

Pre-Installation Banquet

The Grafton Baptist Church Fellowship Hall was transferred to a stately dining room on Saturday, October 5, 2013, at 5:00 p.m. Live red carnation arrangements adorned each table, which was decorated in white linen tablecloths with black runners shaped like crosses.

The mistress of ceremony for the occasion was Mrs. Renee Foster. All the guests were decked out in formal, semi-formal or Sunday's best.

At the appointed time Pastor-elect Reginald N. and Mrs. Cynthia Bagley entered the fellowship to a standing ovation.

Words of welcome was extended by Mrs. Foster, Deacon McElroy McCree read the scripture and Deacon Warren Dudley prayed. The Senior Choir of Grafton Baptist Church, of which Pastor-elect Bagley is a member, sang several songs directed by Mrs. Sherry Banks. Deacon Troy Maxwell blessed the food. During the meal Mr. Reginald Bagley, Jr. presented a slide show with family members and some of the guest.

After an enjoyable meal, Kenneth Lewis graced the attendees with a praise dance. Mrs. Sherry Banks made a special presentation to Pastor-elect Bagley. Deacon Hamilton R. Thornton, chairman of the Deacon Board, made remarks. Pastor-elect Bagley made closing remarks and gave the benediction.

Pastoral Installation for Reverend Reginald N. Bagley

On Sunday, October 6, 2013, at a 3:00 p.m. service Pastor-elect Reginald N. Bagley was installed as the fifteenth pastor of Grafton Baptist (Harris Grove) Yorktown, Virginia.

Reverend Walter Johnson, Pastor of Zion Prospect Baptist Church, in Yorktown, Virginia, was the guest speaker. His choir, ushers and some of his members were also present.

The theme for the occasion was "A church endeavoring to keep the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace."

Deacon Hamilton Thornton served as the worship leader. The service began with a procession of ministers, Rev. Bagley and Mrs. Bagley and their family, followed by the official board, the pulpit and the installation committee.

After the opening hymn, scriptures were read by Reverend Ernest Chambliss, Jr., (Psalms 26:1-7) and Reverend Rebecca Jones (Ephesians 4:1-7).

Deacon Robby C. Evans prayed followed by a chant from Zion Prospect's choir. Reverend Barbara Dudley gave the statement of purpose. Trustees Dennis and Maxwell took the offering.

Rev. Johnson's daughter introduced him, followed by a selection from the choir. Rev. Johnson delivered his from sermon Isaiah 21. The subject was "Anointed for the Task." He stated that when the spirit of the Lord is upon us, there is hope in the name of Jesus! You can always call on Him anytime and anyplace.

The Installation Ceremony was as follows:

Charge to Pastor

Rev. Barbara Lemon of Shiloh Baptist Church

Charge to the Church

Rev. Ernest Chambliss of New Bethel Baptist Church

Prayer of Installation

Rev. Walter Johnson of Zion Prospect Baptist Church

Presentation of Bible

Deacon Hamilton R. Thornton.

Presentation of the Key

Trustee Earl B. White

Presentation from the Church

Deacon Russell Lawson

Pastor's Response

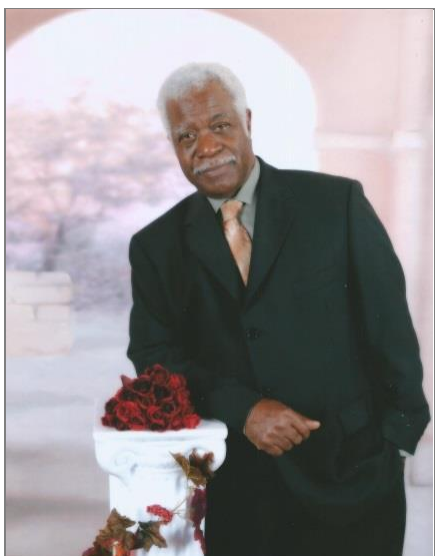
Rev. Reginald N. Bagley

The choir sang the closing hymn; Rev. Johnson blessed the food and gave the benediction. A reception was held in the fellowship hall.

