The Rising Star News

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Victor Simonson The Man Behind the Keys

For six weeks during this past Summer, New Beginnings was blessed to have Piano Maestro Victor Simonson as its Artist in Residence. During this time, he blessed our souls sharing his musical gifts during the song of preparation moment in the worship service. His service at NBCF was done amid his tenure as Associate Music Director of Broadway at the Paramount's production of *Hamilton*. Victor has been touring with this Hamilton production for a little over a year. Starting December, they will be showing in Hawaii for two months. Because of his connection to the production, we were blessed by two of the show's cast who came and blessed us in song during worship; Deaundre' Woods who played Alexander Hamilton and Emma Clay who was part of the ensemble.

As this wasn't the first time Victor blessed New Beginnings, we wanted to take time to learn a little bit about the man behind the keys. I'm thankful, grateful, and honored that he took time out of his busy schedule to interview with me.

By way of introduction, Victor Simonson is originally from Shreveport, New York. He was born in New York



and grew up in Long Island. He attended Howard University for piano and then attended Eastman School of Music earning a degree in vocal performance. He later attended Wesley Theological Seminary earning a Master of Divinity. Between his time attending those schools he travelled with various production tours and companies. He then moved to Virginia where he married Ciara Simonson (2008), they lived in the DMV (DC/Maryland/Virginia), area for the past fifteen years until they started touring. Victor and Ciara are blessed with two children, Immanuel Justice (7) and *Continued on page -2-*

Victor Simonson- Continued from page 1

Victoria Grace Simonson (10). Victor and Ciara will celebrate their 15th wedding Anniversary next year. While he is touring with Hamilton, his family travels with him as often as he can get them to stay with him. While on the road, the children are home schooled and are doing quite well academically.

This is a family with many gifts and talents. Victor's daughter has been playing violin since she was six. We witnessed her gifts when she blessed us during worship accompanied by her father. It was simply wonderful! His son plays the piano, and Victor vows that when they come back, Immanuel will bless us with his rendi-



tion of Joshua Fought the Battle of Jericho. He says he goes in on that spiritual! His wife Ciara, (M.Div., MS) is an ordained minister, with Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and uses her gifts serving as a relationship counselor in Washington D.C.

We were first intro-

duced to Victor several years ago – during Christmas season - while worshipping at the NBCF Annex in Renton. Through friends and colleagues of Pastor Braxton, (Melvin Maxwell, H. Beecher Hicks, Ramon' Bryant et al) Victor found his way to New Beginnings. While worshipping with us, he blessed us with his piano ar-



rangement of *Hark How the Bells*. Since then, Victor has become an honorary member of New Beginnings. During his tenure as Artist in Residence, Victor blessed us in many ways. Not only did he bless us with his musical acumen, but he also conducted workshops, wrote us a welcome song, and mentored the musicians and various choir directors.

There's so much more we wanted to learn about Victor,

so we posed the following questions to hear directly from the man behind the keys.

Besides the piano, do you play any other instruments?

Yes! I play the pipe organ. In fact, I haven't released it yet but this year I'm excited that I got to play and record some tracks at the Mormon Tabernacle, which is

one of the largest pipe organs in the United States. I'm going to be releasing that at some point this year or early next year. I was raised in the Presbyterian church, Memorial Presbyterian Church in Roosevelt, NY...we sang three hymns every week and there was a

pipe organ and an acoustic piano...that's how I was raised, and that's why I believe in church hymns

What did you enjoy most about your Artist in Residency tenor at New Beginnings?

It's a joy to travel with my family and to be con-



nected to a community, to a body of believers that loves on us but also gives me a chance to love on them because I do love God. I love God's people...and so I appreciated the opportunity to just love on people, to be in relationship with folks to get to know people, and to have seasoned saints. You know, I love my grandparents...in fact this ring I'm wearing right here, my grandfather used to wear this ring when he was married, and he gave it to me when I got married...63 years my grandparents were married. So, I love being around the seasoned saints because I learn so much...I just love being around other good Christian people. If I choose to tour, I'm always looking for a church. I'm in Costa Masa, Santa Ana, and there's two main black churches I'm looking to connect to but I'm not sure if I'll serve because trying to serve and do the Saturday's is a lot, it takes a lot of energy. So, what was the best

part about it? Number one, having the opportunity that God opened up and Pastor Braxton allowing me to serve and, two just to be in relationship with people and then being able to use



my gifts, and my authentic gifts. Everybody has a unique gift but when God allows you to use your specific gifts and in your specific way, that's meaningful. So, I really appreciate Dr. Braxton for allowing me to just be myself. There's so much more I didn't really get to share, there's a lot more that I want to share but at least I got to share a little bit of my passion and my heart with the church...so I really appreciate his openness, his love, and his willingness to allow me to share.

