



Bethel UMC Society Committee
Rev. Joanne Walker-Brown, Pastor
Newsletter for the Month of September

Subject: "The Handwriting is on the Wall"

We have all heard about the tragedy that our country is facing. Take a moment and just think about how many lives were possible destroyed without Christ in their life. Just imagine how many of those people actually made excuses for not accepting Christ into their life. Everyday we are expecting Blessings and Protection without the Blesser, Jesus Christ, being first in our life. Take this golden opportunity to look into your life and make changes while there is still time. Remember that tomorrow is not promised to anyone.

Listed Below Are Excuses That People Make For Not Accepting Christ.....

1. **"I can't break my bad habits."**

No you can't with your own strength. "Therefore, if the Son, Jesus, make you free, you shall be free indeed." John 8:36
Come as you are and let Jesus work out your problems!

"Though your sins are like scarlet they shall be washed white as snow." Isaiah 1:18 "All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never drive away." John 6:37

2. **"Not now!"**

Every time you say no, it will become even more difficult to say yes. The time and day is Now. "Do not boast about tomorrow, for you do not know what a day may bring forth." Proverbs 27:1

4. **"There is too much to give up!"**

It is much better to give up everything in order to gain eternal life. We should always put Christ ahead of everything else. "What good is it for a man to gain the whole world, and lose his soul." Mark 8:36

3. **"I am too big of a sinner or I am afraid Jesus will not receive me"**

"Come now and let us reason Together", says the Lord.

5. **"There are too many hypocrites"**

Hypocrites are lost; if you let them keep you from being saved, you too will spend eternity in HELL. "Judge not, that you be not judged." Matthew 7:1

7. "I am trying to be a Christian" or I am seeking, but I can not find Christ."

It's not about "trying", it's about "TRUSTING" that counts. Christ is not distant or lost. Paul explains that, "Christ makes himself real to a person through the exercise of faith." Romans 10:6-11

8. "I am afraid of not holding out or I have tried before and failed."

Jesus not only saves us, but he keeps us. "God is the Good Shepherd." John 10:11 To know Him is to have assurance. "Delight thyself also in the Lord and He shall give thee the desires of your heart. Commit thy ways unto the Lord; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass." Psalm 37:4-5

9. "My friends mean so much to me."
Are they your true friends or your enemies? Do you know that friends with the world causes enmity with God? "Whosoever, therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God." "Submit yourself to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from You." James 4:4, 7

10. "I believe that God is too Just to Damn anyone."
That's not what the Bible says. "Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in judgment, nor the sinner in the congregation of the righteous. For the Lord know the way of the righteous, but the way of the ungodly shall perish." Psalm 1:5-6

Those are a few excuses that people often make. Instead of making an excuse, we challenge you to accept Christ

into your life today; without any delay. Remember: "The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is Eternal Life through Jesus Christ our Lord."

Romans 6:23

Three Steps For Accepting Christ

1. Come to Jesus just as you are; repent of your sins.
2. Confess with thy mouth that Jesus is Lord.
3. Believe in your heart that God has raised him from the dead; you will be saved. *** Read - Romans 10:9 ***

Bethel UMC Society Committee Prayer

Father in the name of Jesus. We come calling on your Holy and Righteous name, because we know of no other to call upon. Father, Satan has come and attacked our country, but we plead the Blood of Jesus over the enemy, because we know that you have come that we may have life and have it more abundantly. Father, we know that you have all power in your hands; please have mercy upon our country. Lead and direct the President of the U.S., give him knowledge and wisdom. For you said to lean not to our own understanding, but in all thy ways acknowledge you, because you will direct our paths. Father, we're standing on your word, because it shall not pass away. Father, we thank you for all that you have done and will continue to do. Father, please comfort those who have lost loved ones. Please help those that are saved grow in your grace and those that are unsaved understand why they need to be saved. In Jesus name we pray in the name of the Father, Son, & Holy Spirit. Amen.

Please help us create a Prayer Chain throughout the nation by sending a copy of this to your family & friends. God Bless America!

BETHEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

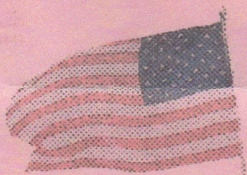
Educational News Release

39 Johnsville Rd. Smoaks, SC, Rev. Joanne Walker-Brown, Pastor, Vol. I, No. 3, September 16, 2001

The fear of the lord is the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the holy is understanding. Proverb 9:10

On January 27, 2001, the 24th annual Mason-Dixon girls basketball tournament was held in North Carolina where **Latasha Walker** received three (3) trophies for her outstanding athletic abilities. **Latasha** scored 27 points as the second highest scorer in the tournament. Her trophies included: Best average rebounder, free throw contest winner and all tournament team. On March 29, 2001, **Latasha Walker** was crowned queen at the South Carolina School for the Deaf and the Blind, Spartanburg, SC. She received four (4) trophies: Best evening gown, best talent, congeniality, and best overall. **Congratulations!! to Latasha Walker.**

Remember to pray for the families in New York and for AMERICA.



Jamar Brown won \$25.00 for a writing essay call "Save the Drama for your Moma". **Congratulations!! Jamar Brown.**

Congratulations to Scottie Fryar who has completed his undergraduate degree in Biology at South Carolina State University, Orangeburg, SC. **Scottie** maintained a 3.00 GPA during his final quarter at SCSU. **Scottie** is presently employed at the Savannah River Site, Aiken, SC.



According to Rev. William B. Brown, school administrator, **Sharon S. Hallman** passed five tests to get her high school diploma from cornerstone Christian correspondence school, Townsend, Georgia, **Congratulations!! Sharon S. Hallman.**

Stacy Bowers, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thurmond Bowers made the honor roll at Walterboro High School during the fourth nine week of the 2000-2001 school term. **Congratulations!**

Mario Linder, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert (Bob) Linder and **Sheretta Hodges**, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Hodges Jr.; they graduated from Ruffin High School in May 2001. Both students plan to continue their education at an institution of higher learning.

My son, hear the instruction of thy father, and forsake not the law of thy mother. Proverb 1:8

CONGRATULATIONS to all students and teachers in the Bethel United Methodist Church Sunday school/Youth day. **KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK!!**

If you have an article for the next newsletter, please give it to Kevin Wiggins or Shirley Hodges before October 25, 2001. Students with "S" on their report card or students who made the honor roll, are asked to give Shirley Hodges a copy of the report card as soon as possible. I will not request the honor roll list from the schools any longer.

James D. Jordan Jr. Son of Mr. and Mrs. James Jordan maintained all "S" on his report card during the 3rd nine week. **James** attend school at Bells Elementary, Ruffin, SC. **Congratulation James D. Jordan Jr.**

Cut Here

We'd like to know.....
Do you have a suggestion that would help us do a better job? We'd like to hear about it! Please use this handy card to help us provide better service to you and your family. My suggestion is:

Name

Phone Number