

The SCOOP

February 2020

Vol 2 Issue 2

Our Song, Our Heritage, Our Voice

By *Monika King*

“Lift Every Voice and Sing” was written by the African American poet **James Weldon Johnson** in 1900. Originally a poem, Lift Every Voice and Sing deals with the hardship of the African American experience in America, one that tells African Americans to keep movin' on, to keep fighting for freedom.

Johnson wrote “Lift Every Voice and Sing”, while serving as a school principal at the segregated Stanton School, and it was first performed by 500 children in Jacksonville, Florida, in 1900. **James’ younger brother, John Rosamond Johnson, an American composer and singer, composed the music that turned his brother’s poem into a hymn.**

Though unveiled as part of a community celebration in honor of Abraham Lincoln’s birth, the song quickly spread outside the community of Jacksonville. **Within a decade, black school children across America were singing the song, and in 1919, the recently formed National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) adopted “Lift Every Voice and Sing” as its official song.** Today, the song is frequently described as the “African American National Anthem.”

The song has remained popular for over a century because it speaks to people advocating different approaches and methods to the fight for freedom and equality. Steeped in religion, the song is a demand for faith. Aware of history, it invokes images of the past while at the same time acknowledging signs of progress.



“Lift every Voice and Sing” survives as an anthem because it conjures up the right mix of emotion. It suggests that people should be joyful and angry, grateful for the change that has already occurred, yet mindful that the struggle is not over yet.

“Whoever receives and welcomes one child such as this in My name receives Me; and whoever receives Me receives not only Me, but Him who sent Me.”

Mark 9:37 AMP



LIFT EVERY VOICE AND SING

Lift every voice and sing
Till earth and heaven ring
Ring with the harmonies of Liberty
Let our rejoicing rise
High as the list’ning skies, let it
resound loud as the rolling sea

Sing a song full of the faith that the
dark past has taught us
Sing a song full of the hopes that
the present has brought us
Facing the rising sun of our new
day begun
Let us march on till victory is won

Stony the road we trod
Bitter the chast’ning rod
Felt in the day that hope unborn
had did
Yet with a steady beat
Have not our weary feet
Come to the place on which our
fathers signed
We have come over a way that with
tears has been watered
We have come, treading our path
through the blood of the
slaughtered
Out from the gloomy past, till now
we stand at last
Where the white gleam of our star
is cast

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New Chapter

By Juanita Toole

The book team at NGBF is preparing and excited to hold its first ever book sale.



When: February 2nd – February 29th every Sunday

Where: Fellowship Hall

Time: During the mustard seed hour



The book sale is an effort to better reach our children, teens, and parents with books written for and by children authors of color. **Where do the proceeds from the book purchases go?** With the purchase of one of these books, the monies will further support the children's ministry and upcoming black history programs.

Kids ages 5-8 are an ever-growing market in the children's book industry. During some recent research, Courtney Jones, VP of Multicultural Growth and Strategy at Nielsen, stated, "The largest sector of population growth in the U.S. is coming from the Hispanic community." She went on to say a large growth in purchasing power is among African American, Hispanic, and Asian American communities. **Children of color are purchasing and reading books at a new height.**

Overall, the Children's Ministry would like to inspire our children to become lifetime readers whether through hard print or the ever-popular e-books. Imagine the places you can go by reading!

2019 Teacher of the Year - Melanie Walton

By Juanita Toole

On December 8, 2019, the 5th Annual Blessings Banquet was held. The event recognizes the efforts of all teachers and workers who serve our NGBF children in any capacity. We also honor our teacher of the year. This year's winner is

Melanie Walton, a teacher in Christian Education, Awana, and Awana Co-Commander.


Melanie has served the children of this church for 21 years. In our recent interview, she described the moment as shocked, humbled, overwhelmed, and grateful that she gets to serve God with some amazing people.