NBCF's Clergy Gather for Fellowship

The clergy of NBCF gathered for a time of fellowship and good breakfast at Classic Eats in Burien. Those in attendance included some new faces too! Let's welcome to the clergy team, Ministers Ronee Jones, Ben Smith, Jerod Dryer, Rev. Tronica Fayson and Sis. Ty Hill who is being groomed for licensing.

This was the first of the relaunching of monthly Minister's Fellowships/training sessions where the ministers will gather to learn about worship protocols, preaching techniques, how to exegete texts, homiletics and various other topics facilitated by Pastor Braxton. *"He's"* Preparing Us!





Pictured Above

Front row Janice Spinks, Pamela South, Pastor Braxton

2nd row Sharon Brown, Ty Hill, Ronee Jones, Tronica Fayson

3rd Row Ben Smith, Jerod Dryer, James Winbush

Isn't She Lovely!

Congratulations to Poet Laureate, Dr. Mona Lake Jones who is honored to have been painted by local artist Hiawatha D. who with his wife Veronica Very founded Wonder of Women International Art Gallery. Her portrait can be seen hanging beautifully and proudly in their gallery. We were fortunate to be able to capture of photo of Dr. Mona beside her painting during a recent Black Love day retreat held at the gallery.

Dr. Mona's portrait, which hangs alongside portraits of the likes of Maya Angelou, Rosa Park, Michelle Obama, Serena & Venice Williams, Oprah Winfrey, Maxine Waters and many other prominent black women Is nothing less than spectacular and truly captures her style and grace. This art gallery is simply a must see! Stop by and check it out...the location is Pacific Place shopping mall 600 Pine Street, 3rd Floor Seattle, WA,







Victor Simonson- Continued from page 2

You indicated that you wrote a song for NBCF. What's the title and what inspired you to write the song?

The name of the song is "God is Ready to Start Over at New Beginnings Christian Fellowship" ... I was thinking about this the other day, driving from Eugene, Oregon to California. I've e been blessed to write welcome songs for other churches, and I was thinking about making a recording, there's about six, seven or eight of these songs for different congregations, with different styles and different feels so when I was at New Beginnings, I knew I wanted to write something for the church. So, it's two fold, number one, all of us as worship leaders, music ministers, minstrels, and psalmists, are gifted to create, to create original works, poetry, dance and original music and so part of it was I wanted



to lead by example and show the congregation and the musicians that we don't always have to do the Top 40 and just copy and paste... but create authentic music that is unique to this body. So, I wanted to create something I felt spoke to the church

dynamics. Actually, when I wrote the song, I wanted to create a slower part with a more hymn like feel to really speak to love the congregation has for anthems and spirituals, but I said I would rather just do the faster part. When I come back, I'll teach the slower part that builds and goes into an up-tempo piece. The idea of it was to really capture what I talked about which is the Levites, we are created to worship, number one, and then number two to speak in a very unique context. There's a beautiful theological claim in Isaiah 43:26, which talks about God will do a new thing, so I love the idea that there's always a new beginning that we have and so I wanted to capture that in the song.

What was your purpose and inspiration for conducting the workshops for the MWA ministry?

When we're in worship, we need to understand why we're worshipping, who we're worshipping, and why we lift up holy hands. We're exhorted to "everybody stand up and praise the Lord." but why, why should we stand up and praise the Lord? It's interesting because, I was listening to another worship leader talking about how we as leaders encourage the congregation to do certain things but we really don't teach,... why is it im-

portant for us to do those things and, also to unpack, which is really crucial - some of the theology that exists in our worship music, in our hymns and spirituals, to start that work, to empower people to assess for themselves, why am I singing this song?...why do I believe this?...why do I believe that? And for some of us, we don't take the time to actually think, why am I singing this song about, "do you love God, I don't love God, what's wrong with you..." we hear the song on the radio but we're not actually processing, how is this song is impacting my theology? So, I just want to empower the people, the Levites, the worship leaders in every church and at New Beginnings to be able to do that work of reflection, because it's really about reflection, action, reflection, that's the model...reflection when we wake up; we wake up with devotion, we wake up in God's presence and then we act, and after we come home we're in a moment of reflection, but so often in worship, we just go and we may not necessarily reflect as much...so I'm hoping we can adapt this reflection, action, reflection model.



