

# The CARE-SHARE Traveler

Volume 11 Issue 1  
SPRING (March -May) 2015



## From The Pastor's Desk

### **TRANSFORMATION** FOR A RENEWED FRESH AND FRUITFUL LIFE

“After experiencing a cold winter, especially the month of February, we are expecting the warming of spring and the renewal of and transformation of the environment and life.”

## MT. TRAVELER MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH



**Rev. B. C. Datiri, PhD**  
Pastor

### **Mission**

**A caring Church:**  
*With Ministries*

*Changing Lives*

*Connecting People*

*Creating Friendship  
and Favor with God  
and Man*

### **Vision**

**A caring Church that is:**

*Passionate in  
Ministry*

*Compassionate in  
Ministering*

### **Purpose**

**A caring Church:**

*To be faithful in  
obeying the Word of  
God*

*To be fruitful in  
serving Him*

The Quarterly Newsletter of Mt. Traveler Missionary Baptist Church is known as “The CARE-SHARE Traveler”

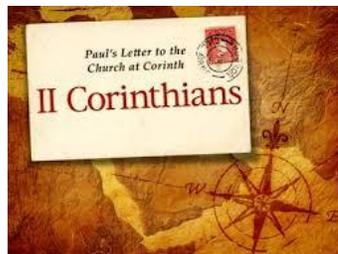
**C** = Creatively  
**A** = Always  
**R** = Reaching  
**E** = Everywhere

**S** = Serving  
**H** = Him (God)  
**A** = Absolutely  
**R** = Reconciling  
**E** = Everyone (To God)

The primary goal of the Newsletter is that as a sojourner, the traveler is Creatively Always Reaching Everywhere and Serving Him (God) Absolutely to Reconcile Everyone to God. Articles will be from different ministries and sharing the message of a caring church with ministries, changing lives, connecting people, and creating friendships and favor with God and man. There will always be a letter from the pastor each in monthly/quarterly Newsletter entitled “From the Pastor's Desk”

## Current Sermon Series:

# The Spiritual Church With **Sticky Situations**



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From The Pastor's Desk

# **TRANSFORMATION**

**FOR A RENEWED FRESH AND FRUITFUL LIFE.**



Beloved Church Family:

Warm greetings to you all in the precious Name of our Lord and savior Jesus Christ as we celebrate another New Year (2015) which God allowed us to enter a couple of months ago. The Lord has allowed us to see this New Year as an opportunity to begin afresh with renewed life on a new clean slate. Spring, which signifies the season of renewed life, growth and transformation, is around the corner too. After experiencing a cold winter, especially the month of February, we are expecting the warming of spring and the renewal of and transformation of the environment and life. Hence for this spring's issue of the Mt Traveler's Care-Share Newsletter, the focus is on **"TRANSFORMATION" for a renewed fresh and fruitful life.**

Spiritual transformation cannot occur without foresight, plans and teaching of the truth. **This year we hope to increase the opportunities for teachings our congregation in the form of seminars to include the following topics: Health and Nutrition, Financial Management, Marriage, and Youth.** These seminars hopefully will become annual events that will help our church members to renew our minds thereby being continually transformed from the ways of the world. Paul admonished the Roman church, "Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will" (Romans 12:2-3, NIV). **Transformation is a result of deliberate action – refusing to conform to the patterns or ways of how the world does things.** This is the only way you can prove what the perfect will of God – deliberately changing/transforming yourself through the renewing of your mind by knowing the will of God in the Bible. This implies you must deliberately find time to study the word of God to show yourself approved unto God as His workman that needs not to be ashamed rightly dividing (interpreting) the word of Truth.

What do you do then? Seek you first the kingdom of God and its righteousness and all things will be yours as well. Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not to your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him and He will direct your paths. Keep this Book of the Law (The Bible) always on your lips; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful. Be anxious about nothing, but by prayers and supplications, with thanksgiving, let your request be known unto God and the peace of God which passes all understanding will rule in your hearts and minds. For God has a plan for you plans for good and not for evil to give you a future and hope.