Thank You

Acknowledgements: We are very appreciative to all members of Grafton Baptist Church who made the election of our fifteenth pastor possible. Special thanks to **The Pulpit Committee**, Deacon Troy Maxwell, chairperson, Deacon Russell Lawson, Trustee Michael Carr, Sister Joan Jones, Brother Raymond Patrick and Deacon Hamilton Thornton. We also thank **The Installation Committee**, Sister Sherry Banks, chairperson, Sister Doris DeGraffenreaidt, Trustee Andrew Hale, Rev. Rebecca Jones, Trustee Deborah Wallace and Sister Elesta White.

**Pastoral Installation Service
for
Rev. Reginald N. Bagley**



*And I will give you shepherds according
to my heart, who will feed you with
knowledge and understanding.
Jeremiah 3:15 NKJV*

Theme

*A Church endeavoring to keep the unity
of the spirit in the bond of peace.*



Grafton Baptist Church - Harris Grove
1301 Old York-Hampton Highway
Yorktown, Virginia 23692

**Sunday, October 6, 2013
3:00 p.m.**

Guest Speaker
Rev. Walter Johnson, Pastor
Zion Prospect Baptist Church
Yorktown, Virginia

**Biographical Sketch
of
Rev. Reginald N. Bagley**

Rev. Reginald N. Bagley was a member of Hollywood Baptist Church, in Amityville, New York, for over thirty years. He served as a Deacon until his call to the Gospel Ministry, when he was ordained as an Associate Minister.

He was born in Kembridge, Virginia and received his early education in the public school system. He earned his Bachelor of Science at John Jay College of Criminal Justice; Master of Divinity in New Brunswick Theological Seminary in 1983.

He enlisted in the U.S. Navy and served for four years; while in the Navy, he met and married the former Cynthia Paige of Yorktown, Virginia. After completion of his military duties the Bagley Family moved to Amityville, New York and their union was blessed with three children. He joined the New York Police Department and retired with the rank of sergeant, after thirty years of service.

After retiring from the New York Police Department in 1994, the Bagley's relocated to Yorktown, Virginia and joined Sister Bagley's home congregation at the Grafton Baptist Church in Harris Grove, Virginia.

Pastor and Cynthia Bagley have been married for 52 years and they have three children: Adrienne, Stacy and Reginald; and five grandchildren.

*And we know that all things work together
For the good to those who love God;
To those who are called according to His purpose.
Roman 8:28 NKJV*



The Performing Arts Fall Celebration

On October 19, 2013, at 4:00 p.m. the performing arts presented a fall celebration of the arts.

Ms. Angie Wright served as the mistress of ceremony. She also welcomed the guests. Brother Rodell Jacob read scripture and Trustee Michael Carr prayed. Brother Jakadi Trotter performed a piano solo before the first four skits were presented. Each skit carried a message for the listening audience, such as encouragement, forgiveness, being sincere, praying and believing. The first skit was entitled "Come to Sunday School," and the second skit was "Don't Give Up!"

After a fifteen minutes intermission for refreshments, Brother Jakadi Trotter and Kenneth Lewis acted out a Mime. Reverend Bagley sang a solo. The last skits were "Watch What You Do!" and "Birth of a Salesman."

Reverend Barbara Dudley introduced the cast, The cast members were Sisters Inez Dennis, Lillie Brooks, Angie Wright, Louvenia McCree, Catherine Porter, LaDawn Carter, Jade Doswell; Brothers Kenneth Lewis, Jakadi Trotter, Rodell Jacob, Michael Carr and William Robinson, Jr.

Reverend Barbara Dudley directed the plays. Reverend Reginald Bagley finalized the program with closing remarks and the benediction.

Note: Sharon Chatwell and Karen F. Williams wrote the skits.



TPBA Moderator's Gala

The Tidewater Peninsula Baptist Association held its annual Moderator's Gala Friday, November 8, 2013, at the Queen Street North Worship Center, Hampton, Virginia.