What impact/ lessons do you want to leave with MWA department and the church as a whole?

First thing...I'll draw from my first preacher, he would say, the most im-

portant thing about ministry, about church, or pastoring or anything is three things, one, love God, two, love God and three, love God. If we start with love and if we have love in our hearts, if we start with God first, everything else will flow from there... and then from the love of God, reflecting on, ok Lord, now you've exposed me to all this music, you've exposed me to this ministry, you've given me gifts, how do you want me to use my gifts, how can I surrender my life? I'm telling you right now, there are so many gifts at New Beginnings, so many people play different instruments, I haven't even begun to tap into the breath. I already know there are so many gifts that the Lord wants to use in so many people at New Beginnings, so my prayer is that you all, we all will be empowered to do a greater work of coming forth using all of our gifts for God's kingdom and when that happens, watch, watch, just watch what God's going to do!

When you're not touring with

Hamilton, what is your day-to-day grind? Is conducting your full-time job..What other musical arenas are you routinely involved in?

I have a record out called *Victory: Introducing Victor Simonson*, it's on YouTube, you can also get it on I-Tunes. I'm a recording artist, I'm a collaborator, and I'm a composer as well. I wrote an opera called Stomping Grounds that's had performances in NY and, I also music direct and supervise shows. So, when not doing Hamilton, my day job if you will, are those projects. Before Hamilton, I served at Salem Baptist Church in Pennsylvania, driving back and forth from Virginia. I will always find a church where God will use me...that's going to be a given. I don't care if it's Dubai, I'm going to find some Christians somewhere and we're going to give God some praise. I'll be in Hawaii for two months and you best believe, I'm going to



be in somebody's church on Sunday mornings to worship.

What's your greatest musical accomplishment?

I would have to say this show for me, in terms of notoriety, difficulty and it being a challenge. This is definitely one of the greatest challenges as an artist, it tested me in terms of intellect and music skills. I will also say I did a project called Three Mo Tenors that was also very challenging...it required all styles, classical, and conducting orchestras. Composing wise, I would say my greatest accomplishment is my opera Stomping Grounds, which is a hip-hop opera. It's one of the greatest works I've composed, and I look forward to presenting it to more audiences and putting it out there. I'll also add that each year I've written a song for my wife for our anniversary, a love song for her. We presented this at Millennium Stage...you can look up Victor and Ciara Simonson and watch the concert on Millennium Stage and see the love songs I've written for her. Every year as God has graced us to stay together, I've presented her a song. I've also written songs for my daughter's birthday. I wrote two songs,

one when she was seven and then ten...I'm always writing songs, that's my passion, that's what God gifts me. In addition to all those professional projects I also celebrate the love songs, those are very important to me.

What other music genre's do you like...do you like Smooth Jazz, any of the famous jazz pianist, Brian Culbertson, Brian Simpson...

Sure, sure, my record has jazz, gospel, smooth jazz and classical...so if you hear my record I have all different genres, Stevie Wonder, Bert Bacharach, *That's What Friends are For*...so absolutely. I grew up listening to my dad playing the Temptations, the Four Tops, and all those old groups. I didn't know what I was listening to in the car, but I have this genre in my brain, so I appreciate it. I appreciate R&B, Coltrane, Miles Davis old 50 & 60's artist. And, Wynton Marsalis, I love him as well and some of the newer artist

from the 80's 90's and even now...in fact, the last Sunday I played, we ministered God Is Ready to Start Over, you'll hear some of the piano scale jazz work, so yes, I'm a big lover of jazz.

To God Be the Glory for the Great Things he has done and has yet to do in the life and ministry of Victor and Ciara Simonson!



