

# THE LAMP NEWSLETTER

*"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path" (Psalm 119:105 KJV).*

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## MERRY CHRISTMAS!

### Ready to Serve God: A Donkey and Camels.

#### *What About You?*

*-By Wanda J. Burnside, Publisher*



Dear Readers,

As I have been praying about what to say to you this Christmas, I found it hard to come up with something. So, I did what I always do, I kept on praying and asking the Lord to help me. It was so difficult to center in on a subject. I had a lot of things to talk about. I went from one thought to another. This went on from day to day and soon weeks rolled by.

One day I was going to write about giving. I had the title and was ready to go. What inspired me to write about it was when I was shopping for a few Christmas items in November for a special event. I was shopping for peppermint candy canes when this man and his wife came up to this area. The wife was looking at the candy canes, too. Her husband walked over and stood in the middle of the aisle. He was not interested. She tried to ignore his indifferent attitude so she picked up several boxes of the candy canes and read the back labels.

*"Hey Honey! Honey!"* I heard her husband calling to her. *"Ugh...ugh...I'm not going to give anything this Christmas. You can count me out! I don't want to be bothered about it this year..."*

His wife did not answer him. She kept on reading the back label of the box of candy canes. She tried to act like she was not with him.

*"Dear...Honey? Honey? Did you hear me?"* asked her husband, talking louder. *"I DON'T PLAN TO GET INVOLVED WITH CHRISTMAS THIS YEAR!"*

*"I heard you, Robbie," said his wife. "So, what's new? You didn't do anything for Christmas last year....or the year before that....and..."*

*"Look! Just count me out! I am going to be the Christmas Scrooge! Yes!" the man said laughing. "Just call me Scrooge!"*

I looked over my shoulder back at him. His head was back and he was laughing. He did not see me.

His wife tried not to pay attention to him. She was talking under her breath. She was murmuring something....then, I heard her say, *"So, why do you even want to keep this up, Robbie? You don't want to do nothing about nothing! Boy! It's Christmas and you need to do something! Honestly Robbie....I am getting so tired of you acting like this!"*

*"I don't want to give. I don't feel like being bothered!" he groaned. "That's the way it is." Then he walked away to another aisle.*

His wife quickly put the boxes of candy canes away. She looked over at me and I turned to look at her. She shook her head and walked away. I heard her say, *"Robbie! Robbie! It's Christmas and you can't be like that!"* A few aisles over I could hear him grunt, *"Why?"*

## LEAVE ME ALONE!

This was a sad moment for me when I heard this man's response, "Why?" He wanted to know why he shouldn't be like Scrooge at Christmas. He questioned his wife and he knew that these were hurtful words for her. He had put up a wall and he did not want to have her take it down. He didn't want to celebrate Christmas. He did not want to give to others. He wanted to be left alone. Don't bother him. No gifts. No giving. No nothing for Christmas.

Sadly, some of you are probably like this man, "Robbie." You don't want to give or do anything for Christmas, because you feel like you don't have enough money to give gifts. You won't do anything because this has been a tough year. You have struggled with your finances and bills. You don't have a job. Nobody deserves a gift from you. Your family has been bitter and hard to deal with this year. Your friends haven't treated you right. You have your reasons for not giving.

So, you say, "WHY should I give or do anything this Christmas?" Many of you have made up your mind to be a Christmas Scrooge, too. You have decided to do nothing this Christmas because....just because.....that's why!

## HARD DECISIONS...

For the next few days, I thought about Robbie and his wife. I wondered what happened. Did they have a big argument in the store, in their car or at home about Christmas? Did she change his mind about having a different attitude concerning Christmas? What about her? Did his bitter attitude make her give up about celebrating Christmas?

These thoughts stayed with me for days. I know that there are many people who go through trying to figure out what to do every Christmas. Life is hard to deal with day to day. We have several challenges and this can make it extremely hard to face all that comes with Christmas.

## A CHANGE OF HEART

Then, in my consideration to write about giving this Christmas, God spoke to me. He showed me pictures of Mary on a donkey going to Nazareth with Joseph. I began to see photos of the Wise Men on their camels following the star to the house where Jesus was as a child with Mary and Joseph. It touched me so much. I wondered about all of this. I cried.

I could feel that there was a message there to share here with my readers. I cried out to God to help me and show me what to do. I strongly felt His Spirit.

## A CHRISTMAS CARD

Within a few days, Simmie and I start receiving Christmas cards. There is nothing like receiving them in the mail. It makes Christmas such a special holiday. I love hearing from family and friends!

I was sitting at my desk working on a pile of things. I had lots of work to do on my computer. I was trying hard to finish up so that we could have lunch or was it breakfast? Anyway, Simmie went to get our mail out of our mailbox. Along with the bills and sales papers, he had a few Christmas cards, too. He handed me some mail. I laid everything aside except the card from our dear friends Donna and Gary Goodrich who lives in Arizona. I opened and read the card along with her enclosed annual Christmas letter. Their card is so beautiful.



