

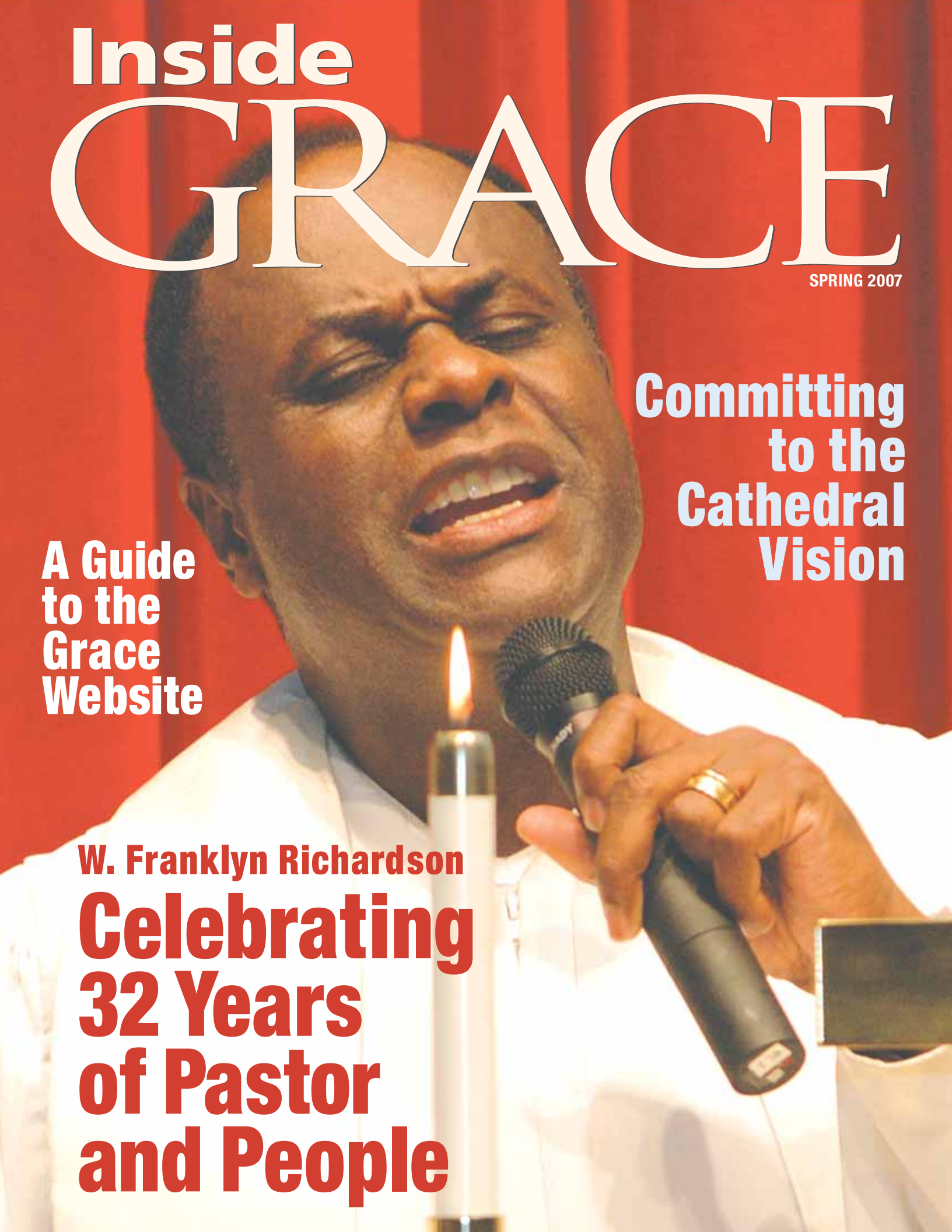
# Inside GRACE

SPRING 2007

**Committing  
to the  
Cathedral  
Vision**

**A Guide  
to the  
Grace  
Website**

**W. Franklyn Richardson  
Celebrating  
32 Years  
of Pastor  
and People**



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Rev. Dr. W. Franklyn Richardson,  
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A partial portrait of the *Inside Grace* ministry, l to r: Joan John, Kenya Spear, Sharon Brown, Angela McRae, Juanita Watts, Andrena Hale, Sandra J. Price, Daphne Rosewelt. Photo: Barry L. Mason.

## Mission

The mission of *Inside Grace* is to act as a vehicle to inform, inspire and connect the Grace family by forecasting what will be happening in the church community.

*"In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace that He lavished on us with all wisdom and understanding."* – Ephesians 1:7-8

## Grace Ministerial Staff

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**Sunday Worship Services:**  
7:30 a.m., 9:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.

**Church School:** Sunday 9:30 a.m.

**Grace Radio Hour:**  
WVOX, 1460, Sunday 7:00 a.m.

**Grace Baptist Church Online:**  
Live video webcast of worship services  
7:30 a.m., 9:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.  
Go to: [www.gracechurchtoday.org](http://www.gracechurchtoday.org)  
and click onto the webcast link.



## The Pastor's Message

# We Are Successful by God's Grace

**D**uring these past 32 years as pastor of Grace Baptist Church, I have felt the favor of God. He has blessed our ministry in every possible way. Whatever barometer one might use to measure success, we have exceeded by His grace.



We have had unparalleled growth of membership, both quantitative and qualitative. The size of our congregation has outgrown our facilities, and the commitment of the disciples of Jesus Christ at Grace has deepened and touched the world with love.

I have been privileged to be "senior servant" at Grace. No person could have asked for more than I have received from the people of this congregation. As a result, God has blossomed our witness. The impact on the community through social justice actions, housing development, personal growth and opportunities, and many others activities have been far-reaching and permanent.

The publication of this magazine is the latest expression of our commitment to build greater links of communication and information regarding our ministry. I invite you to read this magazine to discover what God is doing with us. You will find information regarding our new website and web-streaming capabilities; technology has empowered our ministry and expanded our reach. Visit our cyber-church and the various ministry sites and know the opportunities that God has provided for your spiritual growth.

On these pages you will view our future cathedral and come to understand how you can be a part of what God is doing in our midst. Please know that this story is being told with fresh enthusiasm as we celebrate what the Lord is about to do. May you find this effort to be worth the sacrifices of so many!



# COMMITTED *To the Vision*

BY LILLIAN REYNOLDS

When I think about the next three years of the Lifestyle Capital Stewardship Campaign, the song “Is Your All on the Altar?” by Elisha Albright Hoffman keeps coming to my mind.

Although giving God your all, as the song states, is a basic requirement in the life of a Christian, it is one of the most difficult things for us to do. To give up our own will and yield our lives, our desires, our money, our relationships, and our problems over to God is a constant daily struggle for most people. But it is also the only way to allow God to really work in our lives. When we move ourselves out, and let God take control, then He will be able to work miracles in our lives.

