

FIRST THINGS

A Newsletter of the First Baptist
Church of Trenton

July/August 2015

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Reverend C Nadir Powell,
Senior Pastor

Emily Davis,
Minister

CHURCH CONFINEMENT

Pastor Rev. Powell



Before Jesus ascended to heaven, He gave the disciples a commission better known as the Great Commission found in Matthew 28:19-20. It reads, "Therefore go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to obey everything I have commanded you." This Great Commission is what we as the church are called to do. We're called to go out in order to impact the world. Often times I wonder when it comes to carrying out the Great Commission are we falling short. The reason why I say this is because after looking at the condition of the inner city, it has become a place under attack. There seems to be nothing but trouble when it comes to many of our inner cities. Some of these inner cities have become war zones,

places of brokenness, poverty, places filled with hopelessness, despair, lack of love, and Godlessness.

When I look at this, my question is, where is the church? Now, this is not to say that some of our churches aren't in the trenches. But, aren't we supposed to be the ones who have the answers when it comes to remedying the ills of the inner city. Again, aren't we the ones who Jesus told to go out to the nations to make disciples? Yes we are. In essence, we are called to go out to all people no matter who they are and no matter what condition they live in. He told us to go out to the nations.

When I think about it, some of our churches reside in the

Love Supreme **By Rev. Powell**

I know you deserve better than what I've shown you
Because you have showed me a love unconditional
One that is authentic and true
And all I did was ignored you

For you waited on me time and time again
But my actions suggested that I wanted our relationship to end
Yet you still left room in your heart for me to come in
Still I acted like I didn't have time to spend

But you still continued to pursue me
Regardless of my actions that would make anyone leave
Really, I don't know what you saw in me
Especially after I'd treated you unjustly

Truly there's none like you, you're genuine
You're one of a kind
One who is willing to wait for me to the end of time
You got my mind trying to find the reason why

No matter what I did or didn't do, you were still nigh
Always willing to treat me kind
Even when it seem like I lost my mind
Tripping over myself like I was blind

Regardless, you always treated me like the apple of your eye
Never allowing your love to be denied
Even though I tried, tried, and tried
LORD you are Divine

Because your love isn't driven by a condition
Neither is it a result of our petition
But it's a character trait of your position
Because You are love, the one who gave up His only begotten Son

So Lord, please forgive us for treating you so cruel and mean
I guess it's the result of being human beings
I'm glad you're not like us because you're Deity
The One who is Love Supreme

neighborhoods where trouble lies. Many of the streets are lined with churches yet there still is chaos in the neighborhood. The neighborhood is still under siege. How could this be? Something is very wrong with this picture. How is it that the very neighborhood that the church resides in has so much trouble? What's going on? There were times when the church was a major part of the community. The church helped keep balance in the community. There was a time when people respected the church. Even when they didn't attend the church, people still had respect for what it stood for. They had some morals. But that seems to be the thing of the past. What has caused this great divide between the church and the community? Did the people in the community pull away from us or did the church has pull away from them? There was a time when we were visible in the community, but it seems some churches have become invisible.

It reminds me of a conversation that I had with a pastor friend of mine. He was telling me how they would have a Holy Spirit filled service from Sunday to Sunday. Even though the service was Spirit filled, those

who lived in the immediate community were missing. That being the case he decided to go beyond the church walls and give away turkeys to the needy for Thanksgiving. When he did that, people came out in numbers. It truly was a blessing for him to see the community come out. It also was a learning experience for him. He learned something from a statement that one of the persons in the neighborhood made. The person said, "I thought this church was closed. I didn't think anybody was in here." Right at that moment, my friend realized that the neighborhood didn't know them because they were stuck behind the four walls. Yes, they were giving God the praise on Sunday, but that was it. Pretty much they were being selfish with their praise and selfish with God. They were confined to their church versus coming out and meeting the people where they were. Does this sound familiar? I'm sure it does. Some of us are stuck in our churches. We are victims of church confinement. No longer can we afford to be confined to just our Sunday services. People in our community can't afford for us to remain imprisoned by the walls of the church. If we do, they will perish. It's time for us to come out of our confines and meet the people where

they are. It times for us to go beyond just carrying out our own personal church interest and go out to the people. We are called to make their interest our interest so we can give them a word that will help them. Philippians 2:4 reads, "Let each of you look not to your own interest, but also to the interest of others." God has called us to go out and spread His word to all because it has the ability to save lives. It's time for us to come out. No more church confinement.