Though attendance had dwindled in the previous two years, this year's Gala was well attended. Rev. Dr. Reginald C. Woodhouse, Pastor of First Baptist Church Jefferson Park, is the present TPBA Moderator.

The theme for the Gala was: "A Reason to say Thank You."

Rev. Dr. Shelton Murphy, Pastor of Mt. Gilead Missionary Baptist Church, Norfolk, Virginia, served as Master of Ceremony and Evangelist Dr. Iris Perkins, Soloist.

Rev. Dr. Melvin Blackwell, Sr. Pastor of the Little Zion Baptist Church, Smithfield, Virginia, was the keynote speaker. His message was entitled: "Did You Touch Him?" Rev. Blackwell emphasized that there is responsibility when you touch Him. If you touch, then it belongs to you and you are commanded to let others know about Him. No man having put his hand to the plough, then turns back is fit for the kingdom of God. Kingdom comes before family, relationships, and earthly comforts; it comes first.

A delicious banquet meal of chicken and salmon was served.

Following are the 2013 honorees:

Rev. Dr. Marcellus Lee Harris, Jr., Pastor of First Baptist Church, Morrison, Newport News

Rev. Howard E. Heard, Pastor of Emmanuel Baptist Church, Newport News

Rev. Dr. Keith Ivan Jones, Pastor of Shiloh Baptist Church, Norfolk

Rev. Dr. Willard G. Maxwell, Pastor of New Beech Grove Baptist Church, Newport News

Grafton Baptist Church was well represented by Pastor Reverend Reginald and First Lady Cynthia Bagley, Deacon Russell and Deaconess Linda Lawson, Deaconess Ada Brooks, Sister Blondell Doswell, Sister Deborah Gregory, Armor Bearer Rodell Jacob, and Trustees William and Lorraine Vernon. Sister Debra Thompson and Catherine Porter served as Ushers.

Combined Choirs Anniversary

The Grafton Baptist Church Combined Choirs Anniversary was held on Sunday, November 17, 2013 at 3:00 p.m. The choirs in this activity were: the Senior Choir, Inspirational Choir, B.W. Morrison Gospel Chorus and the Male Chorus.

Brother Kenneth Lewis was master of ceremonies, scripture was read by Little Miss Destiny Noel and prayer was given by little Miss Arianna Chisman. Brother Rodell Jacob welcomed everyone.

Special guest was the Piney Grove Baptist Church Mass Choir from Suffolk, Virginia.

Sister Joan Jones read the histories of the Senior Choir and the Inspiration Choir. Rev. Cheryl Tucker read the histories of the B. W. Morrison Gospel Chorus and the Male Chorus.

Rev. Reginald N. Bagley prayed a prayer of dedication for the new robes that were worn by the B. W. Morrison Gospel Chorus.

Remarks were made by Brother George Washington, President of the B. W. Morrison Gospel Chorus. Rev. Reginald Bagley, pastor of Grafton Baptist Church, gave the blessing and benediction



Queen Esther Missionary Circle Host District III Circle Luncheon

Grafton Baptist Church Fellowship Hall was the site for the District III Missionary Council Annual Christmas Fellowship Luncheon held on Saturday, December 7, 2013 at 11:00 a.m.

Rev. Cheryl Tucker was the mistress of ceremony, Missionary Linda Lawson extended the welcome and Rev. Barbara Dudley gave the invocation and grace.

After a delicious luncheon, Jade Doswell sang and the Christmas message was given by Minister Jacqueline Ludy of Newport News.

A Hat Fashion Show was the entertainment with the commentary by Rev. Barbara Dudley. The program closed out with benediction by Pastor Reginald Bagley.

The following churches are a part of the District III Missionary Council: Colossian Baptist, First Baptist, Little Zion Baptist, Morning Star Baptist, Mt. Pleasant, Mt. Gilead, New Quarter, New Zion, Oak Grove, Rising Sun, Shiloh, St. John and Union.

The District III Missionary is dedicated to: Feeding the Homeless, Adopt a Family Program, Evangelism and New growth in the mission field.