## THE CHRISTMAS STORY

Later that evening, I felt the need to write about the donkey and the camels in the Christmas story. So, that night I came to the computer and clicked it on. I sat there as it lit up. Then, I looked down at the Christmas card from the Goodrich....there was the Wise Men on their camels traveling from the east by starlight and the glow of the moon. In the darkness of the night, they came over the hills with their gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. There were palm trees and in the distant was the house where Jesus, the Christ Child, was living. They had traveled far, but they were determined to bring their gifts for Christ and to worship Him!

Then, right next to the card was the envelope for the card. On it was the Goodrich's return address label....it had a picture of the Wise Men and the star on it! I looked over at the postage stamp....Oh! There was Mary and Joseph traveling by night. Oh, there was Mary on the donkey. My heart just leaped! I cried as I sat in my dark office only lit by the light of my computer. There was my message to you!

## O COME LET US ADORE HIM!

Mary and Joseph were obedient to God. They followed everything that He had said to them. They were obedient to the words of the messages from the heavenly angels sent by God. They surrendered all to Him. They yield to His orders and commands. Mary and Joseph were chosen for this divine and awesome assignment from God.

Mary rode the donkey for 4 days, from Bethlehem to Nazareth, while she was full term pregnant with Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior. Some Bible scholars say that it was an 80 to 120 mile trip. They went to pay their taxes to Caesar.

I looked at that donkey. He willingly carried Mary on his back. He walked through the sand and rocky roads. He went on in the heat and coolness of the night. The donkey carefully stepped on his journey. He walked on and on. He did not give up or run away. He kept on going until he reached Nazareth and then to the stable. He did as he was assigned to do.

The Wise Men traveled on the backs of camels. What a ride! Surely it was not comfortable to walk through the desert with blowing sand and burning heat waves every step of the way. However, the camels walked on step by step, each carrying a man on their lumpy back. The camels stepped on and on and on for miles and miles until they made it to the house where Jesus was. How did the Wise Men balance their treasures and guide their camels onward? My! My!



## *A Donkey and Camels*

God showed me an amazing thing! I saw how He used these animals, a donkey and the camels, to do His Will. They followed His commands. They served Him with gladness and with a loving spirit.

I was curious about the characteristics of donkeys and camels. In my study and research, I found them to be alike in several ways:

The donkey and camels are beasts of burden. They are capable of carrying very heavy things. Regardless of the weight of what is on their backs, they will carry it safely to where it must go. They adapt to the desert heat, walking long distances, eating little meals, can function with small amounts of water, can hear very well from miles away, able to kneel and crawl, and can walk on rocky conditions. Their feet will adjust to accommodate the heavy load that they carry so that they can walk and balance it. Also, their feet are created to travel on the condition of the ground that they are walking upon.

These animals are intelligent. The donkey is considered stubborn but they are actually very independent. The camel has incredible endurance. Both animals are determined to do as you command as long as you make it clear. It is said that the donkey is patient, courageous, gentle, peaceful and has humility. The camel is noble, willing to serve, and ready to follow orders.

God used them. They were made to serve. The donkey and camels were on a special assignment by Almighty God for the birth of His only Begotten Son, Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior!

## **YOU WERE CREATED TO SERVE GOD!**

My heart is touched by knowing that God has created you and me to serve Him. He has an assignment for your life. He wants you to come to Him and live for Him. He wants to use you in His Kingdom! He is waiting upon you to yield yourself to Him. He has a divine purpose for our lives. We

are not just here with no destiny and no purpose. God wants you. He has a true plan for you to have joy and peace.

This Christmas, know that Jeremiah 29:11 is true: "I know what I am planning for you," says the LORD. I have good plans for you, not plans to hurt you, I will give you hope and a good future."

God has a great plan for your life! You were made to do great and wonderful things. He made you to go through it all and reach your goals in life. He doesn't want you to give up! We have the examples of how the donkey and camels, animals, persevered and finished their godly assignment. We can conquer anything! We can do more! We can give more!

Robbie, the husband who did not want to be bothered for Christmas, will miss a special opportunity to be blessed. The donkey did not refuse to serve Mary. The camels served the Wise Men. What they did was for the Lord. God could use them.

Some of you feel that you will never be used by God. You believe that you have to be somebody special to serve Him. You have allowed men, human beings, to make you feel that you are not worthy to be used of the Lord. You consider yourself not capable of being unimportant and unworthy. This is not true. God has a special place for you to reach out and serve. You are needed!

May your hearts be lifted and encouraged to give your all to the Lord! Here is a precious Christmas carol for you, "O Come All Ye Faithful." Come and adore Him!

