



*The Victorious
Vessel*



Vol. 24 ,Q2: April - June 2024

CONGRATULATIONS



Sis. Traci J. Grant has been named to a new position at Santee Cooper, Director of Inclusive Strategies. She will also continue in her role as Corporate Secretary. She joined Santee Cooper 26 years ago as a financial analyst and has worked in the budget, customer billing, pricing and planning areas. She was named Group Leader of Pricing in May 2004 and Manager of Budget and Customer Billing in February 2017. She moved to Director of Corporate Services in March 2020. Grant has also served on Santee Cooper's Corporate Engagement and Oversight Committee and is a recent graduate of the Diversity Leaders Initiative (DLI), an award-winning program of Furman University's Riley Institute. She has a Bachelor of Science from South Carolina State University, where she studied agribusiness and economics.

“SERVICE TO ALL MANKIND”

Sis. Wendrah McCoy was awarded “Most Promising New Soror” for her leadership and service to her sorority and community. The award was presented during Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.®, Gamma Xi Omega Chapter's Founders' Day Celebration that took place on February 11, 2024. Sis.

Thuane B. Fielding, who serves as Co-Chairman for the South Atlantic Region's Leadership Development Institute Committee, was the speaker for the occasion.



MEMOIRS OF A BLACK SOUTHERN LAWYER

Deacon Edward M. Brown, author of "**Memoirs of a Black Southern Lawyer**," was featured in the **Thurgood Marshall Center Trust Black History Month Lecture Series**. Sis. Garcia Williams, CEO of Stellar Communications, facilitated this conversation about the legal system and his experiences as a Black lawyer in the South.



JOHN L. DART LIBRARY GRAND REOPENING



Our 8th pastor, the Rev. Dr. Caroles S. Taylor, participated in the Grand-Reopening Ceremony of the John L. Dart Library, the namesake of Morris Street Baptist Church's 2nd pastor.

Founded as Dart Hall in 1927 by his daughter, Susan Dart Butler, the library originated as a reading room to provide library services to African Americans in Charleston. She operated the reading room until the opening of the Dart Hall Branch of the Charleston Free Library in 1931, making it the first library for African Americans in the state of South Carolina.



To view the grand opening ceremony, visit: <https://youtu.be/SM-p779KOUe?feature=shared>

To read more about the history of the Dart Library, visit www.ccpl.org/branches/dart

Morris Street Baptist Church Technology Team

by Deacon Al Sumter



Wendrah McCoy



Amber S. McCoy



Marcus (MJ) Grant, Jr.

The pandemic a couple of years ago brought about many changes to the way church services were conducted. This included wearing of masks and gloves, adequate seating spaces, less contact with members, fewer people in attendance, and many other adjustments of having Sunday fellowship. In an effort to provide continuity of service, the MSBC Technology Team was created.

The above team members (Wendrah McCoy, Amber S. McCoy and Marcus (MJ) Grant, Jr.) have provided excellent support since the inception, to assure that the services are broadcast live each Sunday on Facebook and Youtube. This allows the sick and shut-in members and visitors to join in the worship experience. This great team continues to record and broadcast all church programs. Let us give them our sincere prayers and words of encouragement!

WHAT A FELLOWSHIP

The MSBC Choir fellowshiped together at Buckshot's Restaurant and joined Mt. Nebo AME Church for worship through song at their "Pack the Pew" service on February 18th. A special thank you to Mayor Miriam Green and the Mt. Nebo AME Church family for the invitation and their gracious hospitality!



MSBC GOES RED

Each year, MSBC goes red on the third Sunday of February in observance of American Heart Health Month.



Sensational Senior Citizen of Morris Street Baptist Church

by Deacon Al Sumter



Miriam L. Gadsden, Trustee Emeritus

I will give thanks to you Lord, with all my heart. I will tell of all your wonderful deeds. I will be glad and rejoice in you; I will sing the praises of your name, O Most High. Psalm 9:1-2

Sister Miriam Gadsden is happy to have been an employee of the Morris Street Baptist Church. She has been recognized for her unwavering dedication, support and love as Administrative Assistant over the last 40 plus years. She will always have the love for God, the many Pastors with their inspiring messages of God; the distinguished coworkers and many others, will forever be a part of her heart.

anniversaries, and many other church reports.

She has more than earned her resignation and we thank her tremendously for the support, love, and very efficient service she has provided over the years. She took great pride in preparing all correspondences, church programs, programs for special occasions,

Sister Gadsden also served as an Educator in the Charleston County District 20 School District for over 40 years. In addition, she served faithfully as a member of the Trustee Board for many years and was recently honored by the church for her service during her resignation from the Board.

Sister Gadsden became involved in several activities at the church. One of which was the After School Tutorial Program. The late Sisters Vernell Jones and Thelma Sharpe volunteered to assist with the eight elementary students' class after school on Mondays through Thursdays for two years. For the parents, it was a no monetary value program – all voluntary as a means of helping the students and parents.

In July 1993 and in 2019, Sister Gadsden was named “Woman of the Year” for her outstanding work within the church. The poem below truly sums up her experience while working at Morris Street Baptist Church and we can all benefit from it:

“This Is My Church”

It is composed of people like me.

We make it what it is.

It will be friendly, if I am.

It would do great work, if I work.

It will make generous gifts to many causes,

If I am a generous gifter.

