MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

I greet you in the marvelous name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. It is always a joy to communicate with you through this medium. May God bless you as you read this message. Today, my purpose of my writing is threefold. First, I will like to thank God for all the blessings upon Zion Hill. As a Church, we remain viable in our community; we are spreading the gospel of Jesus Christ and making serious impact in people’s lives. It is obvious that we could not have achieved all these things without the help of God. So, I am thankful for divine intervention, angelic operation and many divine visitations in our Church. Now, I can see why David could testify that if it has not been for the Lord who was on his side, he couldn’t stand a chance. The same is true about Zion Hill. God kept us, God blessed us, God enabled us, God favored and God’s hand is upon us. To God be the glory.

Second, I would like to thank you, the people for all your prayers and support. When I reflect over all what is taking place in Zion Hill, I could see clearly that one of our biggest assets is the people. I am thankful for all of our ministers for their commitment and service. We all know that many are called but only few are chosen. And to graduate from just being called to become the chosen of the Lord, there is a process. Among other things, the process includes being faithful over things that belong to others so that God could give you that which belong to you. I am grateful to God for giving many of our associate ministers the opportunity to serve and to move up the scale in the high calling of God through Zion Hill Church community. I am equally grateful to many of our ministers who have submitted themselves to the process of God. May God increase you more and more.

Likewise, I am thankful for every one of our deacons and deaconesses for their commitment to the work of the ministry. It is very encouraging to watch God at work in your life. It is refreshing to be in a church where every one of our deacons and deaconesses are serving the Lord. More so, there is no internal conflict or strive in the church because of your commitment to peace and unity. Thank you for being a good God’s servant. Please, never forget that serving the Lord pays all the time. It is a known fact that when we take care of God’s business, He also takes care of our business.

And what more could I say without mentioning the sacrifice of our staff and volunteers. Without a doubt, you are the apples in God’s eyes. You are the ones that God is using to make things happen for Zion Hill. But for you, a lot of things would have faltered. Thank you for your commitment, thank you for serving God faithfully when no one is looking. Thank you for buying into the vision of our Church. And thank you for serving without murmuring or grumbling. I hear the Lord saying, promotion is coming in Jesus name.

Finally, I would like to share with all my readers about my recent research finds on why Churches are experiencing dropout in attendance. I am sharing this because I am believing God to protect our own Church from having such negative experience. But we must become aware of the trick of the enemy and do our part to make sure that we give no place to the devil in our Church.

So why do people often stop coming to any church?

People would stop coming to any church that doesn’t have a place for them. Therefore, every ministry, every department, every small group must make it a priority to include others and allow people to get involved. If we don’t, people will leave. People don’t want to wait around before they can serve. And that is why they often left. Please, let’s make a way for people to serve.

Another sign of a dying Church is that they are messy. People want God in their business but not people in their business. Most Churches will grow if people in the Church will stay out of people’s business. Relevant Churches have learned to major on major things. You are a part of the Church to worship, evangelize, disciple, fellowship and minister to one another. The Church is not a place to gossip, backbite, spread rumors and tell tales. We must all learn to stay out of people’s business. Doing so is running people out of the Church. Likewise, the Church is not a place for envy, jealous and cliques. These things not only run people away from the Church but it hinders our personal and collective prayers. So, please stay out of people’s business and mind your own business.

Another problem in dying churches is the lost of evangelistic passion. The members come to church but they brought no one with them and they are not Inviting their friends and their loved ones to church.

The early disciples were ordered by the Government not to share their faith. But the more, they tried to shut them down, the bolder they became in telling everyone in their community about their Savior. When was the last time you invited someone to our Church or to come and visit Zion Hill?

Did you know that more than 80% of Churches are dying or stagnant in USA. Did you know that nearly 4000 churches are closing their doors permanently each year? We must make it a priority to keep our Church healthy and vibrant for the glory of God. May God bless you as you join me to build our Church and not tear it down. Amen!

Yours in Christ,

Dr. Joshua Joy Dara, Pastor
ZH Health Ministry/Outreach Volunteer Opportunities

choose life!

- Food Bank of Central La
  Saturday March 25th 8 am-noon
  Last spring small group ‘Outside the Walls’ help to repackage donated food for use at food pantries and emergency shelters and sort salvaged food and made food boxes. The Food Bank welcomes volunteers to join in the fight against hunger. A special skill or a willing heart is always accepted.

Role Reversal
  Wednesday March 22nd 6pm Zion Hill/class
  When an adult child is “PARENTING” his/her aging parent - This is a support group for individuals whose parents are no longer able to care for themselves. (Dementia, Alzheimer’s, life etc.) This is reality, you are not alone. Facilitator: Sis. Patricia Williams

- Cenla Homeless Coalition
  Wednesday March 29th 6pm Zion Hill/class
  For those individuals who have a ‘Special Interest’ in the mission of ending homelessness in Central Louisiana. A representative from the Coalition will be present to guide you on how to get involved with outreach activities that provide food, clothing, blankets, and other necessities to our homeless community.