## ***GOD BLESS YOU!***

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*Here is a powerful poem written by Poet Yvette Wilburn, the founder and president of P.O.E.T. Ministries. She is also the host of this ministry on Comcast Television on Comcast 20. Her program is aired on Thursday mornings. Poet Yvette has written 5 books and numerous poems. She also an active member of her church in Detroit, MI. Poet Yvette also is an Administrator of The Called and Ready Writers. She also is a Detroit Public School teacher, mother, and grandmother.*



## ***Is Christ still in your Christmas***

*By Yvette Wilburn © 2003*

*Christmas is Jesus' birthday, a joyous time of year.*

*It's a time to rejoice and be filled with great cheer.*

*I've searched the tv, radio, storefronts, and the hearts of dear friends,*

*For signs of the true meaning of these Christmas trends.*

*What is the reason for this season? Tell me. I want to know!*

*Is it about Santa, lights, sleigh bells, and snow?*

*Santa was designed to rob us through distractions.*

*Unscramble the letters in His name and see if He's still an attraction.*

*Santa is like someone else who wants to steal God's glory,  
But in my house we will continue to give God the glory!*

*The world has managed to cross Christ out.  
They say it is to save room and time. But is that just another  
Excuse to keep Christ absent from our mind?*

*But we must give glory where glory is due.  
We must spread the story that we know to be true!*

*For Jesus' birth was miraculous and truly different from most,  
Mary, His virgin mother had the help of the Holy Ghost.  
Joseph was righteous, but he didn't want to hear it!  
So an angel came and revealed the work of the Holy Spirit.  
In Bethlehem a prophecy was being fulfilled,  
The Christ Child was born and we shall call him Immanuel.  
He is Our Messiah, Savior, The Christ! among other great things,  
Glory Hallelujah, we have a Newborn King!*

*But there was an evil king who was after Christ's neck,  
This king sent three wise men on an arduous trek.  
This evil king lied and said he wanted to worship Jesus too,  
But he didn't want them to know what he really wanted to do.*

*The wise men traveled from afar, coming from the east,*

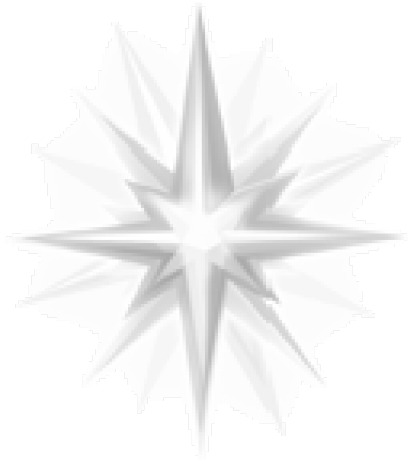
*Being led by a wondrous star to the Prince of Peace.*

*A star hung adeptly by the manger with care,  
So that they could find Baby Jesus, Our Shepherd lying there.*

*They fell down and worshiped Him  
and gave of their gifts and treasures,*

*Later an angel warned them in a dream to take careful  
measures.*

*They were told to not go back from whence they came,  
So they headed for home in Jesus' Name.*



*Now Jesus' birthday should be celebrated because of God's Grace.  
Everyday should be a holy day for God is with us in this place.  
Jesus was born so that we may clearly see,  
That He came to die for us so that we may be set free.  
Yes, He arose victorious so that we may truly know,  
That God gets all the glory and He loves us so!*

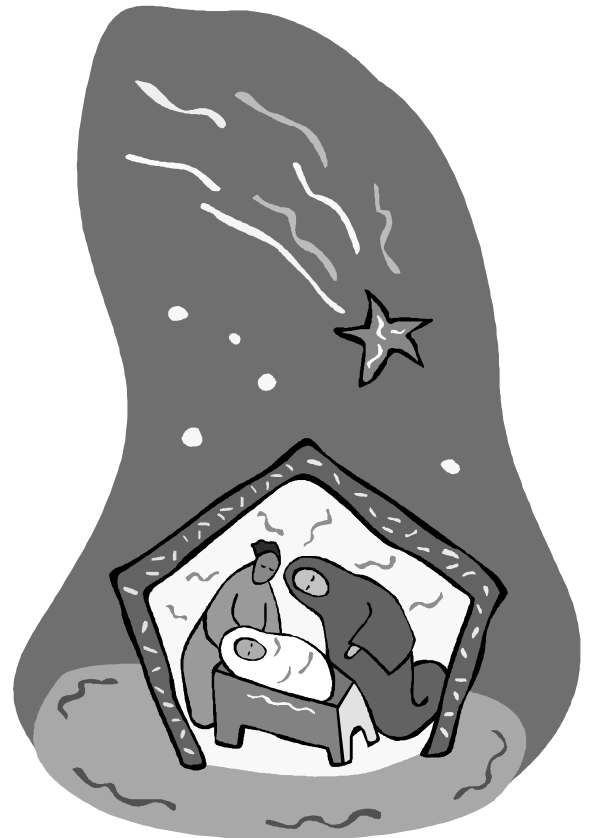
***Happy Birthday Jesus!  
Thank You for Freeing Us***

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# ISAIAH 9:6-7

*For to us a child is born, to us a son is given: and the government shall be on his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.*

*Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, on the throne of David, and on his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from now on even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.*





# The Three Wise Women

By Minister Mary Edwards ©2007

You've heard the story of the three wise men in the Bible. Now I want to share with you some characteristics of three wise women.

