

The Christian Griot

St. Luke C.M.E. Church

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Volume 3, Issue 1

October 2008

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Rev. and Mrs. Buchanan



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Who's Who at St. Luke: Sister Bertha Williams



Sister Bertha Williams, a quiet, dedicated servant, was born and raised in Jefferson, Texas, a town nestled between the Louisiana and Arkansas borders near Little Rock, Arkansas. Before attending Texas College, Sister Williams graduated from a small rural high school, Victory High School. While at Texas College, Sister Williams majored in home economics. Texas College is where she met the love of her life, Clarence Williams. They married and moved to Amarillo, Texas.

After moving to Amarillo, Texas, the couple joined Carter Temple CME church under the pastorate of Rev. W.A. Scholtz. In 1966 when the Amarillo Air Force Base closed, the Williams family was transferred to the Chanute Air Force Base. Since there wasn't much available housing in Rantoul, they made their home in Champaign.

Mr. and Mrs. Williams joined St. Luke soon after moving here in 1966. The late Rev. A. W. Bishop was the pastor. While at St. Luke, Sister Williams has been a faithful member of the Usher Board. In addition to chairing the Pastor's Aide Society, she has participated in the Women's Fellowship, Missionary Society, and was a helper for Stewardess Board #2. Mrs. Williams helped many years with the annual White House Tea, and was one of the first ladies of the church to chair and act as a hostess for the Harvest Tea. Mr. Williams, now deceased, was a long time member of the Steward Board and he also served as the Recording Steward. Mr. Williams and Mrs. Williams, along with their seven children: Ron, Larry (Mary), Cyrus (Erika), Terry, Carl (deceased), Andrea (deceased), and Luana, have been hard-working, active members at St. Luke.

Although Sister Williams retired from the U.S. Post Office after many years of Civil Service, she is also a professional seamstress. Sister Williams worked as a tailor for Carson Pirie Scott and Redwood and Ross in the Champaign-Urbana area. She also worked as a copy dress maker in Amarillo, Texas.

In her spare time, she keeps busy by doing a little sewing, reading and spending time with her grandchildren. She also babysits part-time for several of her grandchildren.

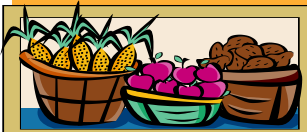
Favorite scripture: Isaiah 40:31

Favorite hymn/song: "Because He Lives, I Can Face Tomorrow"

Birthdays

October

- 1 James Brown
- 4 Teresa S. William
- Gail Thorpe
- Edward Hicks
- Tyanne Parker
- 10 Ronald Lewis
- 11 Scott Nesbitt
- 15 Tatiyana Peppers
- 20 Bertha Williams
- Mikya Robinson
- 22 Ashlee Saddler
- 23 Shawn Lewis
- 25 Raymond Hill
- 26 Josie Harmon
- 28 Tyrone Parker



St. Luke CME Mission Statement:

Our Mission is to know Jesus Christ and to make Him known to others.

Son of St. Luke, Son of St. Luke, Son of St. Luke, Son of St. Luke



Rev. Cedric Nesbitt, son of William Nesbitt and Quanita Nolan Nesbitt, grew up in St. Luke. He is now the pastor of Glory Center International. The following biography was submitted by his church, Glory Center International. We are proud of his many accomplishments while serving to build the Kingdom of God and ministering to the Champaign-Urbana community.

A poignant author, a successful entrepreneur, a skillful psalmist, and a beloved pastor, C.D. Nesbitt is the Senior Leader of Glory Center International in Champaign, Illinois. Recognized by the News Gazette as a “cutting edge leader,” Pastor C.D. Nesbitt leads what the media classifies as one of the fastest growing ministries in the Midwest region. Through his non-conventional yet practical approach to ministering the Word, Pastor Nesbitt has led countless many to the love of Jesus Christ. Also acclaimed by Gospel Today as one of the world’s most beloved pastors, C.D. Nesbitt has a message of restoration and empowerment to reach the masses. Serving as a life coach to many and an international speaker, his message crosses racial, social, and economic barriers and has put him in demand

both inside and outside the church walls.

