The Christian Griot

St. Luke C.M.E. Church 809 N. Fifth Street Champaign, Illinois 61820 Phone: 217-356-4922 Rev. Dr. Clarence Buchanan, Pastor Elder Harlan K. Jones, Presiding Elder **Bishop Paul A.G. Stewart, Presiding Prelate**

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May **Events**

2 New Members' Class 7 Gospel Jazz 8 Concert 9 Mother's Day 10 Church Conf. 11 Food Pantry Meeting 13 Ascension Day 23 Pentecost Sunday 23 Church Anniversary

MAY Birthdays

2 Julie Kendrick 2 Camren Richardson 4 Tina March 5 Vada Lewis 5 Vashti Dodd 6 Helen Creighton 6 DeAndre Hill 14 Anivah Lockett 16 Brandon Harvey **19** Clifton Buchanan 20 Michelle Carr 29 Ron Williams 29 Christine Buchanan 31 Felicia Harrington

- 31 Betty Burton
- 31 Madelenne

Williams



Rev. and Mrs. Buchanan Who's Who at St. Luke: Nina Sibley Richardson, Church Announcement Clerk



A Young Mother Who Loves the Lord

Mrs. Nina Sibley Richardson is a young mother of three, wife, has two jobs, and still finds time to participate in activities at St. Luke. As the church Announcement Clerk on Youth and Young Adult Sundays, she conveys the warm voice which welcomes visitors and reads the church announcements. Being the granddaughter of Mrs. Nina Sibley, who is the matriarch of her family, we know she has a superb role model.

Nina was born in Champaign, but being part of a military family afforded her the opportunity to live in many communities in Colorado, Alabama and Maryland. Nina graduated from Aberdeen High School in Aberdeen, Maryland. She earned an Associate Degree in Criminal Justice from Parkland College where she was a member of Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society

Over the years, she has attended churches of all denominations. She was baptized at the age of 15 at a non-denominational church in Maryland. She has attended St. Luke the past five years and participates in the New Life Choir, the Young Adult Fellowship and is a member of the Phyllis H. Bedford Young Adult Department of the Missionary Society. She said she loves St. Luke because the church is like one big family.

Although she doesn't cook, she proclaims that her mother, Theresa Sibley Williams, is one of the best cooks at St. Luke, and her grandmother, Mrs. Nina Sibley, cooks the BEST fried chicken. Her sisters, Christine and Deanna, and brother, Adolphus, most likely agree with her declaration. She and her husband, Cedrick Richardson, are the proud parents of three children: Ebony, Kaitlin and Camren.

In her spare time, she manages rental property, and due to her slight interest in politics since the age of eight, she watches a lot of CNN, MSNBC, Fox News, and C-Span. Nina aspires to become a real estate broker, and she has completed the Real Estate Transaction course at Parkland. She plans to continue her education to fulfill that goal.

Favorite Scripture: 1 Corinthians 13: 1-13 Favorite Song: "When the Saints Go Marching In"

In Memory of My Mother

You were a precious gift from God above, so much beauty and so much love. You touched our hearts in so many ways, your smile so bright even on bad days. You heard God's whisper calling you home, you didn't want to go and leave us alone. You loved so much, you held on tight, till all the strength was gone and you could no longer fight. He had called your name twice before, you knew you could not make Him wait anymore. So you gave your hand to God and slowly drifted away, knowing that with our love we will be together again some day.

Lovingly submitted by Patricia McKinney Lewis



Rohelia Johnson McKinney





Very Special Mother's Day and Get Well Wishes to Mrs. Willia Brown

May God continue to bless you, heal and strengthen you.

From Your St. Luke Family

Thank God for Wonderful Mothers!

A Mother's Love

A Mother's love is something that no one can explain,

It is patient and forgiving when all others are forsaking,

It glows with all the beauty of the rarest, brightest gems.

And another wondrous evidence of God's tender hand.

A many splendid miracle man cannot understand,

Lovingly submitted by Vernon and Ronald Lewis

And it never fails or falters even though the heart is breaking. It believes beyond believing when the world around condemns,

It's far beyond defining, it defies all explanation and it still remains

It is made of deep devotion and sacrifices of pain, It is endless and unselfish and enduring come what may.

For nothing can destroy or take love away...

A secret like the mysteries of creation.



