

PROGRESSIONS

WORK IN PROGRESS MINISTRIES

Seasons



Donald Lawrence has a popular song entitled "Seasons". The songwriter says, "those seeds that you've sown; it's time to come into your own, season, walk into your season". In order to walk into your season there must be a time of preparation, a time of change. **Ecclesiastes 3:1 (NLT) says, "for everything there is a season, a time for every activity under heaven"**.

Each season brings unique characteristics and expectations. In the winter everything is stagnate, dreary and dark giving the appearance of being dead. No apparent growth seems to take place

in the winter. But growth IS actually taking place during the winter; it may not be visible to the eye. This growth takes place underground. Examining this with a spiritual eye; the growth is taking place in your soul. Old ways, habits, your flesh is dying. The dead part will shed off in preparation for the blossoming of spring.

During the spring many showers come to water the seed bringing forth a season of promise. **Leviticus 26:4 (NLT) states, "I will send you the seasonal rains. The land will yield its crops and the trees of the field will produce their fruit"**. The watering of your seed (in the spirit) are the tears that you cry during the winters of your life and early spring (just before blossoming starts). When the seed has been sufficiently watered is when the blossom is allowed to come forth.

After spring is summer. The summer is a season of beauty. You have endured the winter and uncertainty of spring; therefore, you can enjoy the beauty of summer. Enjoy the beauty of the blessing that God has given you.

But after the summer, must come the fall. The fall is a season of fulfillment and fruitfulness. The fall is also a season of harvest. The harvest comes right before the deadness of winter.

One thing we must remember is not to allow the pain of one season to destroy the joy of all the other seasons. **Deuteronomy 11:12b reminds us, "He (God) watches over us through each season of the year"**. Remember: ALL seasons are necessary to bring forth God's purpose for your life (even the most undesirable ones).

Special points of interest:

- **Calendar of Events**
- **Poetry**
- **Testimonies**
- **First Lady's Corner**
- **Pastor's Reflections**

Bible Trivia (December)

1. Who did the Lord instruct Moses to make holy garments for?
Aaron—Exodus 28:2
2. How many changes of clothes did Samson say he would give to the Philistines if they could answer his riddle?
30—Judges 14:12-13
3. What prophet's sons were greedy and took bribes?
Samuel—1 Samuel 8:1-3
4. What kind of clothes did John the Baptist wear?
Camel's hair
5. Joshua was son of?
Nun
6. How many feasts did God tell the people of Israel to keep? **3**

January Trivia:

1. Which one of Jesus' disciples was NOT a fisherman?
2. Who was released from prison after interpreting Pharaoh's dream?
3. Who preached the first sermon on the Day of Pentecost?
4. Who was King David's great-grandmother?

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Schedule of Events

JANUARY 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3 RADIO
4 CRTV	5	6	7 FAST	8	9	10 RADIO
11 CRTV	12	13	14 FAST	15	16	17 RADIO
18 CRTV	19	20	21 FAST	22	23	24 RADIO
25 CRTV	26	27	28 FAST	29	30	31 RADIO

- **January 9**—Quad Squad 4H Club, Kent Co. Public Works Complex, **7pm**
- **January 13**—Church meeting, **6pm**
- **January 17**—Women’s Empowerment Session, Elder Barbara Washington, “What To Do While Waiting for Boaz”, **10am**
- **January 18**—Apostle Ardelia Drummond & congregation, Holy Trinity, Millsboro, DE, **4pm**
- **January 20**—Youth Choir Practice, **6pm**
- **January 27**—Search Committee meeting, **5:30pm**
- **January 30**—Pastor Jones & WIP congregation travel to Holy Trinity, Millsboro, DE **8pm**



Happy Birthday

- January 3—Tia Little
- January 8—Wanya Sheppard
- January 9—Taliyah Russell
- January 17—Terwana Brown

- Bible Study every Tuesday—7pm
- Fast every Wednesday—12 midnight to 12 noon
- Radio broadcast every Saturday—10:30am on WKDI—AM 840
- Television broadcast every Sunday—9am and 4pm—on Atlantic Broadband Channel 6

Poetry: Composed by Jana Carter
“Ponderance”



When I sit back and ponder the substance of my life,
I get an empty feeling inside.
When I sit back and ponder the substance of my life,
I've been looking through blinded eyes.

When I sit back and ponder the substance of my life,
I realize I must make a change.
When I sit back and ponder the substance of my life,
I must now try to rearrange.

When I sit back and ponder the substance of my life,
I feel that something is missing.
When I sit back and ponder the substance of my life,
I'm praying for a spiritual blessing.