Serving the Homeless

The Grafton Baptist Church Queen Esther Missionary Circle prepared and served dinner and breakfast for the homeless at Noland Baptist Church, Huntington Avenue, Newport News, Virginia on December 26 and 27, 2013. The Grafton Baptist Church Women's Ministry joined in to help serve the dinner meal.

A delicious meal of chicken and rice casserole, greens, corn, green beans, homemade desserts, sweet iced tea and lemonade was served to seventy adults and children.

The following morning, a breakfast of scrambled eggs, sausage, biscuits, juice and coffee was served.

Missionary Service

The fifth Sunday Missionary Service was held December 29, 2013.

Rev. Barbara Dudley, Associate Minister at Grafton Baptist Church, delivered the message. Sister Deborah Gregory served as the Worship Leader, the Grafton Baptist Church Male Chorus rendered the music, and Sister Linda Lawson gave the Missionary Statement.

Rev. Dudley's message was entitled, "Just In Case." She placed emphasis on preparing yourself "Just in Case." We were told to "walk in wisdom." Wisdom sometimes is knowing how to "shut" our mouths. We were told to "go to God for yourself" – just in case troubles come your way, you will have "soul" insurance. The children were commanded to go to school. She asked the question, "Doesn't it make sense that if you have to go anyway, that you learn something?"

Rev. Dudley further suggested that when you go out, take an umbrella, "just in case" it rains. "Let God use you." He has a plan for your life. Your main purpose is to win souls to Jesus Christ. Rev. Dudley's message remains etched in the memory of many in attendance on that fifth Sunday.

Seniors on the Move Fundraiser

On December 8, 2013, immediately after the Sunday service, the senior ministry, sponsored a combination bake, craft and white elephant sale.

There was a variety of baked goods for sale, such as cakes, pies, cupcakes, brownies, rolls and even macaroni and cheese.

The white elephant sale offered household items in good condition. The Christmas items were especially popular. There were even a few new items and some free stuff.

The craft items consisted of aprons, knitted caps, scarves and others.

All the baked goods that were not sold were served at a funeral the following day. The crafts and other items were re-claimed by the owners or they were taken to the Goodwill store in Grafton. The seniors thank you for your patronage.

Grafton Baptist Church Annual Christmas Party

December 15, 2013, was the date for the church's Christmas Party, which took place in the fellowship hall immediately after the service. Every family was instructed to bring enough food for the number of people in their family attending the event plus extra. There was an ample supply of food of all kinds. Hardworking volunteers prepared, served and cleaned up.

As always, we could not end the party without singing the "The Twelve Days of Christmas" led by Mrs. Sherry Banks. The people were divided into groups to sing the different lines. Even though we did not get it right, everyone looked as if they were having a great time. The youth table especially enjoyed "Five Golden Rings."

Each guest was given a small bag of candy upon exiting the fellowship hall. I am sure everyone left filled with good food and filled with the Christmas spirit.



Christmas Eve Candle Light Service

The Christmas Eve Candlelight Service was held on December 24, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. at Grafton Baptist Church – Harris Grove.

The story of the birth of Jesus was narrated by Rev. Rebecca Jones, with readings by Rev. Barbara Dudley, Sister Sherry Banks, Sister Rachel Bagley and Sister Paige Bagley.

Congregation singing was led by Rev. Cheryl Tucker.





Ronald Wilson



ANNOUNCEMENT
December 6, 2013

It is with much enthusiasm to introduce Ron Wilson as the Shift Leader in Operations for A-shift, effective as of December 6, 2013. Ron's team spirit and positive attitude makes Ron a perfect fit for the team. Ron started with Crystal Clean three years ago when the Re-Refinery was being built and brings 13 years of experience from the Yorktown Refinery.

Robert

Robert Chalhouh
Assistant Facility Manager



Charlotte Green Recognized with Clean School Award



For the third time, Watkins Early Childhood Center, Newport News, VA received its Cleanest School Award. Winners were chosen for each school level and awards presented at the October 15, 2013 School Board Meeting.