Mrs. Mildred Sparks Witcher 90 Years Young (9-19-19)

Without You

Mom, without you, there would be no me. Your love, your attention, your guidance, have made me who I am. Without you, I would be lost, wandering aimlessly, without direction or purpose. You showed me the way to serve, to accomplish, to persevere. Without you, there would be an empty space I could never fill, no matter how I tried. Instead, because of you, I have joy, contentment, satisfaction and peace. Thank you, mom. I have always loved you and I always will. By Joanna Fuchs



Lovingly submitted by Mrs. Christine Buchanan, Daughter



Muriel Giles Lewis

Happy Mother's PAGE 3 **Day to:** St. Luke's First Lady Congratulations United Council of Negro Women Living Legend Honorees Mrs. Christine Buchanan and Mrs. Willia Former First Ladies Brown Mrs. Nina Sibley Mrs. Ethel Kennedy

"Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven." Matthew 5:16



Happy Mother's Day



Mrs. Earline Stewart First Lady of the Third Episcopal District



Mrs. Sheila Jones First Lady of the **Chicago District**



Mrs. Blanche Douglass

Young at Heart Mothers of St. Luke







Mrs. Ethel Kennedy



HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW BLACK HISTORY?

Congratulations Byron Smith, Jr. Mr. Tuskegee 2010-2011



History of Mr. Tuskegee University

The title of "Mr. Tuskegee University" has been a long-anticipated addition to the list of Tuskegee Student Leadership positions. Mr. Tuskegee University is the representation of the collegiate black male at Tuskegee University. Mr. Tuskegee University is also a liaison and an ambassador for the University. The position of Mr. Tuskegee University has become one of great respect and prestige, and from its beginning, it has since become a key part of student leadership at Tuskegee University.

Happy Mother's Day First Lady Jill Smith . We know you are proud of your children.



Rev. Byron, Sr. and Mrs. Jill Smith with their children Aaron, Deron, Byron, Jr. and Imani.

Dorothy I. Height



Dorothy I. Height, 98, a founding matriarch of the American civil rights movement whose crusade for racial justice and gender equality spanned more than six decades, died early Tuesday morning, April 19, 2010, of natural causes, a spokesperson for the National Council of

Negro Women said.

Ms. Height was among the coalition of African American leaders who pushed civil rights to the center of the American political stage after World War II, and she was a key figure in the struggles for school desegregation, voting rights, employment opportunities and public accommodations in the 1950s and 1960s. Ms. Height was president of the National Council of Negro Women for 40 years, relinquishing the title in 1997. The 4 million-member advocacy group consists of 34 national and 250 community-based organizations. It was founded in 1935 by educator Mary McLeod Bethune, who was one of Ms. Height's mentors. As a civil rights activist, Ms. Height participated in protests in Harlem during the 1930s. In the 1940s, she lobbied first lady Eleanor Roosevelt on behalf of civil rights causes. And in the 1950s, she prodded President Dwight D. Eisenhower to move more aggressively on school desegregation issues. In 1994, Bill Clinton awarded her the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest civilian honor.

Excerpt from the Washington Post by Bart Barnes

Ascension Day

Ascension Day marks the day when Jesus Christ ascended up into Heaven. It was 40 days after his resurrection from the dead, which was on Easter Sunday (in A.D. 30). If you begin with Easter Sunday (April 4, 2010) and count 40 days, you end up on Thursday, May 13.

The Biblical account of the Ascension appears in the book of Acts, chapter one:

After his suffering, he (Jesus) showed himself to these men (the apostles) and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God. On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command:

"Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit."



Stewardess Day April 11, 2010 Presenting the Women of the Bible The Good and the Bad...

St. Luke was treated to an afternoon of great music and portrayals of women of the Bible by St. Luke women and women representing various churches in the Champaign-Urbana community. Among the ladies participating were :

Clara Bright, Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church; Fay Weatherspoon, St. Luke CME Church; Mary Harris, Pilgrim Missionary Baptist Church; Brenda Owens, St. Luke; Mary Haywood Benson, Bethel AME Church; Audra Owens, Vineyard Church; and Tina March, St. Luke CME Church.



Clara Bright, Ruth



Brenda Owens, Delilah



Fay Weatherspoon, Queen of Sheba



Audra Owens, Martha



Mary Harris, Sarah



Mary Haywood Benson, Dorcas





Sis. Melinda Wallick, Stewardess Board President