Most may not know that Melanie grew up in a farm town in Kansas of about 700 people (Clafin, KS). But like most, got to Texas as soon as she could. Melanie has raised three daughters at NGBF and declared that as one of her proudest moments of knowing the salvation of her daughters are secure and that they truly have a heart for God.


During the day, Melanie manages a call center in the hospice industry. At home, she loves being with her girls. When asked what inspires her to teach, she answered, "Teaching keeps me young and motivated. Spiritually, it keeps me in the WORD....because my kids have been served so well I feel compelled to serve and share the LOVE of God."


In closing Melanie said, "I love NGBF and Pastor Mathews. I really love my church and what it has meant to me and my girls."

2019 Prayer  To redo some healthy habits. Get healthier.

Favorite Ice Cream  Mint Chocolate Chip

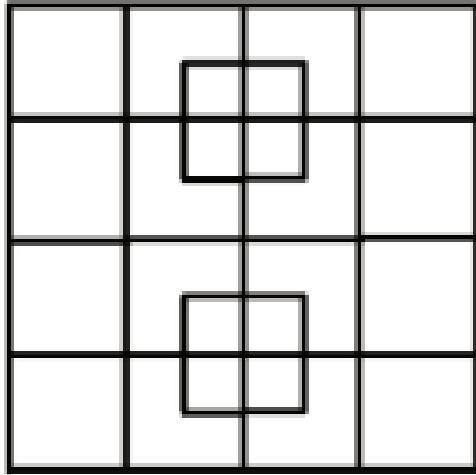
Hobbies  Watching movies, spending time with my girls, cooking

Favorite Scripture  Jeremiah 29:11 "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

Favorite Saying  "Not everything needs to be said and not everything needs to be said by you." - Elizabeth Elliott

Congratulations to Melanie and all our NGBF teachers and workers. We appreciate all you do for our children!

Kid's Corner

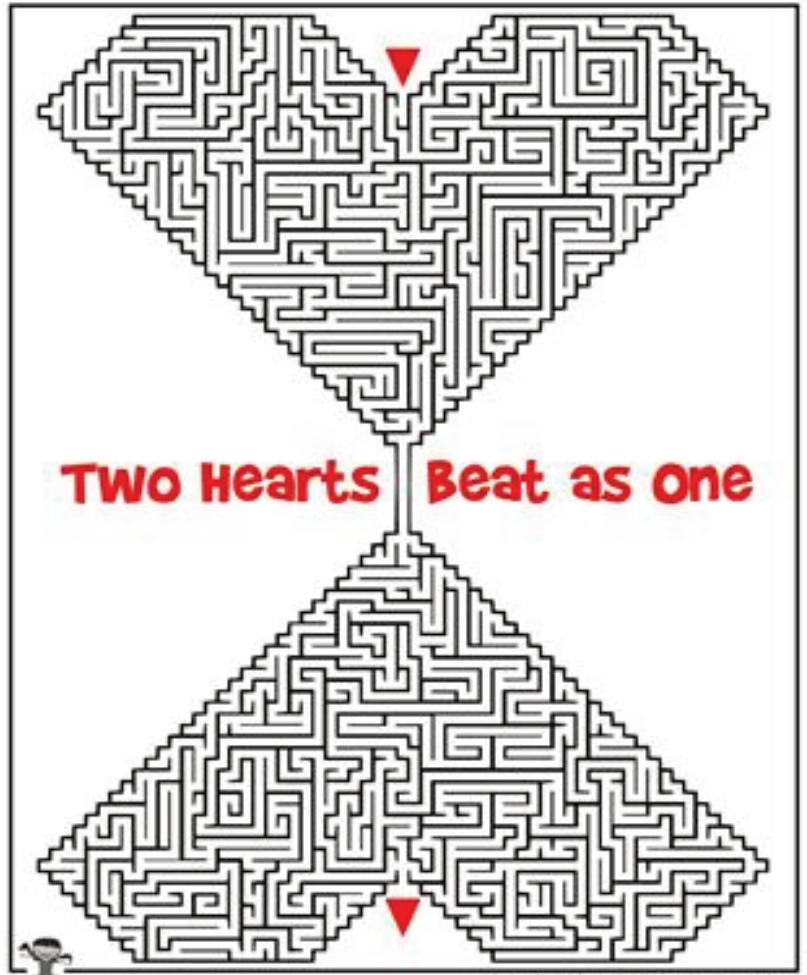


How many squares do you see?