Let me begin by saying that preparing this message was a lot of fun for me. One of the reasons is that I did a survey. I asked several of my friends, "Who do you consider among the three wisest women in the Bible?" Their responses motivated me to do my personal research based on some of their answers.

Let me pause here and ask you to think of the three women whom you consider to be among the wisest women in the Old and New testaments. Like you, my friends named many different women. Yes. I could have chosen:

1. The woman with the issue of blood. She wasn't even given a name. But she was wise enough to know that if she could just touch the hem of Jesus' garment she could be made whole. (Mark 9:20)
2. Another would be The Queen of Sheba. Before there were automobiles, Amtrak or Northwest Airlines, The Queen of Sheba traveled 1250 miles on a camel to hear the great wisdom of King Solomon. She knew she didn't have all of the answers.
3. Then there was Rehab the Harlot. Rehab was wise enough to hide the Jericho spies from the enemy. Because she did, her whole household was saved.
4. We sure don't want to leave out Abigail. Abigail was married to Nabal, whose name meant "Fool." And, indeed, he was a fool. Because Abigail was wise and humble enough to listen to her servant, she intervened in a situation that kept King David from killing her husband and every male in his household. You can read more about Abigail in I Sam. 25:23-42.

Now let me share with you three of my personal favorites. Two are from the New Testament and the other is from the Old Testament.

## Mary of Bethany

Mary of Bethany understood the importance of meditation upon God. She made a good decision to sit at the feet of Jesus. As a result of this wise decision, Jesus commended her by saying in Luke 10:42, "But one thing is needed, and Mary has chosen that good part, which will not be taken away from her." He goes on to say in Matt. 26:13, "Truly, I say to you, wherever this Gospel is preached in the whole world, what this woman has done will also be spoken in memory of her."

Mary is a reminder that our first order of service is to serve the Lord...and to sit at His feet. I loved this example so much that I named one of my books, "At His Feet."

## Elizabeth

Another wonderful example of a wise woman comes to my mind when I think of Elizabeth.

The Bible tells us that we are to esteem one another above ourselves. Elizabeth possessed a spirit of humility. She esteemed Mary, the mother of Jesus, above herself.



Like some of us, she could have said, "Why shouldn't I be the one carrying Jesus and you be carrying John?" Instead, Elizabeth didn't find it difficult to call Mary, who was much younger than she, the "Mother of my Lord, "and "blessed art thou among women." Elizabeth was wise enough to recognize The Christ when he came into her presence.

Another thing I appreciate about Elizabeth is that she was wise enough to be obedient. She did not back down under pressure when those around her couldn't understand why she wanted to name her son "John." No one in their family was named "John."

I can imagine some of the cockeyed looks on the critics' faces and thoughts going through their suspicious minds("Who's this John?"). Instead, she obeyed God and said, "His name will be John."

### **Jochebed (Exod. 2:3)**

Last, but certainly not least, I want to call your attention to a woman whose name isn't even mentioned in this book of the Bible. Jochebed, the mother of Moses.

For many years, I have admired this woman. She has taught me how to let go. Some of us need to learn this lesson. HOW TO LET GO.

We know the story. There was a decree out to kill all of the Hebrew boys. But there were two midwives in this account who feared God. They need to be included among wise women. "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom." These two midwives allowed Moses to live.

For a while, Jochebed tried to protect her son from the enemy. But we all know that babies cry. After a while, it became too difficult to hide Moses. Thus, Jochebed made a quality decision to put him in the ark of safety.

The ark of safety can be compared to the hands of God. She put him on the Nile River and let him float.

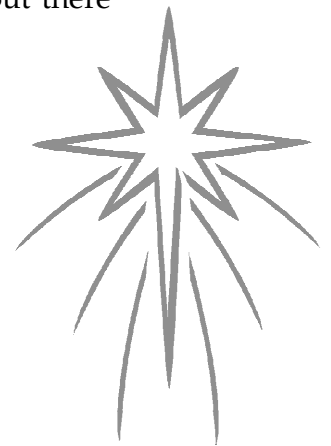
Jochebed's decision to give him up, to let him go, even though he appeared to float right into the hands of the enemy whom she was trying to save him from, saved her child's life and eventually an entire nation.