Submitted by, Minister Janice Spinks Editor, Rising Star Newsletter



Compassion Sunday





Each year in September, NBCF sets aside the 2nd Sunday for Compassion Sunday, a time where we honor and recognize those persons that have availed themselves to sponsoring a child via Compassion International. This is also the Sunday where we symbolically make our yearly contribution to Compassion in sponsorship of 40 children living in Haiti and invite others to partner with us in sponsoring a child. We also thank those that volunteer to serve as Village Disciples, writing to the 40 children being sponsored by New Beginnings. Our contributions to Compassion International, individually and collectively is a wonderful demonstration and testament of the phrase," It takes a village to raise a child." Thank you one and all for your contributions to this endeavor.

This year, our partnership with Compassion extended beyond the walls of the church. Several members of NBCF volunteered to serve at the CeCe Winan's concert - hosted by Compassion International - where they provided assistance with soliciting new sponsors, handing out sponsor packets, assisting with sign ups and answering questions.

For more information about Compassion International, or to volunteer, contact Min. Janice Spinks or Lady Shelia Braxton at globaldiscipleship@thenbcf.org.











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MEMBER NEWS

It's So Hard to Say Goodbye

From Rev. Dr. Victoria Carr-Ware

And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. ~Romans 8:28



Dear New Beginnings Family,

It is with mixed emotions that I write to share that I am leaving New Beginnings Christian Fellowship and beginning my tenure as Senior Pastor of Queen Anne Baptist Church on August 1, 2022.

In my seven years as Associate Pastor here, I have come to love and care deeply for this congregation. I have grown tremendously under Pastor Braxton's leadership, guidance, and direction, and I have learned so much from you all as well.

Thank you for the patience, kindness, mercy, grace, generosity, and love that you have shown me! I wish you all the best and pray that you may you continue to grow in faith, hope and love, worshipping the Lord with your whole heart, mind, body, and soul and remembering to do everything for the glory of God!

Much love,

Victoria

Rev. Victoria Rev. Dr. Victoria E. Carr-Ware

The Hampton Family



NBCF said farewell to James and Lois Hampton who will be joining the "NBCF South" family in the Atlanta/Grayson area. As they relocate to Georgia, James will be setting up a branch of his youth leadership program Drills And Skills, where he connects recreational interests with structured-curriculum based activities, providing valuable life skills. While he's working with the youth, Ms. Lois says she'll be off travelling to Cancun and Jamaica and other tropical locals.

We thank them for their service while at NBCF where James served with Security and the Men's Chorus and Lois served with the Ushers, Greeting Ministry and the Women's Chorus. Let us keep them in our prayers as they relocate to set up the youth program and adjust to their new environment. Let us also pray they find a church home where they can to continue to serve God and connect with other Brothers and Sisters in Christ.





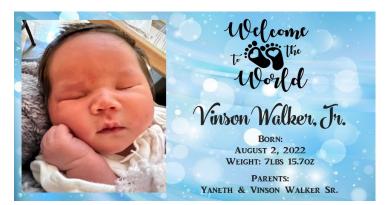
Laurel McWilson

Young Adult Ensemble member Laurel McWilson has relocated. No, it's not Atlanta! She has moved to Washington DC! We thank her for sharing her gift of singing as she faithfully ministered in Young Adult Ensemble. As she relocates, we know she'll be in good hands spiritually because Pastor Braxton has already referred her to Friendship Baptist Church where his former Youth Pastor, Rev. Melvin Maxwell is the Senior Pastor, as well as to his former Minister of Music Melvin Bryant. Let us keep her lifted in prayer as she adapts to her new environment and new church family.

The Harris Family

NBCF is saddened to see Rev. Derick and Yacenia Harris leave us as they have relocated to Washington D.C where Rev. Derick has accepted a new position at Howard University's School of Divinity. While at NBCF, the Harris' blessed us in many ways. When called upon, Rev. Derick always had a powerful Word as he preached. He also served as the advisor to the Young Adult Ministry. Yacenia used her gifts by serving with the Gender Audit team, Young Adult Ministry and she also sang in the Women's Chorus. We pray God will continue to use them in mighty ways as they adapt to their new environment and prepare to welcome their new baby in the coming year. We pray as well that they will be connected to a church family where they can continue to worship and serve the Lord.





