

G. T. A. H.

Volume II, Issue 7

(Great Things Are Happening)

July, 2014

Union Grove Missionary Baptist Church

Homecoming 2014

*Sunday
August 3, 2014
8:00 and 11:00 a.m.*

Welcome Home!!!



David Anthony Clarke, Senior Pastor

Michelle Wilson Clarke, First Lady



~ MISSION STATEMENT ~

"To draw people to Christ, maximize our potential and creatively meet the physical and emotional needs of the church and community."

Church Service Hours



Sunday Morning Prayer
7:45 a.m.

Sunday School
9:30 a.m.

Sunday Worship
8:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

Sunday Bible Study
6:00 p.m.

Wednesday Midday Manna
12:00 p.m.

Wednesday Bible Study
7:00 p.m.

Radio Broadcast
Sundays, 1:15 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.
"The Light" FM 100.5

Church Office Hours
Tuesday - Friday
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Don't Sweat It! SWOT It!!!

By Pastor David Anthony Clarke, Sr.



I read something recently that said, "Don't sweat the small stuff. And it's all small stuff." The author of this phrase was basically conveying there is no need to worry about anything or overreact when facing challenging situations. Although God's Word tells us not to worry (Phil. 4:6) many saints still do. We can either worry about things or work a solution to turn situations around to the glory of Almighty God!

One thing that can help us overcome our obstacles and make progress in our lives is a SWOT Analysis. SWOT stands for Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats. Union Grove leaders sort of do a SWOT Analysis each year as they construct the annual strategic plans for their respective ministries. As our church journeys through the book of Exodus on Wednesdays, a SWOT Analysis could serve as an excellent tool to help us make improvements in our ministry teams and in our lives as well.

What follows are some questions I encourage you to answer in order to develop a strategy for improvement. Some of the questions are for our individual lives. Others are more geared toward ministries within the church. If there is anything you want to see improve or need turned around, then don't sweat it, SWOT it!

Strengths

- What do other people say you do well?
- How can you leverage your strengths to overcome challenges you're currently facing?
- How are you using your strengths in ministry?
- Are you able to operate in your strengths in your workplace?
- Do your strengths influence healthy relationships for you?

Weaknesses

- Is your ministry team relying on one person too much?
- What can be improved?
- Are your weaknesses hindering healthy relationships in your life?

Opportunities

- Is there an unmet need in our church and/or community your team can meet right now?
- What current trends impact your ministry?
- What opportunities can you create for you to move toward what you believe God has in store

Threats

- What are the three most significant challenges you're facing right now?
- What is the devil trying to steal, kill, or destroy in your life right now?
- What would happen if you did nothing at all to make things better?

Now, What?

After answering questions such as the ones provided there is the need to develop a strategy for improvement. Create and write down some goals that reflect the answers to the SWOT questions. Articulate action steps that will move you and/or your ministry team toward reaching the goals. Share your goals and action steps with others who will hold you accountable. Trust God to bring you to a better place for His glory. Be encouraged. Don't sweat the small stuff. SWOT your way to bigger and better things as the Lord gives you strength. And, as I always say, "Enjoy the journey!"



~ VISION STATEMENT ~

"To be a global network of learning, loving and life transforming ministries where hungry worshippers are discovering and walking in their God-given purpose with exceeding great joy."



Union Grove Missionary Baptist Church

Homecoming Celebration "Remembering Our Past and Creating Our Future"

PSALM 150

Sunday, August 3, 2014

.....



Camile Holmes

Tremont Temple Missionary Baptist Church, Pastor
Macon, GA

Speaker, 8:00a service

.....



Dr. Jesse L. Grice

True Vine Baptist Church, Senior Pastor
San Antonio, TX

Speaker, 11:00a service*

*dinner to follow

.....

809 S. Davis Drive
Warner Robins, GA 31088

478.922.5514

www.thegrovetwr.org

David A, Clarke, Sr., Senior Pastor John Dukes, Assistant Pastor

Mission Statement: To draw people to Christ, maximize our potential, and creatively meet the physical and emotional needs of the church and community.