One of the beautiful parts of this story is that Jochebed's son was safely returned to her for a period of time. And she had an opportunity to give him milk. I believe that during this time Jochebed not only gave him breast milk, but also the Father's milk, the word of the Lord. I believe she laid hands all over him and blessed him in the name of the Lord...and then she let him go...again.

When you look at this story, more than once, Jochebed had to let Moses go.

### **CONCLUSION**

Friends, sometimes (and I repeat, sometimes) we have to let something go before we can get it back. What do you need to let go of? Perhaps it's a child. Perhaps it's not a child, but another relationship. Maybe it's not a person but a thing; or maybe a negative emotion such as fear, doubt, unforgiveness, jealousy, hatred, grief. Whatever the case, I encourage you to stop holding onto something that God wants you to let go of. Whatever it is, put it in the basket. Now, use your sanctified imagination and put it on the Nile Rover and let it float. And don't let me catch you walking on the water trying to get it back? Oh, by the way, don't forget to put yourself in the basket!



# ACTS OF KINDNESS 365 DAYS

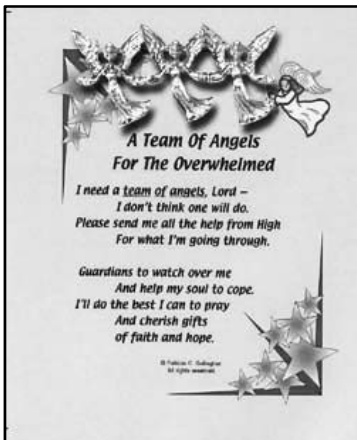


The Bible says that Jesus went about doing good. This is what He wants all of us to do at every opportunity that we have. He led by example. Surely, we should have a heart of love, concern, and great compassion too.

I am grateful to feature my friend Patricia Gallagher and tell of her great work and ministry. She is actively involved in reaching out to others from senior citizens to children. She is doing tremendous work for the Lord.

Patricia Gallagher of Philadelphia is a famed author of seven books and international spokesperson on family relationships and matters. She truly has a heart of love, concern and great compassion. Through her own time of family struggles, pain and sorrow, Patricia was given a godly assignment to reach out to others who are hurting and suffering with great trials. Please read about how God blessed her to create the Team of Angels project. She is touching and changing lives in nursing homes, the military, schools, hospitals, and people in every walk of life here in America and around the world.

## *Team of Angels*



### **A token of encouragement to help those in need**

Some people say that I tried to pin the world together one angel pin at a time. What I was really trying to do was pin my own family back together, one prayer at a time. A "team of angels?" Where did the thought even come from?

I began the **Send a Team of Angels to Help Movement** quite by accident (or was it Providence?) in 1998. During the months prior to my husband's suicide attempt, I wrote poems. I sat in a church or in my living room scribbling my poems on napkins and scraps of paper. I also kept a notebook in my car, in case I was inspired while driving.

I jotted my thoughts and worries down and rhymed the words into verses, sometimes while watching my kids at sporting events, or sitting in a doctor's office. That year, I filled several Dollar Store notebooks. I didn't know much about the computer, so everything was the old- fashioned way, longhand. I called them "*Team of Angels*" poems.

I crafted little angel pins from materials I purchased at the craft store. I attached the *homemade-on-the kitchen-table* angel pins to pieces of cardboard, bearing my poem. Writing the poems and making hundreds of the little pins was my way of coping with the uncertainty of my own life.

The verses of the poems were little prayers. The first poem was titled *A Team of Angels for the Overwhelmed*, which aptly described my feelings. I then added hundreds of others such as *A Team of Angels for a Troubled Loved One*, *A Team of Angels for Taking One Day at a Time*, *A Team of Angels for Depression* and *A Team of Angels to Protect My Loved Ones*. They expressed the confusion and despair in my own life, the anguish of a frightened wife and mother, dealing with a husband suffering with depression.

I never had any intention of “mom’s little angel pins” becoming a ministry or business. Over 100,000 of my Team of Angels pins have traveled worldwide

**The e-book of my Angel Pin journey is now available for download!**



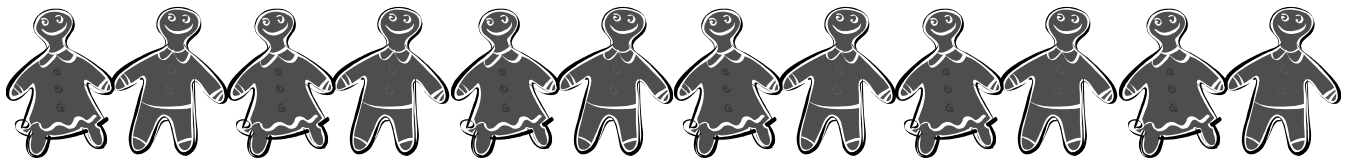
*Patricia Gallagher holds a BA in Education from Villanova University and an MBA in Finance from Saint Joseph’s University. She has appeared on television shows from Oprah Winfrey to The 700 Club to CNN and CNBC. Patricia is a loving mother of four children: three daughters and one son.*

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*by Denise Flynn*

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# DECEMBER....