The Language of Incarnation



By Emily Davis

This past month, I had the opportunity to attend the inaugural Frederick Buechner Writer's Workshop at Princeton Seminary. The conference was an event designed for ministers and writers who think and write honestly about the Christian faith. The keynote speaker was Barbara Brown Taylor, a professor of religion at Piedmont College, an Episcopal priest, and the author of 13 books. In one of her sessions, she described the language of incarnation that is

used in the Bible and challenged us to use this language in our writing and ministry.

This language of incarnation is one of wine and bread, clay and pearls. Jesus talked about ordinary things like coins, water, and sheep. He trusted the power of the physical reality to transform people. For example, Jesus did not outright say that he is intimately connected to us. Instead, he said, “You are the branches, and I am the vine.” This is the language of incarnation, which takes everyday physical matter and uses it to say something about the spiritual reality.

In order to incorporate this language into our ministry and writing, we must first listen to our lives. We can practice stillness, attentiveness, and truth telling. In these ways, writing is a spiritual practice that takes discipline. We are still and silent in order to make space to listen and contemplate our lives. We pay attention to the world around us. We see the world’s existence, and we take it all in. After we practice stillness and attentiveness, we then tell the truth about what actually happened. In our writing and ministry, we can tell the truth by including concrete details about the

physical life. We speak what we see and what we feel, not what we think we should say. We trust that the small things matter, and we remember that God cares about the everyday things of life. Telling the truth about the world is an act of loving the world and the God who created it.

What are you willing to do?

By Emily Davis

On Saturday, July 11 at 1pm-6pm, our church is hosting the Save A Life Tour for Addiction Deliverance Outreach. All people are invited to this event, and it is about freedom from addictions of all kinds. There is free admission. There will be free food and drinks, and Randy DonGiovanni will speak. There will be live music. Romans Road, a Christian rock band out of Philadelphia, will share personal stories through sung word. All are invited to come.

For this event, we are partnering with Roman Road Ministry and Positive Uplifting Music Productions who are touring locally. In total, they will stop in four different cities—Philadelphia, Camden, Trenton, and Manhattan. This tour is bigger than just our church and neighborhood, but God is

doing something good in our larger area.

The goal of the Save A Life Tour is to spread the good news of freedom in Jesus Christ. Galatians 5:1 tells us that it is for freedom that Christ has set us free. We are called to live in freedom. This is a freedom from sin and addiction. God has forgiven us and freed us from our sins, so that we can live in freedom. I want to invite you, as a community who knows of the freedom in Christ, to join together to help promote this event and tell others about the freedom in Christ. This event cannot be a success without your help. When we all come together, we will multiple the numbers of people who will hear about this event and the freedom that Christ brings. I believe that God will work, and we will have the opportunity to witness the power of God in the lives of people in our church’s neighborhood and in the larger area of the tour. So I want to ask you: What are you, as followers of Jesus Christ, willing to do to see hundreds of people hear about freedom in Jesus Christ?

As I write this, 189 people on Facebook like our church’s page (<https://www.facebook.com/FirstBaptistChurchTrentonNJ>).

If you are on Facebook and you have not liked our church's page, please do so now. This is a good first step to joining together to promote our church and church events. Next, we can join together to make this event a success by going to our church's Facebook page and sharing the post about the Save A Life Tour with your friends on your own timeline. It is as simple as clicking the share button underneath the picture of the flyer. When we all come together and share this post, so many more people will hear about this event and the freedom that Christ brings. This event cannot be successful without all of us joining together to promote it.

For those of you who are not on Facebook, there is still a role for you to play. All of us can come together to promote the event by inviting other people through personal conversations. We can take some of the paper flyers from the front and back tables in the sanctuary, and we can pass them out to our friends and in our neighborhoods. On Sunday, July 5 after the worship service, we will join together to walk around our church's neighborhood, pass out flyers, and tell people about the event. Also, on Saturday, July 11 at 1pm just as the event is getting started,

we will again come together to walk around the neighborhood and tell people about the free event. I hope many of you will join us.

Rev. Powell and I have already begun to promote this event. We have already sent the flyer and event information to more than 30 different churches, organizations, and local websites for them to partner with us in promotion. We have already put paper flyers up at local businesses and organizations for their bulletin boards. Now, it's your turn. What are you willing to do to see hundreds of people hear about the freedom that Jesus brings? Let's join together to spread the good news of Jesus Christ.



NEWSLETTER

Newsletter information is due the 15th of each month. Please make sure to have information to the church secretary by the due date. This is to make sure the newsletter is received by all members and friends prior to the Month of the newsletter. Thank you
fbctsecy@yahoo.com

Special Dates

- July 19, 2015, Rev. Powell will be preaching at the Hamilton Grove at 2pm.
- July 26, 2015, Rev. Powell will be preaching at Riverview Estates 303 Bank Avenue, Riverton, NJ 08077. Service starts at 3:00 pm.
- July 13, 2015, Rev. Powell will be speaking to the youth of Urban Promise at Trinity Presbyterian Church.
- July 31 & August 1 Our Karen youth will be having a youth retreat.
- Aug 2nd, the youth retreat will conclude with a guest speaker at our 10 am service.
- Aug. 2nd, Emily Davis will be preaching at Riverview Estates at 3pm.

