................................................................................................The Music Ministry of the East Ward Missionary Baptist Church

MINISTRY OF DANCE ..............................................................................................................The Memorial Praise Dance Ministry

STATEMENT OF OCCASION ................................................................................................Sister Natasha Jackson

MUSICAL SELECTION ..............................................................................................................The Music Ministry of the Memorial Baptist Church

OFFERING

INTRODUCTION OF THE GUEST PREACHER .................................................................Rev. Dr. Betty A. Spencer

Union Baptist Church

MUSICAL SELECTION ..............................................................................................................The Music Ministry of the Walker Memorial Baptist Church

SERMON .................................................................................................................................The Reverend Dr. Joe Albert Bush, Sr.
Senior Pastor, Walker Memorial Baptist Church & Pastor Renee’s Father in the Ministry

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

ROLL CALL OF MBC MINISTRIES.......................................................................................Sister Arlene McIntosh

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

REMARKS .................................................................................................................................Trustee Ruth D. O’Neal, Chair, Anniversary Committee
The Beloved Sons
The Reverend Dr. Sean P. Gardner, Sr., First Gentleman
The Reverend Dr. Renee F. Washington Gardner

BENEDICTION ..........................................................................................................................The Reverend Dr. Joe Albert Bush, Sr.

We thank God for the woman of honor and grace
He has given us in Pastor Renee
10TH ANNUAL YOUTH EXPLOSION

Memorial is the place to be on the Friday before Thanksgiving when our Children, Youth & Young Adult Ministry invites young people from all over to our 10th annual explosion!

Under the direction of Minister of Children, Youth & Young Adults, Rev. David L. Brown; Sis. Gail Parker, Advisor to Young Adult Women; Sis. Shareema Pringle, Coordinator, Youth Council, Minister-in-Training Brandon Washington, Youth Coordinator, and Sisters Shakira White and Tiffany Bradshaw, Coordinators of our Young Adults, this year’s event promises to be the best ever.

Young people and those who are connected to young people are encouraged to pick up flyers from Rev. Brown or in the narthex and post them where you live, in your school, or in other public places.

Ministry Council Meeting
November 5

All Ministry leaders should be preparing now for a most important Ministry Council meeting on Saturday, November 5, during which we will set out our calendar for 2012.

Leaders from each ministry submit — in writing — dates, budgets and events planned for the year. If you are not certain of exactly what you are doing, give some indication of your thinking.

Please submit your plans to Min. Brewer or via email to mbcvision2000@aol.com no later than Wednesday, November 2 so that we can prepare a preliminary calendar for 2012, and so that the meeting will run smoothly and efficiently.

Bible Bowl Questions

Our next Bible Bowl Sunday, October 23 during the Church School hour. Prepare now by researching these questions:

- Whose wife became a pillar of salt? (Genesis 19:23-26)
  A) Abraham  B) Lot  C) Isaac  D) Solomon
- What was Moses’ father-in-law name? (Exodus 18:1)
  A) Aaron  B) Joshua  C) Israel  D) Jethro
- Who was the oldest man in the Bible? (Genesis 5:27)
  A) Enoch  B) Methuselah  C) Noah  D) Solomon
- Who was the adulterous wife of Hosea? (Hosea 1: 2, 3)
  A) Jezebel  B) Leah  C) Gomer  D) Mary Magdelene
- Name Moses’ brother and sister? (Numbers 26:59)
  A) Alpha & Omega  B) Asa & Sarah  C) Aaron & Miriam
- Name the three main women in the Book of Ruth.
  (Answers are found in the books of Genesis, Hosea, Exodus, Hosea, Numbers, and Ruth, in chapters 1, 26, 19, 18, and 5. Go fish and see what you find.)

The 2012 Annual Churchwide & Leadership Retreat

January 20-22, 2012
The Marriott Westchester Hotel in Tarrytown
Bishop Jasper Rolle, Dr. J.G. McCann, Dr. Carl L. Washington, Jr. and others.