- Start a Heart Cenla
  Saturday, April 1st 2 sessions 8am/11am
  2nd floor Alexandria Riverfront Center
  In conjunction with nearly 200 healthcare and non-healthcare volunteers from the Cenla community, Start a Heart Cenla is a FREE OF CHARGE training event teaching participants how to:
  - perform Hands Only CPR for adults/infants/children
  - use an Automated External Defibrillator (AED)

  Participants must be 11 yrs of age or older. 4-10 yrs old FREE childcare w/fun activities exploring heart health for kids! While participants will not be certified in CPR, they will receive a certificate of completion, a t-shirt, and more importantly, the training to save a life! Contact David Melaneon at 318-880-7944 for more information.

  318-704-6900 Zion Hill's Main Ofc

SPONSORED BY: ZION HILL HELPING HANDS MINISTRY

HOME BUYER’S WORKSHOP INCLUDING FINANCIAL EDUCATION

DATE: MARCH 20, 2017
TIME: 6:00 PM

LOCATION: ZION HILL BAPTIST CHURCH
FAMILY LIFE CENTER
312 HUNTER STREET
PINEVILLE, LA. 71360
318-704-6900

Topics of Discussion:
How to obtain home ownership-The benefits of Buying
We, The Prayer Ministry Team of Zion Hill Church Family have been blessed with a driver to pick up anyone who desires a ride to get to prayer. The bus will start picking up people on 2/24/17 at 5PM. The bus will return to the church for 6PM. Prayer begins from 6PM to 7PM only one hour. If you are interested in riding the bus, please leave your contact number, home address, and directions to your home @ Zion Hill Church. Phone# 767-6900 or call Shirley Joffrion Phone# 451-1367, Hattie Osteen, Phone# 318-623-2152 or Mary McCoy, Phone# (318) 623-2188.

What an awesome experience!

Praying for “Unity in the Community”
In the Spotlight

Kenon Hicks Espuet finished 3rd Place in the 4x4 at the All-State track and field meet in Baton Rouge.

Carlton Hicks Lipsey won with a 485 lb dead lift at the ASH power lifting meet.

Track and field tryouts were held for Tioga Jr High.

Trayv’on Culbert made the team for 2x4 and 4x4 relay, 100 meter and 200 meter.

And Aaron Dotson made the team for Shot put and discus and Long Jump.

Zion Hill’s own Malcolm Washington was spotted at Creative Con and appeared on KALB news. A library sponsored annual event, held at the Alexandria mall.

Youth Praise Report

Events

Youth Explosion Happens the First Saturday of Each Month.

Featuring:

Praise and Worship
Guest Speakers
Fun and Games
Gift Giveaways and More....

Next Month Possible Skit/Play and Lip Sync Contest

Come Out and Have a Good Time in the Lord

March Birthdays

Raeve Newman — 4th
Bryson Allen — 21st
Leah Hicks — 7th
Ariana Hicks — 28th
Janelle Davis — 1st
Deasia King — 15th
Jordan Hills — 7th
Devon Lee — 51st

Scripture:

No temptation has overtaken you but such as is common to man. God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will provide a way of escape also, so that you will be able to endure it.

1 Corinthians 10:13 NKJV

5-6 year old class

Sharing Black History

On Wednesday February 15th and 22nd history was shared with all church school attendees.

Participants

Ariana Hicks
Leah Hicks
Morgan Wilson
Shakay Ferguson
Jcon Williams
Abia Shaw (not shown)

Thanks for doing such a good job!
To those who were born in the month of March and who are celebrating with the one God kept for you!!!

Happy Birthday Jeremiah & Jaycee
March 19, 2017

Happy 1st birthday “Harmony”
Family & Friends Day

04/30/2017
Family & Friends
Worship Service
8:00am, 9:00am & 11:00am

Zion Hill "Kingdom People" Mime & Praise Dance Ministry
Praise Him with the timbrel and dance; Praise Him with stringed instruments and flutes. Psalms 150:4

ATTENTION: COMMUNITY & ZION HILL MEMBERS
OPEN RECRUITMENT
an invitation to COME & JOIN us lifting up JESUS in
MIME DANCE
FLAGS, VEILS, TAMBOURINES and/or RIBBONS
Kings / Queens Dukes / Duchessess
Princesses Mimes
We are looking to bolster the ranks of the Lord’s army.
If you have a PASSION for mime or dance,
DON’T FIGHT “THE SPIRIT”, BUST THAT MOVE!!!
Contact: Angala Phillips (318) 489-2323 | Email: zhigsec@gmail.com
Jennifer Jackson, Ministry Director

March 20, 2017
Spring
dates to Remember
Greetings brothers and sisters. This is the day that the Lord has made and join me as we rejoice and be glad in it. This month marks the beginning of the season of spring. And with it our thoughts are turned toward the resurrection of Christ inclusive of His suffering, death and burial. So for this month’s article, let’s look at the surety of going to heaven for every believer.

Do you wonder whether you are really saved? Or wonder if you are really going to heaven? Yet still, is your “determination” for heaven and you are asking the prayers of the righteous to make it in? If the answer to these three questions is yes, it is imperative that you read this article in its entirety.