Pastor Camile Holmes

Tremont Temple Missionary Baptist Church

~ 8:00 a.m. Homecoming Worship Service ~



Pastor Camile Holmes is a native of Warner Robins, Georgia and a graduate of Warner Robins High School. He is a graduate of Valdosta State University where he earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Criminal Justice. He is in the process of pursuing a Masters of Divinity Degree from the Andersonville Theological Seminary. He is married to his college sweetheart Mrs. Melvia Crane-Holmes and The Lord has blessed them with 5 children: Jamile, Kaylah, Cameron, Jaylen, and Jordan.

Growing up, he attended Union Grove Missionary Baptist Church of Warner Robins, Georgia where he served as a Junior Deacon, Youth and Young Adult Choir Musician, Soloist, and Tenor Section Leader. While in high school, he won 1st Place in the 1988 4-AAAA Georgia High School Association Region and State Literary Male Solo Competition and he was a lead soloist in the 1988 Georgia High School All State Chorus. He was also a guest soloist in the 1987 Miss Black Georgia Pageant. In 2006, he was a guest Artist/Soloist at the Bobby Jones International Gospel Industry Retreat held in Hollywood, Florida. While attending Valdosta State University, he served on the Campus Activity Board, Resident Assistant of Brown Hall, Director and Musician of the Valdosta State University Gospel Ensemble, Tenor Section Leader and Soloist of the Valdosta State University Gospel Choir, worked at Magic 95 WGOV Radio Station, served as the VSU Mascot "Blaze", and became a member of the Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc.

Pastor Holmes answered his calling to preach on October 22, 1995. He was Licensed to Preach The Gospel on June 30, 1996 at the Bible Believers Baptist Church and Ministries of Atlanta, Georgia under the leadership of Pastor W.L. Howard, Jr. He was Ordained into The Gospel Ministry on December 29, 1996 at the same church. While at Bible Believers, he served as Youth Pastor, Praise Leader, and Director and Musician of the Youth and Young Adult Choir. In January of 1998, he began his journey Pastoring at the Greater Philadelphia Independent Methodist Church of Talbotton, Georgia. Under the leadership and direction of God, Pastor Holmes lead the church in remodeling the building, adding a Baptismal Pool, New Sound System, New Heating and Air Conditioning System, and substantial membership growth. When his assignment at Greater Philadelphia was complete, God sent him to Pleasant View Baptist Church of Covington, Georgia in January of 2000. Under the leadership and direction of God, Pastor Holmes lead the church into every Sunday Service, building a New Sanctuary, purchasing 2 New Church Vans, adding a Males Ushers Ministry, a Praise Team, a Youth and Young Adult Choir and Youth Department, a Male Chorus, a Trustee Ministry, a Dance Ministry, an Outreach Ministry, a Jail Ministry, Ordaining 8 Deacons, Licensing and Ordaining 6 Ministers of The Gospel Woman's Ministry, a Singles Ministry, and substantial membership growth.

When his assignment was complete at Pleasant View, God sent him to Macedonia Baptist Church of Villa Rica, Georgia in November of 2009. Under the leadership and direction of God, Pastor Holmes lead the church in reorganizing the Youth Department, the Music Ministry, the Trustee Ministry, the Dance Ministry, adding a Mime Ministry, building a New Sound Room, and substantial membership growth. When his assignment was complete at Macedonia, God sent him to Tremont Temple Missionary Baptist Church and Power Center of Macon, Georgia in August of 2013 where he is currently serving as Senior Pastor. Pastor Holmes and his family are excited about what God is doing at Tremont Temple. Even though great things are happening at Tremont Temple, Pastor Holmes knows that greater things are coming.



Reverend Doctor Jesse L. Grice

Founder and Senior Pastor
True Vine Baptist Church

~ 11:00 a.m. Homecoming Worship Service ~

~ BIOGRAPHY ~

Rev. Jesse L. Grice is Founder and Senior Pastor of True Vine Baptist Church, San Antonio, Texas. He is a native of Mobile, Alabama.