The Leadership Team has reflected on the events of the campaign, and we are overjoyed about the response we have received from the entire congregation. The total com-

mitments to date have reached \$4.5 million dollars. We know that for some of our members, this is a season of giving and for others it is a season of decision.

We hope that every member of Grace will join us so that we will reach 100 percent participation, and with God’s help, reach 100 percent of honoring those commitments. We will persevere together and then we will celebrate God’s miracles together!

There are many benefits to laying your all on the altar. First, it is an act of faith. We must believe, as it is stated in Hebrews 11:1 and 6: “Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen” (verse 1) and “But without faith it is impossible to please Him; for He that cometh to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him” (verse 6).

We have already seen some of the physical evidence of



impossible to please Him; for He that cometh to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him” (verse 6).

We have already seen some of the physical evidence of our efforts with the fencing around our land and the demolition activities. This gives us a tangible way to see the vision, and it strengthens our faith that the vision will be fully realized.

Second, we will all learn financial discipline for God’s church. For many of us, it will improve how we manage money. By giving to the church, some of us will remove the idols that we have erected in our lives—those commitments to activities, attitudes, possessions, relationships, places, or habits that separate us from God.

Last, even if you think that you cannot afford to make a sacrifice of money, obedience can lead to miracles, as exemplified in I Kings 17:7-16, when God commanded a widow in Zarephath to supply Elijah with food. When the widow met Elijah, he asked her for water and a piece of bread. The widow said, “I don’t have any bread, only a handful of flour in a jar and a little oil in a jug” (verse 12). She told Elijah that she was gathering a few sticks to take home and make a meal for herself and her son, that they may eat it—and die. Elijah said to her, “Don’t be afraid. Go

home and do as you have said. But first make a small cake of bread from what you have and bring it to me, and then make something for yourself and your son” (verse 13). “For this is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says: ‘The jar of flour will not be used up and the jug of oil will not run dry until the day the Lord gives rain on the land’” (verse 14). “She went away and did as Elijah had told her. So there was food every day for Elijah and for the woman and her family” (verse 15). “For the jar of flour was not used up and the jug of oil did not run dry, in keeping with the word of the Lord spoken by Elijah” (verse 16).

For some of us who think we have little, we need to trust God because He can make our little become much. As members continue to decide to make a commitment throughout this thirty-six-month period, we will have “Vision Sunday” every first Sunday of the month. Your gifts will be consecrated at that time, and you will join other members in bringing our giving to the 100 percent level.

Don’t be afraid, step out on faith, reorder your finances, and be obedient.

*“Is Your All on the Altar, Your sacrifice made?” ■*

The vision of the Grace congregation worshipping together in one service on Vision Sunday, January 20, 2007, at SUNY Purchase Performing Arts Center.

## Lifestyle Capital Stewardship Campaign Followup Leadership Team

### Executive Directors:

Rodney and Lillian Reynolds

### Finance Directors:

St. Clair and Kimberly Davis

### Communication Directors:

Clarence Williams and Joanne Taylor

### New Members Directors:

Ellsworth and Karen Smith

### Administration Director:

Sandy Price

### Hospitality Directors:

Kenneth and Sylvia Woods

### Advisers:

Richard Thompson,  
Dorothy Coleman,  
and Marjorie Dash

## The Importance of Sunday School

**F**rom the creation of Adam and Eve, the family has been an institution blessed by God. In Deuteronomy 31:12, God gives these instructions to Moses, “Call together all the men, women, and children... so that everyone may hear God’s Word... and learn to obey his teachings faithfully.” These words can very easily be paraphrased for us today: “Call together everyone of every age—entire families—to come to Sunday School to hear and study God’s Word, the Bible.”

It seems incredible that we should ever have to defend the importance of Sunday School. Sunday School has given us pastors, missionaries, and evan-

gelists. It has fed the churches of our nation with stalwart Christians who are wise in the scriptures and established in faith.

Sunday School that has real importance is Sunday School that ministers to every member of the family. It is a unique program that meets the needs of its participants as no other program of the church can.

### Why is Sunday School important?

- Sunday School provides the basic systematic study of the scriptures at an appropriate level of understanding for each member of the family.
- Sunday School provides an opportunity for its members to share their experiences with others in similar life situations.

- Sunday School provides an opportunity for personal application of the scriptures, aimed specifically for the age level of the class.
- Sunday School provides an opportunity for lay workers to serve the Lord through teaching and administration of the program.
- Sunday School trains Christians to be more productive members of the church and gives them an opportunity to develop and use their talents and skills for the Lord.

The Bible is the Christian’s handbook. It contains the answers and information that we need to live each day of our life for Jesus Christ. If we are truly committed to Him, we should have a desire to learn even more about Him through His Word, and that means attending Sunday School each week.

— *Deacon Wanda Michael Peters*  
*Superintendent*



Grace’s Sunday School in action. Right: 9-year-old-class; Bridgitte Marks Jackson teacher. Below: Sr. High School class; Deacon Carla Prioleau, teacher.



# The Resurrection

## Our Hope for the Future

BY: DEACON DAPHNE M. ROSEWELT

**E**aster has always been an integral part of our Christian pilgrimage. The crucifixion-resurrection event is the basis for our salvation. On Ash Wednesday we began the season of Passion or Lent. Some of us, as a tradition, will give up something or give up a habit for Lent, and after Easter Sunday we go back to business as usual. So in thinking about what to write on the topic Easter, I recalled an article written by Michael Morrison for the Worldwide Church of God where he quoted the apostle Paul in 1 Corinthians 15:13-32.

Mr. Morrison said, "If Christianity is simply about this physical life, then we die to never exist again, then it really doesn't matter what we do or how we live or what we believe. And if there is no resurrection, then the crucifixion of Christ didn't really achieve anything for us. But there is a resurrection, not only for Christ but also for us, and this is an essential part of the Christian faith."

So let us meditate on the sacrifice God made when He sent His only son to die for us so we could be redeemed from sin and death. It is not a coincidence that Easter falls at the beginning of spring, when all around there is a resurrected newness of life. In our own lives, let us concentrate on our hope for the future with Christ. As the writer of this great hymn wrote:

*Because he lives, we can face tomorrow  
Because he lives all fear is gone  
Because I know who holds the future  
And life is worth the living, just because he lives.*

In this season of Lent, rather than giving up something, let us take up something—the Holy Bible. We could start with John 3:16: "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son. That whosoever believeth on Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." After all, the resurrection is about everlasting life. We are saved not just by Jesus' death but by His resurrection. ■

## Grace North...Grace South, One Church in Two Locations

**G**race Grace Baptist Church at Port St. Lucie (PSL) continues with its work under the leadership of William F. Richardson, III. Grace at PSL enters the month of April with great momentum after a successful week of prayer in the home that was followed by its annual Winter Revival. February was packed with Black History observances that included a culinary diaspora celebrating dishes from our African, Caribbean, and American backgrounds. During March, Grace PSL is scheduling its two-day church retreat to be held at the Crowne Plaza West Palm Beach, facilitated by Pastor Richardson.

