

The CARE-SHARE Traveler

NEWSLETTER

Vol. 13 Issue 4
Winter 2017-18
December 2017- February 2018



From The Pastor's Desk

MINISTERING

*"Ministering is serving others with
agape (sacrificial) love".*

MT. TRAVELER
MISSIONARY BAPTIST
CHURCH



Rev. B. C. Datiri, PhD
Pastor

The Quarterly (formerly monthly) 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 in each quarterly Newsletter entitled "From the Pastor's Desk".

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

CURRENT SERMON SERIES

THE MESSIAH'S FINAL WEEK

Mt. Traveler Missionary Baptist Church - 15160 Lee Road 188 - Waverly, AL 36879
(334)-821-4040 (Phone) Visit us online: www.mttraveler.org
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MINISTERING



Beloved Church Family:

It is time to send "Seasonal Greetings" once again. Therefore, we greet all of you, who love the Lord and desire to mature in the faith and produce seed for the next generation, in the Mighty Name of our Lord and savior! Christians must always be prepared believers for harvesting of souls as they mature in their God-given abilities and the willingness to use such abilities in teamwork. Teamwork is the coming together of individuals to work together to achieve a common or united purpose. For Mt Traveler this means coming together to fulfill our purpose of becoming faithful in obeying the word of God and fruitful in serving Him. Mt Traveler is continuing to focus on our overall theme of teamwork as our Careshare Newsletters for this year, 2017, covers the first four letters of teamwork (T.E.A.M).

This 2017-2018 Winter's issue of Mt. Traveler Careshare Newsletter will focus therefore on the fourth letter of the acronym TEAM. The letter M is for Ministering. **Ministering is serving others with agape (sacrificial) love. The capacity of team members to love each other sacrificially and minister to one another determines the effectiveness of a team towards success.** When team members love each other sacrificially, the bond of love glues them together to eliminate any friction or discord. Such a harmonious team ministering to its members through agape love is always a winning team. A team with disgruntled, hateful and discouraged members never succeeds; so does a church with the same characteristics. However, a church that ministers with agape love amongst its members will always succeed and win against the enemy (Satan). Mt Traveler and the church at large, we must allow the chemistry of agape love through the help of the Holy Spirit to glue us together as a team for success in kingdom building.

At Christmas, a team ministering effort through agape love is demonstrated as we are reminded of the fact that God humbled Himself to born of virgin into the flesh as the Son through the Holy Spirit for the purpose of defeating Satan and redeeming mankind. For, this one act, which God did, He transformed humankind to one with agape love when the Messiah and His message of repentance are accepted. Therefore, for God to do something new in our team's life as a church, we must accept the Messiah and his message, and allow agape love to flourish in Mt Traveler. Then ministering with agape love will foster our unity such that we can never play partiality or favoritism. This kind of ministering involves humility that always enables us to serve others gratefully and gracefully to create a win-win situation. My prayer, like Paul, is that God will increase and expand our capacity and opportunities for agape love to minister as a united team to be blameless when Christ returns for His own. Paul's prayer in 1Thessalonians 3:12-13 reads "May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for

Mt. Traveler

Church Calendar:

December 2017:

Dec 10

Senior Christmas Luncheon
(Missionary Ministry)
Location: TBA (following morning worship)

Dec. 15

Leadership Team Meet

Dec. 17

Mt. Traveler's Annual
Christmas Program Time:
TBA.

Dec. 25

Annual Christmas Day
Morning Worship Service
8:30 a.m.

January 2018:

Jan. 14

Missionary & Laymen Meet
(After worship)

Jan. 19

Leadership Team Meet

Jan. 27

Annual Financial Workshop
(Mt. Traveler) TBA
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

February 2018:

Feb. 1-28

Black History Month

Feb. 11

Pastoral Appreciation for:
Pastor Datiri and Sister
Roseline Datiri
(No Missionary & Laymen
Meetings After worship)

Feb. 16

Leadership Team Meet 6pm

MINISTERING...contd.

each other and for everyone else, just as ours does for you. May he strengthen your hearts so that you will be blameless and holy in the presence of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus comes with all his holy ones”.