When I sit back and ponder the substance of my life,
I pray for the Lord to make me whole.
When I sit back and ponder the substance of my life,
I must surrender total control.

When I sit back and ponder the substance of my life,
I must walk and act on faith.
When I sit back and ponder the substance of my life,
My old ways are now replaced.

As I sat back and pondered the substance of my life,
I am now reborn again.
As I sat back and pondered the substance of my life,
I trust in God and not men.

Written: September 1993

Kenya Connection



This response was sent to Kenya following communication we received from them 12/7/2008. Pastor and Sis. Terwana (Brown) have been communicating with them via email for a few months and praying for God to lead Work in Progress in aiding Kenya. They are in desperate need for food but are unable to afford the taxes to receive what would be shipped. Please keep Kenya in your prayers as we move forward.

God bless you Sir,

By God's grace and mercy I am blessed and highly favored in Him.

Please know that Kenya is always in our thoughts and prayers and our Pastor mentions you regularly in fact he spoke of you in our church service yesterday.

Though you and I have not communicated in a few weeks and I have not contacted you concerning how we WILL aide Kenya it doesn't mean that you have been forgotten. Psalm 139:16 tells us that all days were ordained by God before one of them came to be. If it were up to me, and having the heart of my Pastor I can say the same for him, Kenya would have received food from Work in Progress Ministries as soon as the request was made known. But we are followers of Christ and must operate in the Spirit of Christ. In doing so I must be obedient to my leader who gets his instructions for our Most High God. God has instructed us to help but he hasn't told us where we go from here.

Man of God while you are in this season of lack and things seem bleak know that God still sits high and looks low and he is mindful of Kenya. The children of Israel endured Marah (bitterness) before getting to Elim. Jesus told the Samaritan Woman in John 4:13 that everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. With each passing day you are enduring your Marah as well and yes we want you to get to Elim (the place of rest and refreshment) after your dessert experience. But our utmost prayer for Kenya is to be filled with living water. Also in John chapter 4 after the disciples returned to find Jesus talking with the Samaritan woman and she had left, the disciples tried to get him to eat something, he said to them "I have food to eat that you know nothing about"

Jesus has food for Kenya to eat and we don't know the day nor the hour that he will provide. But we do have faith and we do know that Jehovah Jireh WILL provide.

Be blessed and stand still knowing that He is God and His word says he'll never leave us nor forsake us. Likewise I pray that you have a blessed and prosperous Christmas and New Year. I urge you to take a hold of Work in Progress Ministries' 2008 Theme "Higher Ground" as we conclude the year 2008 (eight being the number of new birth, new creation or new beginning). And journey into 2009 (nine being the number of judgment and finality; fruit and gift of the spirit, divine completeness from the Lord, the physical manifestation of the of understanding-good or bad) in preparation for 2010 (ten being the number of divine perfection; testimony; law and responsibility).

With God's love,
Sister Terwana 12/8/2008

Kenya—continued

Read on to see how God moved Kenya to respond.

Bless you too sister,

It was a blessing and heart warming to hear from you. Thanks for this very inspiring and scriptural letter. Your thoughtful words have indeed given us some hope to keep enduring the bitter "MARA" and hope that in the Lord's time we shall be at "ELIM". Your illustrations from the word of God have indeed stirred our faith and triggered our praying thank you.

We are happy that you have not forgotten us and that you always upholding us unto the Lord and our country for provision.

If you will tune in to the news or read news papers you will read that on 12th this month there will be demonstrations here and strikes from University students, parastals, colleges and polytechnics due to the food crisis here in our country. Please pray that peace will prevail, that there will be no chaos.

The situation is indeed worse until even the citizens here have no otherwise but press the Government to look into this menace of people dying of hunger.

We thank your Pastor Jones for his being mindful of us, God bless him richly and the church.

We hope you will keep the communication and the prayers. We too wish you a happy Christmas and a blessed new year 2009.

All our love and prayers.

Brother Oywako. 12/9/2008

Testimony: Submitted by Star Harriday

With joy and appreciation, I praise God.

I may not be able to explain the many wonders of God I see, but I enthusiastically accept them. I notice countless expressions of divinity, both large and small, offering transformation as they extend out to others with love and giving. The joy in a child's face, a mother's embrace, or a friend's willingness to help all leave me overflowing with awe.

Not only these outer expressions but also my inner feelings increase my awareness of Spirit. My inner peace expands and sweetens as I become more aware of God's ever-present love and guidance within me.

As joyfully as choirs of angels heralded the birth of the Christ child, I offer my praise as I proclaim "Glory to God."