## Mt. Traveler Church Calendar:

### **March:**

#### March 1

Invitations to Beulah #1, New Spirit, and Rev G.H. Pulliam's Pastoral Appreciation

#### March 8

Quarterly Church Meeting  
(Following Morning Worship)

#### March 9-11

Ebenezer District Seminar  
(Date and Time TBA)

#### March 15

"Missionary Day"  
Bethesda Baptist Church, Opelika AL  
2:00pm

"Church Anniversary"  
Cornerstone Baptist Church Opelika, AL  
2:00pm

"Men & Womens Day"  
Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church  
Dadeville, AL  
2:00pm

#### March 21

Deacon / Trustee Wives Prayer Breakfast  
8:30am

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## **TRANSFORMATION**

FOR A RENEWED FRESH AND FRUITFUL LIFE ..... *cont'd*

**H**aving this true knowledge will transform you as you renew your mind with the word of Truth. True transformation translates into spiritual growth. However, some shepherds love to rationalize and water the truth for the sake of physical or numerical church growth. All this is egocentric for the sake of benefiting self-interests. Does this behavior of the modern 21<sup>st</sup> century clergy/ministers/pastors/shepherds/watchmen not replicate what the prophet Isaiah wrote about the clergy of his time? This is what Isaiah said, "His watchmen are blind: they all lack knowledge; they are all mute dogs, they cannot bark; they lie around and dream, they love to sleep. They are dogs with mighty appetites; they never have enough. They are shepherds who lack understanding; they all turn to their own way, they seek their own gain" (Isaiah 56:10-11, NIV). Definitely there must be a disconnection somewhere because there has to be a balance in caring for people and presenting the truth with respectful loving honesty and understanding. **There is absolutely no single excuse for softening the Word of God and making it powerless simply for the sake of physical growth!** The truth is what sets people free and transforms them into the image of Christ thereby bringing about spiritual growth.

**I**n John 8:31-32 Jesus Christ stated, "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." Free of what? The truth frees us of the natural penalties of living a life otherwise doomed to emptiness, despair and death! **Jesus Christ came to lead us to repentance and set us free from the power of sin thereby transforming us to achieve spiritual growth, maturity and fruitfulness.** What does that repentance mean? It means to honestly make an assessment of self against biblical standards/principles and make a conscious and action-directed decision to change or be transformed to match those biblical standards. This is what brings about spiritual growth to maturity and fruit bearing.

**F**inally, I urge you to be in prayers regularly one for another that our Church will continue to have a strong, healthy and well balanced growth with genuine love; passion for the kingdom of God; and compassion towards mankind as we, at Mt Traveler, ride this wave of ministering the Jesus way. Pray for the bereaved, the sick and shut-in and all the various needs of our membership, especially those going through various temptations and crisis in life. Continue to thank God for my improved good health and pray that the Holy Spirit would lead me in God's paths to be the kind of shepherd He desires. I love you and I am praying for you too. Remain blessed.

In His service,  
*Rev. B. C. Datiri, PhD*  
**Pastor**

## Mt. Traveler Church Calendar:

### **April**

**April 5**  
Easter Sunrise  
Service  
5:30am

**April 11**  
Ebenezer District  
Board Meeting  
9:00am

**April 12**  
Missionary and  
Laymen's Meetings  
(Following Morning  
Worship)

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### **May**

**May 3**  
Mt Traveler  
Annual Youth Day  
Program  
2:00pm

**May 10**  
Mother's Day

**May 24**  
Mt Traveler  
Quarterly Church  
Meeting  
(Following Morning  
Service)

**May 30**  
Vacation Bible  
School  
(Time TBA)

## SUNDAY SCHOOL

### DADDY HAD A LITTLE BOY

*Daddy had a little boy. His soul was white as snow;  
He never went to Sunday school Cause Daddy wouldn't go.*

*He never heard the Word of God That thrills the childish mind  
While other children went to class, This child was left behind.*

*As he grew from babe to youth Dad saw to his dismay,  
A soul that once was snowy white Become a dingy gray.*

*Dad even started back to church And Bible study, too;  
He begged the pastor, "Isn't there A thing that you can do?"*

*The preacher tried and tried, and said' "We're just too far behind;  
I tried to tell you years ago, But you would pay no mind ,"*

*And so another soul was lost, That once was white as snow;  
Sunday school would have helped, But Daddy wouldn't go*

The Sunday School Program is in need of teachers for all classes.  
Please Help!!!!