Finally, begin to prepare for celebrating Christmas and the New Year, as they are both around the corner. 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 a variety of temptations, adversities and/or other crises in life. Pray, thanking God for my improved good health and that God through the Holy Spirit would continually lead me in His paths of righteousness to be the kind of shepherd He desires. I love you and I am praying for you too. I wish you Merry Christmas and wonderful Happy New (2018) celebrations. Remain blessed!!!!

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

Sunday School Ministry

Six(6) Reasons Why Sunday School Is Important



1. **Sunday School** improves your Bible knowledge. When you know and understand God's Word for yourself, you are more likely to obey the Lord.
2. **Sunday School** assists your spiritual growth. Think of Sunday school teachers and class members who have modeled the Christian life. You learned from their examples how to live for Jesus.
3. **Sunday School** provides a "place to belong." You can share needs and concerns from your life. As you participate in class discussions, you become part of the group.
4. **Sunday School** helps you build meaningful relationships with the members of the congregation. The Bible knowledge gained in Sunday school also helps you become more proficient in using God's Word, the Bible.
5. **Sunday School** gives you opportunities to serve and minister. Contacts with sometimes "unchurched prospects" gives you the privilege of sharing your faith. You show the love of Jesus by ministering to class members who have needs.
6. **Sunday School** has a place for the whole family. Sunday school gives the whole family an opportunity to participate in the study of the Bible, fellowship, discipleship, ministry, and evangelism. You gain the assurance of knowing every member of your family is involved in weekly, small-group Bible study, which is growing their Bible knowledge and helping them grow spiritually.

**Deacon John Lockhart,
Sunday School Superintendent**

BIRTHDAYS

December 2017:

Xavier Milner 2
Crystal Driver 2
Cytine Milner 5
Mae Doris Melton 21
Pamela Milner 28
Diane Rufus 29

January 2018:

Walter Moore 4
Torrence Ballard 4
Charity Hodge 5
Jessica Moss 10
Tamarus Milner 14
Anthony Driver 15
LaMorris Heard 16

February 2018:

Randy Driver 1
Robert Lockhart 2
Jimmy Dowdell 4
ZaKobe Collins 6
Jamal Beaver 12
Simi Datiri 21
Elizabeth Blackwell 22
ZaKwan Collins 23
Charles Ballard 23
Alma Black 26
Athonia Burton 28

DEACON'S WIVES' MINISTRY/AUXILIARY OF MT. TRAVELER

The Deacons' Wives' Ministry/Auxiliary of Mt. Traveler currently meets cooperatively with all auxiliaries of the Missionary Society on the 2nd Sunday of each month, except when scheduling conflicts occur. There are currently six active members of the Deacons' Wives' Ministry/Auxiliary at Mt. Traveler.

Directions To His House

Make a right onto "Believeth Blvd."
Keep straight and go through the green light Which is Jesus Christ
From there, you must turn onto the "Bridge of Faith,"
Which is Over troubled water.
When you get off the bridge, make a Right turn and keep straight.

You are on the "King's Highway" – Heaven bound.
Keep going for three miles:
One for the Father,
One for the Son,
and one for the Holy Ghost.

Then exit off onto "Grace Blvd."
From there, make a right turn on "Gospel Lane."

Keep straight and then make another right on "Prayer Blvd."
As you go on your way, Yield Not to the traffic on
"Temptation Ave."
Also, avoid SIN STREET because it is a DEAD END.
Pass up "Envy Drive, and Hate Avenue."
Also, pass "Hypocrisy Street,"
Gossiping Lane,
And "Backbiting Blvd,"
But you have to go down
"Long Suffering Lane,"
Persecution Blvd,"
And
"Trials and Tribulations Ave."