It will bring other people into its worship and fellowship, if I bring them.

It will be a church of loyalty and love of fearlessness and faith, and a church

with a noble spirit, if I who make it what it is, am filled with these.

With the help of God, let us dedicate ourselves to the task of being all the

things that we want our church to be.

Sensational Senior Citizen of Morris Street Baptist Church

by Deacon Al Sumter



Eunice G. Waddy, Trustee Emeritus

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 paths. Proverbs 3:5-6

Sister Eunice G. Waddy was born in Charleston, SC to the late Edward G. Gibson and Jennie L. Gibson. She was educated in the public schools and is a graduate of Burke High School, South Carolina State University, and Columbia University. Sister Waddy taught in the schools of Charleston for 40 plus years.

She joined Morris Street Baptist Church at an early age and was baptized by the late Rev. Jacob C. Dunbar. Sister Waddy was a member of the Missionary Ministry, Hour of Power Choir, Vacation Bible School, a Sunday School Teacher, and was one of the first females to be elected to the Board of Trustees. She was also honored as Trustee Emeritus in October 2014 for her many years of dedicated work on the Board of Trustees.

She was married to the late Gonzales S. Waddy and to this union two sons were born: Gregory Steven Waddy and Kent Gibson Waddy. Her favorite Bible verses are Proverbs 3:5-6, and Isaiah 40:28-31.

Hast thou not known? Hast thou not heard, that the everlasting God, the Lord, the Creator of the ends of the earth fainteth not, neither is weary? There is no searching of his understanding. He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might. Even the youth shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall. But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint. Isaiah 40:28-31

April Birthdays

Genita Hanna - 1
Brenda L. Jones - 2
Rynie A. Bartley - 3
Annette White - 5
John Hamilton - 6
Michael Hayes - 11
Synetra DeLoach - 19

Pheobie Williams - 20
Wendrah M. McCoy - 20
Louise Jenkins - 21
Natalie G. Johnson - 22
Frederick Patterson - 22
Dawn Green - 22
Fred Mitchell - 24

Semaj M. Fielding - 27
Mary Seabrook - 30
Barbara G. Stanard - 30

May Birthdays

Sara Ferguson - 1
Dorita F. Green - 1
India Grant - 3
Patricia Harrison - 4
Allen Johnson - 4
Daemeon Holmes - 4
Amanda Sumter - 5
Rosie L. Bland - 5
Tyric Becoate - 5

Ethel Reed - 7
Edreca Gray - 8
Cheryl Grant - 8
Felecia Jones - 9
Miriam Gadsden - 11
Darlene Scott-Scurry - 14
Sally Gadsden - 14
Inger Pompey - 20
Frederick Pasley - 21

Traci Grant - 22
Marcus Grant - 22
Amber S. McCoy - 23
Laverne Harrison - 24
Kieon Green - 26
Kierra Green - 28
Gregory Waddy - 28
Frederick Elzie - 28
Louise Gadsden - 30

June Birthdays

Courtney Morgan - 1
Margie G. Heyward - 1
Chaplain John K. Carter - 2
Samuel Gilchrist - 2
Cynthia M. McHoney - 2
Darrell L. Chisolm - 3
Anna P. Holloway - 4
Irene Dawson - 5
Bernard Duncan - 8

Mary A. Faber - 8
Pamela Gilliard - 9
Margie Hamilton - 9
Aundria G. Douglas - 10
Tavian Robinson - 10
Dawn F. McPherson - 11
Felicia Gaston - 13
Brendan McPherson - 14
Marie Thompson - 17

Beatrice Rodgers - 18
Shawnicqua Hanna - 20
Irving S. Robinson - 21
Nathronia Carr - 21
Marvin L. Wright - 26
Charles Montgomery - 26
Gordon H. Douglas - 27
Lottie Wright - 27



MORRIS STREET BAPTIST CHURCH'S

One Hundred Fifty-Ninth CHURCH ANNIVERSARY

Theme: "We Are Because You Are" ~ I Corinthians 12:27 (MSG)

WEDNESDAY

May th

15

7 pm – 7:15 pm — Praise and Worship

7:15 pm — Call to Worship

Guest Preacher: Reverend Edward L. Simmons, Sr.

Pastor of Central Missionary Baptist Church (Summerville, SC)

THURSDAY

May

16th

7 pm – 7:15 pm — Praise and Worship

7:15 pm — Call to Worship

Guest Preacher: Reverend Curtis J. Dayson

*Pastor of Lovely Mountain Missionary Baptist Church (N. Charleston, SC)
Moderator of the Charleston County Missionary Baptist Association*

FRIDAY

May

17th

7 pm — Awards and Recognition Banquet

Guest Preacher: Reverend Dr. James Blassingame

*Pastor of Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church (Sumter, SC)
Past President of the Baptist Educational and Missionary Convention of S.C.
Past Assistant Secretary of the National Baptist Convention, U.S.A., Inc.*

SUNDAY

May

19th

10 am — Culminating Service

Reverend Dr. Caroles S. Taylor

Pastor of Morris Street Baptist Church

25 Morris Street, Charleston, SC 29403

Newsletter submissions are due by:

- **June 15th** *(to be published in July's edition)*
- **September 15th** *(to be published in October's edition)*
- **December 15th** *(to be published in January's edition)*
- **March 15th** *(to be published in April's edition)*



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