

The Christian Griot

St. Luke C.M.E. Church
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Rev. Dr. Clarence Buchanan, Pastor
Elder Karen Walker-McClure, Presiding Elder
Bishop Paul A. G. Stewart, Presiding Prelate

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Rev. Dr. Clarence and Mrs. Christine Buchanan

CONSECRATION DAY HELD AT ST. LUKE CME

OCTOBER

EVENTS

- 8 Family Fun Night
- 9 Quarterly Conference
- 10 Lay Day
- 16 Food Pantry
- 30 Hallelujah Night
- 31 Harvest Tea

BIRTHDAYS

October

- 1 James Brown
- 4 Teresa S. Williams
Gail Thorpe
Edward Hicks
Tyanne Parker
- 6 Mia Sibley
- 8 Logan Parks
- 9 Gabby Linard
- 9 Dayesha James
- 10 Ronald Lewis
- 11 Scott Nesbitt
- 14 Vernon Harrington
- 15 Tatiyana Peppers
- 16 Camiyah Kinard
- 20 Mikya Robinson
- 21 Sydni Williams
- 22 Ashlee Saddler
- 23 Shawn Lewis
- 25 Raymond Hill
- 26 Josie Harmon
- 28 Tyrone Parker
- 30 Carleigh Parks
- 30 Elijah Johnson

The act of consecration expresses our desire to unite ourselves to the Holy Spirit's will. On August 20th, Rev. Dr. Clarence Buchanan and St. Luke CME in Champaign, IL, started the new conference year with a sacred Consecration Service recognizing and praising the awesome power and love of God. Special prayers and songs were dedicated for each ministry and department of the church.

The Bible states, "You shall consecrate yourselves therefore and be holy, for I am the Lord your God" (Leviticus 20:7). Consecration plays an important role in our growth toward God. Consecration has two parts; our part and God's. Our part is the pragmatic side of separating ourselves from sinful living. God's part of our being consecrated, is to guide us for His use by actually making us holy. In being prepared for holy use, God has to also prepare our body for being used in ministry. As Christians, God has already cleansed us on the inside and made us holy. 1 Corinthians 6:19 tells us, "...Your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit *who is* in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own." After salvation, God's part in consecrating us for His use is to wash our body with His presence. The Holy Spirit is the source of sanctifying grace, the life of God within our souls. By submitting our will to His, we grow in holiness.

Sunday School Teachers and Helpers Honored



Pictured are: Rev. Clarence Buchanan, Mrs. Christine Buchanan, Sis. Dora Jamerson, Sis. Brenda Owens, Sis. Tammy Jones, Min. Jacqui Davis, Sis. Fay Weatherspoon and Sis. Tina March, Sunday School Superintendent. Not pictured are: Nate Dixon and Rev. Vernon Harrington

On September 12th, the Sunday School department recognized teachers, substitute teachers and helpers. Superintendent Tina March presented each teacher with a certificate of appreciation recognizing their dedicated service to the Sunday School department. Helper, Jackie Brown, was also recognized.

National Usher Day

National Usher Day was also observed on September 12th. A special Soup and Salad Luncheon, prepared by the Usher Board, was enjoyed by the congregation.

CME GOVERNMENT STRUCTURE

I. General Conference

The General Conference meets once every four years. The General Conference has full powers to make rules and regulations for the Church subject to the limitations of the restrictive rules. The General Conference is comprised of delegates elected by the Annual Conferences, one half of whom are ministers and one half lay members.

General Connectional Board

The General Connectional Board meets once a year in May, except during General Conference. It governs the general affairs of the Church with such powers as may be fixed and determined by the General Conference.

II. Episcopacy

				
Bishop Paul A.G. Stewart 3rd District	Bishop Lawrence L. Reddick 1st District	Bishop Henry Williamson 8th District	Bishop Thomas L. Hoyt 7th District	Bishop Kenneth W. Carter 6th District

There is an Episcopacy. The Bishops of the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church are elected by the General Conference and consecrated in the historic manner of Episcopal Methodism. There is a College of Bishops comprised of all the Bishops of the Church. The College of Bishops plan for the general oversight and promotion of the entire church. A Bishop presides over an Annual Conference.

III. Judicial Council

					
Bishop Thomas L. Brown 4th District	Bishop Sylvester Williams 2nd District	Bishop James Walker 9th District	Bishop W. Edward Lockett 5th District	Bishop Teresa Snorton 11th District	Bishop Godwin Umoette 10th District

The Judicial Council of the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church is like a third branch of government in which bishops represent the executive branch, the General Conference represents the legislative branch and the Judicial Council represents the judicial branch.

The nine member Council, which is elected by the General Conference, guarantees "due process" for members and clergy of the

Our bishops represent the executive branch of our government structure, the General Conference represents the legislative branch, and the Judicial Council represents the judicial branch.

Church and is the final interpreter of The Book of Discipline. Members, lay or clergy, may petition the Council for declaratory judgment (interpretation) for paragraphs of The Discipline.

The council was voted into existence by the 1946 General Conference and became operative in 1950. Prior to 1946, the bishops were the final interpreters of The Book of Discipline.