Pastor Grice retired as a Chief Master Sergeant from the United States Air Force after 30 years and 1 day of faithful service to his country. He graduated high school from Mobile County Training School in Plateau, Alabama. He graduated from the University of Nebraska at Omaha with a Bachelors' Degree in Psychology and is a graduate of Liberty Theological Seminary earning a Masters' degree in Religion. He recently graduated from Louisiana Baptist University and Seminary with a Ph.D. in Biblical Studies.

Pastor Grice accepted the call into the gospel ministry and was licensed and ordained as a minister at Union Grove Missionary Baptist Church, Warner Robins, Ga. After retiring from the U.S. Air Force in 1994, he began a Christian Fellowship in his home, which later became the True Vine Baptist Church.

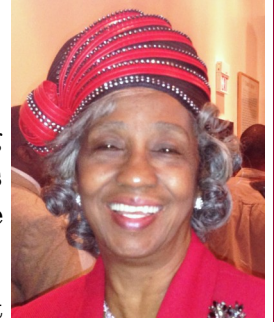
Pastor Grice was awarded the 2004 San Antonio Black Achievement Award for outstanding contribution to ministry in the San Antonio community.

Pastor Grice and his wife of 48 years, Queen Elizabeth Grice, have six children: Tammy, Jesse Jr., Michele, Efrem, Ian (Chris), and James. They have five granddaughters, Tamara, Maegan, Dejanae, Delainee and Layla and two grandsons, Darius and Tayshawn. They also have one great grandson, Demarea and one great granddaughter, Caylor.

~ HOMECOMING ~

Sister Marion Mathis

Homecoming is a celebration that is rooted in black faith, history, thanksgiving and culture. It is a service in which families, friends and former church members flock from everywhere. It is also known by many in the African-American culture as “Big Meeting” Sunday.



My memories vividly recall these times in Union Grove: it was held on the 1st Sunday in August, the Saturday prior would be a day of cleaning the grounds and church, it would include the young and old; it was a time when out of state members and relatives would travel back “home” from far and near. The songs were of promise, hope and survival. They were songs for the heart and soul. This was a day when everybody put their best foot forward. The service always ends with a congregational meal that was of traditional African-American food.

HOMECOMING, for all African-Americans is a fixed concept. It is a concept where we have to go back to the old landmark, to that fixed place and commune together...a time to recall how far we have come.



I joined Union Grove Missionary Baptist Church at an early age. I remember the bell ringing for funerals as well as for Sunday School, church and grade school. You could hear the bell ringing all over the community. If you heard the ringing and wasn't in church, you were late for whatever event was going on.

I worked on the Missionary Board, usher Board, Health Care Ministry and the Golden Achievers Ministry. It has been a blessing and a pleasure to work here at UGMBC these many years.

Sister Dorothy (“Doll”) Clay
Long Life Member



• OCT • 61



APR 62

Sister Annie ("Candy" Abrams)



I joined Union Grove at an early age and was baptized in the outside pool. I am a life living member.

Union Grove served as a temporary school from 1942 - 1949. Approximately 75 students attended there while Pearl Stephens School was under construction. Carrie Bell Anderson and Cora Wilson served as teachers.

We gathered around a pot belly stove for prayers, pledges and lesson - Reading, Writing and Arithmetic and songs, etc.

"Pay of the Last Day" written and directed by Maggie Rutledge and The Family (played here) by the youth and various members and various school children from various areas - Jody Town, Baygall, Union Grove. Herbert Stephens played the Devil. The bell

was ringing and you could hear the bell.

"BIG MEETING" (HOMECOMING)

First Sunday in August

It was a little wooden church that sat on the red muddy hill with a pot belly stove. There were two outhouses, one on the right for women and one on the left side for men. On the right side of the church, there was a large oak tree. Homemade lemonade was made and served. Food (fried chicken, collard greens, sweet potato pies, cornbread, potato salad, pound cakes, banana pudding, etc.) was served from the trunks of members' cars. This church was the Holy Ghost Headquarters. Love, prayers, friends and hymns were sung with praising and blessings. Aunt Della Jackson and all the members would come home on that day for the celebration.

Union Grove served as a temporary school from 1947 - 1949; approximately 75 students attended.

I am a faithful servant on the Health Care Ministry and Golden Achievers Ministry and served on the Usher Board during my early years.

This event is bringing joy, happiness and blessings.



Equally Yoked Marriage Ministry

"Night of Jazz"

Featuring Jazz Musician: Mr. Otis Hicks



On Friday, 27 June, the Union Grove Equally Yoked Marriage Ministry sponsored a "Night of Jazz" for married couples featuring Mr. Otis Hicks, one of Warner Robins' very talented Jazz Musicians. What an awesome night we had! Mr. Hicks provided great entertainment for the entire evening with a variety of songs from oldies to goodies. The food was fabulous, the fun was festive and the fellowship was fantastic!

Also, thanks to every couple that came out to relax, dance a little and enjoy the night with their spouse and with other couples. Pastor and Sister Clarke had an awesome time along with everyone else. Thank you Pastor for your support in this ministry as well as all others at the Grove Zone. Also, we want to thank our SEM Leader Bro. Leroy Frazier and wife for their support as well. We love our church family and we are still excited to be at Union Grove!!

Check out some of the pictures from Jazz Night. Thank you Bro. Verrett for providing pictures of this event. Thanks to everyone else who helped with tickets, food, set up and take down. We appreciate you and whatever your part.

Thank you!
Elder Tommy and Linda Gray

Announcement:

All couples are invited to any fellowships that are held by the Married Couple's Ministry. Join us for Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. Currently, we are studying "Higher Love" by Focus on the Family. We have great discussions concerning marriage and also what God says about marriage. We would love to see you come out to the events and also to Sunday School.

Mission/Vision

"So they are no longer two, but one. Therefore what God has joined together, let man not separate".
Matt 19:6 NIV

MISSION: *To develop solid marriages in the Grove Zone based on biblical principles from the word of God.*

VISION: *To strengthen marriages through the love of Christ while creating a solid foundation by fellowshiping, educating and equipping husbands, wives and those aspiring to be equally yoked. Our objective is to enable couples to see what God had in mind when He thought about instituting the marriage covenant.*

For more information, please contact Elder Tommy or Linda Gray at 478-218-0482 or email tlgrayrealtor@yahoo.com.





Look at the birthday boy!!!

LET'S GET OUR FINANCIAL HOUSE IN ORDER PART V

Sister Wanda Verrett

STEP 5 – (PRAY) – By now you should have a pretty good picture of your finances, made a few adjustments, and are ready to pay down debt. Remember Proverbs 22:7 – *The rich rule over the poor and the borrower is servant to the lender.*

There are a number of things you can do. (1) Work some overtime or get a part-time job and use the money for extra debt payments only; (2) Have a yard sale to kick off your debt freedom with the proceeds. (3) Consolidate all of your credit cards onto the one with the lowest interest rate (no more charging) (close all store cards and any duplicate major cards) Keep the major card you have had the longest; (4) consolidate your payments into one via a home refinance or home equity loan; or (5) use the debt snowball (Dave Ramsey) or Debt stacking (Primerica) method. These are the same, just using different names.

DEBT SNOWBALL/DEBT STACKING

Current Payments

Item	Balance	Payment	Interest Rate
Visa	\$ 1,200.00	\$200.00	18%
Student Loan	8,000.00	123.00	6%
Car	13,000.00	560.00	4%
Mastercard	800.00	75.00	18%
Gas Card	350.00	50.00	18%
House Payment	<u>\$95,000.00</u>	<u>\$750.00</u>	5%
Total Debt Payments		\$1,758.00	

If you paid off your gas card with the yard sale proceeds or with your check from your overtime, you are that much further ahead. But if you can't make any extra money, do the following:

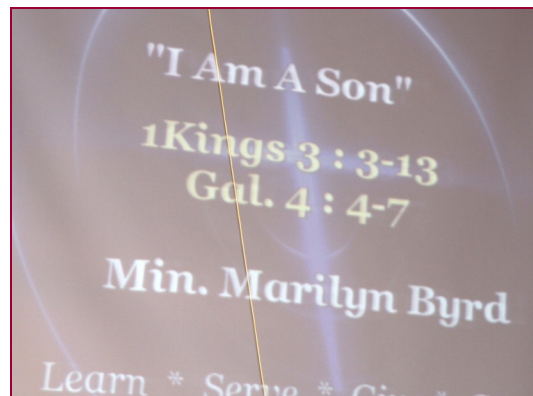
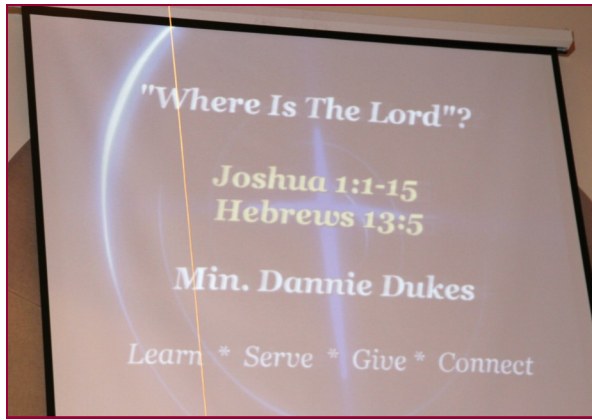
New Payments

Item	Balance	Payment	Interest Rate
Gas Card	350.00	75.00	18%
Mastercard	800.00	65.00	18%
Visa	\$1,200.00	\$185.00	18%
Student Loan	8,000.00	123.00	6%
Car	13,000.00	560.00	4%
House Payment	<u>95,000.00</u>	<u>\$750.00</u>	5%
Total Debt Payments		\$1,758.00	

Once you pay the Gas card off, add the \$75.00 to the \$65.00 for Mastercard. Now your Mastercard payment is \$140.00. All other payments remain the same. You have not increased the amount of debt payments going out each month. Once the Mastercard is paid out, your Visa payment becomes \$325.00 (\$140.00 + \$185.00). Just keep rolling the payments down until you are paying \$1,758.00 for your house payment. You will be surprised how quickly you get out of debt.

Any raises, bonuses, awards you receive can be added to help pay down debt as well. Just consider this. If you shave just 5 years off your mortgage: $\$750.00 \times 12 = \$9,000.00$ $\times 5$ years is \$45,000.00 in your pocket. What could you do with that? What could God do with that?

If you have any questions, you may submit them to the GTAH or directly to me, or place a note in the Teaching Ministry slot in the mailroom.



STARTED FROM THE BOTTOM NOW WE'RE HERE

Where ya goin'?

How do you get there?

Don't miss destiny!

Wednesdays at
12 noon and 7 p.m.

Pastor David A. Clarke, Sr., Senior Pastor
Pastor John Dukes, Assistant Pastor
Union Grove Missionary Baptist Church
809 S. Davis Dr.
Warner Robins, GA 31088



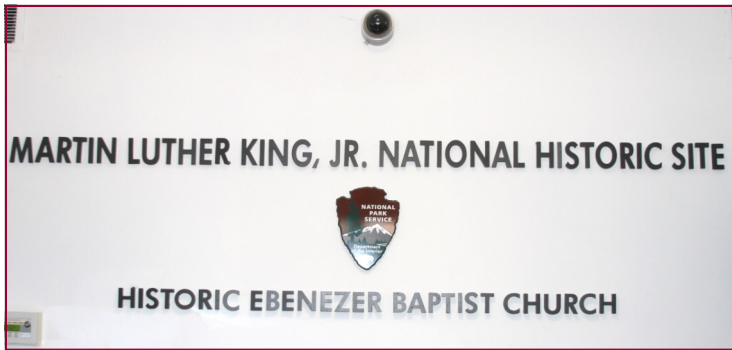
478-922-5514
www.thegrovetwr.org

Golden Achievers take over New Orleans









UNION GROVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH



Summer



camp



It's that time once again for our camper to show what they have learned at the Union Grove Summer Camp Showcase!

The Showcase will be held on Thursday, July 17, 4:00 p.m. at the Vision Center.

Come out and show your support for our campers and our staff!

Learn, Serve, Give, Connect



A huge **THANK YOU** to **Kanorris Davis**, a former Perry High School Panther who now plays for the New England Patriots came out to speak and to play a few games with the campers.



Story Time

The Grove Zone Campers enjoyed going to the Nola Brantley Library every Monday for *Story Time* and other activities.





Henry Allen
 Anthony Anderson
 Oscar Anderson
 James Booker
 Vincent Booker
 TiEbony Bradshaw
 Catherine Butler
 John Clarington
 Cassandra Clark
 Shirley Clark
 Pastor David Clarke
 Juanita Cofer
 Nathan Curtis
 Juanita Davidson

Cordelia Davis
 Gloria Defreitas
 Lorraine Easley
 Edwards Myshawntae
 Floyd Mortimer
 Min. Arie Freeman, Jr.
 Magnolia Gant
 Omari Green
 Samuel Gude
 Shane Hardee
 Loretta Harrison
 Cedrick Hayward
 Rodrick Hayward
 Breona Jackson

Mae Lane
 Deacon Louis Laney
 Christian Lee
 Lakita Lee
 Annie Lester
 Patricia McCants
 Eleanor Minter
 Africa Porter
 April Rhett
 Harmony Robinson
 David Salone
 Casey Sherman
 Ashia Simmons
 Donna Smith

Brandon Solomon
 Chelsea Solomon
 Nicole Steedley
 Harriet Steele
 Min. Mary Ann Swinney
 Amber Terry
 Yolanda Thomas
 Ayla Toles
 Dominique Toval
 Margie Tuck
 Nakeisha Tuck
 Malachi Washington
 MaKayla Wheeler
 Salina Wheeler
 Lasondra Wilson

Happy Anniversary!!!



*Deacon Alvin & Pam Myrick
 July 14*



*Willie & LaShondria Smith
 July 25*



~ Ministerial Staff ~



Pastor David A. Clarke, Sr.
 Assistant Pastor John Dukes
 Elder Milo Bradley, Jr.
 Elder Tammy Carpenter
 Elder Connie Dinkins
 Elder James Ford
 Elder Tommy Gray
 Elder Rashee Ragin
 Minister Marilyn Byrd
 Minister Dannie Dukes
 Minister Leo Finkley
 Minister Arie Freeman
 Minister Shane Hardee
 Minister Mary Lenoir
 Minister LaTonya Phillips
 Minister Antonia Simmons
 Minister Mary Ann Swinney
 Minister Cornelious Thorpe

~ In Training ~

Sister Marie Anderson
 Sister Linda Gray
 Sister Africa Porter
 Sister Earnestine Thompson

~ Deacon Contact List ~

A-C	Deacon Jerome Stephens	929-1476
D-F	Deacon Slater Thorpe	218-8736
G-I	Deacon Donald Woodard	987-9865
	Deacon Louis Laney	329-0957
J-K	Deacon Robert Simmons	
	Deacon Wendell Simmons	953-4290
L-N	Deacon T.C. Caldwell	293-8428
	Deacon Charles Lenoir	953-2350
O-R	Deacon Monroe Clark	953-2044
S	Deacon Alvin Myrick	788-5696
	Deacon William Jackson	929-4918
T-V	Deacon Edward Jarvis	923-5139
W-Z	Deacon Nathaniel Davis	923-7713

~ Junior Deacons ~

David Clarke II
 Caleb Doe
 Jason Wheeler

~ Administrative Assistant ~

Sister Janice Scott



BUS MINISTRY

Haven't found a ministry to fit your gift? If you have the gift of evangelism, hospitality or helps, the Bus Ministry may be for you. We are looking for dedicated drivers.

