

The Christian Griot

St. Luke C.M.E. Church

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Rev. Dr. Clarence Buchanan, Pastor

Elder Eduardo Spragg, Presiding Elder

Bishop Paul Stewart, Presiding Prelate

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Patricia McKinney Lewis, Editor



Rev. and Mrs. Buchanan

UPCOMING EVENTS

AUGUST

Annual Conference	3-9
Planning Meeting 6:00 PM	18
Back to School Celebration 5:30-7:00 PM	22

Pastor's Corner



Who's Who at St. Luke !



Sister Felicia Harrington grew up in the small town of Gibson, Tennessee. She is the younger of two daughters of Rev. Sammie L. Hankins and the late Lenora Bardwell Hankins. She grew up a "PK" (preacher's kid), and was the musician for many of the churches that her father pastored while growing up.

Felicia graduated from Gibson County High School, and participated in the marching band playing the saxophone.

She was also a member of the school choir. Felicia went on to graduate from Memphis State University, now named The University of Memphis. There, she earned a Bachelor of Business Administration in Finance.

Felicia is currently employed at PersonalCare, A Coventry Health Care Plan, and has held previous positions as Enrollment & Billing Manager, Claims Manager, Implementation Manager, and currently holds the position, Manager of Service Operations. She has been employed at PersonalCare for 16 ½ years.

Felicia currently is involved in many organizations within St. Luke including : The Anniversary Committee, The Pastor's Aid Committee, The E.P. Murchison Club, The Board of Evangelism, The Missionary Society, and is a teacher each year for Vacation Bible School.

Felicia is married to Minister Vernon Harrington, and they have two daughters, Tiffany (age 12) and Jasmine (age 9). Felicia enjoys reading, shopping, and spending time with her family.

Her favorite Bible verse is Proverbs 3: 5-6 "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge Him, and he shall direct thy path." Felicia's favorite song is "Total Praise".

Birthdays

AUGUST

- 1 Gloria Dixon
- 2 Marissa Abernathy
- 5 Jacqui Davis
Wesley King
- 6 Rev. Buchanan
Nicole Dunlap
Luanna Williams
- 11 Vincent Townsend
- 13 Malinda Wallick
- 20 Ben Walton
- 24 Robert Sadler
- 27 Thelma Pealer
- 28 Nina Sibley
- 29 Ronald Casey

St. Luke CME Vision

Our vision is to be a church where we live under God's new covenant, following His commandment to love one another as He has loved us. By giving and receiving the love of Jesus Christ, we will show to the world that we are His disciples. Through our discipleship, we will lead others to the way of eternal salvation. St. Luke will be a sanctuary where the Holy Bible is taught as the true and living word of God, where the preached word of God will go forth to the people, and where the people fervently pray for God's grace and mercy to flow here on earth. We see St. Luke providing a refuge for the homeless, being a haven of peace and rest for the old and weary, and a place of strength and encouragement for the weak and downtrodden. St. Luke will become like a light set on a hill, so that all can see the goodness of God here on earth and make them yearn even more for His treasures in heaven.

Bible Corner

Who wrote Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and Song of Solomon?

King David's son, Solomon is credited with writing Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and Song of Solomon, during his reign (971 - 931 B.C.). The seventeen Prophetic books of the major and minor prophets span Israel's history from 700 - 450 B.C. For 400 years after the writing of the Book of Malachi, the Lord was silent and the Old Testament was closed.

Have You Heard? Good News! Halleluiah, Praise Corner!

You're not just a survivor. You are more than a conqueror.

It's easy to get into a survival mode. When times get tough and things aren't going our way, it's tempting to just settle where we are, not believe for increase and not believe to go any further. It's tempting to think, "If I can just hold on. If I can just make it through another year." If we're not careful, we'll develop a survival mentality to where we're not releasing our faith. We're not believing to rise any higher. We're just hoping to maintain. We'd be satisfied if we could just break even. But we're not supposed to break even. We're supposed to break through to a new level, to more of God's favor, increase and promotion.

God says in the book of Jeremiah that if we'll keep the Lord as our trust and confidence, God will prosper us even in the desert. He'll prosper us even in difficult times. That means when others are going under God says you'll go over!

God can prosper us even in the desert if we'll just be bold enough to believe. You were created to thrive in life! Won't you believe that for your life today.

Strong On Your Behalf

"The eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth to show Himself strong on behalf of those whose hearts are loyal toward Him" (II Chronicles 16:9).

God wants to show Himself strong on your behalf! He's looking for hearts that are faithful to Him. He wants to amaze you with His goodness, and make you an example of His faithfulness-especially when everything around you seems difficult. It's not much of a stretch to believe for blessing and promotion when everyone is being blessed.