Birth Announcements









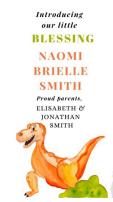


Dedicating to God Skylar Adonis Tolbert

Parents Victor Leon Tolbert & Shannon Adonis Tolbert

<u>Born</u> 05/02/2022 Issaguah, WA

God Parents LaKeisha Credit Anthony Madison





Child Dedication



Memorials









August Milestone Birthdays



September Milestone Birthdays

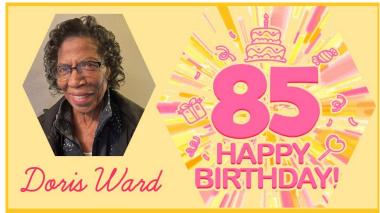


October Milestone Birthdays





November Milestone Birthdays



December Milestone Birthdays



Happy Birthday!

NBCF Pays Homage to Veterans

New Beginnings Christian Fellowship (NBCF) held its annual Veterans recognition program on Sunday November 11, 2022. Veterans we recognized at both the 8:00 and 10:30 AM services. The program was organized by Air Force Veteran J. Wayne Fuller and narrated by Navy Veteran Chip Hargis. This was the most well attended veterans program since the Covid pandemic.

We were Blessed with the participation of one of our newest members - Active Duty Navy, Melech Watson - who presided over the Prisoner of War/Missing in Action (POW/MIA) display. He provided professionalism and discipline as he shared the significance of the elements being displayed. Thank you Brother Watson. Marine Veteran Roy Hays shared a personal story about his time in Vietnam.

The Media Service team, led by Brother Kevin Meeks, with the assistance of sister Theresa Scribner, did a phenomenal job with the slide show that portrayed photos of our New Beginnings Veterans. Deacon Mark Oliver delivered a powerful prayer for the veterans and their families. Creative Design, led by Sister Jacque Lacy, did their usual awesome job with the decorations. And lastly, Army Veteran Michael Lynch and his team provided refreshments.

New Beginnings would like to thank everyone for your participation and support in the success of the Veterans program. And a special shout out to Air Force and Army Veterans Deacon Dennis Williams, Deacon Chuck Smith & Eugene, and Gold Star Representative Sister Rena Cann for their support during the Praise and Worship period.











The Men All Paused

The weekend of October 30th was NBCF's 2nd Annual ManPause: Men's Renewal Weekend. Men from NBCF, other churches and the community gathered for an opportunity to fellowship with other Christian men and to sit in confidential spaces to reflect upon their hopes, hurts, dreams, and demons and to assess where they are in their walk with God and their evolution as a man.

The conference started Friday evening as the men gathered to share and reflect on the Netflix movie *The Black*







Godfather: The Clarence Avant Story, which the men were to view prior to the weekend's event; they were also charged with reading the book I Don't Want to Talk About It. Saturday was full of hard hitting workshops and the weekend came to a crescendo as Rev. Martin Espinosa preached two powerful messages, A Call to Worship and Get Off My Lot.

Many thanks to EVERYONE who contributed to the weekend's success.





Did You SHIFT This Year?

The weekend of September 24th was Young Adult weekend as they held the annual SHIFT Conference. This year's theme was RECONNECT, REFLECT & RE-ENGAGE. Conference facilitators Daryllyn Harris, Phebe Owusu, and Joseph Manaway blessed participants as they explored how and what needs to be done individually and collectively to RECONNECT after two years of social distancing, separation, and navigating relationships. Then participants paused to REFLECT on emotional and mental well-being resulting from the pandemic. Lastly, participants were equipped with the road map and inspiration needed to RE-ENGAGE in church, ministry, family and community. Saturday evening members and friends gathered for a concert featuring gospel recording artist Kelontae Gavin. That show was something else!!! Sunday's worship experience was riveting as Rev. Dr. Domingue Robinson brought two powerful messages, Messed Up But Still Anointed to Be Blessed & We Got Next.

KUDOS and many thanks to SHIFT Conference Coordinator Dennis Denman and his committee team for bringing such a stellar group of presenters, preachers and artists, who blessed everyone in attendance. Thanks to the SHIFT Advocates who showed up to provide assistance so the young adults could enjoy the conference without interruption. Thanks also to the food service team, media service, security, set up break down, decorations and the entire church staff for their contributions in ensuring the weekend was a blessing to all that attended.