Charlotte Green is the lead custodian at Watkins and she and the School Board Members feel that the award is the result of having a good team that stays on top of the job moment by moment

Charlotte says that communication also is the key. She holds small meetings with members of her team several times each day to ensure that all tasks are covered at all times.

Congratulations Charlotte





Annual Deaconess Tea



The Deaconess of Grafton Baptist Church held their annual tea on Sunday afternoon on October 27, 2013, at three o'clock.

Serving as the Mistress of Ceremony for this program was Deaconess Barbara Maxwell. The opening selection was "Blessed Assurance" followed by the reading of the scripture by Deaconess Rita Edlow. Deaconess Ada Brooks rendered the prayer after which Deaconess Cynthia Bagley gave the welcome and the purpose of the program.

First on the program were LaDawn Carter, Tracey Tate and Takiya Tate, who sang "Praise is What I Do" followed by a poem by Mrs. Doris Dancy who dedicated the poem "In the Gardens" to Deaconess Alice Washington. Sister Lorraine Vernon graced the audience with one of her original poems, "Signs of Summer." Sister Louise Allen recited a poem entitled, "Deaconess." Deacon Russell Lawson sang, "My Faith Looks up to Thee."

Pastor Reginald N. Bagley blessed the food. Everyone enjoyed the refreshments, especially the tea served in Deaconess Washington's real china cups from her sterling silver tea server.

Jade Doswell performed a praise dance from the song, "He Wants it All." Deaconess Cynthia Bagley and her daughters Adrienne and Stacy along with Littleton Wallace sang "Wade in the Water." Deaconess Linda Lawson read the poem, "Soaring Through Struggles." Mrs. Sherry Banks played "Sonatino" by Muzio Clementi opus 36. A poem, "Wisdom for the Walk" was read by Mrs. Inez Dennis.

The Voices of Hope (Deaconess Delores Borum and Minster Marian Thomas) graced the audience with two songs: "All Night, All Day, Angels Watching Over Me" and "Remind Me Dear Lord."

The program concluded with remarks by Deaconess Cynthia Bagley (chairperson) and Pastor Reginald N. Bagley, who also gave the benediction.



October Breast Cancer Awareness Month

The Women's Ministry of Grafton Baptist Church, realizing the need to give as much information about breast cancer, presented a speaker for each Sunday in October. Two of the speakers were survivors and other two talked about a family member who had been stricken with breast cancer.

Deaconess Delores Borum, who has been a cancer survivor for seventeen years spoke on first Sunday. She shared her personal emotional struggles from the time she discovered the lump to her treatment plan. She mentioned how fortunate she was to work for a doctor who immediately made appointments with the right specialists. She reminded the women of the importance of self-breast examination and getting mammograms. During Deaconess Borum's cancer treatment she did not miss any Sundays from church.

Sister Deborah Gregory shared cancer information about her mother, the late Ms. Shirley Gregory. She talked about how difficult it was to be away from home while her mother battled her cancer. Sister Gregory was serving in the United States Army at the time. However, she managed to get home before her mother passed away.

The third speaker was Deaconess Linda Lawson, who shared her story about her late sister, Nadine Tucker Meekins. She was one who always got her mammograms. Her breast cancer was discovered during her pregnancy and became very aggressive. However, she stated her sister's strong faith in God never wavered because she knew God was going to take care of her children. Sister Meekins passed away eighteen months after giving birth to her son, Wilbert Meekins, Jr. Her daughter, Wyleeshia was eight years old at the time.

The final speaker was survivor, Sister Cheryl Moore, who was very creative in her presentation. Sister Moore's picture appeared in the newspaper during the time she was going through breast cancer treatment to give women alternatives after losing their hair due to chemotherapy. During the time that Sister Moore was going through treatment she had a daughter who was still in school.

All the speakers shared valuable information reminding women (and men) how important it is to do monthly breast self-exams and to get your yearly mammograms especially after age forty.