Moving from seven worshippers in a living room to being recognized by the News-Gazette as one of the fastest growing ministries in the region, the vision that God has given Pastor C.D. and Lady Tyra Nesbitt has placed Glory Center International on a path of rapid and immeasurable growth. Through Pastor Nesbitt’s dynamic leadership there are currently over 40 functioning ministries within Glory Center International. With the vision statement, “Experiencing God, Changing Lives, and Restoring Hope”, Glory Center International has been positioned to create a mark of holistic empowerment that can not be erased. In late 2007, Pastor Nesbitt introduced The Glory Center Bible Institute. This epicenter of learning serves to educate and equip individuals with four semesters of curricula each year. Through the curricula offered at GCBI, students will possess an extensive functioning knowledge of the bible and current world issues. GCBI provides an excellent opportunity for those that feel the call to some capacity of leadership or those that simply aspire to know more about the bible and world issues. For more information visit www.glorycenter.org.

Since its inception in 2004, the International Gathering of Glory Carriers conference (IGGC) has attracted several hundred attendees yearly. The fusion of C.D. Nesbitt Ministries and Glory Center International has birthed a popular yearly symposium that is a source of empowerment to men, women and children alike. Each year there are well known national and international speakers that deliver messages of healing, deliverance and restoration. The International Gathering of Glory Carriers conference has hosted speakers and artists such as: Bishop Larry Trotter, Dr. Marvin Sapp, Bishop Eric McDaniel, New Direction, Pastor Donnie McClurkin, and many more.

The outreach efforts of Pastor Nesbitt and Glory Center International do not just take place within the four walls of any physical building. There are various partnerships formed to assist those that are living in perilous physical, spiritual, economic conditions.

Pastor Nesbitt and Glory Center International are in partnership with the Times Center. This partnership enables the physical and spiritual needs of men to be met. Initiatives throughout the year are facilitated and generous donations are given.

Pastor Nesbitt and Glory Center International are also in partnership with the Juliana Timm Children’s Fund. This partnership has been formed to serve disadvantaged orphans in Malawi, Africa. Providing not only monetary support but also food, clothing, medical assistance, and HIV/AIDS education are some of the important highlights of this partnership.

Pastor Nesbitt is also a community and social advocate. He serves as an advisor for the Aglow International Midwest Region. Pastor Nesbitt is also an advisory board member for the Regional Prayer Summit Advisory Counsel in the Midwest Region. He is an advocate and was also a keynote speaker for the National African-American Parent Involvement Day. Pastor Nesbitt has strong ties to the Bruce D. Nesbitt African American Cultural Center on the University of Illinois campus and has been instrumental in impacting the student population at the U of I.

Pastor Nesbitt’s weekly broadcast “The Glory Connection” and daily broadcast “Soul Food” have become a driving force to reach the masses for the Kingdom.

Serving alongside Pastor Nesbitt, as his partner in ministry and best friend, is his lovely wife Lady Tyra Nesbitt. They have three handsome sons: Christian, Nicolas, and Brayden.

Time to Reflect

A Word from Joel and Victoria Osteen

"He leads me beside quiet waters." (Psalm 23:2)

If you've ever said to yourself, "I don't even have time to think," then you know how hard it is to concentrate when you're being bombarded from all sides. It's even harder to focus on God and His Word when we can't take time to renew our minds and refresh our spirits through quiet reflection. God doesn't often shout to get our attention. Instead, the Bible says that He speaks in "a still small voice" (1 Kings 19:12) - which means we need to be listening!

So, what can you do to put yourself in a position to hear God's voice? It requires making time in your daily routine to become still and quiet in God's presence. Find a room in your house, outside under the trees, or some other place where you can shut out the distractions of the world for a few precious minutes each day.



A Prayer for Today

God, I want to find those quiet waters of peace where I can get alone with You every day and meditate on You. Thank You for wanting to speak to my heart and show me Your will. In Jesus' Name. Amen.