Grace at PSL is in partnership with the American Diabetes Association (ADA). As part of the ADA's release of its most recent cookbook, *Healthy Soul Food*,

there will be a Celebrating Life Luncheon.

The luncheon will consist of a book signing, a lecture on women's health, and a cooking demonstration by its best-selling authors. This event will be held in collaboration with St. Lucie County.

Also in April, Grace at PSL will sponsor "The Seven Last Words" on Good Friday with participation by area pastors. Following the Grace Mount Vernon model, Grace at PSL has dedicated May as church growth month. Grace at PSL finds itself closer to the purchasing of its planned site for building its church home. There are tentative plans in June for a family-day worship and picnic to be held at the proposed site. The congregation of Grace at Port St. Lucie asks for all of your continued prayers.

—Minister William F. Richardson III

Grace South up close: Mrs. Inez Richardson, Deacons Shirley and Wesley Morgan, Minister William F. Richardson III; Rev. Jace Walker, Greater Friendship Baptist Church, Ft. Pierce, FL with Pastor Richardson; The Port St. Lucie congregation.



# 32<sup>ND</sup> PASTORAL ANNIVERSARY



## W. Franklyn Richardson

### *A Man Sent by God for Such a Time as This*

**A**fter 32 years as pastor of Grace Baptist Church, W. Franklyn Richardson has often been referred to as a visionary; the more accurate term for this spiritual colossus is catalyst. W. Franklyn Richardson makes things happen. Put W. Franklyn Richardson in any situation of injustice, inequity, or imbalance, and he is the agent who ignites the chemical reaction for change.

After almost four decades of pastoral leadership, he has amassed an unparalleled body of work within the Christian community as well as within the urban, municipal, and civic arenas. His name is synonymous with accomplishment, both nationally and internationally, but Dr. Richardson is not resting on his prior achievements; he is expanding the borders of the Grace ministry in an unprecedented fashion.

*Continued on page 10.*

BY DEACON PHILLIP MCCONNELL



Driven by his belief of divine assignment, and an astute sense of the rich tradition and history of the black church, he knows that being chief steward of Grace at this juncture of time and circumstance is no accident. He knows fully well that Grace Baptist Church stands poised on the axes of necessity and destiny. He understands that the Lord has assembled the necessary resources he needs for the next leg of

and as yet it does not appear what we shall be.”

Blessed with the intellect of a savant, the stamina of a thoroughbred, and the insight of a clairvoyant, W. Franklyn Richardson's finest leadership attribute is his standard of excellence. He accepts nothing but the exceptional, from himself and others. His exacting standards have made Grace Baptist Church the vibrant, thriving ministry we know today.

**G**race Baptist Church is the result of a metamorphic process that has taken 32 years to perfect. From the worship experience, to the music ministry, to the physical edifice, the emphasis has always been on perfection. According to Pastor Richardson, “We're not the perfect church; we're just the church that's trying to get it right. Constant change is inevitable, because life changes. If we stay here, we die; if we go back, we die. So we must go forward with our journey of faith, trusting that when we get there the Lord will have already made a way.”

His formula for success is not predicated on change just for the sake of change—it's progressive and purposeful. In fact, after earnest prayer, it's meticulously excogitated with the careful precision of a sculptor molding and shaping the medium until the finished product is as he so desires. Our ministry at Grace is an ever-changing dynamic so it is never really finished. It's a ministry that has expanded beyond its physical borders in Mount Vernon, New York, all the way to Port St. Lucie, Florida, where those same successful seeds of ministry have been planted in a community starving for spiritual nourishment. Grace is now one church in two locations.

What drives this spiritual dynamo, no one really knows, with the exception of his lovely wife and confidant of 36 years, Inez Richardson. Whatever people think, his public persona often belies the private reality. Publicly, the man whose opinions are sought after in the corporate boardrooms of some of the largest and most powerful corporations in the world is the same man who works tirelessly behind the scenes convening cadres of attorneys for our legal ministry to untangle the legal web of injustices done to those who would otherwise go unrepresented.

Publicly, the man who brokers million-dollar grants for affordable housing in the Mount Vernon community is privately the same man who sanctions Grace's investment ministry, designed to teach investment strategies to the masses that under normal

*Continued on page 17.*



The many faces of Rev. W. Franklyn Richardson (clockwise from top): Marching against injustice, sharing a moment with his wife, Inez Richardson, relating to members of his congregation.

the journey, depositing them near his grasp as gifts to be used in God's kingdom building program. He declares confidently that “there are people with special skills who are critical to the future success of this ministry who have not even joined the church yet, but God has made prior arrangements,

# GRACE on the Internet



## Your User's Guide to Our Exciting Place in Cyberspace

By Audrey Johnson

In 2006, the Grace Baptist Church Website got a new look! This year the website not only got a **NEW DOMAIN NAME, GRACE CHURCH TODAY.ORG**, but it's now packed with state-of-the-art website technology that includes e-commerce, streaming media, and e-connections. The new design increases both the visual appeal and the usefulness of the website. It represents our goal to touch the lives of our Grace Members both near and far and to engage those who are new to us.

We hope that in visiting our site you will come to know Grace in a more intimate setting and learn what we are trying to achieve in our walk with Christ.

Simply go to [GraceChurchToday.org](http://GraceChurchToday.org) and use this Guided Tour to help you explore a variety of inspirational resources.

*Continued on page 12.*

# [www.gracechurchtoday.org](http://www.gracechurchtoday.org)

### Access the Grace Websites

- For Grace Baptist Church Website, type in the address box:  
[www.gracechurchtoday.org](http://www.gracechurchtoday.org)
- For Grace Baptist Church Lifestyle Stewardship Campaign Website, type in the address box:  
[www.gracechurchtoday.org/lcsc](http://www.gracechurchtoday.org/lcsc)
- For Grace Baptist Church Cyber Church Website, type in the address box:  
[www.gracecyberchurch.org](http://www.gracecyberchurch.org)

If you have any questions, suggestion or ideas to share with the Grace Website Ministry, email [gracewebsite@gracebapt.org](mailto:gracewebsite@gracebapt.org)

## What Makes Grace Grace?

We all know of the courageous "Five Negro Baptist Women" who started the Grace Legacy, but do you know these factoids?

- The first Pastor of Grace, Rev. Montage was an 1886 graduate of Lincoln University
- Grace was incorporated in 1906 under the leadership of Rev. Larson
- Pastor Rev. Levister became the first African American to run for public office in Mount Vernon in 1934

We encourage you to access the "About Grace, History" page and download the Grace Archive Journals. And especially for our young people, they can watch "Grace History TV."

While you are exploring the Grace History, find out more about **our Pastor, our Leadership Teams, and Grace Baptist in Port St. Lucie!**



## Discover What Makes Grace Grace!

- From the home page, click onto these links!