**SEE YOU IN SUNDAY SCHOOL**  
**Superintendent John H. Lockhart**



## Special Thanks

To Former Newsletter Editors Sheree Lockhart and Barbara Allen!!!  
Thank you for your Committed, Faithful, and Exceptional service!!!

## BIRTHDAYS

### March:

Teyei Datiri 2  
Jimmy Johnson 9  
Khadija Jacobs 12  
Mary S. Trimble 13  
Ocie Jefferson 17  
Ruth Lockhart 17  
Ruth Trimble 22  
Kitzi J. Dawson 22  
Sonya Pitts 23  
Sandra Slaughter 31

### April:

Annie Lockhart 8  
David Heard 10  
Rose Datiri 21  
Zoyanna Frazier 22  
Amos Lockhart 29

### May:

Pastor B.C. Datiri 1  
Gloria Morgan 2  
Rodneshia Darden 5  
Tieanna Harris 9  
Michael Foster Sr. 9  
Michael Foster Jr. 10  
Kimberly Black 12  
Yeipyeng Datiri 20  
Toretta Hughley 26

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## Music Notes

**“Sing and make music from your heart to the Lord.”**

Greetings from Mt. Traveler Mass and Adult Choirs, to all readers of this Newsletter. We have rehearsals on Thursday before the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday and Thursday before the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month. Potential and new members are always welcome to join us.

We are grateful to God as choir members for the opportunity to lead in worship through songs on Sunday mornings. Likewise, we also continue to encourage and emphasize to choir members the importance of regular and prompt choir rehearsal attendance. As with any ministry, we must be committed and dedicated to our purpose, which is one of our goals.

Many thanks to the musicians for accompanying the choirs with various musical instruments to enhance the overall efforts and the worship experience on Sunday mornings. You are appreciated, as well as the choir members, directors, and director emeritus.

### DEACON WIVES/AUXILIARY OF MT. TRAVELER

The Deacon Wives Auxiliary/Ministry of Mt. Traveler currently meets cooperatively with all auxiliaries of the Missionary Society on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of each month, except when scheduling conflicts occur.

We also attend and fully supports the Ebenezer District where Sis. Mary Rose Lockhart continues to hold the crown as queen for the Ebenezer District Deacons' Wives. We also assisted with the gifts for the Pastor and the Leadership Team this Christmas. There are currently six active members of the Deacons' Wives Auxiliary at Mt. Traveler.

The Deacon Wives of Mt. Traveler will be celebrating our 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Prayer Breakfast on Saturday, March 21, 2015 at 8:30 a.m. The speaker for this occasion will be our very own Evangelist R.D. Jacobs.

The Ebenezer District Annual Pearls and Deacon Wives Banquet will be May 23, 2015 at 6:00 pm.

Barbara Allen

### YOU ARE INVITED TO WORSHIP WITH US!!!!

Times of Worship/Fellowship

#### Sundays

Church School 8:30 AM  
Morning Worship 9:50 AM

#### Wednesdays

Prayer Meeting 6:00 PM  
Bible Study 6:30 PM

### The Southeast District Calendar:

#### **March:**

##### March 12

Southeast District  
Board Meeting  
10:00 a.m.  
Pleasant Grove  
Baptist Church  
Opelika, Alabama

##### March 28

Annual Youth Rally  
Ebenezer District Center  
8 am - 12 noon

##### March 28

Ebenezer District  
Laymen Program  
6:30 p.m.

##### March 29

Ebenezer District  
5th Sunday Meeting  
2:00 p.m.

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#### **April:**

##### April 18

Minister Wives  
Prayer Breakfast  
10:00 a.m.

##### April 18

Ebenezer District  
Pearls Queen  
Contest Program  
6:00 p.m.

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## Matrons Ministry

The purpose of the Matron's organization is to unite young women of the Baptist church across the nation and to encourage a regular participation in the Missionary Ministry of the Baptist Church in the local District, Southeast, State and National levels. Our purpose is to train women in systematic Bible study, daily prayer, mission study and definite personal service. The Matrons must be Christian dedicated women.

The Matrons meet with the Missionary Ministry each 2nd Sunday after Morning Worship and chair the meeting twice a year.