## BLESSED BIRTHDAYS!

*May God bless...*



Bishop Earl J. Wright, Sr.

**DECEMBER 10:**

*My faithful pastor and great leader  
- BISHOP EARL J. WRIGHT, SR.*

*Blessed 83<sup>rd</sup> Birthday!*

Pastor over 60 years - Greater Miller Memorial Church of God in Christ - 4439 East Nine Mile Road at Ryan Road, Warren, MI

Jurisdictional Prelate for nearly 30 years - The Second Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction Southwest Michigan Church of God in Christ, Inc.

Bishop Wright has given his life in ministry to people in the church, communities, and around the world. He is a tremendous leader and visionary.



**DECEMBER 10:**

*MR. BRUCE TOUSSAINT  
of Sarasota, Florida  
Blessed 66th Birthday!*

A precious friend and man of God. Truly loving and understanding Heart. Thank you for your loyal friendship and many concerns.

**DECEMBER 15:**

*MS. GERTRUDE (TRUDY) HANSBERRY  
of Detroit, MI  
Blessed 70th Birthday!*

A dear and caring friend. Active servant of the Lord. Board Member, Secretary and Assistant Bookstore Manager of The Called and Ready Writers.



*\* HAPPY \*  
BIRTHDAY!*

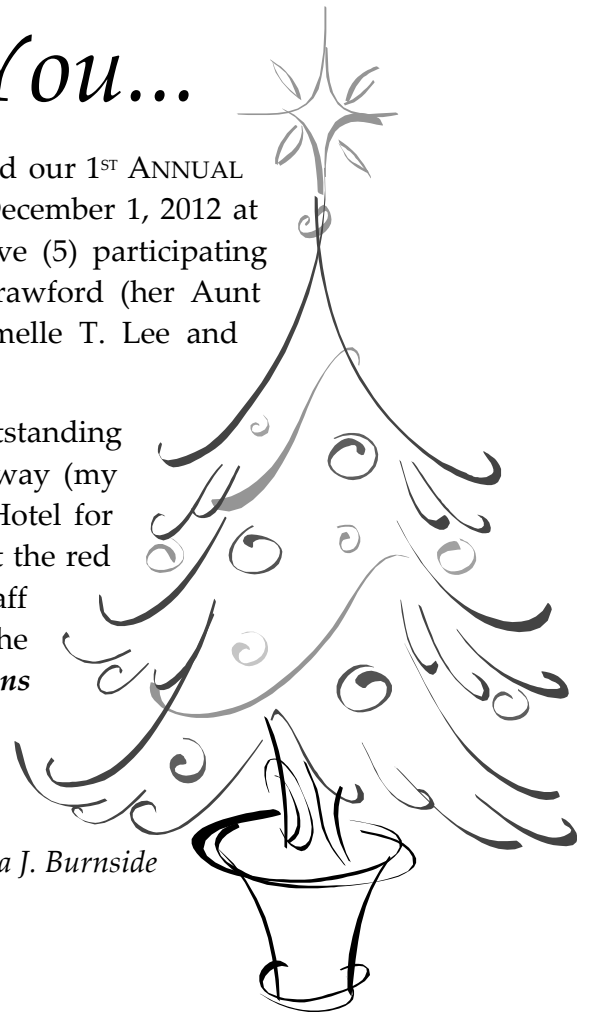


# With Heartfelt Thank You...

May God bless all of our guests and supporters who attended our 1<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL CHRISTMAS TREASURES FROM HEAVEN BAZAAR held on Saturday, December 1, 2012 at the Courtyard by Marriott Hotel Detroit-Dearborn. We had five (5) participating business entrepreneurs: Minister Mary Edwards, Ms. Stacey Crawford (her Aunt Karen) and Evangelist Janett White-Gaines along with us, Ramelle T. Lee and Wanda J. Burnside.

We sincerely appreciate our gracious registrars for their outstanding services: Mrs. Josefa Palm(my sister-in-law) and Ms. Lisa Holloway (my cousin). We are grateful for the amazing staff at the Marriott Hotel for their help, services, considerations and kindness. They rolled out the red carpet for all of us. Special thanks to Robin and Anita, staff members, who were there for us from day one and every step of the way! Anita encouraged us to present this event. ***Congratulations again to Evangelist Vera Beauford and Mrs. Joanne Harris who won our Christmas shopping bags of gifts.*** We thank God for all of His blessings!

*Chairmans: Author Ramelle T. Lee and Mrs. Wanda J. Burnside*



## A TRUE GIVER

Evangelist Janett White-Gaines of Southfield, MI and faithful member of New St. Paul Tabernacle Church of God in Christ has a generous giving and caring heart. She is very active in her church and communities across Michigan. She is always looking for a way to provide for those who are in need. Evangelist Gaines' heart of compassion reaches out to all.