Save the Date
11.06.11

NOTARY NEEDED?

Joanne Collins has recently been commissioned in the state of New Jersey as a notary public. . If a church member needs a letter notarized I can do this for you at no cost. Please call me at 609 815-9696, or seek me out after Church services

SENIOR MINISTRY

The next service at Hamilton Grove will be held on the 19th of June and the 23rd of August, Rev. Powell will be leading the service.

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Poetry in Motion

Sessions will resume in September. Look for information soon ☺ For more information, contact Rev. Powell at 732-277-3751 or Nekiell Butler at 609-712-3326.

Meals on Wheels

Please consider volunteering for Meals on Wheels, an organization that delivers food to seniors or homebound residents. If interested, please call 609-695-3483, send an e-mail to info@mowte.org, or go to Arc of Mercer building located at 105 Buttonwood Drive, Ewing Township, NJ 08638

Annual Session

The annual session is September 19th 2015. Please contact Rev. Powell by August 15 if you are interested in going.

SAVE A LIFE TOUR 2015

On July 5 after the worship service, we will join together to walk around our church's neighborhood, pass out flyers, and tell people about the Save A Life event. Also, on Saturday, July 11 at 1pm just as the event is getting started, we will again walk around the neighborhood and tell people about the free event. Please join us.

Congratulations to our High School Graduates!!!



Kahmiya Htoo
May Thuzar Oo
Eh D Htoo
Shar Reh Oo
August Htoo
Gabby Reyes
Nawki Labang

Vacation Bible School

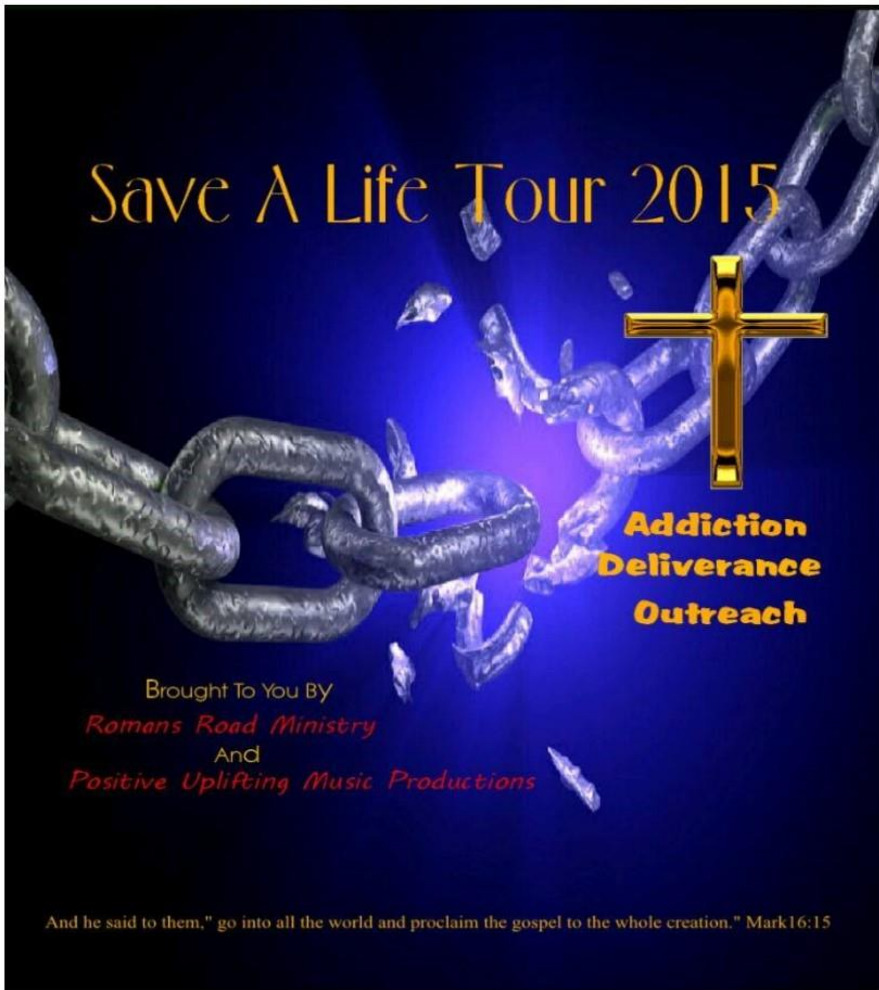
VBS will be August 17-21. Times will be announced. This year's theme is **Everest: Conquering Challenges with God's Mighty Power.**