### Download

From **About Grace, History**, click onto "Continuing the Legacy of Faith through Worship, The Word and Witness," "GBC Journal 1987," and "GBC Journal 2003"

### Flash Presentation

(for the young people!)

From **About Grace, History**, click onto "Grace History TV"

## Virtually Grace

Finally, now anyone in the world (or right here in Mount Vernon) can listen and participate in Grace's worship services in real-time or on-demand, week-by-week! Grace is now offering a virtual venue for those who are unable to make it to service because of infirmity, sickness, or travel.

Virtual Grace is also ideal for those distant church members who have moved away but would still like to be a part of their "home" church somehow. It is yet another avenue of gospel outreach for any who will listen!

### How is it done?

There are several ways to experience Grace Church Today online. Just check out the podcasts or webcasts of each service or listen to the Grace Church Today radio and tune in to all your worship services.

### Webcast

To watch the live video webcast of the Grace Baptist Church Worship Service, visit our home page at 7:30 am, 9:30 am, or 11:30 am and click onto the webcast link. You will need Media Player to view or listen to the service.

### Podcast

Podcasting is just one more great way to tune in to Grace Baptist Church Worship Services via your iPod or other portable audio/video devices.

The term podcast no longer specifically relates to the iPod but rather to any software or hardware combination that permits the downloading and playing of audio or video files.

### Online Radio

Tune into Grace Church Today Radio Online and hear great worship and music.

## Accessing Grace Church Today Media

- From the home page, click onto **Grace Webcast**
- Grace Podcast**
- Grace Church Today Radio**

Follow the instructions for viewing and/or downloading.

**Note:** You may have to download additional software or plug-ins to view the content.

# Attention, Grace Young People: A Place Just 4 You

"People 24 and older use the Internet as a tool but people under 24 use it as a way of life."

Young people are using the Internet to communicate, access information, and entertain themselves; to strengthen their peer groups; and build cross-geographic and consumer communities.

To that end, the "Youth Ministry" section of our website has been built to engage our GBC Young People, to foster positive thinking, and to nurture their personal and spiritual development.

## The GBC Youth Ministry Page:

- Promotes upcoming events
- Generates interest in Bible topics
- Shows highlights of past events
- Points to excellent online resources
- Develops spiritual growth
- Provides a safe place for our young people to enjoy the Internet

## Important Message to Parents and Young People

*Due to the present structure of the World Wide Web, parental supervision is highly recommended for young people surfing the Net.*

## Visit GBC High School and Beyond

Young people! Here you are...ready to take the next step: School. Work. Life. Here's the guidance to get you where you want to go. Investigate career goals. Locate the right school. Learn how to grow in character and know Christ. Go to the **GBC High School and Beyond**—the site that's just 4 U!

## Visit GBC Teen Spot

Where are all my Christian teens at? Hit this site to bring out the God flava in your mind, body, and spirit with links to teen Christian sites, homework help, fun and games, and much, much more. Go to **GBC Teen Spot!**

## Visit GBC Kidz Zone

Parents and kids! This is a place for kids who like to learn God's word, play games, solve puzzles, and much more. Go to **GBC Kidz Zone!**

# Jump to the Youth Ministry Page!

- From the home page, click onto Youth Ministry

Then visit:



## 24/7 Grace Cyber Church

This is a 24-hour online center for worship, fellowship, Bible study, service, and prayer in a virtual church environment.

God wants his people to gather to praise him whether in a church building, a home, or an online assembly.

Grace Cyber Church is a blessing for many people for various reasons, including disability, distance, or work schedules. Also, many non church members consider churches intimidating, and the Grace Cyber Church will allow them to get to know Grace in a non threatening setting.

Grace Cyber Church gives visitors the opportunity to log on right from their homes and experience weekly worship services, download Pastor's sermons and Sunday bulletins, access Pastor's preaching engagements in their area, and receive regular updates on ministry activities.

Grace Cyber Church is an outreach, and as Christ did, we welcome people from all lifestyles to join in our activities and fellowship.

### A Journey into Discipleship

Receiving Christ into your life is only the first step in what will be an exciting journey; the next steps are to move forward in living out your faith. We encourage you to access the pages listed under **"Discipleship"** to assist you in building up your faith and sharing it with others.

### Christian Education

Looking for a daily devotional to start each morning on the right note? Looking for Bible study aids to enrich your faith, or just interested in delving deeper into the Christian faith? Go to the **"Christian Education"** page to find the resources that will help you gain a better understanding of your faith and the ways you can incorporate it into your daily life.

### Stewardship

No matter what your income level, God has given every Christian the opportunity to bless others through generous giving.

## Getting connected with Grace Cyber Church

- For Grace Baptist Church Cyber Church Website, type in the address box: [www.gracecyberchurch.org](http://www.gracecyberchurch.org)



To motivate you toward greater biblical generosity, simply go to the **"Stewardship"** page to read Bible study notes and key passages. You can also get a better perspective on your commitment with the online Giving Calculator to determine how much you can give.

### Grace Ministries

Explore your discipleship within the context of using whatever God has given you to serve Him and the needs of others. Access the **"Grace Ministries"** page and discover the various ministries offered at Grace that meet the needs of each generation, interest, and passion.

## Grace eStore

At the **Grace eStore** you can now order sermons delivered at the church in both CD and DVD format. You can also order books and



music by clicking on the listed titles. You will find these selections to be valuable tools in your Christian growth.

If you are looking for items not listed on the site, visit the Grace Bookstore on Sunday so that we can make it available to you. ■

## Shop till you drop in the Grace eStore!

- From the home page or Quick Links Menu, click onto **Grace eStore**





THE  
*Passion*  
to *Pentecost*  
SEASON

BY: SAKAI K. BROWN

**W**ell Grace it's that time of the year when we celebrate our Passion to Pentecost Season. This is the time in our church's life that is both highly spiritual and gratifying. Every Wednesday at noon Grace hosts a service where a guest preacher and a musical guest from the Metropolitan Christian Community share their talents that God has given them. During this time we as Christian believers' come together to remember the great sacrifice that was made for the redemption of our sins. We also worship our Lord for all the marvelous things He has done and will continue to do in our lives.

The Passion Season is a term that describes the events that took place during the last days of Jesus' earthly life. Some of those events are the betrayal by Judas, the Last Supper, Peter's Denial, Flagellation, the Crucifixion, and the Entombment. All of these events prepare us for our Christian walk on Palm Sunday. Palm Sunday is also known as Passion Sunday. In the Christian calendar Palm Sunday is also the first day of The Holy Week, marking the entry of Jesus riding into Jerusalem and his followers shouting "Hosanna" and scattering palms in his path.

The Pentecost commemorates the giving of the Ten Commandments to Moses. Pentecost is also the Church's celebration of the gift of the Holy Spirit. In John 20: 21-23; Jesus said "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." And with that he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit". This is the time when the Holy Spirit, according to the Acts of the Apostle, descends upon the Disciples. The Holy Spirit falls upon them in the form of tongues of fire, accompanied by the sound of the rush of a wind, and gives them power of speaking in such a way that people of different languages could understand them. This was their sign that they should spread God's message throughout the world. On the Christian Liturgical calendar Pentecost is always seven weeks after Easter.