REBUS FOR YOU !

Can you solve these visual word puzzles? Let your mind explore and you are sure to find the answers. Good luck!

1. FACE	2. EGG EGG HAM
3. BUR	4. THUMBS THUMBS THUMBS THUMBS THUMBS THUMBS ...
5. TEEF FEET TEEF	6. FAMILY SHEEP
7. po FISH nd	8. ISSUE ISSUE ISSUE ISSUE ISSUE ISSUE ISSUE ISSUE ISSUE ISSUE
9. TIME a b d e f g h i j k l m n o p q r s t u v w x y z	10. DAYSALLWORK



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Just for Laughs!

What type of flowers do you never give on Valentine's Day? Cauliflowers!



Do skunks celebrate Valentine's Day?



Sure! They are very scent-imental.

What did the stamp say to the envelope on Valentine's Day?
I'm stuck on you!



Black History 5th Annual Program

By Juanita Toole

It's a compelling evening of narration, music, and dance featuring the children and young adults of North Garland Baptist Fellowship.

This **5th Annual Program will highlight the many African Americans who have contributed to the world by way of inventions.** Some you know about and some you may have never heard of. Come be a part of this very special event our children have worked so hard on as they pay tribute to these greats.

Please join us Saturday, February 29, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. at NGBF. This is a free event! Come early seating is limited.

Written and produced by the Children's Ministry
Music directed by Mr. Dwayne Bess and Mrs. Joslyn Blocker
Supported by the members and Garland community
Hosting for the 4th consecutive year is Mrs. April Varnado



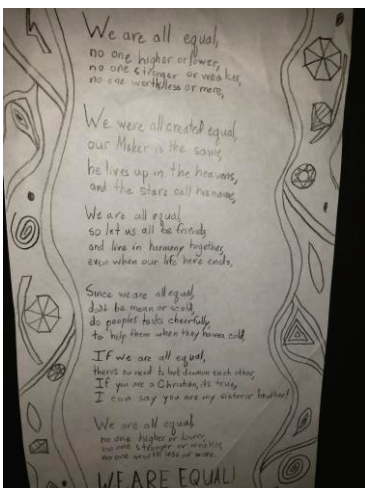
Calling All Artist...

Back by popular demand. The Black History Program is pleased to announce our **ART CONTEST** during Black History Month.

Can't quite sing, dance, or act? Well here is an opportunity for you to be a part of the program. We will be accepting drawings, paintings, sculptures, photography, clay art, and other art forms.

**All entries must be turned in to the Children's Department
NO LATER THAN Wednesday, February 12, 2020.**

Winners and prizes to be given during the Black History Program. All artwork will be on display in the Fellowship Hall during the program.



Scooping Kids

By Monika King



Each month, **The Scoop** will spotlight a kid doing amazing things in his/her community and family.

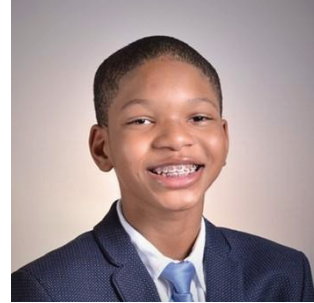


This month the Scooped Kid is Jaxson Turner.

Jaxson Turner, a 12-year-old Plano pre-teen, is like many other kids. He likes playing golf, swimming, and playing basketball. But Jaxson is also making a difference in his local community.