That's all right, because VICTORY BLVD. is straight ahead!

God Bless You and Have a wonderful Day!

Sister Barbara Allen

Ebenezer District

Calendar: **December 2017:**

Dec 9

Ebenezer District Board
Meeting – Ebenezer
District Center 9:00 a.m.

Dec 9

Ebenezer District
Crusaders' Christmas
Program (District Center)
10:00 a.m.

January 2018:

January 3

Ebenezer District Annual
Prayer Night Service -
6:00 p.m.

January 13

District Board Meeting
9:00 a.m.

February 2018:

February 4

Pastoral Appreciation for
Rev. and Sister Melvin
Kelly, Jr. New Harmony
Baptist Church.

February 10

Ebenezer District Annual
Board Meeting 9:00 a.m.

February 19-21

Ebenezer District
Ministers' Revival (TBA)

WORSHIP ON CHRISTMAS DAY

Mt Traveler Missionary Baptist will have worship service
on Sundays December 25, 2017 at 8:00 -9 AM each day.
You are invited!

The Audio and Video Ministry

A few words about Audio/Video Ministries: We now have the video working in kitchen. At this time, the recorder for making video is out of order and there is the need to get a new one. The recorder we were using for video is a DVD Recorder. Trying to find one is not easy, but we will keep looking. I have replaced two CD drives. I am able to make CD's and if you need one please let me know. GOD BLESS YOU!

Deacon Randy Driver
Coordinator

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

BIRTHDAYS

September:

Gabrielle Lockhart 7
MaKenzie Black 7
Alicia Darden 10
Detrick Black 10
Robbie Trimble 11
Ricky Trammell 17
Mildred Byrd 20
Demetrius Darden 24
Donnie Jacobs 25
Tyra Pitts 27
Tyrese Pitts 27

October:

Kyandra Reid 1
Chris Milner 3
John Lockhart 4
Phoebe Datiri 6
Malia Jeter 8
Akelia Driver 13
Charles Heard 16
Anthony Driver Jr. 23
Christine Milner 24
Noro Datiri 25
Mary Burton Trammell 26
T. J. Jackson 28

November:

Bernedett Askew 9
Terry Melton 10
Mary Webb 13
Jaiden Johnson 23
Larry Maddox 25
Nathaniel Maddox 29

The Puppet Ministry

This is the puppet news for September to November 2017; performances were on the 2nd Sunday of each month. On the second Sunday in September, the puppeteers did the song, "Lord hold my hand" with Deacon Timothy Lockhart, Teyei Datiri, and Demetrius Darden performing. On the second Sunday of October, we did not hold service because of inclement weather. For the second Sunday in November, we did the song "Glad I got Jesus" and the participants were Deacon Timothy Lockhart and Demetrius Darden. I would like to thank each puppeteer for your assistance in helping to minister to our congregation. I am very proud of the puppeteers, as they have been doing a great job.

Sister Diane Rufus, Coordinator

Music Ministry

On behalf of the Music Ministry, I would like to take this time to thank all those who helped us celebrate and support physically and/or financially our Annual Choir Day and Workshop Concert on October 22, 2017. Our theme came from Psalm 104:3 "I will sing to the Lord all my life; I will sing praise to my God as long as I live." Special thanks to Bro. Brandon Morgan for being our Master of Ceremony for the occasion. A very special thanks to our Facilitator, Bro. Demetriace "Che Che" Jordan and our Lecturer, Sis. Shirley Crump for sharing their knowledge during our Music Workshop this year.

We were reminded, "He's a Mighty God" and to continue "Leaning on the Everlasting Arms" by the Youth Workshop Choir. The Adult Workshop Choir also reminded us of where we should stand "Who's on the Lord side" and we are to allow the "Holy Spirit Fall Down" fresh on us. I personally would like to thank all the musicians for all their efforts and God given talent that they share with us as a choir! In addition, to the choirs, a job well done on another successful year in the Lord! May we, as a music ministry, continue to work together as we use our gifts to please God.

