

The Star News



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WWW.BSBCOKC.ORG

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

Your Deacons are here to serve YOU!

Bethlehem Star is now on Facebook, Twitter (@bsbcokc) and YouTube (mybsbcokc).

Check out Pastor Payne on Periscope!

BSBCOKC app in your Google Play or App Store.

Need Wi-Fi at church? Connect to BSBC Guest (password: bsbc)

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Welcome to 2016!

By Pastor Rodney Payne

We are off and running in a brand new year the Lord has blessed us to witness! 2016 brings with it great opportunities for expansion and execution for the ministry of Bethlehem Star. Our mission is *"Equipping the Body of Christ through Evangelism, Discipleship and Christian Service, meeting the needs of the whole person"*.

Our primary focus must be adding souls to the Kingdom of God. I am challenging each member to share your faith. In a world where everything seems to be acceptable as a personal choice, while our comments must remain politically correct, we must share our faith.

In order to be effective in the sharing of our faith, we must be diligent in our personal discipleship process. Are you connected to the various Christian Education opportunities offered at BSBC? We have Fulfillment Hour, Mid-week Bible Study, Evangelism and preaching to help us to grow in our faith. Romans 10:17 says, "So then faith cometh by hearing, hearing by the word of God." We must make the investment to grow in our faith. Jesus requires of His Disciples to "...deny himself, take up his cross daily and follow..." You must take your spiritual growth personally.

Finally, we must be willing to serve one another. As believer's we serve as the hands of God in meeting the needs of people. God has enlisted us into His army and we are to "bear one another's burdens". We are each other's responsibility. In serving one another, we must meet the needs of the whole person. We must concern



ourselves with the emotional, material as well as the spiritual needs of people.

Living out our mission can only come to pass as we focus on our vision: Live in the Love of God, Walk in the Will of God and Experience the Power of God! Love must be our motivation as well as our foundation for everything we do. Scripture must be our standard for how we operate. Our result will be a direct reflection of our execution of living in His love and walking in His will. When we execute one and two, three will be hand delivered by God... We WILL experience the power of God!

So as we continue in this year of opportunity to execute and expand, let's keep our eyes on Jesus! You are an integral part of God's plan for Bethlehem Star. We need every member actively growing and serving in alignment with our vision. Connect, commit and celebrate with us as God continues to do a great work in us!

To God be the Glory for the things He has done!

God Bless,

Pastor Payne

7th Annual Appreciation of Pastor Payne and Family

Praise Beyond the Walls is right around the corner (June 6-12). It's time to get involved and minister to God's people!

All members have been assigned a deacon. If you don't know yours, email: deaconministry@bsbcokc.org to find out.

*But without **FAITH** it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must **BELIEVE** that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently **SEEK** Him.*

Heb 11:6 NKJV

On February 27th and 28th, Bethlehem Star Baptist Church (BSBC) will celebrate and show appreciation to our Pastor and his awesome family. Over the past seven years, under Pastor Payne's leadership, we have experienced phenomenal growth in our spirituality, new members, property and facilities. Contributing to this growth is the Pastor's wife, Sis Thelma and his two daughters, Danielle and Devin. We have seen his daughters, grow into loving and respectable young women who are active within and outside of the church. First Lady, Thelma Payne, is always there to pray and provide timely advice to those in need. So, as we reflect on the past and look forward to the visions of the future, we thank God for our Pastor and his family.

For the BSBC family, the Pastor's Anniversary is much more than a tradition or an event that is on the calendar. It was by the hand of God that He sent the Payne family to BSBC. We believe the union of Pastor Payne and BSBC was God ordained as only He can do. The God-given characteristics of our Pastor that we celebrate during this special weekend are a compassion for people, a love for God, a hun-

ger for the word, a passion for teaching, the gift of leadership, and a vision for the church.

To celebrate our Pastor, we will have a musical celebration featuring seven of his favorite soloists at 6:00pm on Saturday, February 27th. On Sunday, February 28th, we will have the 8:00am anniversary message brought by Rev. Lawrence Kirk of St. John Baptist Church. Additional words from heaven will come at the 10:45am service from Rev. Anthony Rhone of the Galilee Baptist Church in Shawnee. Both ministers will be expounding on the anniversary theme, "He Sent Us a Pastor" and the scripture is from Ephesians 4:11.