Jaxson's long-term goal is to become the President of the United States so he can have a bigger platform and serve more people in the community. But in the meantime, each summer, Jaxson runs a lemonade stand.

In 2018, the \$4,000 Jaxson made selling lemonade provided 110 Collin County students with backpacks and school supplies as well as free haircuts for 100 boys and a salon visit for 10 girls.



In addition to using his lemonade stand to support the local community, Jaxson started a non-profit, N2Y2C. Jaxson's non-profit organization encourages people to donate money instead of purchasing birthday gifts on his birthday. He has since raised more than \$20,000 on his birthday donations and lemonade stands. The money provides warm clothes and meals for the homeless, in addition to the school supply donations. Jaxson has also raised money for domestic violence awareness.

"N2Y2C stands for Never Too Young To Care, because you are never too young to care about other people in your community," Jaxson said.

Jaxson has had the support of city mayors across Collin County and many have helped his monetary donations grow exponentially. He's even been recognized by his idol, former President Barack Obama.

To learn more about Jaxson and his non-profit, visit:
<https://www.facebook.com/JaxsonN2Y2C/>

Women of Black History

By Monika King



Shirley Chisholm (1924-2005)

Before Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama, there was Shirley Chisholm. Shirley Chisholm was the first woman and first black American to run for the Democratic nomination for President of the United States. Prior to her run for the Presidency, Shirley Chisholm made history by becoming the first black Congresswoman, representing New York State in the House of Representatives for seven terms. A graduate of Brooklyn College, she earned her Master's degree in education from Columbia University. As a former teacher, she spent her political career fighting for equal opportunities in education and social justice (equality for all people no matter what our differences).

Bessie Coleman (1892-1926)

Bessie Coleman was the first African American woman pilot. She had humble beginnings. Her father was a sharecropper (one who pays living expenses by farming on land owned by someone else) in Texas and she was one of 13 children. She walked four miles every day to school. As an adult, Bessie became interested in aviation (flying) after hearing stories from World War I veterans. Aviation schools in the United States would not admit women or black people so Bessie studied and earned her pilot's license in Europe. When she returned, she was known as Queen Bessie and earned a living by doing air acrobatics. She died at the age of 34, doing the thing she loved most – flying.



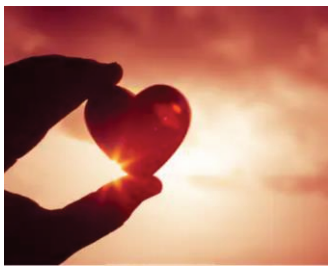
New Beginnings – Part 2

By Monika King

“Enter His gates with Thanksgiving and His courts with praise; give thanks to Him and praise His name.” Psalm 100:4 (NIV)

As we start the New Year, this Bible verse about new beginnings reminds us of the importance of giving thanks to God and of praising Christ. We can look toward the New Year with joy in our hearts and excited anticipation of what’s to come. **It all starts with praising Him for all we have.** Maybe the first month of the year did not go as planned. Praise God we have 11 more in this year alone!

“Because of the Lord’s great love we are not consumed, for His compassion never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. I say to myself, ‘The Lord is my portion; therefore I will wait for Him.’” Lamentations 3:22-24 (NIV)



God’s love for us never fails. Even when we make mistakes, He’s still there to love us and pick us back up again.

As we look toward the New Year, this Bible verse about new beginnings reminds us that Jesus’ sacrifice not only saves us, but holds the power to transform our hearts.

Bible Trivia



- Which did Jesus say was the most important of all God’s commandments?
 - Love God with all your heart and soul
 - Love your neighbor as yourself
 - Do not murder
 - Honor your father and mother
- According to Jesus, which of these is NOT a characteristic of those who truly love God?
 - Humility
 - Pride
 - Obedience
 - Mercy
- Which of these is NOT one of Jesus’ teachings about love for God the Father?
 - God loves everyone in the world and wants them to love Him also
 - Always pray and don’t give up
 - Observe the letter of the law in religious matters
 - If we love God, we will obey His commands
- According to Jesus, which is the best way to approach God and express our love?
 - With confidence that God will answer our prayers
 - With confidence that we are saved by being Christians
 - With humble faith and trust, like a child
 - With fear of God’s wrath
- True or False: God will love a sinner who repents (turns away from sin and back to God) as much as He loves a person who has been faithful all his or her life?