The Ebenezer District Matrons Banquet will be held August 29th at 5:00 p.m. at the Ebenezer District Center.

Sheree T. Lockhart



**11th Pastoral Anniversary of  
Rev. Benjamin & Mrs. Rose Datiri and Family  
Celebrated on February 8, 2015**

## Card Ministry

When you're searching for just the right words of encouragement to someone, send a greeting card. That is what the Mt. Traveler card ministry tries to do often whether it is a sympathy card, birthday, different holidays, thank you card, thinking of you, or whatever the occasion maybe. If you can't visit or call, just send a card to show you care and is thinking of them.

Sheree T. Lockhart

## The Southeast District Calendar:

**May:**

**May 9**  
2nd Saturday  
Board Meeting  
9 a.m.

**May 9**  
Annual Crusaders  
Program 10:00 a.m.

**May 11-15**  
SEDSC  
(Convention)  
Greater Beulah  
Baptist Church ,  
Dothan Alabama

Host Pastor and Church:  
Rev. Robert Jones,  
North Highland  
Baptist Church

**May 23**  
Annual Pearls and  
Deacon Wives  
Banquet  
6:00 pm.  
District Center

**May 31**  
Ebenezer District  
5th Sunday  
Fellowship Meeting  
2:00 p.m.

## Evangelism & Outreach Ministry

### The Keys to **Inviting** and **Welcoming!**

**INVITE** - Make a deliberate effort to invite your Family, Co-Workers, Neighbors and Friends to Church. Provide information on What to Expect, Location, Service times & dates and even transportation if needed.

**WELCOME**-We all play a part in Welcoming Guests! Don't Be a Stranger. Introduce yourself. Say "Hello". Invite them to sit by you. Help lead them through their 1st time fellowshiping with us! Answer any Questions!  
And always **Invite** and **Welcome** them to come again!

### From the Music Ministry:

*Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye lands. Serve the Lord with gladness: come before his presence with singing. (Psalms 100:1-2 KJV)*

The music ministry invites anyone who is willing to share the gift that God has given them to make a joyful noise in music and/or singing.

All ages are welcomed.

The music ministry includes: Cherub Choir, Youth Choir, Adult Choir, Male Choir, Mass Choir, Praise Team, and The Band.

Please know that you are always welcomed to join the music ministry at any time. You are also encouraged to use the gift of music and/or singing that God has given you to enhance and serve others in the body of Christ.

*Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. (1 Peter 4:10 NIV)*

**Simi Datiri**

### Poetry

*"EVERYONE  
has a  
Grandma that  
they are truly  
thankful for.*

*We don't  
always do  
what they tell  
us, but we're  
thankful.*

*Yes they do  
the most it's  
only because  
they love us.  
These are  
Grandma's."*

By Teanna Harris

## Tutorial Ministry

### The Importance of Learning, Knowledge, Wisdom, and Understanding

There is always something to learn. Learning is a thing of value that should be appreciated more. When learning takes place, the information received can be used to open doors of benefits. At the same time, learning can protect you from the dangers that are in the present or future.

The great artist/scientist Leonardo da Vinci once stated, "Learning never exhausts the mind." That means, whether we are aware of it or not, learning takes place. Learning never gets tired. What we do with what we have learned is essential towards wisdom.

Proverbs 1:7 (NKJV) states: *The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and instruction.* Always be willing to understand something because it is good. Proverbs 10:23 (NKJV) states: *To do evil is like sport to a fool, but a man of understanding has wisdom.* In short, be wise and learn!

Teyei Datiri

## Youth Ministry

Special Congratulations to our new Youth Directors

*Crystal Driver* and *Larry Maddox!!!*

Help us Celebrate our Annual "*Youth Day*"  
On Sunday May 3, 2015 at 2:00pm

## The Red Circles / YWA

We are looking  
for girls ages 12-  
21.

See *Torrence  
Ballard*

## Praise Dancers

We are looking  
for ANYONE  
interested in  
dancing with us.

We dance every  
5th Sunday.

See *Torrence  
Ballard* or *Jamie  
Black*

## From The Scholarship Corner

**Why Reading is Important for Parents and Children: Reading teaches children about the world around them.** Through reading, they learn about people, places and events outside their own experience. They are exposed to ways of life, ideas and beliefs about the world which may be different from those which surround them. This learning is important for its own sake however it also builds a store of background knowledge which helps younger children learn to read confidently and well.