NBCF Gathers for Worship & Fellowship

Do you remember, the 4th day of September? It was Fellowship Sunday at NBCF, and what a grand day it was! Members and guests gathered for a fun filled day as we worshipped and fellowshipped together. The worship experience was like none other as we were blessed in song by Hamilton star Deaundre' Woods (played Alexander Hamilton) who was introduced to us by Artist in Residence Victor Simonson. Not only that, Bro. Victor also introduced us to his lovely daughter Victoria who blessed us playing the violin accompanied by her father. We thank Rev. David Ankcorn for bringing a good Word, "*How do You Stand Under Pressure*." Following second service, everyone moved outdoors where besides good food, there was something for everyone. Adults enjoyed dancing, dominos, ping pong, and cards. For the children and youth there was face painting, crafts, and other games.

Many thanks to EVERYONE that did ANYTHING in making Fellowship Sunday the joyous, spirit-filled, fun day it was. KUDOS to you ALL!!!



Fellowship Sunday



Free Income Tax Service is Coming to NBCF

That's right! This coming filing season NBCF will be hosting it's first ever Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Site (VITA). Each year the VITA program offers free, face-to-face tax help to people with low-to-moderate income. IRS-tax law certified volunteers provide this fee service with electronic filing to all people who qualify. All you'll have to do is bring your documentation and we'll do the rest.

Logistics are being worked out and more details about the days and times the services will be offered are forthcoming. In the meantime, we will be in the need of volunteers to serve as greeters/screeners, tax preparers, interpreters, tax coaches, and marketing. Tax Law training will be given to all signing up to serve as tax preparers. If interested in serving in any of these areas, please contact Outreach Department Head, Min. Janice Spinks at jspinks@thenbcf.org.



Welcome Home!

HomeComing Sunday (October 9th) marked another exciting, spirit filled worship experience for members and guests in attendance at NBCF. The highlight of the service was the virtual greetings from members that have relocated. From Atlanta, via the Cannon household, we were greeted by Dwayne, Felicia, Min. Cerise, Sam, Jessica, Imre, and William & Carlette. From Fresno, Tx, Deacons Donald and Patricia. From Fort Worth. Tx. Deacon Delores. From Africa, Adell and Cliff. From Ghana, First Lady Shelia. From Pearland, Tx, Ron & Cynthia, and all the way from Federal Way, WA, Michael, Victoria and Nolan. What a nice surprise! We also gave a joyous "welcome back" to many members who haven't worshipped in person since the pandemic. And what a WORD we heard from Rev. Freddie Haynes Jr. who preached two powerful messages, Let's Get it Together Before we Fall Apart and I'm Not Ok, But God. And of course, HomeComing Sunday would not have been complete without food and fellowship in the Jackson-Ankcorn Family Life Center.

KUDOS and many thanks to EVERYONE that contributed to a fabulous HomeComing Sunday!















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Special Guest Preacher

Rev. Dr. Robert Michael Franklin, Jr. Emory University James T. and Berta R. Laney Professor Moral Leadership, Candler School of Theology & Former President Morehouse College

Evergreen Association of American Baptist Churches Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Annual Celebration

Monday, January 16, 2023 6:00 PM New Beginnings Christian Fellowship Worship & Family Life Center



Take it to the Altar and Leave it There



Not since 2020 were folks allowed to gather at the altar for prayer. But on Sunday November 1st, members and guests were invited to gather at the altar for corporate prayer. It was an indescribable feeling that permeated the entire building. With this came new COVID Policy protocols. As of November 1st, proof of vaccination is no longer required, however, masks are still a requirement for all persons entering the building for worship and all other events and activities. We encourage those still unvaccinated to avail themselves to getting the vaccine to protect ourself and those you encounter daily. The pandemic may be behind us but unfortunately, like the flu, COVID is here to stay.