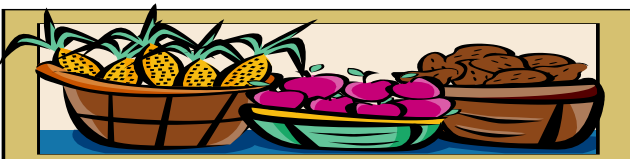


Act of Consecration to the Holy Spirit

O Holy Spirit, Divine Spirit of light and love, I consecrate to Thee my understanding, heart, and will, my whole being for time and eternity. May my understanding be always submissive to Thy heavenly inspirations, and to the teaching of Thy Church, of which Thou are the infallible guide. May my heart be ever inflamed with love of God and of my neighbor; may my will be ever conformed to the divine will; and may my whole life be a faithful imitation of the life and virtues of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, to whom with the Father and Thee be honour and glory forever. Amen.

Seven Steps to a Spiritual Breakthrough

1. **Confession:** Confess who God is.
2. **Supplication:** Confess your needs to God.
3. **Adoration:** Give God the glory.
4. **Communion:** Seek a relationship with God.
5. **Intersession:** Let the Holy Spirit take over, and pray for others.
6. **Praise:** Praise him from your heart.
7. **Thanksgiving:** Live with faith and thanksgiving; give thanks for God's mercy.



St. Luke Harvest Tea
October 31, 2010
3:30 PM

Who will be crowned
the King or Queen of
the Harvest Tea?

Marvin Sapp's Wife Loses Battle With Cancer

By [Staff and Wire Reports](#)

Published: September 09, 2010

It's with our deepest sympathy that we inform you that Pastor Marvin Sapp's wife MaLinda Sapp has passed on today after battling colon cancer.



It was confirmed on the Lonnie Hunter (Praise 92.1 Houston) show today. An official press release has not been issued yet but more details will be coming on the Yolanda Adams Morning show tomorrow morning!

Earlier this year, Marvin Sapp was testifying of how his wife, MaLinda, was given a clean bill of health by doctors after being diagnosed with Stage 4 Colon Cancer in 2009. But then, those health concerns resurfaced and Marvin Sapp requested intense, around-the-clock prayer.

Back in April of 2009 Marvin Sapp's wife MaLinda went to the hospital after experiencing excruciating pain. At first, the two thought she likely had kidney stones. But according to Sapp, the doctors checked her and couldn't find any stones. In a recent interview he explained, "But the pain wouldn't leave, so they did some tests and came back to the room and told us it was stage four colon cancer." Then, earlier this year, the doctors pronounced Mrs. Sapp Cancer-free.

Please keep Pastor Marvin Sapp and family in your prayers during this difficult time.

Article reposted from PraiseHouston.com

Quarterly Conference
October 9, 2010
1:00 PM

KNOW YOUR HISTORY!

Why Grace is Amazing

By [Alan Riley](#)

The song is "Amazing Grace." And the story behind the song is as remarkable as the song itself.

John Newton was a slave trader who lived a despicable life for most of his early years. After nearly losing his life in a violent storm at sea, Newton He gave his life to Christ. The change in Newton's life was not immediate but gradual. He began to encourage his crew to pray and he saw to it that his human cargo were treated with kindness and gentleness, but it wasn't until years later that God convicted Newton's heart that slavery was sinful, and years more before he would openly oppose the slave trade.

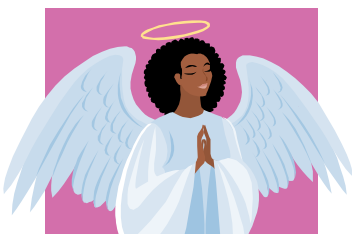
At the age of 28 John Newton suffered a stroke and was unable to return to sea. He later saw that as yet another way God was reaching out to him. Despite his lack of a formal education, in 1764 Newton was ordained as a minister and was offered the a pastorate at Olney in Buckinghamshire.

As time passed, Newton came to realize how abhorrent slavery was in the eyes of God. He was tormented by the thoughts of the suffering he had helped inflict on others, and became with each passing year more and more amazed that God would choose to save him, much less call him into the ministry and use him in His service. Newton became known as a staunch abolitionist and for the rest of his life he worked to end the slave trade in Great Britain.

On New Year's Eve, 1773, Newton decided to preach on 1 Chronicles 17:16-17. In that passage, King David marvels that God had chosen him. As a part of that sermon, Newton decided to share a poem he had written a year before that was essentially his testimony. The name of the poem was "Faith's review and expectation." We know it today as "Amazing Grace."

The song Amazing Grace is so popular precisely because God's grace is indeed amazing. No matter who you are, no matter where you are from, no matter what you have done or haven't done, we all share the same essential testimony: "I once was lost but now I'm found, 'twas blind, but now I see." All of us, know in our hearts that we did not deserve God's gift of salvation. We all know that it is God's grace - his unmerited favor on us that has brought us to where we are today.

You may not have been as wicked as John Newton and caused great pain and suffering to others, but you know that you are a sinner who was (or is) in need of a Savior. Later in his life, John Newton was quoted as saying, "I know that I was a great sinner, and that Christ is a great Savior." We all know that in our hearts.



Test Your Knowledge of the CME Church

- When and where was the CME Church founded?
- What is the College of Bishops?
- What is the CME Book of Discipline?
- Who is the Presiding Prelate of the 3rd Episcopal District?
- Who is our Presiding Elder?
- What are the responsibilities of the Steward Board? Trustee Board? Stewardess Board? Recording Steward?
- How often is the General Conference convened?