Thanks

Sister Simi Datiri, Coordinator/Director

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

Pastor B. C. Datiri - pastordatiri@yahoo.com

Contact US

Reasons To contact us:

Membership inquiry

*Request for more
information*

*Request that our
Outreach Personnel
contact you*

Prayer Request

Sermon copies

To give feedback

*To make
suggestions*

Any other reason

*Please contact us
at Mailing
Address:*

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The Missionary Society



Sister Annie Jean Lockhart - Coordinator
Sister Kimberly Black – Assistant Coordinator

The Missionary Society meets every second Sunday immediately after service. We invite any women of Mt. Traveler to come join us by giving your time and talents to the Lord through the Missionary Society.

Missionary Society Meeting Schedule 2017-2018

Dates

Leading Meeting

Sunday, December 11, 2017	Senior Citizen Luncheon – No meeting
Sunday, January 14, 2018	Missionary Society Ministry
Sunday, February 11, 2018	Pastor Anniversary – No meeting
Sunday, March 11, 2018	Matron's Ministry
Sunday, April 08, 2018	Deacon Wives Ministry
Sunday, May 13, 2018	Mother's Day – No meeting
Sunday, June 10, 2018	Nurse's Guild Ministry
Sunday, July 08, 2018	Usher's Ministry
Sunday, August 12, 2018	Pearl's Ministry
Sunday, September 09, 2018	Minister Wives Ministry
Sunday, October 14, 2018	Matron's Ministry
Sunday, November 13, 2018	Missionary Society Ministry
Sunday, December 09, 2018	Senior Citizen Luncheon – No meeting

MT TRAVELER TECHNOLOGY GROUP MINISTRY



Follow along with our current sermon series:

Coming soon on these social media sites



#mttravelersermonseries



Stay tuned



The Southeast District Calendar: **December 2017:** **The Southeast District Calendar:**

December 2

Southeast District 1st
 Saturday Youth
 Meeting Location:
 TBA

January 2018:

January 6

Southeast District 1st
 Saturday Youth Meeting
 –
 Location and Time TBA.

UPCOMING STATE AND NATIONAL EVENTS

January 24

Alabama Baptist Mid-Winter Board Meeting
 (TBA – confirmed date and location)

February 2018:

February 3

Southeast District 1st
 Saturday Youth Meeting
 (Time and location TBA)

February 21-22

Southeast District 12th
 Pastoral and Ministers' Conference (TBA)

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**Pastor Datiri & Members of Mt Traveler Missionary Baptist Church
at the Lee County Clergy Appreciation Dinner,
Greater Peace Baptist Church Opelika, AL, October 24, 2017**



Choir Anniversary, Mt Traveler Missionary Baptist Church, Waverly, AL, October 22, 2017

Youth Choir



Youth Choir



Youth Choir



Adult Choir



Adult Choir



Adult Choir



Youth and Adult Choirs performing during the occasion

FALL SPORTS: FOOTBALL

Zakobe Collins, an 11th grader at Loachapoka High school and member of Mt Traveler Missionary Baptist Church, Waverly in Alabama had a great season! Zakobe was on social media and in the newspaper for having one of the longest runs! Zakobe ran 71 yards for a touchdown against Autaugaville! Congratulations Zakobe for an awesome season and as always GO INDIANS!



ZAKOBE COLLINS
LOACHAPOKA HIGH SCHOOL
Loachapoka, AL

71-YARD TOUCHDOWN RUN

71-yard Touchdown Run vs Autaugaville

71-yard Touchdown Run vs Autaugaville

Zakobe Collins, Loachapoka, AL
with Zakobe Collins .