The Passion to Pentecost services are an hour long and immediately following the service is a community lunch sponsored by Grace. We here at Grace prepare the food, set the banquet hall up, serve the meal, and clean up following the lunch. The first service started on Ash Wednesday, February 21, 2007. Our very own Rev. Dr. W. Franklyn Richardson will preach on March 28th. He always approaches this time with steadfast understanding that this is very important to the life of the church.

There will be twenty Passion to Pentecost Worship services at Grace. During Holy Week there will be four services, each with a dynamic preacher. On Holy Thursday there will be a Youth Worship Service. This is always both a spiritually filled and a highly energetic service, with the youth taking charge of the service for that holy day. Later that evening we will celebrate Holy Thursday with our powerful Silent Communion. Friday is our Annual Good Friday Fish Dinner, followed by the Church School's Easter Pageant. On Easter/Resurrection Sunday there will be three powerful services: a 6:00 a.m. Sunrise Service and an 8:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Service to follow. The last service of the season will conclude on May 23, 2007.

In the past years these services have been blessed to have some of the finest preachers in our community. We have had Rev. Ed Mulraine, of the Unity Baptist Tabernacle, Rev. Rose Nile McCray, of the First Presbyterian, Rev. Darin Moore, of the Centennial AME Zion, Rev. Keith Williams, of the White Rock Baptist. Also we have been blessed to have Rev. Allen Paul Weaver Jr., of the Bethesda Baptist, Rev. Errol O' Savio, of the Mount Olivet Apostolic Faith Church, and Bishop C. Nathan Edwards, of the Friendship Worship Center.

The invited guest for this year promises to be as exciting as past years. (Details can be found in the calendar on pages 22 and 23.) We hope that all can come out and magnify the Lord with us. ■

# Reassured, Restored, and Strengthened

**T**here is a great movement of God going on right now. It is just something you cannot miss. Whether it be by the messages you hear, the events that are taking place or the feeling in the spiritual atmosphere but God is up to some major happenings right now. Just like in the time of Habakkuk and Daniel, we are experiencing our world



in the midst of the struggle between good and evil. Most importantly, in the midst of all this, God is calling us to get our acts together and His messages are not beating around corners but coming straight to the heart. My question is to you – how open are you to receiving?

Many of us have a vision. Many of us are torn over this vision. Many of us are extremely afraid as we have gazed at this vision that only we can see. Just as Daniel experienced, it is even more disturbing when

you are the only one with the vision but it is so powerful that the people that cannot see it – sense it and run away leaving you to face it all alone. The messenger that had been sent to Daniel came to reassure him, restore him and strengthen him. This is exactly what God wants to do with us right now. Reassure Us, Restore Us and Strengthen Us!

It is tough sometimes to hear God speak or to answer your prayers. Sometimes it is not always what you want to hear. Most of the time, He is expecting some action and is leading you to follow through on a command that He has given. Whatever it is you are looking for, just be ready for the response and be prepared to act. In both cases Habakkuk and Daniel was seeking God for an answered prayer. The answer came in two different forms but was still from God. In both cases, similar things happened. They were both reassured (Habakkuk 2:2ff and Daniel 10:11ff), they were both restored, and they were both strengthened.

How does the move of God that is taking place right now involve you? What is it that God has asked you to do right now? What vision has He given you and you have been too afraid to act? Do not be like Jonah and run away from your problems or the challenges that you face. What is the purpose God has destined in your life? Really think about it or maybe you do not need to think – you very well may already know.

What God wants you to know right now is that He is with you. He will reassure the vision or purpose, He will restore you so that you may understand and He will strengthen you so that you may perform. Anything that God ask us to do that is a great work of God will never be done in our own strength, if that was the case, we would not need God to do it. But! God calls us to do things that we normally would not do and could not do – unless it was Him that was calling us and anointing us to do it. So, what are we waiting on? If God is for us, who can be against us? (Romans 8:31) Keep your faith and do not give up.

– Minister Toya D. Booth

# Grace's Man for All Seasons



**H**ow can you define in a 300-word article the dedication, spirit, and hard work of a servant such as Grace Baptist Church's senior deacon, Deacon Walter Royster? You cannot, but I'll try.

Deacon Walter Royster was a native of Mount Vernon. He was one of the rocks that Grace stands on today. Deacon Royster was a trustee under Rev. Doles and was ordained as a deacon in 1963 under the pastorate of Rev. Austin, and served for 18 years as vice chair of the Deacons' Ministry. The Grace Bowling League was organized 50 years ago under Deacon Royster's leadership, and the team still meets regularly today. He also headed the Adult and Youth Usher boards for 50 years. In 1974 Deacon Royster led a search committee to find a new pastor for Grace Baptist Church. A young minister by the name of W. Franklyn Richardson, from Philadelphia, was chosen, and the rest is history.

Aside from being a devoted, loving, and giving husband, father, and grandfather, Deacon Royster exemplified what a deacon should be. To his Grace family he was a mentor and counselor to those who need guidance and support. His strong and warm smile made everyone feel welcome and special. For many years, Deacon Royster was the spiritual chair

for Grace's Bereavement Committee. He was responsible for organizing teams of deacons to visit bereaved families and prepare the repast that is held at Grace for them.

In addition, he was in charge of the Deacons' Ministry Program Committee that distributes Christmas baskets to families in need. For the past twenty years he and his committee organized the Annual Family Day Picnic in August. With Pastor Richardson's and Deacon Royster's uplifting prayers, it has never rained on Annual Family Day.

Grace Baptist Church has an unshakable foundation as the result of dedicated servants like Deacon Walter Royster.

Sadly, Deacon Royster passed away on January 29, 2007. He will be sorely missed. ■

### *Selection of a Deacon*

*"Brothers and sisters, choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will turn this responsibility over to them and will give our attention to prayer and the ministry of the word."*  
Acts 6:3.4 NIV

– Deacon Sandra J. Price

## **W. Franklyn Richardson** Continued from page 10.

circumstances would not have access to the information necessary to accumulate wealth.

Publicly, the man who meets with presidents and heads of state on the affairs of the black community is the same man who shakes hands with his congregation and offers words of encouragement, inspiration, and hope every Sunday after all three worship services.

Publicly, the man who sits on the World Council of Churches is the same man who still maintains fellowship with the local pastors in the community, hosting the Passion to Pentecost worship services, a 17-week series of services featuring a different church, pastor, and denomination, to foster



fellowship within the local Westchester community.