"And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of heavenly host, praising God..., 'Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace.'"— Luke 2:13-14

Promise Yourself in 2009

*Promise yourself to be so strong that nothing can disturb your peace of mind.
To talk health, happiness, the salvation of Jesus Christ and prosperity to every person you
meet.*

To make all your friends feel that there is something in them.

To look at the sunny side of everything and make your optimism come true.

To think only of the best, to work only for the best and expect only the best.

To be enthusiastic about the success of others as you are about your own.

To forget the mistakes of the past and press on to the greater achievements of the future.

*To wear a cheerful countenance at all times and give every living creature you meet a
smile.*

*To give so much time to the improvement of yourself that you have not time to criticize
others.*

*To be too large for worry, too noble for anger, too strong for fear and too happy to permit
the presence of trouble.*

Anonymous

The First Lady's Corner

Praise the Lord, to everyone who knows God to be their healer, keeper and Most High.

Truly, I just thank my Savior for keeping and healing me; for bringing me in a higher place in Him in the year 2008. There were so many things God had to take me through, to let me know I could not do or be anything without having Him in my heart. Every test and trial I had to go through only made me stronger. They taught me that I had to come closer to Christ and to stop me from thinking that Sherrilyn could fix the situations.



Saints, I want you to know that 2008 made me change my places and people; and to come to know if I didn't pray and ask God to lead and direct my path daily, I will fail to do what my Savior wants me to do. Also, 2008 was a year that I had to change my prayer life; to lay on my face like never before. This is why I am able to take correction and rebukes better than I could in 2007. God took me to a higher level in Him. I can't worry about what people think about me; nor can I worry about what they say. All I want to do is please my Father, Jesus Christ.

To my Pastor,

I want you to know that I thank you for the open rebukes and corrections. They made me get stronger in the Lord and to stay in my word more. Our theme for 2008 was "Higher Ground". I wanted to get higher in Christ and to "eat meat" and not continue to "drink milk". I love you so much for the correction. First of all, I know Christ wanted me to go higher in Him. I know, Pastor, that you want nothing but the best for me. I took the correction, at first, like you wanted to hurt me; but that was the enemy and my immature growth in Christ.

To the Saints,

I am amazed when I hear people always say, "you better watch your church family"; like all the time the saints are against you. It is not always the Saints that are against you, it is people who are closer to you that are envious and jealous over you; the ones that don't want you to grow in Christ that you have to watch out for. I've learned that it doesn't matter who is for or against me, I'm going on in Jesus to see what the end will be. I'm running for life. I came in the world by myself; and I will be leaving this world by myself.

Look out! 2009 is birth and fruitfulness. There is no devil in hell that will cause me to abort the baby that God wants me to bring forth.

Look out, WIP Ministries! You think we were blessed in 2008? The sky is the limit for 2009! (To God be the glory!) But we have to be obedient to God and next to our Overseer, Pastor Guy E. Jones, Sr. Get ready, WIP Ministries; those who want to be blessed and go on in Jesus' name.

Truly, WIP Ministries, I thank God for the Saints that he has sent to our Ministry. We have the best daughters and sons. Love, love, love in Jesus' name. Let's keep going on to see what the end is going to be. Let's continue to give God all the glory and honor for what He does for us.

First Lady Sherrilyn Jones

Pastor's Reflections



Fruit In The Midst Of A Drought

God bless you all, the beloved of God. I thank God for you all often in my conversations with Him. Only the Lord Himself knows how grateful I am for every gift that He has sent our way. Some stayed, and some left. Some are faithful, and some are not. I am thankful for everyone, of you rather if you are faithful or not. I have learned to thank God for everything. Those of you who are faithful, you have a special place in the Father, and my heart. Thank you for your faithfulness.

Our theme for 2008 was (Higher Ground). I can share with you what the Lord gave me concerning our theme for the year. He said, "That if you want to see me again, you will have to come up higher". The Spirit said that my name is, EL ELYON, meaning "Highest" or Exalted One," He was emphasizing to me that God is the highest in every realm of life. In order for us to be victorious we have to go where God makes his abode; in the heavens. Saints, it was, and is very important that we sought/seek the Lord. Because of our diligence, we witnessed the Lord perform some great things. Our praise and worship caught the attention of our Lord, and the power of the Most High, which is the Spirit of EL ELYON who visits us regularly, "thank you Jesus". We prayed for the blind, and sight was granted, we prayed for the sick, and they were healed, to God be the glory. God commanded us to go meet Him on higher ground for the benefit of His Kingdom.

I am clear to the fact that all who belong to Christ are revealed as sons and daughters of the Most High, you are worshiping the One whose power, mercy, and sovereignty cannot be matched. EL ELYON, you are God above all gods, the One who rules over the rulers of the earth. May every knee bow to you and every tongue confess that you are Lord forever? Because we took steps to go higher, more than a hundred souls were saved, countless number of prodigal sons, and daughters came back home to the Father.