Million Dollar Smile

Gabriel Donald was all smiles after being presented a McKinney-Lewis Tenth Anniversary scholarship to buy school supplies. He announced to everyone he saw after church at Jericho Missionary Baptist Church where his mother, Luana Williams, is the musician, "I have a

scholarship." This year, sixteen children, at St. Luke, were presented McKinney-Lewis \$50 scholarships to buy school supplies.



Christian One Liners

Some people are kind, polite, and sweet-spirited until you try to sit in their pews.

The good Lord didn't create anything without a purpose, but mosquitoes come close.

Peace starts with a smile.

PERKS OF BEING OVER 50

(If you're not over 50, this is what you have to look forward to)

1. **You can eat dinner at 4 pm.**
2. **You get into heated arguments about pension plans.**
3. **You no longer think of speed limits as challenge.**
4. **You quit trying to hold your stomach in no matter who walks into the room.
You sing along with elevator music.**

KNOW YOUR HISTORY!



Ida Bell Wells (July 16, 1862 – March 25, 1931), was an African American civil rights advocate and an early women's rights advocate active in the Woman Suffrage Movement.

Ida B. Wells was born in Holly Springs, Mississippi on July 16, 1862 to a carpenter, James Wells, and Elizabeth "Lizzie Bell" Warrenton Wells, both of whom were slaves until freed at

the end of the Civil War.

In 1893, she and other black leaders, among them Frederick Douglass, organized a boycott of the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago. At the suggestion of white abolitionist and anti-lynching crusader Albion Tourgée, Wells and her coalition produced a pamphlet to be distributed during the exposition. Called *Why the Colored American Is Not in the World's Columbian Exposition*, it detailed in English and a few other languages the workings of Southern lynchings and a handful of other issues impinging on black Americans. She later reported to Tourgée that 2,000 copies had been distributed at the fair.

Throughout her life, Wells was militant in her demands for equality and justice for African-Americans and insisted that the African-American community must win justice through its own efforts. As playwright Tazewell Thompson sums her up, "...A woman born in slavery, she would grow to become one of the great pioneer activists of the Civil Rights movement. A precursor of Rosa Parks, she was a suffragist, newspaper editor and publisher, investigative journalist, co-founder of the NAACP, political candidate, mother, wife, and the single most powerful leader in the anti-lynching campaign in America. A dynamic, controversial, temperamental, uncompromising race woman, she broke bread and crossed swords with some of the movers and shakers of her time: Frederick Douglass, Susan B. Anthony, Marcus Garvey, Booker T. Washington, W. E. B. Du Bois, Francis Willard, and President McKinley. By any fair assessment, she was a seminal figure in Post-Reconstruction America."

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia



Blanche Kelso Bruce (March 1, 1841 – March 17, 1898) was an American politician.

Bruce was born in Prince Edward County, Virginia near Farmville to Pettis Perkinson, a white Virginia plantation owner, and an African American house slave named Polly Bruce. He was treated com-

paratively well by his father, who educated him together with his legitimate half-brother. When Blanche Bruce was young, he played with his half-brother. As Blanche Bruce was born enslaved, because of his mother's status, his father legally freed him and arranged for an apprenticeship so he could learn a trade.

Bruce represented Mississippi as a U.S. Senator from 1875 to 1881 and was the first Black American to serve a full term in the U.S. Senate. Hiram R. Revels, also of Mississippi, was the first to ever serve in the U.S. Congress, but did not serve a full term.

At the 1880 Republican National Convention in Chicago, Bruce became the first African-American to win any votes at a major party's nominating convention, winning 8 votes for vice president. In 1881, Bruce was appointed by President James A. Garfield to be the Register of the Treasury, making Bruce the first black person whose signature was represented on U.S. paper currency. Bruce served as the District of Columbia recorder of deeds in 1891–93, and again as register of the treasury until his death in 1898.

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Mark Your Calendar!

Harvest Tea

October 19, 2008

3:30 PM