The Mt. Traveler Baptist Church Scholarship Fund was organized on May 5, 1991, under the pastorate of Reverend Leonard Bryant. The first person to make a contribution to the new fund was Brother Calvin Patterson. The first recipient was Sister Cytina Milner. The Committee has also provided donations to members who are High School graduates for approximately 24 years. The total amount awarded in scholarships and donations since the inception of the Scholarship Program exceeds \$24,000.

The Annual Scholarship, Award and Assistance Program includes several efforts by various ministries. We are most appreciative to the Mt. Traveler Baptist Church family and friends for the sacrifices made in contributing to all of these efforts. Your continuing support is needed to continue and expand our goal to promote and assist our young people in their spiritual and academic development.

### Puppet Ministry

*This is the Puppet News for November 2014 through February 2015.*

-The Puppets performed the 2nd Sunday in November "**Thanksgiving Rock**". The Puppeteers were Demetrius Darden, Teanna Harris, Timothy Lockhart, and Rodney Williams.

-The Puppets performed the 2nd Sunday in December "**The Greatest Gift**". The Puppeteers were Teanna Harris, Timothy Lockhart, Cytina Milner and Rodney Williams.

-The Puppets performed the 2nd Sunday in January "**God is Love**" 1 John 4:8. The Puppeteers were Rodneshia Darden, Teanna Harris, Timothy Lockhart, and Rodney Williams.

-The Puppets performed the 2nd Sunday in February "**Christian Living: Peer Pressure**" Romans 12:1-2. The Puppeteers were Demetrius Darden, Teanna Harris, Timothy Lockhart and Rodney Williams.

The Puppeteers have been doing a Great Job! I will tell you thanks, and I Love you all! **Have a Safe and Happy Spring Break! Love you all!**

Diane Rufus

*"A person who won't read has no advantage over one who can't read."*  
—Mark Twain

Although a contribution to the Scholarship Fund of \$60 per year (\$5 per month) is recommended, any contribution will be appreciated.

We encourage you to make this program a part of your annual giving based on your ability to support it.

Members who wish to complete donations for the current year are encouraged to do so as soon as possible to ensure sufficient funds for current and future deserving recipients of scholarships and awards.

## Nurse's Guild Ministry/Auxiliary

The Nurse's Guild Auxiliary has been reactivated effective Sunday, February 22, 2015. Each Sunday, a member will be on duty to assist with any emergency medical needs within the congregation until medical professionals can arrive at the church if necessary.

### We are actively recruiting new members. Some of the qualifications are:

1. Dedicated Christian members (male or female) of the church who are interested or who are trained in First-Aid, Health Care or Nursing.
2. If the potential member has no training, they must complete the Red Cross First Aid Course and CPR. We hope to recruit enough members to have these courses taught at Mt. Traveler in the future and if approved by the Leadership Team.
3. Male or female over 15 years of age.
4. Current members are: Sister Ocie Jefferson, Sister Gwendolyn Wilson, Sister Annie Lockhart, Sister Mary J. Trammell.
5. Please contact Sister Ocie Jefferson if you are interested in becoming a member of the Nurse's Guild Auxiliary.

**Ocie Jefferson**

### The CARE-SHARE Traveler

Have Feedback, Questions, or Submissions?  
Want to Join the Newsletter Team?  
Want your own copy of the Newsletter via email?

*Contact the Editors:*

**Teanna Harris**  
[teannaharris64@yahoo.com](mailto:teannaharris64@yahoo.com)

**Donnie Jacobs**  
[jacobrd@gmx.com](mailto:jacobrd@gmx.com)

## Contact US

### **Reasons to contact us:**

*Membership inquiry*

*Request for more information*

*Request to be contacted by our Outreach Personnel*

*Prayer Request*

*Sermon copy*

*Feedback from you*

*To make suggestions*

*Any other reason*

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*Please contact us at Mailing Address:*

**Mt. Traveler  
Missionary  
Baptist Church  
15160 Lee Road  
188, P. O. Box  
69  
Waverly, AL  
36879**

*Church:*  
**(334)-821-4040**

*Email:*  
**pastordatiri@**

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