The retreat is open to all.
All ministers, officers, choir members, ushers, nurses, praise dancers, and ministry leaders must attend.
Cost is $375 per person/ $650 for couples.
See Trustee Delores Frazier to begin making payments today.
Mrs. Edna Allen  Mr. George Britton  
Sis. Elizabeth Crenshaw  Sis. Eugenie Hinds  
Sis. Dorothy Hogan  Mother Alberta Hunter  
Mother Sara Irby  Sis. Katie McCummings  
Bro. George & Sis. Agnes Pressley  Dea. Mother Annie Simmons  
Mother Alicia Thompson  Mother Evelyn Williams  
Mother Catherine Woodbury  Sis. Barbara M. Wright  

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**PRAYERS OF HEALING**

Sis. Emmanuella Amazan & Family  
Deacon Emanuel Bowden  
Mother Rosetta Ling  
Ms. Ana Lopez, Sis. Bernitha Lopez’ daughter  
Ms. Claudia Magnin & Ms. Dee Vanterpool, Min. Yvette Vanterpool’s aunts  
Mother Ardell Mills  

Pray for PFC P.J. Washington, Jr., in Afghanistan, and all of those serving our nation in the military.

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**BISHOP WALKER TO PREACH OUR 76TH ANNIVERSARY**

Grammy award winning gospel recording artist and Presiding Prelate of the Pentecostal Churches of Jesus Christ, Bishop Hezekiah Walker is our special guest preacher on Sunday, November 20 at 11am.

A native of Brooklyn’s Fort Greene housing projects, "Bishop Hez," as he is affectionally known, is the Pastor of two churches, The Love Fellowship Tabernacle in Brooklyn N.Y. and in Bensalem Pennsylvania. He is also the Overseer of several churches including a Love Fellowship Church in Cape Town, South Africa.

Bishop Walker has attended Long Island University, the Hugee Theological Seminary, and the New York School of the Bible. Currently, he is attending the Philadelphia Biblical University in Langhorne, PA. Walker is the president and founder of the Love Fellowship Bible Institute and the Youth Pastor of the Pentecostal Church of Jesus Christ.

The Bishop is one of the most honored and revered gospel artists of all time. He is a two-time Grammy Award winner, and twelve time nominee. He has been nominated for Stellar Awards, NAACP Image Awards, and Soul Train Music Awards. He is the only gospel artist to be inducted into the National Black Sports & Entertainment Hall Of Fame.

Bishop Walker testifies that he is confident that "Because God is the greatest power, we cannot be defeated!"

You can hear Bishop Walker's "Afternoon Praise" radio show daily on WLBI 1190 AM.
It gives the Pastor’s Anniversary Committee great pleasure to celebrate our Pastors 7th Anniversary. This year we “Thank God for a Pastor of Honor and Grace.” Our Pastor also celebrates 25 years in the ministry this year. Her leadership and love for the congregation has taken Memorial Baptist Church to the next level; beyond vision 2000. From the Karaoke Afternoon in September, through the Hat Extravaganza, the various fundraisers and dynamic, anointed sermons from our First Gentleman, Dr. Sean P. Gardner, Bishop Eric Figueroa, Rev. Keith Bolden, and the Rev. Dr. Joe Albert Bush this afternoon, we will have had a celebration filled with fun, love, powerful messages, and divine intervention -- all which reflect the characteristics of our Pastor, Rev. Dr Renee F. Washington Gardner. We thank you for all you have done to make this an exciting and blessed time for our Pastor and for the Memorial Baptist Church.

Trustee Ruth O’Neal, Chair
Pastor’s Anniversary Committee

When describing our Pastor, where do we start?

She is a woman of God. She has a Pastor’s heart.

She preaches the Gospel with Holy Ghost power.

We are so grateful to God that we can call her “our’s.”

She is a woman of honor and a woman of grace.

Always pushing and praying us to a higher place.

She’s been our Pastor for seven years, so we are blessed this day

To thank God for her, and to honor

Our Pastor Renee.