For more information, contact Emily Davis.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
JULY 2015			1 5:00 STSK	2	3	4
5 9:00 Karen Praise & Prayer 10:00 Worship 11:15 Fellowship	6 5:00 STSK	7 5:00 STSK	8 5:00 STSK	9	10	11
12 9:00 Karen Praise& Prayer 11:00 Worship 11:15 Fellowship	13 5:00 STSK	14 5:00 STSK	15 5:00 STSK	16	17	18
19 9:00 Karen Praise & Prayer 10:00 Worship 11:15 Fellowship 2:00 Hamilton Grove	20 5:00 STSK	21 5:00 STSK	22 5:00 STSK	23	24	25
26 9:00 Karen Praise & Prayer 10:00 Worship 11:15 Fellowship	27 5:00 STSK	28 5:00 STSK	29	30	31 Karen Youth Retreat	

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
AUGUST 2015						1 Karen Youth Retreat
2 9:00 Karen Praise & Prayer 10:00 Worship 11:15 Fellowship	3 5:00 STSK	4 5:00 STSK	5 5:00 STSK	6	7	8
9 9:00 Karen Praise& Prayer 11:00 Worship 11:15 Fellowship	10 5:00 STSK	11 5:00 STSK	12 5:00 STSK	13	14	15 NEWSLETTER INFO DUE
16 9:00 Karen Praise & Prayer 10:00 Worship 11:15 Fellowship	17 5:00 STSK VBS	18 5:00 STSK VBS	19 5:00 STSK VBS	20 VBS	21 VBS	22
23 AND 30 9:00 Karen Praise & Prayer 10:00 Worship 11:15 Fellowship 2:00 Hamilton Grove (AUG. 23 ONLY)	24 AND 31 5:00 STSK	25 5:00 STSK	26	27	28	29



**MUSIC FROM:
RIGHT TO BECOME
ROMANS ROAD
288**

**ALSO FEATURING:
KING RICHARD
PRECIOUS KEITT**



Saturday, July 11
1-6pm

First Baptist Church of Trenton
128 Centre St. Trenton, NJ 08611

FREE ADMISSION, FOOD, BEVERAGES

Special Guest Speaker:
RANDY
DonGIOVANNI



Books of the New Testament

D R V B H K F G J Q J M X O B L F I H K
L E E J N P A Y J C O L O S S I A N S K
L Z X X J W O H B S L J O Y C D O S P S
O U T E C E A T E S Q G P W F P T N H N
M T S O F H Y O F I F P M Y E A P A I A
Z H U Y A T Q M I E E Y V E C J F I L I
L A T G S T I I U T E X G T V D P S E T
O Q I V N A S T E Y K U S Z T Y C E M A
Y T T O A M B R I H U G Z A Q O L H O L
P H E C I E K G U Y L J Z R R J C P N A
N I F Q N L L X Z E U G H I M U W E A G
T U S M O C Y G U D K E N V W L U N P H
Z E L X L T Y J E I B T D F Z Z P B A H
S L B V A M O C Q R H J W N S N K R C U
Y J P N S G V H E I R E V E L A T I O N
J B K T S Q D W A S N A I P P I L I H P
I A T J E M S N R O M A N S Z I W D T N
X J M I H O S X N G O R A Q X P E Y D H
F P J E T Y V B Z M S K R A M L W V G O
I W T W S C T B O N A J S A U U Q X Q J

Acts
Colossians
Corinthians
Ephesians
Galatians
Hebrews
James

John
Jude
Luke
Mark
Matthew
Peter
Philemon

Philippians
Revelation
Romans
Thessalonians
Timothy
Titus

Bible Quiz

deceive the enemies of
her husband. Who
was the husband?

Rooms....

1. What name is given to the room where the Last Supper was held?
2. Who provided a room in an inn for a wounded traveler?
3. For whom did the Shunammite woman prepare a room on the roof of her house?
4. What infant prince was hidden in a bedroom until he was made king?
5. Saul's daughter, Michal, once made up a dummy in a bed o

(answers: 1. The upper room (Mark 14:15, 2 The good Samaritan (Luke 10:35), 3. For Elisha (II Kings 4:11) 4. Joash (II Kings 11:2), 5. David (I Samuel 19:12-13)

JULY/AUGUST 2015

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
128-140 CENTRE STREET
TRENTON, NJ 08611-2215