I am blessed to know Evangelist Gaines for over twenty-five years. She has touched my life in several very wonderful ways. Evangelist Gaines has given to my ministries and supported my missions throughout the years. She cares about my visions and missions. I thank God for her encouragement and prayers.

When Evangelist Gaines closed her time at our Christmas bazaar, she didn't pack up all of her lovely products. She donated numerous items to me to help raise funds for my ministry or to give away to others. She told me to keep all of the funds, if I decided to sell them.

God directed me to give many of these beautiful items away to the sick, shut-ins, friends who were unable to attend the bazaar and others who have special needs. Thank you, Evangelist Gaines. Through your kindness, I was able to bless others. May God bless you abundantly for your gifts of love.

# *With Many Thanks To...*



As this year, 2012, comes to a close, my heart is so thankful for those who have been loyal and most kind to me in the publication of The Lamp Newsletter. God has been with me and He has blessed me in so many ways. When I thought that I could not make it, He remained there leading and guiding me through it all. I praise and thank Him for everything that He has done for me. Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

## **Readers and Supporters:**

May God bless all of my readers and supporters of the Lamp Newsletter. Thank you for praying and standing with me throughout 2012. Many of you have been with me since 2008. Thank you.

## **Contributing Writers and Featured Poets:**

To my contributing writers and featured poets, your stories and inspirational poems were a tremendous highlight and ministry for my readers. You touched their lives. Readers were so blessed by your words and gifts that God has given to you to share with others.

Poets: Author Ramelle T. Lee and Evangelist Yvette Wilburn

Writers: Minister Mary Edwards of Michigan and Minister Tarsha Campbell of Florida

## **My Editor, Minister Mary Edwards:**

My deepest appreciation is extended to my editor, Minister Mary Edwards. You have faithfully given your professional services to enhance this newsletter since 2008. Thank you for all of your invaluable help. You are truly a great blessing in my life and ministries.

## **Miss Shannon Crowley, My Typesetter:**

God moved the Lamp Newsletter to another level and dimension when Min. Edwards sent my Sept./Oct. 2012 issue of the Lamp to Miss Shannon Crowley to do the typesetting and graphics. Her work is amazing! I am thankful to have a very talented and professional typesetter.

## **Staples Office Company:**

Since 2008, Staples on Michigan Avenue in Dearborn, Michigan has printed the Lamp. The dedicated team of printing specialists at Staples takes a personal interest in the printing of each issue of the Lamp. They are spectacular in their services. They are very dependable.

## **My Husband, Mr. Simmie Lee Burnside, Jr.:**

How can I say "thank you" and I appreciate all that my husband, Mr. Simmie Lee Burnside, Jr. does for me and my ministries. He is my manager. He is my covering. Honey, thank you for your support, prayers, and finances to keep this ministry moving forward. I LOVE YOU!



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# That Wonderful Night

It was a wonderful night  
in Bethlehem  
Two thousand years ago  
A very still night in the desert  
Didn't rain, didn't snow

That the shepherds rested,  
watching their flocks  
That the promised  
Messiah did come  
To rescue mankind from himself  
To cause the earth to hum

*"Silent night,  
Holy night  
All is calm all is bright  
Round 'yon virgin  
mother and child  
Holy infant so tender and mild  
Sleep in heavenly peace  
Sleep in heavenly peace."*

Not many people understood  
What the shepherds  
who saw the star  
Knew in their hearts  
was about to happen  
Except those who came from afar  
Some wise men, some astrologers  
Who faithfully watched the sky  
Appeared to know  
from peering out  
that coming by and by  
Would be born a little king  
who causes many now to sing

*"What Child is this  
who lay to rest  
On Mary's lap is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet  
with anthems sweet  
While shepherd's watch are  
keeping?"*

*This, This is Christ the King  
Whom shepherds guard  
and angels sing!  
Haste, Haste to bring Him laud  
The Babe, the Son of Mary!"*

And by and by we see a pair,  
The man quite dark,  
the woman fair  
A virgin and her fiancé making  
haste along the way  
From the City of David  
to the City of Hope  
They have no clue that in the scope  
Of God's great plan  
the role they play  
we know them even now today

As the earthly parents  
of Jesus Christ  
Mary and Joseph they were so nice  
To carry into this cruel earth  
The Savior, Christ;  
to give Him birth  
That we might see  
the Master's plan  
To redeem mankind,  
redeem the land, so...