Answers can be found on the last page.

Did you know...

February was added to the Roman calendar in 713 BC. The length of the month changed over time and, at one time, it had as few as 23 days. When Julius Caesar remade the Roman calendar, the month was assigned 28 days during normal years and 29 days during leap years which occurred every four years.

Say It Loud... I'm Black and I'm Proud



To Be Young, Gifted and Black Nina Simone

Young, gifted and black
Oh what a lovely precious dream
To be young, gifted and black
Open your heart to what I mean

In the whole world, you know
There's a million of boys and girls
Who are young, gifted and black
A that's a fact

You are young, gifted and black
We must begin to tell our young
There's a world waiting for you
Yours is a quest that's just begun

When you're feeling real low
There's a great truth you should know
When you're young, gifted, and black
Your soul's intact

How to be young, gifted and black
Oh how I long to know the truth
There are times when I look back
And I am haunted by my youth

Oh but my joy of today
Is that we can all be proud to say
To be young, gifted and black
Is where it's at
Is where it's at
Is where it's at

Church Contacts

Have you ever wondered who to contact with questions or suggestions for various ministries under the Children's Church umbrella? Well, look no further than below for a list of contacts.

AWANA & CHILDREN'S CHURCH/SPECIAL EVENTS

Juanita Toole | 469-328-4152 | jtoole21@yahoo.com

CHILDREN'S CHOIR

Joslyn Blocker | 469-329-9242 | joslynblocker@gmail.com

SUNDAY SCHOOL/CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Arthur Nickerson | 972-978-8926 | artnickerson41@msn.com

What's Happening



- February 5 - AWANA – Twin & Triplet Night
- February 6 - Black History Rehearsal (6:30 - 8:00)
- February 12 - AWANA – Valentine's Party
- February 13 - Black History Rehearsal (6:30 - 8:00)
- February 19 - AWANA – Regular Club Night
- February 20 - Black History Rehearsal (6:30 - 8:00)
- February 26 – AWANA – Nerd Night
- February 27 - Black History Final Rehearsal
(6:30 - 8:00)
- February 29 - Black History Program (5:00 p.m.)

Fun Facts for February

Every day is a special day but some days require a certain type of celebration. Below are some fun facts about November. For a complete list, visit <https://nationaldaycalendar.com/February/>

- February 1 – National Texas Day
- February 2 – National Tater Tot Day
- February 6 – National Frozen Yogurt Day
- February 8 – National Ice Cream for Breakfast Day
- February 11 – National Make a Friend Day
- February 14 – National Organ Donor Day
- February 17 – National Random Acts of Kindness Day
- February 24 – National Tortilla Day
- February 29 – National Leap Day

Lift Every Voice and Sing, continued

God of our weary years
God of our silent tears
Thou who has brought us thus far on the way
Thou who has by thy might
Led us into the light
Keep us forever in the path, we pray
Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where
we met thee
Lest our hearts, drunk with the wine of the world, we
forget thee
Shadowed beneath the hand
May we forever stand
True to our God
True to our native land

Source: [LyricFind](#)

Songwriters: J. Rosamond Johnson / James Johnson

Bible Trivia Answers:

1. A
2. B
3. C
4. C
5. True

Kids Corner:

Rebus: 1. Red in the Face 2. Green eggs and ham 3. Backrub 4. All thumbs 5. Two left feet 6. Black sheep of the family 7. Big fish in a little pond 8. Tennis shoes 9. Long time, no see 10. All in a day's work

40 squares

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