153 views | 0:17 |
Sep 12, 2017

  



Game Day! I'm MY brother's keeper❤️

Zakobe is #22

Mt Traveler Annual State of the Church Address – November 26, 2017

–Pastor B. C. Datiri, PhD –

Beloved Church Family:

Since our last annual Meeting I have continued to adhere to the admonitions of Colossians 1:28-29 (NIV) that state, “He (Jesus) is the one we proclaim, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone fully mature in Christ. To this end I strenuously contend with all the energy Christ so powerfully works in me”.

These verses have continued to be my driving force in shepherding you as God desires of me to accomplish the purpose, vision and mission God gave me when He called me to pastor Mt Traveler. First, I must continue to proclaim Jesus Christ. It is not about me or you; it is all about Him. Secondly, I must continue to admonish and teach with all wisdom so that I can present every one of you fully mature in Christ to God. If you can recall when I started as your pastor almost 14 years ago, you had wanted to know the type of leadership I would employ. My response was that I will employ visionary leadership using ancient wisdom. The purpose is to be in the WILL OF GOD so that I may present every one of you fully mature in Christ and do things the “Jesus Way”. Thirdly, I strenuously contend or strive with all the energy that Christ so powerfully works in me to ensure I shepherd they way God desires so as to present you fully mature in Christ to Him.

This past year, before each sermon, we have continued to implement the corporate prayer initiated in 2016. This is to place ourselves voluntarily in the hands of God for the Holy Spirit to teach us His Word from the sermon. The goal is for us to grow in loving God and other people as we hide His word in our hearts that we might not sin against Him. This year our sermons have focused on the final days of preparation of the disciples, the final week of Jesus towards Jerusalem and the Messiah’s final week. During Bible Study, God has continued to teach us from the Old Testament (particularly Numbers) about His principles, patterns and practices of doing things according to His ways in a covenant relationship. Lately, the Sunday school lessons as well as the laymen lessons have all focused on covenant relationships with God. From the Pastor’s Desk in our quarterly Careshare Newsletter, this year we focused on the acronym TEAM (Trust in Spring, Encouragement in Summer, Ability in Fall and in the Winter issue the focus is Ministering). All these were intended to help us to continue to grow to become fully mature in Christ and bear fruit and work as a TEAM. Additionally, as a Church we selected committees that successfully coordinated various church events and workshops according to God’s principles, patterns and practices using our abilities, gifts and capacities to fulfill our purpose, vision and mission. The inaugural workshops conducted this 2017 in our Church for the very first time with the exception of Health and Nutrition (May), included Financial (January), Leadership (February), Youth Explosion (June) and Married Couples and Singles (October) workshops. Details of other things we have accomplished this year is presented in the 2017 Leadership Team Annual Report

Now let us recapture the purpose, vision and mission God gave us as a church:

PURPOSE: To be a caring Church, faithfully obeying God’s Word and fruitfully serving Him.

VISION: To be a caring Church - passionate for God’s word and compassionate towards people.

MISSION: To be a caring Church with Ministries

- Changing lives
- Connecting people and
- Creating friendship and favor with God and man

The process of growing a mature Church that is faithful is to start with the Community → Crowd → Congregation → Committed → Core and the back to Community to keep recycling the process. Each ministry is to endeavor to implement the purpose, vision and mission of Mt Traveler in their activities. **MAY GOD CONTINUE TO BLESS MT. TRAVELER IN THIS EFFORT, AMEN!!**

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

2017 LEADERSHIP TEAM ANNUAL REPORT

The Mt Traveler Baptist Church Leadership Team has been quite busy this year working with the Pastor and members to advance the mission and purpose of the Lord’s body. Following is a summary of the activities of the Leadership Team for 2017:

- We established an amount that we pay ministers for serving as guest preachers. Since most of the churches in the District pay an average of \$125.00, the amount for Mt. Traveler was set at \$130.00.
- We continued efforts to repair and maintain the driveway, arranging for the delivery and spread of gravel.
- Dea. Timothy Lockhart and Dea. Larry Maddox completed the painting downstairs.
- We worked with the Church Secretary, to update our contract with Waste Management, approving changes, including a reduction our rising garbage bill. There may be slight fluctuations each month because of fuel and CFR charge fluctuations.
- We appointed Assistant Clerk, Sis. Kimberly Black to be Acting Clerk upon the retirement of Sis. Gloria Morgan, Clerk, who retired on disability. Sister Kimberly held the Clerk’s duties and salary until the next annual meeting. The position and salary of the Assistant Clerk was not filled in the meantime.
- Upon the recommendation of Pastor Datiri, the Leadership Team approved two proposals:
 1. Renaming the Church Library to be the Robbie L. Trimble Memorial Library, and
 2. Renaming the Church Scholarship Fund to be the Leonard Bryant Scholarship Fund.

Both proposals were presented to the Church and approved at the next business meeting, and were completed in June on Scholarship Day at Mt. Traveler. Rev. Bryant and his family, and the family of Sis. Robbie Trimble were invited to attend the renaming.

- We recommended the appointment of Brother Larry Maddox as a deacon to the Church for approval. Deacon Larry Maddox was ordained in September.
- We invested the Evelyn Pearson Memorial Fund with a professional investment company, with all returns to be reinvested into the Fund
- We invested a portion of the Leonard Bryant Scholarship Fund with a professional investment company, with all returns to be reinvested in that fund; and with the returns from the Robbie and Horrace Trimble Memorial fund to be reinvested in the Leonard Bryant Scholarship Fund.
- We appointed Brother Larry Maddox to keep the church's lot and cemetery cut.
- We approved the inclusion of the youth to assist in leading the devotion on 4th Sundays.
- We spent considerable time during the year in the organization of the Music Department, meeting with individuals, small groups, musicians, and choir leadership to try to enhance the music ministry in the Church.
 - We reinstated Sis. Barbara Allen as a paid musician.
 - We suggested that there should be regular meetings of the Choir leadership.
 - We recognized that there are 5 deacons who are involved in the music ministry and that they should have the responsibility of working together to ensure that the choir operates smoothly.
 - We suggested that the choir should have some rules and regulations covering the choir. The rules should include things that are appropriate for paid employees, and for non-paid volunteers. Important are dedication, responsibility and accountability.
- We approved a plan of support for the Pastor's trip to Nigeria for his Mother's funeral, including an offering plate for members to contribute, as well as a donation from the general fund to supplement the offering.
- We clarified the requirements for use of the Church van. A maximum of 10 may ride the van, including the driver. NO EXCEPTIONS. Dea. TL will ensure that a copy is in the van. NOTE: We identified a vacancy which must be filled on the Van Committee created by the death of Dea John Allen.
- We identified the need to add additional van drivers. Current drivers are Dea Randy Driver, Sis. Gwen Wilson, Dea Larry Maddox, Dea Walter Moore.
- We clarified the plan for the Nursery/Day Care ministry. The Nursery is available to ages 0-5. Others should be in the regular church services.
- We agreed that the children will sing all songs on the 2d Sunday while the Praise Team will lead devotion on 2nd Sunday and sing on 5th Sunday.
- We identified the need to encourage more men to step forward and serve various positions in the Church. We also need to encourage men to become involved in the Laymen's movement, and to help men to identify their gifts because people tend to do what they are good at and like to do or with which they are familiar.
- Some members are involved in the prison program at Lee County, and are now helping Mt. Lovely to institute a prison program.

Members are encouraged to provide input and suggestions to Pastor Datiri and the Leadership Team. We appreciate the cooperation and encouragement of members in all of our efforts. The Pastor and Leadership Team are engaging with the Advisory Council attempting to initiate development of a plan for the next several years. We have a Leadership Team, but the Advisory Council is also a part of the Leadership process. This provides avenues for every member of the Church to have input in the leadership process by providing input and accessing information and updates about the process.

Deacon Angelo A Trimble, Secretary
Deacon Amos Lockhart, Coordinator
B. C. Datiri, Pastor