

The City Temple Times

specialREPORT



Rev. Yeargin Praises the Success of the 2016 Leadership Retreat - "2020 Vision"

During the first weekend of April, more than fifty officers and leaders from City Temple gathered at the Embassy Suites in Cockeysville, MD to participate in the 2016 Leadership Retreat.

The retreat was the result of conversations between myself, April Jones, and other members of the Christian Education Ministry as we began to consider the future direc-

tion of our church.

The focus of our discussions centered around our vision: "We shall become a spiritually mature Christian fellowship in order to provide an effective witness for Christ in this world."

The question we found ourselves asking is how do we realize the vision of our church in a way that is

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dfree[®] is Ready For All Those Waiting For Financial Freedom

Our next dfree[®] Financial Freedom session is scheduled for August 27, 2016, but we need YOU to keep the movement moving.

Training sessions are held on Saturday mornings from 9:30 - 11:30 at the church. Catch a session:

- August 27
- September 10, 17, 24
- October 1, 8, 15, 22, 29
- November 5, 12, 19

dfree[®] is a biblically-based movement that promotes a lifestyle of financial self-sufficiency. Biblical references include:

- Romans 13:8 "Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another..." NIV
- Proverbs 22:7 "The rich rule over the poor, and the borrower is servant to the lender." NIV
- Luke 14:28 "Suppose one of you wants to build a tower. Will he

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THE SUCCESSFUL SIX

WORSHIP

- To encourage "unchurched" worshippers and young families (ages 18-45) to join.

MEMBERSHIP

- To provide a better response to members suffering from grief & loss.

PR/COMMUNICATIONS

- To reach a larger internal and external audience by leveraging social media.

EVANGELISM

- To invest in and become an active part of our community and increase church engagement.

FINANCE & OPERATIONS

- To develop financial and operation plans in order to rely solely on tithing to support our financial needs.

DISCIPLESHIP

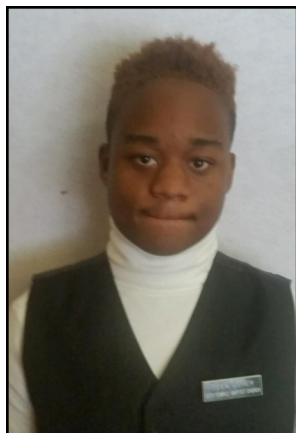
- To nurture a "Christ-likeness" in all church members through training and mentoring.

Joshua Lindsay receives first Josephine Morton Spirit Award

The Combined Ushers and Mrs. Morton would not like that!" Nurses Ministries of the City Temple of Baltimore (Baptist) celebrated 46 years of service on Sunday, April 17, 2016. The ushers awarded the first Josephine Morton Spirit award to Youth Usher Joshua Lindsay!

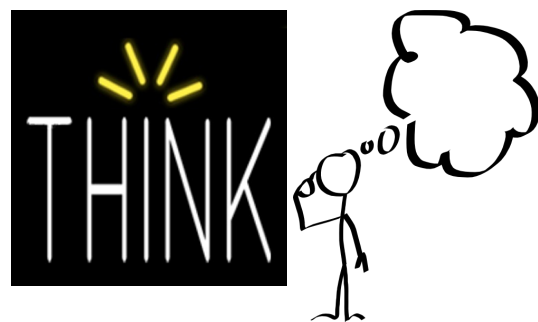
Rev. W. W. Payne appointed Mrs. Josephine Morton as group leader of the usher board when the City Temple of Baltimore (Baptist) marched into the building at 317 Dolphin St.

She was a very dedicated and faithful usher for nearly 45 years. Whenever the doors of this church were open, Mrs. Morton was there. She accompanied Rev. Yeargin when he preached in other churches as well as attended other church anniversaries throughout the Baltimore Metropolitan area. She taught the ushers by doing. We still say "Mrs. Morton would do... or churches."



We agree that Joshua Lindsay displays the same faithfulness for his duties as an usher and Christian as Mrs. Morton. He is active in church and school. He does whatever he is asked to do and initiates tasks he thinks will make things better. He is kind and has a smile that makes you smile.

The ushers of City Temple of Baltimore (Baptist) hope this commemoration of our long time president and group leader, Mrs. Josephine Morton, will be a tribute to Mrs. Morton for the work she did for Our Lord and God for many years to come. We will miss her. She will always be an inspiration to the ushers of City Temple and other churches.



I was shocked, confused, bewildered, as I entered Heaven's door,
Not by the beauty of it all, nor the lights or the décor,
But who made me stutter and gasp,
The thieves, the liars, the sinners, and the alcoholics, and trash.
There stood the kid from seventh grade, who swiped my lunch money twice,
Next to him was my old neighbor who never said anything nice.
Bob, who I always thought was rotting away in hell,
Was sitting pretty on cloud nine, looking incredibly well.
I nudged Jesus, "what's the deal?
I would love to hear your take, how'd all these sinners get up here?"

God must've made a mistake and why's everyone so quiet, so somber, give me a clue."
"Hush, child," He said, "they're all in shock, no one thought they'd see you."

Judge not! Remember, just going to church doesn't make you a Christian any more than standing in your garage makes you a car. Every person has a past, every sinner has a future! Now, it's your turn, life without God is like an unsharpened pin, it has no point!

**Submitted by the Young at Heart
Shirley Lindsay, Group Leader
Evelyn Wooly, Co-Group Leader**

church OUTING

Come out and enjoy a day of fun and fellowship!



Sunday, July 17, 2016

Druid Hill Park

Columbus Pavilion

12 noon - 5 pm

Bring Your Own Basket

Is Your Vision 2020?

2020 Vision has two priorities: becoming a spiritually mature Christian fellowship and providing an effective witness for Christ in this world.



Spiritually Mature Christian Fellowship

Profound and intimate relationships with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ take priority and are supported by access to biblical study, technology, and a more loving congregation.

In 2020, our main objective is to become more like Jesus Christ, and we live out this objective in how we live our lives, how we treat one another, how we treat those in our community, how we give to our church, and how we effectively operate within our ministries. According to the apostle Paul, spiritual maturity is an on-going process: "I don't mean to say I am perfect. I haven't learned all I should even yet, but I keep working toward that day when I will finally be all that Christ saved me for and wants me to be. No, dear brothers, I am still not all I should be, but I am bringing all my energies to bear on this one thing: Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead, I strain to reach the end of the race and receive the prize for which God is calling us up to heaven because of what Christ Jesus did for us (Phil. 3:12-14 TLB)." Enabled by the Holy Spirit and motivated by our desire to reflect the love of Christ, we actively participate in Disciple Training, we engage in bible study, and our youth attends Sunday School/Children's Church.

We create an atmosphere of hospitality and love toward all who enters our sanctuary, which encourages visitors to continue coming back and eventually join our church family. We embrace a multi-generational approach to how we worship and how we communicate internally and externally. We actively seek to hear the voice of God, and allow Him to direct our kingdom-building efforts.



Effective Witness for Christ in This World

Enlightened, knowledgeable, compassionate, and engaged disciples are equipped to make disciples.

In 2020, we aggressively evangelize and seek to win souls for Christ. We expand our efforts beyond preaching to the church to reaching the unchurched. We leverage opportunities to increase our church budget in order to invest more in our communities. We pilot new ideas and are not afraid of failing, so we can develop new strategies and plans that work. Through diverse and innovative ways, we deliver new ways to interact with non-church and unchurched persons. We offer dynamic and interactive New Members classes and other trainings to make Christ "real" for those inexperienced in attending church service.

Through our compassion and dedication, we provide a channel for others to find Christ. Enabled by technology and our church membership, we continually fulfill The Great Commission—"Go into the whole world and proclaim the gospel to every creature (Mark 16:15 NAB)." Our ministries are stronger and more effective, and we have a larger pool of talented and personable people on our leadership team. Our ministerial staff, church leaders, and laymen interact directly with visitors and new members, providing personal support and lasting relationships.

The Path to 2020 Vision

To become a spiritually mature Christian fellowship in 2020, we have the following opportunities:

Discipleship Training/Bible Study

We encourage a culture of discipleship in our church and in individual believers. We allow the Holy Spirit to re-energize the church and to train us to become disciples that make disciples. Every member attends bible study. Leveraging current technology, our congregation has choices in how they participate in discipleship training and bible study: in person, real-time web streaming or chat, or pre-recorded online video.

Multi-Generational Worship Service

We satisfy an inter-generational congregation with a range of preferences in technology and interactions, by offering a variety of worship service delivery methods, such as in-person worship service, real-time video, or pre-recorded on-line video. We interact responsively and immediately with visitors and new members in order to help them feel connected to this body of Christ. We offer multiple service times throughout the week to accommodate those who are unavailable during traditional Sunday morning service.



Children's Church/Sunday School

Our children and youth develop their own personal relationships with Christ in a very real way. We provide God's word in an environment suited for children that meets them where they are. The material presented to children and youth and the methods use to present the material matures as they mature--nurturing within them the desire to be a disciple of Christ who makes disciples.

Compassionate Care

We provide spiritual, intellectual, social, and emotional support to those who are broken-hearted, and have suffered some type of loss. We address grief and loss issues, activities, and relevant topics, which speak to the needs of children and adults. Using the word of God, prayer, and meditation, we facilitate the reconnecting of individuals to the spirit of God to bring about healing.

Membership Awareness

The Pastor does not have sole responsibility for the care of his members. We maintain communication with our members and are aware when they have been sick, require counsel, and are bereaved. We visit the sick and shut in at homes and hospitals, follow up with those recovering from illness, and visit those suffering loss. We reflect Jesus' second great commandment to "love your neighbor as yourself (Mark 12:31 NIV)."



The Path to 2020 Vision

To provide an effective witness for Christ in 2020, we have the following opportunities:

Purpose-Driven Evangelism

We aggressively share what we know about Jesus in order to draw others into a personal relationship with God. We expand our territory beyond our church walls and bring Jesus to our community at large. We no longer engage in “program-driven evangelism,” but evangelism has become our way of living, rooted in our deep love of Christ and a desire to have others share in that love.

Through discipleship training and bible study, we motivate and mobilize our church members to evangelize while instilling confidence and cultivating an atmosphere of unity. We are in a constant state of renewal and revival because we are constantly reliving and remembering the wonders and love of Christ.



Financial Accountability

We understand there is nothing greater than the kingdom of God and no more significant cause than the church. We are willing to fund God's vision for our church and fulfill our purpose. We no longer encourage *fundraising*—collecting money in return for products, rewards, recognition, or services—however, we place a great emphasis on teaching people to be givers, challenging ourselves to give out of our own resources for spiritual reasons. The result is we collect funds and develop disciples.

We have a relationship with a professional financial expert that advises our investing and budgeting decisions in order to become better stewards of the money we receive from the congregation. Our financial expert presents at each church meeting, allowing church members to have a transparent view of how money flows in and out of church accounts. We see net profits gains that increase annually, due to intelligent management of money.

Advanced Communications

We have choices in when and where we participate in worship and other services. We use technology to support the ultimate goal of providing the Word in a seamless, easy-to-access way for all generations of users. From robocalls to live web streaming, we invest in the right technology to communicate our message to anyone. We prioritize our technology investments based on the needs of our church members, ease of use, and improving access to our services. We employ a broad range of communication methods to connect with both our internal and external audiences.

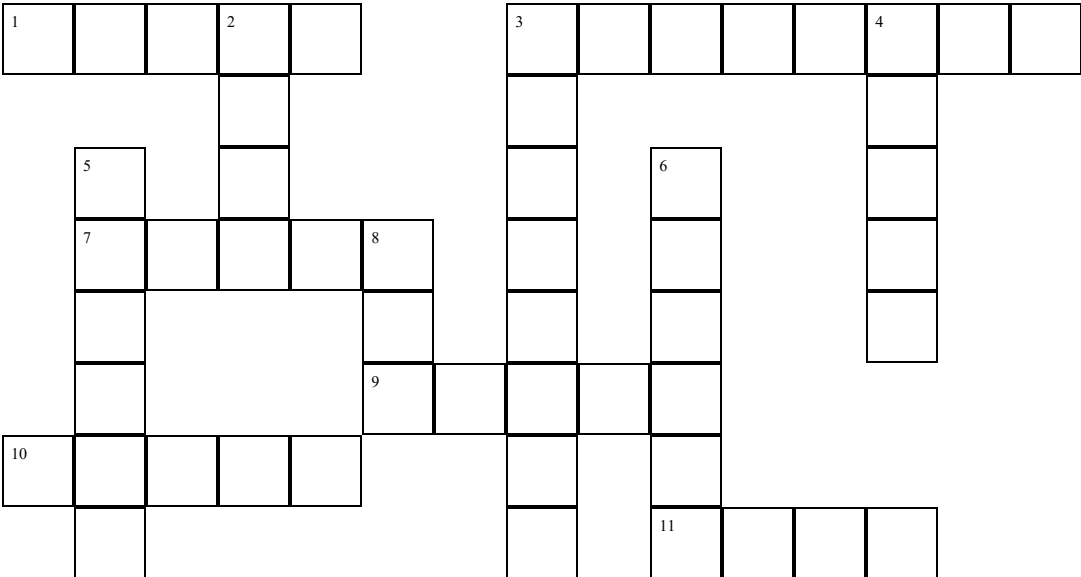


kids' fun page

crossword, word find, and coloring fun!

“Stop doubting and believe!”

John 20:19-31 (NIV)



ACROSS

1. To believe in something for which there is no proof
3. A follower of Jesus
7. The body parts at the end of the arms
9. A pointed and headed fastener designed to be pounded into wood
10. To be in a state of pleasure or delight
11. An entrance into a building or room

DOWN

2. One of two babies born at the same time
3. Unwilling to believe that something is true
4. Free from conflict; getting along with others; opposite of war
5. The disciple who would not believe without seeing
6. Not open
8. Breaking a religious or moral law

Peace	Doubting	Faith	Twin
Closed	Hands	Happy	Disciple
Door	Sin	Thomas	Nails

The Vision Continues...

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both reverent and relevant?

The retreat consisted of three major components: 1) a discussion of our church vision so that we might clearly understand its meaning; 2) a presentation on the function of leadership in the church and the ten mistakes often made by leaders; and 3) the formation of six workgroups—Discipleship, Evangelism, Finance and Operations, Membership, Public Relations, and Worship.

Each workgroup is responsible for developing goals and objectives for their particular area and devising strategies for achieving them. Recommendations from the groups will be made to the proper persons, ministry and/or church for consideration. We are still working out the details on how to process workgroup recommendations.

I am happy to announce the workgroups have held their initial meetings and are thinking about the goals and objectives of their groups. Those involved appear excited about the possibilities.

The length of time it will take each workgroup to complete its work will

vary. Some groups may complete their work within a year or less, while other workgroups may take a few years to complete their tasks. I would remind us that the heart of what we seek to do is to be reverent and relevant. While that may seem easy, it will have its challenges.

I am so very grateful for April Jones, chair of the Board of Christian Education, and to Linda Alexander, who did much of the work in organizing the retreat. I am also grateful to Rev. Debra Hickman, Minister Patricia Yeargin, and Davina Morton for the important contributions they made in planning the retreat. I am especially grateful to the leaders of City Temple, who attended the retreat and came away feeling that the time spent working and fellowshiping was worthwhile and essential for moving our church forward.

The congregation will be informed of the progress being made and asked to give input as we seek to fulfill the vision that God has given to us. One important part that the congregation can play is to keep the work that is being done in your prayers. Do that and God will indeed be glorified.

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not first sit down and estimate the cost." NIV
Too many people are paying last month's bills with next week's check. Too many relationships are destroyed by pressures related to money. Too many people want to be better financially but



don't know where to start. The dfree® financial freedom movement provides a strategy to address all those changes. **Act now.** Take control of your finances, grow your wealth, and be in a position to help others by joining the dfree® movement. Sign up for the fall session of dfree®.

Share Your Time, Talent, Treasure - Your Gifts - To Bless The World!

*God uses us to spread the aroma of Christ
among those who are being saved and those
who are perishing.
2 Cor. 2:14*

Fertile Ground

by: Vonda Delisa Reed

Make me your instrument
Use me as you will
Plant in me seeds of hope
Make me your fertile ground

Speak to my heart
Show me the plans for my life
I'll be satisfied just to know
A little at a time

You said I wouldn't be able
to understand it all at once
So, reveal it to me a drop at a time
Until I've seen it all

Make me your instrument
Use me as you will
Plant in me seeds of hope
Make me your fertile ground

Use me as a conduit
to carry a message of love
May it be evident in what I say and do
A visible sermon from you

May I stand like a tree
planted by the rivers of water
Rooted in your word
A guide through a heavy burden

Make me your instrument
Use me as you will
Plant in me seeds of hope
Make me your fertile ground

Grow me as you see fit
Prune me when I need it
Cultivate me a bit
So that there is no limit
to what I can do

With your strength
I can do all things
Equip me to bring
A message of hope and love
for this generation and those yet to come

Make me your instrument
Use me as you will
Plant in me seeds of hope
Make me your fertile ground

Gallery



PHOTO GALLERY



Happy Mother's Day to Ms. Laura Yeargin.
Pictured above third from the left with son Rev. Dr. Grady A. Yeargin, Jr., daughter Marshalyne Allsopp, and daughter-in-law Min. Patricia A. Yeargin.



We have 2020 Vision! The 2016 Leadership Retreat participants pose for a picture in the lobby of the Embassy Suites in Hunt Valley on Saturday, April 2. Each participant received a black City Temple T-shirt with the 2020 Vision branding on the back as well as black City Temple tote bags.



Congratulations Rev. Grady Yeargin, Jr. on receiving recognition by the Interdenominational Church Ushers Association (ICUA) of MD Inc. during the 2016 Pastoral Recognition Banquet at The Forum on Friday, April 29, 2016.

JUNE

Cheeri A. Alexander
Dylan Anderson
Robert Bailey
Connie Barksdale
James Baylor
Wilma Bond
Curley Brown
Rochelle Cooper
Hazel Cullings Johnson
Kim Davis
Lauretta Fallin
Marguerite Ford-Lacy
Stellie Foxe
Marcia Friend
Ashley Graham
Jimmy Hines
Maurice Mattison
Kim Pettigrew
Tiara S. Pitts
Tyrek Robinson
Gladys Smith
Tara Stevens
Emily Tilghman
Shanay Wallace

Lawrence A. Williams
Patricia Yeargin

July

Gloria Baylor-Cook
Mary Blann
Valerie Brown
Gloria Carroll
Gloria Catlett
Donna Cooper-Knox
William Dowery
Christina Gaskins
Bessie Mae Gray
Anajahsia Handy

Latanya Jackson
Jalen Lashley
Dorothy Lawson
Sanaa Lovelist
Brenda McDougal
Monae Rich
Shirlonda Scott
Doretha Sykes
Theresa Thomas
Rodney Thompson
Geraldine P. White
Bernetta Young
Jermari Young
Norma Young

AUGUST

Deborah Bassett
Maxine Anne Boyd
Amani Brightful
Clyde Brown
Marian Brown
Joyce Campbell
Tracie Carter
Tracey Cheeks
Beverly Clinton
Vanessa Coates
Kiara Collins

Tyra Curley
Geraldine Davis
Thomas Dawkins
Bernadette Edwards
Ira Glover
Bobbie J. Hargrove
Chianti Harpool
Annette D. Hart
Nadena W. Holden
Loni Howe
Shirley Hughes
Lennard Jackson
Alan James
April Jones
Oradale Knight
Michael Lewis
Candace McNeal
Davina Morton
Rebecca Pettaway
Samuel Rather
Gregory E. Reed
Vonda Reed
Khristina S. Richardson
Regina Stevenson
William E. Stewart
Lanita Wilkerson