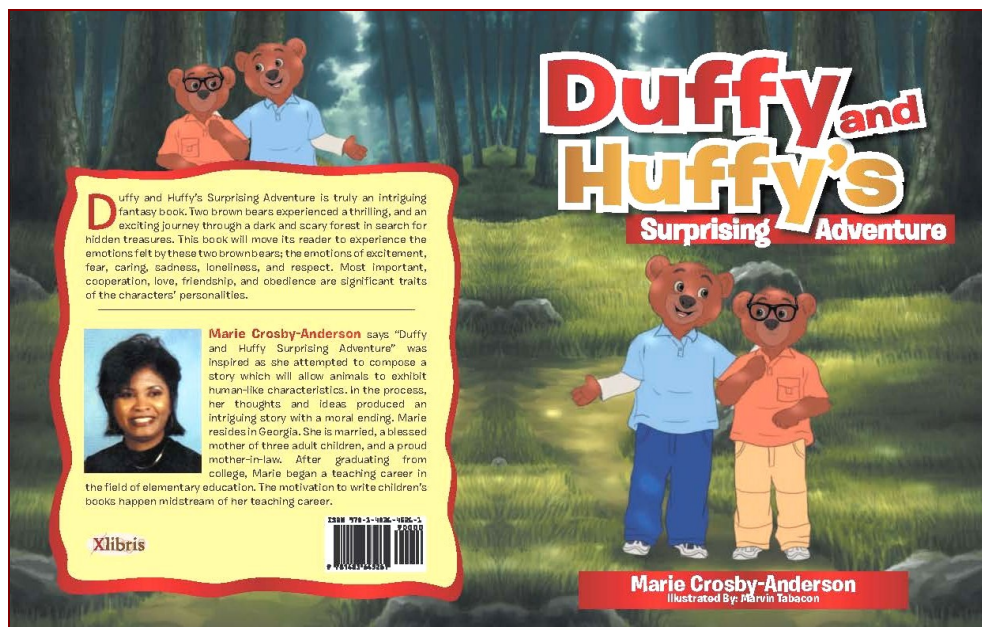
If interested, please contact Elder Dinkins at 478-335-1790

Congratulations Sister Marie Anderson!!!



Pictured above is Sister Marie Anderson and other authors at book signing.

There was also a book signing following the June 15 worship service.





**** Back to School Bash ****

July 25, 2014

9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

McConnell-Talbert Stadium

Free backpacks filled with school supplies will be given away, plus there will be free haircuts, food, games and information booths!

Hosted by: Warner Robins Housing Authority, HCBOE, Kids Journey, Harvest Builders Church, Houston Healthcare and more.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- All announcements for the bulletin, screen and website can be submitted via e-mail to UnionGrovl@aol.com or by completing a bulletin request form and placing it in the Administrative Assistant's box **no later than Wednesday at 5 p.m.**
- Please contact **Sis. Janice Scott at 478-922-5514, ext. 102** to schedule events at the **Vision Center. (Ministries of Union Grove only)**
- To schedule **funerals** at the church, please contact Sis. Wanda Verrett at 478-328-1483.
- **The Healthcare Ministry** will provide blood pressure and cholesterol screenings each Sunday after the worship service. Remember, you must fast for eight hours prior to the cholesterol screening. Sis. Annie Lester
- **Note:** When entering any building/property owned by UGMBC, you are giving consent to the church to use your image in church publications, media, website/facebook, etc.

Thank You!!!

The **G.T.A.H. Newsletter Staff** would like to thank everyone who contributed to the July issue. Your assistance and words of encouragement are deeply appreciated and a blessing to the ministry.

Don't forget to vote!!!

The G.T.A.H Staff

Carolyn Jackson

Shirley Jackson

Jackie Powell

Willie Smith

Newsletter Submissions

If you would like to see your ministry or event featured in the G.T.A.H., contact any member of the Newsletter Ministry, e-mail us at GTAHNewsletter@gmail.com by the 3rd Friday of each month or place your submissions in the Newsletter/G.T.A.H. box in the copy room.

G.T.A.H. Mission Statement:

"To aide others in spreading the knowledge of Christ and encouraging spiritual living through printed words."

The Best is Yet to Come!!!