When everything is going great around you, it's easy for people to look at your life and say, "Oh, that's just because the economy is strong and we live in a land of abundance." But when things don't look so good and you prosper anyway, that's a greater testimony to the world. People will know that it makes a difference to serve the Most High God!

Keep your heart turned toward God and expect increase even if things look difficult. Remember, God wants to show Himself strong on your behalf. He is building a testimony in you. He wants to pour out His abundant blessing and fulfill every dream and desire in your heart to His glory!

A Prayer for Today

Father in heaven, thank You for Your goodness and desire to show Yourself strong on my behalf. I invite You to work in my life. Keep my heart and mind close to You always. I bless Your Holy Name. In Jesus' Name. Amen

Today's Word from Joel and Victoria



'The will of God will never take you where the Grace of God will not protect you'

'To get something you never had, you have to do something you never did.' When God takes something from your grasp, He's not punishing you, but merely opening your hands to receive something better. Concentrate on this sentence.....'The will of God will never take you where the Grace of God will not protect you'

Always Remember God gives you...
Enough Happiness to keep you Sweet
Enough Trials to keep you Strong
Enough Sorrows to keep you Human
Enough Hope to keep you Happy
Enough Failure to keep you Humble
Enough Success to keep you Eager
Enough Friends to give you Comfort
Enough Wealth to meet your Needs
Enough Enthusiasm to make you look forward
Enough Faith to banish depression, and Enough Determination to make each day a better day than the last.

Life must be lived forward but can only be understood backwards. Commit to the Lord in whatever you do and your plans will succeed. (Proverbs 16:3)



William Caesar Warfield (22 January 1920 - 26 August 2002), concert baritone singer, was born in West Helena, Arkansas and grew up in Rochester, New York, where his father was called to serve as pastor of Mt. Vernon Church. He gave his recital debut in New York's Town Hall on March 19, 1950. He was quickly invited by the Australian Broadcasting Corporation to tour that continent for 35 concerts. In 1952, Warfield performed in *Porgy and Bess* during a tour of Europe sponsored by the U.S. State Department (he made six separate tours for the US Department of State, more than any other American solo artist.) In this production he played opposite the opera star Leontyne Price, whom he soon married, but the demands of two separate careers left them little time together. They divorced in 1972, but were featured together in a 1963 studio recording of excerpts from *Porgy and Bess*.

Warfield was also accomplished in acting and poetry recitation. He played the character De Lawd in a celebrated Hallmark Hall of Fame television production of *The Green Pastures*, a role he played twice (these were the days of live TV, before video tape). He appeared in two Hollywood films, including a star-making performance as Joe in MGM's 1951 Technicolor remake of *Show Boat*. Warfield was a graduate of the Eastman School of Music. In 1975 he accepted an appointment as Professor of Music at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He later became Chairman of the Voice Department.



Lena Horne was born in Bedford-Stuyvesant, Brooklyn, New York. She grew up in an upper middle class black community. Her father, Edwin "Teddy" Horne, who worked in the gambling trade, left the family when she was three. Her mother, Edna Scottron, was the daughter of inventor Samuel R. Scottron; she was an actress with an African American theater troupe and traveled extensively. Horne was mainly raised by her grandparents, Cora Calhoun and

Edwin Horne. Her uncle, Frank S. Horne, was an adviser to Franklin Delano Roosevelt. She is a reported descendant of the John C. Calhoun family

Horne also is noteworthy for her contributions to the Civil Rights movement. In 1941, she sang at Cafe Society and worked with Paul Robeson, a singer who also combated American racial discrimination. During World War II, when entertaining the troops for the USO, she refused to perform "for segregated audiences or to groups in which German POWs were seated in front of African American servicemen" ^[5], according to her Kennedy Center biography. She was at an NAACP rally with Medgar Evers in Jackson, Mississippi the weekend before Evers was assassinated. She was at the March on Washington and spoke and performed in behalf of the NAACP, SNCC and the National Council for Negro Women. She also worked with Eleanor Roosevelt to pass anti-lynching laws. ^[6]

Horne married Louis Jordan Jones in January 1937 and they lived in Pittsburgh. In December 1937 they had a daughter, Gail and in February 1940, a son, Edwin. Horne and Jones separated in 1940 and they divorced in 1944. Lena Horne's second marriage was to Lennie Hayton, a Jewish American, from December 1947 until his death in 1971. Hayton was one of the premier musical conductors and arrangers at MGM. In her as-told-to autobiography *Lena* by Richard Schickel, Horne recounts the enormous pressures she and her husband faced as an interracial married couple. However, she later admitted (*Ebony*, May 1980) that she really married Hayton to advance her career and cross the "color-line" in show business. Horne is a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated.