From the Pastor’s Desk:  
“Not Yet!”

This season’s thought begins with a reference about time. The reference “not yet” speaks to unfulfilled desires and unresolved trouble. When we think about “not yet”, we often think about what we have been wanting or waiting for, yet have not yet received. As a result, we sometimes find ourselves frustrated, bitter, and even drawing away from God. It is during these times of waiting that we must focus on the promise instead of the problems, the coming triumph instead of the trial. The only question is how.

Waiting is not an action, it is a process. The process involves being willing to go without what we want, while not holding back on giving God our best. Sometimes in our season of waiting we stop doing the things we know to do. That is one of the biggest mistakes we can make as believers. If we can only be faithful under ideal conditions, then are we being truly faithful? I think not!

So, what do we do in the meantime? We must continue to exercise our best confidence in the Word of God—the exercise is called faith. Now is not the time to be less faithful, less confident. In the midst of waiting, it is time to be more faithful and more confident. If we can do so, then we express our satisfaction in Him alone and not in our circumstances. The Bible declares, “Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows.” Paul goes further to state, “Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.” (Galatians 6: 7b, 9) The emphasis is on at the proper time. That time is not one of our choosing, but that time is of God’s choosing according to His will for our lives.

Today, I remind you that if you’re going through, it may not be time for you to come out—at least, not yet. Yes, you will reap a harvest in return for what you have sown, just not yet. But, ultimately we must stay strong in our faith so that when asked the question, “Are you tired?”, our answer will be “Not yet.”

Stay strong, your season of harvest is coming. In the meantime, continue to give God your best because TODAY is still the best day of your life!!!

Join Pastor Todd for  
The Changing Lives Radio Broadcast  
every Sunday at 6 PM on PRAISE 106.1 FM
DMCC 2019 Women’s Month Celebration  
By Rev. Lottie Sneed

Thanks to the committed volunteers, Women’s Month was filled with wonderful tokens of love and appreciation for the works of our fellow sisters in Christ, inspired preaching and overall goodwill. The Kick-Off event included an invitation for all attendees to send cards of encouragements to persons experiencing challenges and who were unable to attend church. We give thanks for all the men of the church who also supported that effort.

We honored the women of Douglas individually and collectively each Sunday. For the second Sunday which was Mother’s Day, all women attendees at worship receive small gifts of appreciation. Margaret Turner was recognized for her steadfast commitment and service to the education and encouragement Baltimore’s children. The third Sunday was “Wear your colors and bring your buddy to church day”. Tracey Barbour-Gillett was recognized for her recent awards and long-term service to the community. On the 4th Sunday, we honored “she-roes” and Stacia Mobley was honored for her service and recent recognition by the greater Baltimore Community. In recognition of sisterhood, all women in attendance were pinned.

The Saturday before our women’s day service, DMCC hosted a women’s health fair. There were presentations on cancer, heart disease, diabetes, mental health and Alzheimer’s and dementia. Free blood pressure screenings were available and there was a yoga demonstration led by our own Susan Frazier.

On Women’s day, we were spiritually fed by Rev. Sheri D. Smith Clayborn, First lady of Bethel AME Church on our theme, “We are becoming”. It was a glorious celebration which concluded with a reception and recognition of the ladies aged 80 years+. Bernadette Green and members of the Black History team presented a beautiful display of photos of the seniors. We thank all of the ladies who worked so tirelessly to make such a beautiful month of celebration possible.
The ladies on the Black History Committee organized by Pastor Todd thought that Women’s Month was the perfect time to recognize women age 80 and over. An attempt was made to identify all ladies that fit in this category who are members of DMCC. Committee members, Gwen Barbour, Stacia Mobley, Sandra Roberts, Margaret Turner and I contacted the ladies to determine how long they’ve been a member of DMCC and their favorite Bible verse. The committee enjoyed talking with the ladies about their years at Douglas and learning those Bible verses that were special to them. As Committee Chair, I had the honor of compiling the information and assembling a photo exhibit including 36 beautiful ladies age 80 and over. The exhibit was on display in the Founders’ Hall for several weeks.

The ladies represented all facets of Douglas life: Sunday School, Bible Study, the Credit Union, Camp Farthest Out, Vacation Bible School, The Village Board; Trustees, Stewards, Ushers; Hospitality Ministry, Music Ministry, Finance Ministry, Pan Ministry, JOY Senior’s Ministry, Stephen Ministry, members of WANA, the Floral Circle, and the Women’s Christian Fellowship. They assisted in the church office, special church events, fundraisers and so much more!

Ladies, we stand on your shoulders. We cannot forget your contributions to DMCC. We are who we are today because of your prayers, your faith in God, your diligence and hard work.

And as Margaret Turner, who is one amongst you, and our Poet in Residence so aptly penned, “We thank you for your dedicated church support; For your love, your smile, your years of service too. You’ve been a beacon for all of us to see. And today we’re happy to say with pride, ‘We Love You’!!”

God’s Blessings upon you!!!

Douglas Memorial Community Church  1325 Madison Avenue  Baltimore, MD 21217
Phone 410-523-1700  E-mail: info@douglaschurch.net  Website: www.douglaschurch.net
The Poetry Corner

Quiet Thoughts
A better me I want to be,
I want others to see God working in me-
By the things I do everyday,
By walking and talking in God's way.
I want to feel the warmth and power of the Holy Spirit inside,
And to know with our heavenly Father we can abide.
Let each of us begin to realize so clearly
That God loves us so very dearly.
And even with the faults and mistakes we make so much,
God has the power to forgive us with His omnipotent touch.
And if we ask for forgiveness in Jesus’ name,
Remember for others we must do the same.
We must trust, have faith, pray and always believe,
God will make you a blessing,
and you and others will receive.
Follow Him, He'll answer when you call.

Just a reminder...
Please remember your tithes and offerings during the summer. Even though our ministry activity slows down a bit, expenses, bills and on-going upkeep and projects continue throughout the summer.

When you are out of town, consider Givelify or the DMCC website for your contributions. Thank you.

Congratulations, Pastor Todd
on your graduation from the University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law on Thursday, May 16, 2019!

A Time to Laugh

An elderly woman had just returned to her home from an evening of church services when she was startled by an intruder. She caught the man in the act of robbing her home of its valuables and yelled, "Stop, Acts 2:38!" *

The burglar stopped in his tracks. The woman calmly called the police and explained what she had done. As the officer cuffed the man to take him in, he asked the burglar, "Why did you just stand there? All the lady did was yell a scripture to you." "Scripture?" replied the burglar. "She said she had an ax and two 38's!"

*(Repent and be baptized, in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven...)

www.beliefnet.com/prayables/joke-galleries/short-funny-jokes
The Next Book Club Selection

The DMCC Book Club has selected the novel “Strongholds” by Vanessa Davis Griggs for the next reading and group discussion.

Everyone is welcome to read along and join in the discussion scheduled for Saturday, September 14, 2019 at 1 PM. For more information, you may contact Sandra Roberts, Eloise Bridges or Leon Bridges.

From Ms. Griggs' website bio:

"God's Cheerleader," Vanessa Davis Griggs is an author and motivational speaker who adores the power of words both written and spoken. At the end of 1996, this former BellSouth employee left 18 years of service stepping out on faith and decided to pursue her purpose and passion—writing. Proving out Proverbs 18:16, A man’s gift maketh room for him, and bringeth him before great men, she began her own company (Free To Soar) emphasizing the taking off of limits as she travels inspiring and encouraging others—both young and old—to take flight like an eagle and do the same. Vanessa is the recipient of numerous recognitions including: 2010 Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition presented by Congressman Sanford D. Bishop, Jr.; 1st Quarter 2009, Practicing What You Preach was named one of EDC's "On the Shoulders of Giants" Faith-based Books Best Book Award; June 2007 recipient of the Arts and Letters Award from Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Birmingham Alumnae Chapter; the March 2006 recipient of The Greater Birmingham Millennium Section National Council of Negro Women Inspiration Award, 2004-2005 Jasper Outstanding Achievement Award.

Vanessa resides in Irondale (home of the Whistle Stop Café and Fried Green Tomatoes), a community just outside of Birmingham, Alabama.

Upcoming Events

Summer Worship Experience And August Sabbatical
July
Regular worship schedule
8:00 AM and 10:30 AM worship hours
August
One worship service at 9:30 AM
We will observe a summer Sabbatical through the month of August. Sunday School and ministry meetings will end on July 31st. See flier on page 8.

Semi-Annual Meeting
Saturday, July 20, 2019 at 10 AM in Founders' Hall.
All members are encouraged to attend to receive mid-year ministry updates.

Camp Farthest Out Fundraiser to see The Lion King Movie
Wednesday, July 24, 2019 at 6:00 PM at Horizon Cinemas Beltway Plaza, 7660 Belair Road, Baltimore MD 21236. Tickets are $25 and include a soft drink and popcorn. See flier on page 8.

Seniors’ Crab Feast at Kurtz’s Beach
Thursday, July 25, 2019.
Tickets are sold out. Time for bus departure will be announced.

Labor Day Holiday
The church office will be closed on September 2nd.
Meals on Wheels will not be delivered.

Homecoming Sunday
September 15, 2019

DMCC Family Trip
September 27-29, 2019. See Pat Briggs or Susan Frazier to complete your reservation. See flier on page 8.
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“I will bless the L ORD at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth. My soul makes its boast in the L ORD; let the humble hear and be glad. O magnify the L ORD with me, and let us exalt his name together. I sought the L ORD, and he answered me, and delivered me from all my fears. Look to him, and be radiant; so your faces shall never be ashamed. This poor soul cried, and was heard by the L ORD, and was saved from every trouble. The angel of the L ORD encamps around those who fear him, and delivers them. O taste and see that the L ORD is good; happy are those who take refuge in him.”

Psalm 34: 1-8 NRSV
Bible Puzzle: Find the Hidden Books of the Bible

Hints: The hidden books may not be capitalized, and may not always be contained within one word or one line. The book of Titus is highlighted in red and underlined for you. Now you must find the remaining 25. The solution will be posted on the bulletin board.

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

The Bible is a remarkable book. Within this letter there are 26 books of the Bible hidden. Can you find them all? Have a go at it using a pen or pencil to highlight the ones you find.

The Bible was inspired by God, using many authors from all sorts of backgrounds, having many different jobs. God tells us the story of his nation Israel and His son, Jesus Christ, making sure it has been preserved for us through the ages for us to read today.

The Bible outlines the right way to lead our lives, as well as containing many historical accounts. Moses led Israel through the Red Sea, at the battle of Jericho trumpeters marched round the walls for seven days, Judea saw great wars and captivity, Abishag gained David as a husband, the Pharisees would act superior to everyone else, perhaps almsgiving for example, but Jesus kept giving them a most stern rebuke. Jesus also performed many miracles, after receiving the Holy Spirit upon his baptismal achievement, with his first miracle being turning the water into wine for the groom at the wedding, maybe it was a nice Spanish Rioja? Mesopotamia was an important region in Biblical history, with Ur and Babylon in that area, as was Sudan I elsewhere read.

When studying the Bible it is helpful to look out for any Bible echo. Search for them whenever you read as you will see some fascinating things, particularly when reading the letters to the various churches, or ecclesias. Testing what you hear against the Bible is also very important to show if it is true, for example if someone suggests Jesus was born in Suez rather than Bethlehem, you would use the Bible to check its accuracy. The same applies if you think Paul ate locusts, David played a banjo eloquently for Saul, Barnabas went on missionary work to Dijon, a horse carried Jesus into Jerusalem or Lazarus died of swine flu, keep going back to the Bible as you can learn a lot from answers to your questions. There is no need to put being academic ahead of everything else though as Jesus said it is most important to love one another, in a humble spirit. Jesus gave his life for us and when we are in a spiritual rut, his love will give us the comfort we need.

Sincerely, the Rev. E. Lation
August is Sabbatical Month!
One worship service at 9:30 AM.
Ministry meetings, Sunday School and Bible Studies will take a break during Sabbatical and resume in September.

Featuring The Lion King Movie
Wednesday, July 24, 2019 at 6 PM
at the Horizon Cinemas Beltway Plaza
7660 Belair Road, Baltimore MD 21236

Tickets are $25
and include a small popcorn and small soft drink.
One child 12 or under free with each adult ticket.
For tickets see Ronald Boozer, Kim Conaway or Victor Green

Transportation will be available for an additional $10.
Bus will leave from the church at 5 PM.

Please make checks payable to Camp Farthest Out.