Future Leaders Scholarship Banquet

Friday November 4, the NBCF sanctuary was transformed into a banquet hall as members and guests gathered for the 2022 Future Leaders Scholarship Banquet: Education That Equips for a Lifetime of Service. Amid the beautiful décor, the stage was set for an elegant evening where KING 5 News's Tacoma Bureau Chief Anchor Lionel Donovan, III served as Master of Ceremonies. NBCF's Young Adult Ensemble & Band blessed us in song and, we were honored with virtual testimonies from students Sydney Coleman (Howard University) and Matthew Gray (Seattle University). The honorees of the Beloved Community Lifetime Achievement Award were Dr. Maxine Mimms (Educator) and Eddie Rye, Jr. (Community Activists/Organizer). Keynote speaker Rev. Dr. Karen A. Johnson brought the house down with her words of encouragement that were hard hitting and timely for the occasion. Many thanks to all who attended the banquet and made donations during the Scholarship Fund Appeal. Special thanks to ALL of the sponsors. The contributions received from everyone will go towards funding education for future leaders, equipping them for a lifetime of service. Thank you one and all for assisting NBCF surpass the evenings fund raising goal!

The event would not have been the success it was without the hard work and dedication of Deacon Tonya Smith (Event Coordinator), and Food Services/catering staff, Security, Set Up Breakdown, Media Services, NBCF Band, Young Adult Ensemble, Table servers/hosts, Creative Interior Design team, Parking, registration attendants and last but not least, Pastor and Lady Shelia Braxton. What an Elegant, Grand Evening!





























NBCF Takes Flight to Wakanda

On Saturday November 12th, NBCF members and friends gathered for an afternoon at the movies to see Marvel Studios newly released movie Wakanda Forever. Those attending were bedecked in all white and/or colorful African attire to pay homage to the African decent. If you have not seen the movie yet, don't cheat yourself, it's another must see adventurous movie. Not to mention you want to see it before Pastor makes a sermon out it...just saying. Also worth noting is past Black Panther star Chadwick Boseman- who died in August 2020 from colon cancer - was honored in a most befitting way. May he forever Rest In Paradise.

Many thanks to everyone who embarked on the flight to Wakanda!











Flight to Wakanda - continued from Page ??























Have You Added Jesus to Your Christmas List?

Yes, Jesus should be added to your list; after all, we are celebrating his birthday. What could you possibly give him, you ask? Well, just add him to your list and consider giving him some or all of the following.

Give Him your Love by showing Love to others

Give Him Forgiveness by forgiving yourself and or someone else; call or send a card to your sister, brother, mother, father, in-law, friend, son, or daughter etc. and make amends

Give Him your broken spirit

Give Him all the praise and glory He alone is worthy of

Give Him your broken heart

Give Him your voice by singing His praises and giving thanks to Him like never before

Give Him your burdens; He's just waiting to carry them for you

Give Him your time by studying His word and serving in the church and or your community

Give Him money by giving Him your tithes & offerings

Give Him your attention by listening to Him and heeding His commands

Give Him your sins through open, honest confession

Give Him your spirit through fervent prayer and submitting to His will

Certainly, there is a lot more we can give Him and just think these things don't cost anything. There's no credit card bills to worry about, no long lines to stand in, no sitting wondering whether He's going to like what you got Him, no fretting about the right size and or color, and there's no traffic to sit inAnd the best part of all, you know you will get something in return!!!!!

Have a blessed Christmas and put Jesus at the top of your list.

Written By Janice Spinks

Welcome To Our Newest Members



July, 2022 Lillian Anderson Sterling Harris Tunithia Kees

<u>August, 2022</u>

Trashon Boudreaux Deborah Harris Anthony Harris Sheridan Blanford Talvin Skinner Talvin Skinner Tamela Ogelsby David & Shelly Wright Talin & Lunden

September, 2022

David Ifunguni Becky Simpson Ted & Aquonna Thornhill Sierra

<u>October, 2022</u>

The Tounsel Family Christopher Timeka Cairo Melech Watson Sky White



Phone: (425) 282-6220

Fax: (253) 398-2019

Up-Coming Events At NBCF

December, 2022

17	Candy Cane Lane	
25	Christmas Day Worship One Service- 9:30 AM	
31	New Year's Eve Worship & Celebration	
January, 2023		
01	New Years Day One Service- 10:30 AM	
16	Evergreen Association Martin Luther King Jr. Day Celebration	
All Events Are Subject To Change Please Check For Up-Dates Often		

Come Worship With Us! At The NBCF Worship & Family Life Center

Sundays at 8:00 & 10:30 AM Thursdays at 7:00 PM



19300 108th Avenue SE Kent, WA 98031

Watch Us LIVE Sunday Mornings

8:00 & 10:30 AM Each Sunday Link From Our Home Page: <u>www.thenbcf.org</u>





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