After 32 years at the helm of one of the largest and most successful ministries anywhere in the county, Reverend Dr. W. Franklyn Richardson must do what he has always done, and that is change. He is not worried about the outcome; he is not daunted by the task. As a spiritual precedent, he refers to the book of Esther, fourth chapter, when Mordecai speaks to Esther to prepare her to see the king on

behalf of her people, "Could it be that you have come to the kingdom for such a time as this." Such is the case with Reverend Dr. W. Franklyn Richardson, a man sent by God for such a time as this. ■

## The Young Adult Ministry

**W**hat do young adults look like? I am a young adult, but I still smile with the sweetness of a 16-year-old girl from time to time. With an age range of 18 to 35, a young adult can look like anyone and anything, but it is imperative here at Grace that we identify these individuals and actively engage them in ministry. It is crucial to the development of young adults themselves just as much as it sustains the life of the church.

is strengthened and prepared to address contemporary issues, fortifying its legacy as a place of spiritual healing, social justice, and community development.

Currently the Young Adult Ministry is seeking to increase its membership. Are you in college and need to be contacted by a member of the ministry who is able to connect you to the happenings at Grace and the work of the ministry? Many of us have been where you are, and we may be of assistance to you as you search for scholarships, grants, fellowships, internships, career opportunities, and general guidance. That is what this ministry is for, and we are building that branch of our outreach. Are you interested in community service? The Young Adult Ministry would love to partner with an organization such as Habitat for Humanity of Westchester County or Big Brothers/Big Sisters to affect change in our community. We want to assure these organizations full participation when we set up collaborations with them. Are you newly married? Are you a new parent? Do you want to own your own home? We know these are your issues. These are our issues. We are young adults and we need one another.

We know that young adults are already involved in the Nursery, Joyce Harrigan Dance Ministry, Sunday school, Bible study, Young Adult Usher Board, and most recently, the Young Adult Choir; however, the Young Adult Ministry has not been expanding at a level comparable to that of the number of young adults joining other Grace ministries and the Grace Church family. During the last weekend in July there will be a Young Adult Ministry Convocation featuring a gospel concert, a Young Adult worship service, seminars, and workshops. As Grace continues to grow, let us not forget to imprint in the pages of history what young adults at Grace look like at this point in time. We look forward to your participation in the Young Adult Ministry at Grace Baptist Church. ■

– *Maria N. Smith*



Young adults at Grace singing to the glory of God.

The Young Adult Ministry at Grace Baptist Church is not a new ministry. It was inactive for a short time, but in 2004 efforts were made to rejuvenate the ministry. Following the guiding principle of Proverbs 3:5-6, the Young Adult Ministry challenges its members at a time when many are making important decisions that will impact the rest of their lives to put complete trust in God and acknowledge His presence every step of the way. The Young Adult Ministry strives to positively impact the lives of 18- to 35-year-olds in the church through Bible study, prayer, and by being a support network of peers both within the church and among other young adult ministries in the area. In doing this, the ministry of Grace Baptist Church

## What's in the Name MOCCA?

**T**he “Ministry of College and Career Alliance,” aka MOCCA, was introduced 25 years ago by Grace Baptist Church’s First Lady, Inez Richardson. MOCCA is now chaired by Arlene Clinkscale who meets with her committee six times a year.

Initially one hundred dollars was given to each student, but in 2006/2007, with the ever-increasing cost of books for college, students were awarded six hundred dollars each by Grace. In addition, in October, February, and April love packages containing snacks and CDs are prepared by the MOCCA committee and mailed to the students. Students are also encouraged to stay active in Grace by accessing updated information about the church by visiting the website, and beginning in March 2007 they will be able to plug into the website and receive video streaming of the services, download music of the choir, and receive updated college scholarship information.

Every fifth Sunday of the year, beginning in April 2007, a special offering will be taken and given to MOCCA to offset the expenses of the ministry, in addition to partial proceeds from the Scholarship Ministry’s annual luncheon and shopping spree. When MOCCA was initiated, Pastor Richardson took the recipients out to dinner and exposed them to different restaurants throughout the tri-state areas.

In 2005 the MOCCA breakfast was introduced. All the recipients and their parents are invited to have breakfast with Pastor Richardson,

Mrs. Richardson, and the MOCCA Committee in the banquet hall at Grace on MOCCA Sunday morning. This has been an overwhelming success.

In July the committee meets to review the new and continuing students’ applications. In July at the 11:30 service college students will receive their scholarships from Pastor Richardson.

### **Criteria for MOCCA Scholarships:**

- Recipients must be active in a church ministry for at least six months prior to receiving scholarship
- Recipients must be recent high school graduates not out of school for more than two years.
- Those attending community college will receive the scholarship for two years unless they transfer to a four-year college that will allow them to receive an additional two years of support.
- Applications must be signed by an officer of the church: deacon, trustee, church school teacher, or a member of the ministerial staff.

### **Continuing Recipients:**

- Must complete applications annually by the first week in July.
- Cannot receive a scholarship for more than 4 years.

### **All Recipients Must:**

- Submit an official copy of their college registration and college address by October 1 of the current year to be eligible to receive a scholarship the next year. ■

—Deacon Sandra J. Price

## Campus Greetings

I have always considered it an honor to be a part of the Grace Baptist Church MOCCA ministry. MOCCA has served as my connection to Grace, both while I was away at boarding school and while I am away at college. I have been attending Grace for as long as I can remember, and growing up in this church means you were in the building at least 3 days a week. My weekdays were filled with choir rehearsals, Girl Scouts, and Sunday school. As I was preparing to leave for college I was nervous about not only leaving my parents but also my Grace family. I have always felt supported by members of the congregation and I felt so blessed to know that support would still exist even while I was away at school.

MOCCA sends care packages throughout the year complete with comfort foods, recorded sermons, and Grace newsletters along with a book scholarship for each college student. Every year my friends are amazed that my church pays for my books AND sends me packages. When I bring friends home with me to attend a service they all comment on how they can feel how much the congregation cares for me. I have always felt so blessed to have a church with a ministry like MOCCA to serve as my link to Grace.



**Vannesa Youngs**  
Senior  
Lafayette College, Easton, PA

## Single and Loving Myself

I was feeling pretty uninspired the first seven times I attempted to write this article. But after a recent Inside Grace committee meeting when “the enforcer” (she knows who she is) made it clear I wasn’t going to weasel out of delivering my column, the obstacles of my creative block began to fall away.



A question that was posed to me that day was “Do I love being single?” to which I answered “I love where I am in my life.” A couple of the other single gals in our group answered as well but with varying answers; one woman gave a resounding “Yes, I love being single,” while another woman grumbled, obviously discontent being without a mate. The impromptu survey got me to thinking about my circle of single

friends and acquaintances, and surprisingly in this group of successful career oriented individuals, most everyone is obsessed with finding true love; and ladies that includes the men. Nearly all the “singletons” I know are combing every nook and cranny – the office, the clubs and bars, the internet, Starbucks, yoga class and church – for their soul mates. And those who aren’t trying to sniff out their future husband/wife and spiritual partner are either bitter from previous heartbreaks or giving the good ‘ole college try at relationships that don’t appear to be fulfilling and worth all the effort. And where do I stand? I am happy without a significant other, floating in a space where I’m not even looking and it’s not because I’m smarting from past failed relationships; I believe it’s because I’ve come to terms with living in the moment and allowing God to unfold what’s next.