Saints, I would like for you to go with me on higher ground. I pray that the Holy Spirit will use my fingers to take you there, and me there again. Psalm 97 paints a powerful picture of the Most High. It shows us a God so awesome that mountains melt before Him! So magnificent that the earth trembles in His presence! I'm talking about a God above everything and everyone! The psalmist's words made me wonder how different my life would be if I could etch this vision into my soul. How could I take my eyes off such a God? Wouldn't this picture of Him dominate my thoughts? Wouldn't it compel my devotion and reshape my response to life, moment by moment, day after day? I/We must keep God's majesty in view; we must stay on (higher ground).

But now that we have gone on Higher Ground, We are now ready to enter into 2009, with anticipation; over the invisible. I would like for you to look at the fourth number in the numerical order of 2009, which is the number (9). In order for me to share this with you I will have to go back to my Hermeneutics class, with the focus on the (Numerical Principle).

This is the principle by which the interpretation of a verse or passage in Scripture containing numbers is aided by recognition of the symbolic significance of the numbers involved. It is impossible to read the Scriptures without noticing the continuous use of numbers. God Himself is the Divine numberer and He has stamped His numerical seal upon the whole of creation.

Here we are going out of 2008 (New Beginning/Resurrection), and He is taking us into 2009 (Fullness/Fruitfulness/Finality). The number 9 is the number of the Holy Spirit as well. Are there any of you seeking God for His Spirit? Well! This can be your year, keep seeking Him, because this is the year of the Spirit. I dare you to ask the Lord to fill your cup, to run it over, to manifest Himself in your life. Because you know that if He does, everything that you need, and want is with Him; can you thank Him right now for the invisible? The number 9 means something to our God, and it should mean something to us as well. There are nine gifts of the spirit, as well as nine fruits of the spirit. This is the year of the spirit, and the Spirit wants to produce His fruit in our life.

The Apostle Paul distinguishes in Galatians 2:22-23 the difference between the work of the flesh, and the fruit of the spirit. Works are produced by human energy. Fruit is grown as a branch abides in the vine (John 15:5). The two differs as a factory and a garden differ. Note that fruit is singular, not plural. The Holy Spirit produces one kind of fruit that is Christ-likeness. All the virtues now listed describe the life of the child of God; that is us saints. Let us take a look at the fruit.

Love is what God is, and what we ought to be. Joy is contentment and satisfaction with God and with His dealings. Peace, I believe, could include the peace of God as well as harmonious relationships among Christians. Longsuffering is patience in afflictions, annoyance, and persecutions. Kindness is gentleness, perhaps best explained in the attitude of the Lord towards little children. Goodness is kindness showed to others Luke 10:30-35. Faithfulness, now this is one that a church needs to see from its members. It may mean trust in God, confidence in our fellow Christians, fidelity, or reliability. Gentleness is taking the lowly place as Jesus did as He washed His disciples' feet. The last of the nine, saints, is Self-control means literally holding oneself in, especially regarding sex. Our lives should be disciplined. Lust, passions, appetites, and temper should be ruled. We should practice moderation. Saints, these nine virtues I have just named, Paul says; against such there is no law." Of course not! These virtues are pleasing to God, and beneficial to others, and good for us.

As I conclude, I would like to say again saints of God; that this is the year of Fruitfulness, Some of you have been carrying your babies for some time now, well you are in your ninth-month; did I forget to mention, that nine is the month for the fruit of the womb? In 2009 some of you are going to bring forth those spiritual babies that your Father (God) has given you. Someone may ask the question, but how is this fruit produced? It is produced as Christians live in communion with the Lord. As they gaze upon the Savior in loving devotion, and obey Him in daily life, the Holy Spirit works a wonderful miracle. He transforms us into the likeness of Christ. We become like Him by be holding Him. Just like the branches derives all its life and nourishment from the vine, so the believer in Christ derives his strength from the True Vine, and is thus able to live a fruitful life with God. Work In Progress Ministries' 2009 church theme is "Bring It Forth."

Pastor Guy E. Jones, Sr.

God is not through with us yet!

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News

Women's Empowerment Session
January 17, 2009

“What To Do While Waiting for Boaz”

10am—until
WIP Ministries, 104 Legion Road, Millington, MD

Please pray for the sick and bereaved in our community.

Great News!!!

Visit us on the World Wide Web at:
<http://www.wipministries.com/>

**Ministry broadcast—Sunday 9am & 4pm on CRTV
Atlantic Broadband Channel 6**

Be sure to check often for new and inspiring information.