Let me give you seven (7) reasons why you can know that you are going to heaven. You can say that I want to make it “perfectly” clear to you.

Because God says so. The prophet Isaiah said, “Flowers and grass fade away, but what our God has said will never change” (CEV). God says, “He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life” (John 3:36). The tense of the verb “hath” indicates an action that has been done never to be redone or undone again. Selah! If you trust in Jesus as your Lord and Savior you have eternal life beginning on earth and continuing in heaven.

Because of the perfect work of Christ. The work of Christ on the Cross which He, himself, termed as “finished” guarantees your forever abode in heaven. Christ on the Cross paid for your sins with the shedding of His precious blood. 1 Peter 1:18, 19 says, “You were rescued from the useless way of life that you learned from your ancestors ………… You were rescued by the precious blood of Christ, that spotless and innocent lamb” (CEV). The Greek word for “rescued” means payment of the price to free a slave or prisoner. Good news. You are no longer a slave or prisoner of sin or death. According to the Apostle John, the blood of Jesus cleanses you (continuously) from all sin (1 John 1:7; 2:9).

Because of the work of the Holy Spirit. When you accepted Jesus, the Holy Spirit entered your life saving you and maturing you. Right now, He is doing the work of maturation until you stand at the feet of Jesus in heaven. John 14:16 says “...I (Jesus) will ask the Father to send you the Holy Spirit who will help (comfort, encourage, defend) you and always be with you” (CEV).

Because you are sealed by the Holy Spirit. God has put His seal on you. That seal is the Holy Spirit. But most importantly, it is God’s guarantee of your safe arrival to heaven. You belong to God. You are His property. The seal of His Holy Spirit cannot be broken by man, by angels, or by demons, even your adversary, Satan. Ephesians 1:13, 14 says, “Christ also brought you the truth, which is the good news about how you can be saved. You put your faith in Christ and were given the promised Holy Spirit to show that you belong to God. The Spirit also makes us sure that we will be given what God has stored up for his people.........” (CEV).

Because you are a part of the body of Christ. You became a part of the body of Christ the moment of your confession of faith in Him and asked Him into your heart and life. As part of the body of Christ, you can never be separated from Him, wherever He is so are you. 1 Corinthians 12:27 says, “Together you are the body of Christ. Each one of you is part of the body” (CEV).

Because eternal life is a present possession, not one to be possessed later. You do not have to wait for eternal life. You received it the moment you believed in Christ. John 5:24 says, “I tell you for certain that everyone who hears my message and has faith in the one who sent me has eternal life and will never be condemned. They have already gone from death to life” (CEV). To be assured of this reason why you know you are going to heaven, remember Jesus’ words to Martha in John 11:25, 26.

Because Jesus holds you in His hand. You are safe and secure in the hands of Jesus. Not only are you safe and secure, nothing can pluck you out. The good news for you, personally, is that Jesus is holding onto you and will hold you steadfastly.

Listen to Jesus’ words in John 10:27-29, “My sheep know my voice, and I know them. They follow me, and I give them eternal life, so that they will never be lost. No one can snatch them out of my hand. My Father gave them to me, and he is greater than all others. No one can snatch them from his hands” (CEV).

It is my hope that this article will alleviate any fear as to whether you are eternally secure, as well as, strengthen you as to the surety of going to heaven.

As always, you be blessed and may the favor of the Lord continually be upon you. And remember, whatever you do with the word of God, be sure to “cut it straight.”

Minister Millicent Rubin

“cutting it straight”
Minister Millicent Rubin

SPRING FORWARD
REMEMBER TO SET YOUR CLOCKS FORWARD
MARCH 12, 2017
Get ready get ready get ready. Central Louisiana The time has com again. Please sign up asap. Seating is limited! For more information call Geneva 318-613-8503
Julian Berry Real Estate Agent Prodigy/Extraordinaire

My motto is "Helping others to help themselves!"

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Fax: (318) 448-6473
Sent from my iPhone

The Seniors Ministry's own Sister Lucy Roland won an original artwork done by Mr. Morris Taft Thomas. Mr. Thomas, an outstanding, renowned artist, poet and educator, was the featured speaker at the annual Martin Luther King Black History Luncheon hosted by LSUA.

Starla Jones
Patricia Williams
Patrick Shaw
Jondrea Nicole
Barbara Watson
Author Adult Fiction & Children’s Books
The Theater Ministry will be showing the movie, "GraceCard" on Friday, March 17, 2017 in the FLC Theater at 7:20pm. Please join us to see how Mac and his patrol partner turns bitterness and anger with God, into Redemption and Forgiveness when it's impossible to look past their differences.

The Family Life Center will be open
Monday—Friday
6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Saturday’s 8:00 a.m. To
Dr. Joshua Joy Dara, Pastor
312 Hunter Street
Pineville, Louisiana 71360

Mailing Address:
P O Box 3914, Pineville, LA 71361
Phone: 318.704.6900
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