I’ve said in previous articles that I look forward to being married and having children and I certainly have not deviated from that. But in my ever growing wisdom I’m learning that when God puts a desire in your heart, He means for you to have it but only when you’re ready. So in between now and the time when I am a wife and mother, I am committed to truly loving myself by taking care of my spirit, my body, and my mind while actively seeking a closer relationship with God so I am where He wants me to be when the time comes for the next chapter of my life.

So with spring fever on the horizon, I say to all my fellow singletons who are either scurrying about looking for “the one” or wrapped up in the frustration of having kissed a whole bunch of frogs with none hatching into Prince or Princess Charming – take this time God has given you to heal yourself if you need healing, love yourself if you need loving, enlighten yourself if you need enlightening and devote yourself to nurturing your core where God speaks to you so there is no mistaking His voice as He guides you toward fulfilling the desires of your heart because your special someone is out there. Be blessed! ■

– By Andrena R. Hale

# A Woman Called Rahab: Researching the Bible

I was the discussion leader for Grace Baptist Church's Women's Ministry on the topic "Women of the Bible." My subject for discussion was a woman called Rahab. I was both thrilled and challenged and immediately went to my biblical tools to find out more about Rahab. I used my favorite Bible, the NIV Study Bible, where I looked at the Index to Notes and the Concordance, both located at the back of the Bible. In the Index to Notes I looked up the name Rahab and found scripture relating to her. The Concordance gave me both a definition of Rahab and the appropriate scripture. Other resources I consulted were a Bible dictionary and a Bible handbook. These tools enabled me to secure quickly information from the Bible about Rahab.

Having secured the location in the Bible about information on Rahab, I sat down and began my reading. From my Bible dictionary I learned that Rahab was a woman in the Old Testament who provided shelter to the two spies sent out by Joshua. The Concordance and Index to Notes further defined Rahab as a harlot from Jericho (Joshua 2:1 – 21). It further stated that she was spared in battle (Joshua 6:17 – 25) and that she was also spoken about in the New Testament (Hebrews 11:31 and James 2:25).

In the book of Numbers (Chapters 13 and 14) the Lord commanded Moses to send out spies to Canaan. Moses sent out 12 spies, one from each tribe. The report by 10 of the spies was negative. They reported that Canaan was unconquerable due to the size and strength of its people. Joshua and Caleb, however--in the minority--gave a positive report; one that affirmed God's ability to deliver on His word. As punishment, God made the Israelites wander in the wilderness for 40 years, and only Joshua, Caleb, and those under 20 years of age would go into the Promised Land.

After the death of Moses, Joshua became the Israelite's leader, and it was his task to lead the Israelites into the Promised Land and conquer its people. Joshua sent out two spies. When the men arrived in Jericho they were sheltered and protected by a prostitute named Rahab. Rahab hid them and gave false information to the king of Jericho about their whereabouts. Unlike the earlier spies, these spies had a pos-

itive report, and the Israelites, led by Joshua, crossed the Jordan and triumphed over the Canaanites.

In Matthew 1:5 Rahab is mentioned in the genealogy of Jesus. She was the wife of Salmon and the mother of Boaz, the kinsman redeemer and husband of Ruth, the Moabite. In verse 6 we

find out Rahab was the great-great grandmother of King David. In Hebrews 11:31 she is spoken of as a woman of faith whose life was spared because of her positive actions on behalf of the two spies. In James 2:25 Rahab was called righteous because of her actions on behalf of the spies. She acted on her faith.

The story of Rahab teaches us that God does not discriminate. Can you believe that God had a prostitute in His family tree? Rahab risked her life to save the two Israeli spies because she believed in Jehovah God. She had heard about the Israelites and their exodus experiences. She knew that this God was the true God and that He was awesome. Rahab's story is a story of faith and deeds. Hebrews 11:6 states that "without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him."

Rahab demonstrates her belief by her actions. She had faith in God. God was pleased and rewarded her by sparing her life and elevating her from a prostitute to the great-great grandmother of King David and a direct ancestor of the King of Kings, Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Additionally, her son, Boaz was a prosperous man. Rahab's story tells us that God is available to everyone regardless of their background or lifestyle.

Mature Christians recognize that tools such as the Bible, bible dictionaries, concordances, and biblical handbooks provide illumination of God's word and bring us out of darkness into the marvelous light.

Special thanks to the Grace Women's Ministry for this spiritual opportunity. ■

– By Constance St. Cyr



# Calendar of Events

**March 28**

**Passion to Pentecost Worship Service**  
**Grace Baptist Church • Noon – 1pm**  
Reverend Dr. W. Franklyn Richardson  
Grace Baptist Church  
Followed by a community lunch.

**March 30**

Youth Ministry Midnight Run and Lock-In

**April 1**

**PALM SUNDAY**

**April 2**

**Passion to Pentecost Holy Week Service**  
**Grace Baptist Church • Noon – 1pm**  
Reverend Gary Simpson  
Concord Baptist Church  
Followed by a community lunch.

**April 3**

**Passion to Pentecost Holy Week Service**  
**Grace Baptist Church • Noon – 1pm**  
Reverend Renee Washington  
Memorial Baptist Church  
Followed by a community lunch.

**April 4**

**Passion to Pentecost Holy Week Service**  
**Grace Baptist Church • Noon – 1pm**  
Reverend Thomas D. Johnson  
Canaan Baptist Church  
Followed by a community lunch.

**April 5**

**Passion to Pentecost Holy Week**  
**Intergenerational Service**  
**Grace Baptist Church • Noon – 1pm**  
Reverend Dr. J.G. McCann, Sr  
St. Luke Baptist Church  
Followed by a community lunch.

**April 5 • 7 pm**

**Silent Communion**  
Grace will celebrate Holy Thursday with the powerful Silent Communion.

**GOOD FRIDAY**

**April 6 • Noon – 3 pm**  
**Citywide Seven Last Words Service**  
**Friendship Worship Center**  
**261 Lincoln Ave., Mt. Vernon, NY**  
**Bishop C. Nathan Edwers, Pastor**  
The United Black Clergy of Westchester will celebrate Good Friday by commemorating the Seven Last Words of Jesus.

**April 6 • 5 pm & 6 pm**

**Fish Dinner**  
The Annual Good Friday Fish Dinner will be served at Grace Baptist Church in two seatings: 5 pm and 6 pm.

**April 6 • 7 pm**

**Church School Easter Pageant**  
Sponsored by Grace Baptist Church's Church School.

**EASTER/RESURRECTION SUNDAY**

**April 8**

**6 am, 8 am and 11 am worship services in the Grace Sanctuary**  
**11 am Children's Church – Grace Chapel**

**April 8 – 11**

**College Campus Tour**  
Grace Baptist Church's Youth Ministry will visit several college campuses in the northeast. Space is limited.