BSBC is requesting each member to honor our Pastor with a \$100 gift. You may present this gift to any anniversary committee member listed in the bulletin. This honorarium and other gifts will be presented to our Pastor at the 10:45am service. Please mark these celebration dates on your calendar.

Resource and Referral (R & R) Ministry

The R & R ministry's is here for you!

Our mission:

Help members build success through proactive involvement. Provide timely resource and referral information in response to member requests. Update members on current and relevant issues. Establish initiatives and programs to address church and community issues and concerns.

R & R Ministry Services:

Sister Linda Brown – Ministry Leader

Health & Wellness – Sister Linda Brown

Drugs/Alcohol - Sally Smith and Linda Brown

Smoking Cessation – Linda Dollison

Voting/Community Affairs – Bro. James Brown

Employment/Job Search – Bro. Brian Smith

The R & R ministry is looking for volunteers in all areas. If you need assistance, information, or would like to volunteer, contact Sis Linda Brown at 405-833-7531.

Deacons' Ministry Working for You!

What is a Deacon?

To explain the role of a deacon, you have to go to the Bible and find out why the office was created. In Acts chapter 6, verse 1 the Bible says ***“there arose a murmuring of the Grecians against the Hebrews, because their widows were neglected in the daily ministration. ”***

It goes on to explain that the disciples were busy studying the word of God, and these concerns could be handled by other Godly men. So in verse 3 the solution was;

“Wherefore, brethren, look ye out among you seven men of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business.”

So biblically, the office of a deacon was created to serve. Serve how? In spiritual matters of the church as to lighten the load of the pastor. As deacons, we are an extension of the pastor, assisting him in ministering to the needs of the church. We thank God for our pastor! While he is a man of many talents, the work of the church far exceeds his reach. So there is a need for spiritual men to cover him, not only spiritually, but physically and emotionally as well.

The ministry of a deacon is that of a servant. Many look at this office as a position of power or respect; however, the true definition of a deacon is simply one who serves. He serves his pastor as well as his church family. In fact, our deacon motto is taken from Luke 17:10. It says; *“When you have done everything you were told to do, you should say, ‘We are unworthy servants; we have only done our duty.’* I thank God for the men that he has sent to our church to serve as deacons. They serve with a sincere heart, pure motives and seldom look for credit for what they do. They serve through their own



problems and concerns, and never complain or make excuses. They exemplify the qualifications of a deacon (referenced in 1st Timothy chapter 3), and are deacons in the church as well as in their homes, on their jobs and every place they go. I encourage you to get to know your deacons, all of them, we are truly blessed to have them serving in our family.

Michael Glover, Chairman

Arthur Campbell, Co-Chairman

Ransom Miller, Jr. Chairman-Emeritus

Henry Adams

John Black

George Bland

Sam Brown, Jr.

Larry Coats

Charles Jackson

Vonel Knight

L. Cllet Marzett

Ransom Miller, III (Honorary Deacon)

Raymond Pickett, Sr.

John Reed

Albert Simpson

Joseph Smith

Dorsey Wardsworth

John Wright

Praise Beyond The Walls 2016

Coming June 6-12, 2016!

The Vision

Praise Beyond the Walls is an Epic outreach event empowering our community by ministering to the whole person.

The Mission

Praise Beyond the Wall will influence as well as equip our community through Exposure, Education and Empowerment. We will facilitate growth at the individual level and connection at the community level, with community specific symposiums, discipline-specific training as well as programs and services to promote healthy living in mind, body and spirit meeting the needs of the whole person.



HIGHLIGHTED CALENDAR EVENTS

February

- (9) Mass Choir engagement (Fairview Baptist Church), 7pm.
- (13) Deacon/Deaconess Workshop. Bryant Event Center. 11am—2pm.
ASAP Military Day (Guided by Miya Felton)
- (14) Annual Men and Women’s Day
- (23) College Admission Seminar, 6pm. Hosted by Danielle Payne
- (25-26) Mass Choir special rehearsals, 7pm.
- (27-28) 7th Pastor Payne and Family Appreciation

March

- (TBD) Rose State and OU visits
- (14) Evangelism Spring session starts
- (20) Family Day
- (27) Easter. Sunrise service, 6:30am. Youth production, 9:30am. Service, 10:45am.
- (28-31) Simultaneous Revival

(April

- (13) Scholarship Writing Seminar. Hosted by Samaya Brown
- (24) Annual Ushers’ Day