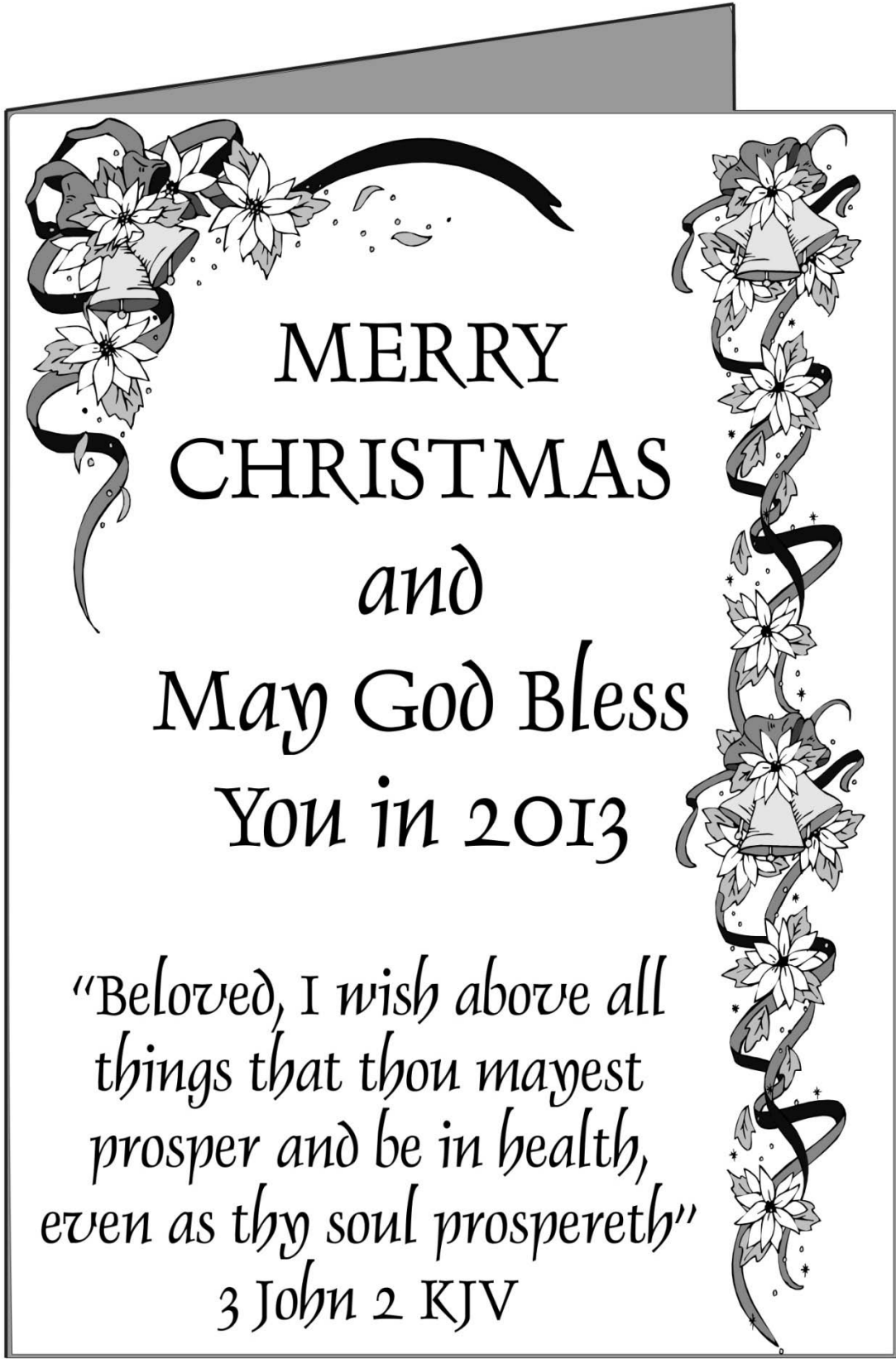
*"Go tell it on the mountain  
Over the hills, and everywhere  
Go tell it on the mountain, that  
Jesus Christ is born"*

Can you see it now,  
how He caused a stir  
This little lad, his face so pure  
Would grow into a mighty man  
Confronting death to create a clan  
Of Mighty men, that's you and me,  
He paid the price, he set us free  
To enjoy a heaven here on earth,  
To let us be of royal birth  
To overcome our dreaded foe, To  
give us love, to let us know

That Christ the Savior  
is risen in me  
The Christ in me is taking me,  
and breaking me, and making me  
A brand new creature,  
born from above  
A creature filled  
with His great love  
So celebrate this Christmas Day!  
Have peace, have joy, begin to say

*"God rest ye merry, gentlemen  
Let nothing you dismay  
Remember Christ our Savior,  
Was born on Christmas Day  
To save us all from Satan's power  
When we have gone astray  
O tidings of comfort and Joy!  
Comfort and joy!  
Oh, tidings of comfort and joy!"*

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MERRY  
CHRISTMAS  
and  
May God Bless  
You in 2013

*“Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth”*  
3 John 2 KJV

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