**April 9 – 13**

**Congress of Christian Education**  
**Saratoga, NY**

**April 11 • Pentecost Season**

**Passion to Pentecost Worship Service**  
**Grace Baptist Church • Noon – 1pm**  
Reverend W. Darin Moore  
Greater Centennial A.M.E. Zion Church  
Followed by a community lunch.

**April 14 • 8:30 am**

**Men's Ministry Breakfast @ Sylvia's**  
For more information, contact the Men's Ministry President J. W. Smith.

**April 15**

**32nd Pastoral Anniversary Celebration**

**April 18 • Pentecost Season**

**Passion to Pentecost Worship Service**  
**Grace Baptist Church • Noon – 1pm**  
Reverend Errol O'Savio  
Mount Olivet Apostolic Church  
Followed by a community lunch.

**April 21 • 8:30 am**

**Women's Ministry Breakfast**  
For more information, contact Darlene Williams-Smith at [womensministry@gracebapt.org](mailto:womensministry@gracebapt.org).

**April 25**

**Passion to Pentecost Worship Service**  
**Grace Baptist Church • Noon – 1pm**  
Reverend Dr. W. Elliott Baisden  
Community Church At The Circle  
Followed by a community lunch.

**April 28 • 1 pm**

**Annual Scholarship Luncheon**  
The Scholarship Ministry of Grace Baptist Church invites you to attend the annual scholarship luncheon, which supports the scholarships given to Grace's college students. For more information, contact Edna Harris at (914) 663-7714.

**April 29**

**Reception for New Disciples**  
Following the 11:30 am service, new disciples at Grace Baptist Church are invited to share in a reception sponsored by Dr. W. Franklyn Richardson, Mrs. Inez Richardson and church leaders.

**May 2**

**Passion to Pentecost Worship Service**  
**Grace Baptist Church • Noon – 1pm**  
Reverend Herman Darden  
First United Methodist Church  
Followed by a community lunch.

**May 5**

**Flower Circle Show**  
The Flower Circle Show will be held from 10 am to 5 pm in the Worship Arts Center. All are welcome to attend.

**May 9**

**Passion to Pentecost Worship Service**  
**Grace Baptist Church • Noon – 1pm**  
Reverend Dr. Joel E. Nafuma  
Trinity Episcopal Church  
Followed by a community lunch.

**May 11**

**Youth Fun Night**

**May 12 • 8:30 am**

**Men's Ministry Breakfast at Grace**

**May 13 • MOTHER'S DAY**

**Hostess Ministry Sunday**  
Hostess Ministry Sunday is celebrated at the 11:30 am worship service.

# Left to Tell *By Immaculee Ilibagiza with Steve Erwin*

**L**eft to Tell is the graphic story of humanity at its best, and at its worst. The author, Immaculee Ilibagiza, lives to tell the indomitable story of finding God in an inconsolable place. Her story is one of survival punctuated with fear beyond description, and of love at its absolute best with a perplexity that is never ceasing.

In 1994, this Rwandan native was 22 years old and in college when the slaughter of over one million Tutsis began. Her entire family attempted to hide themselves but to no avail. She and seven other starving women were concealed for 91 days in an impossible place. This is her first-hand account of the devastating story of what happened during the time of their capture, which very few lived to tell. It is a story of terror, endurance, healing, and redemption.

I suppose what impressed me the most about this text was the detailed, graphic story, and the compelling approach utilized in its telling. As I was reading, early on I connected with the love the author had for her family and I was able to love them myself because of her heartfelt approach to what must have been a cathartic experience for her. So too did I travel with her in spirit as she went off to college, made new



friends, and experienced a new-found freedom and love of learning. Immaculee was kind enough to allow me to join her in her loving cocoon of a life, but it set me up to be torn emotionally. I found myself thrust about and hidden with her during her horrific experience and my emotions over and over reached a fever pitch. All I could do to offset the feeling was to put the book down. As I resorted to “not reading,” I found myself praying and within a short time I was ready, even eager, to continue reading. Over and over I wondered how Immaculee persevered. There was but one answer: only God.

Immaculee’s story is a lesson for a culture of privileged people who take so much for granted. Her story is one of hope and promise and daring and is another tribute to the God we serve and an awesome testimony to His overwhelming greatness. The strength of the human spirit rings unmistakably true in this book. Never in our imagination would we fathom genocide and forgiveness coexisting and yet in this story they do.

Don’t miss out on this blessing in print.

– Joan John

**May 16**  
**Passion to Pentecost Worship Service**  
 Grace Baptist Church • Noon – 1pm  
 Reverend Robert Keith Williams  
 White Rock Baptist Church  
 Followed by a community lunch.

**May 18 – 20**  
**Women’s Convocation**  
 May 18 • 7 pm  
**Women Only Worship (WOW)**  
 All women are welcome to attend our Women Only Worship service, sponsored by the Women’s Ministry.

**May 19 • Noon**  
**Women’s Ministry Luncheon**  
 This Annual Women’s Ministry Luncheon will honor the 18th class of inductees into the Grace Baptist Church Wall of Fame.

**May 20 Annual Women’s Day**  
 7:30, 9:30 and 11:30 worship services

**May 20 – 4 pm**  
**Youth Forum**  
 All middle school and high school students, ages 12 and up, are invited to attend the Youth Forum for Bible study, to discuss current events

and challenges teens face today, for leadership development, to gain awareness of life and career opportunities, and to plan service projects and upcoming events.

**May 23**  
**Passion to Pentecost Worship Service**  
 The last service for the season  
 Grace Baptist Church • Noon – 1pm  
 Reverend Edward Mulraine  
 Unity Baptist Tabernacle  
 Followed by a community lunch.

**June 2 • 7 pm**  
**Harrigan Dance Showcase Performance**  
 Lehman College, Bronx, NY

**June 3 • 11:30 am**  
**Nurse’s and Health/Wholeness Ministry Day**  
 Grace Baptist Church’s Nurse’s Day is celebrated at our 11:30 am worship service. For more information, please contact Betty Edwards at (914) 665-1746

**June 10 • 4 pm**  
**Youth Forum (see May 20th for details)**

**June 14**  
**Reverend W. Franklyn Richardson’s 58th Birthday**

**June 15 – 17**  
**Men’s Convocation**  
 June 15 • 7 pm  
 Male Only Worship (MOW)  
 June 16 – 8:30 am  
 Men’s Ministry Breakfast

**June 17 • FATHER’S DAY**

**June 18 – 22**  
**National Baptist Convention Christian Education Congress, St. Louis, Missouri**

**June 22 – 24**  
**Youth Convocation**

**June 24**  
**Annual Youth Ministry Day**  
 Graduates Recognition Sunday

• Look for the rest of the Grace calendar year in the Summer issue of *Inside Grace*.

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