Watch Night Service

The annual combined Watch Night Service for Grafton Baptist Church and Rising Sun Baptist Church was held December 31, 2013 at Grafton Baptist Church.

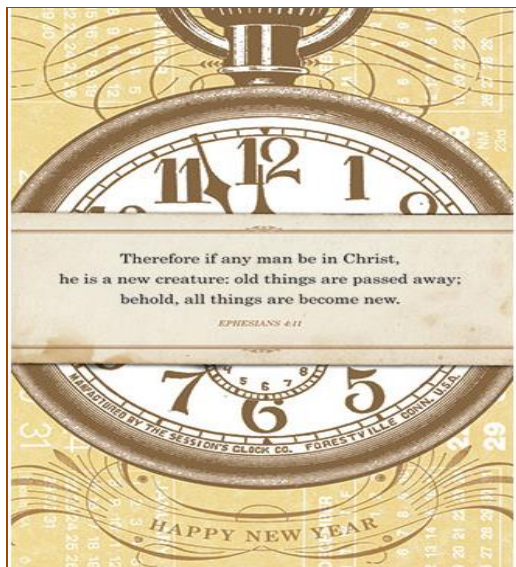
Rev. David Spratley, Pastor of Rising Sun Baptist Church, along with his choir and congregation rendered the service.

Rev. Spratley's message was entitled: "Help Is On the Way." Matthew 20:29-34 was his base scripture.

Rev. Spratley stated that everyone has a story to tell, some more impressive than others, but it's your story and you should tell it. He further stated that there are three things we all must do:

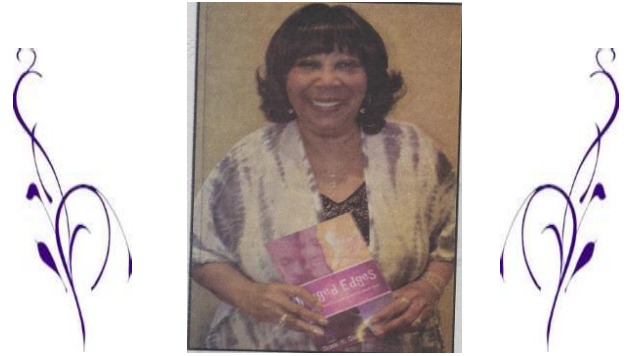
1. Operate in the spirit of expectancy, especially in your dark moments. In your dark times, you have to wait on God until your help comes. Walk by faith and not by sight.
2. Cry out to God – When in desperate situations, you must cry out to God.
3. Don't be ashamed to humble yourself before Him. All of your help comes from the Lord. Whatever your problem may be, Jesus can fix it. When you know that help is on the way, you can think better, and you can sleep better.

The service was very well attended.



Dreams Do Come True

Yorktown Crier ~ November 2013



"I cannot remember a time when I was not enthralled when reading a story or telling one," says Doris H. Dancy, retired educator in the Hampton City Public School system and new novelist. "I can recall in my childhood, making-up stories and telling them to my dolls and then the neighborhood children, while they sat under the big apple tree in my grandmother's backyard."

Mrs. Dancy is the author of the recently released Christian novel, *Jagged Edges*, published by Saint Paul Press Publishing. The novel was officially launched with a "Godly Relationships Conference at the Newport News Marriott at City Center, featuring Pastor Sherman Grant, Pastor Donald F. White, and Minister Barbara Dudley as facilitator. She followed the conference up with a Booktalk at Golden Corral, for those who wanted to learn more about the deeper meaning of the book. Doris' deep faith and belief in God is evident covertly and overtly throughout this page turning romantic adventure. Recently, she traveled to a church in Sugar Hill, Georgia for a women's conference, where she once again gave a Booktalk.

She graduated from North Carolina Central University in Durham, North Carolina, where she earned her BA Degree in English. After graduation, she began teaching both English and Spanish. She later received her MA Degree in English from Hampton University. Eventually, became Chairperson of the English Department, English Teacher Specialist, and Curriculum Leader of English K-12 for Hampton City Public Schools. She developed and provided staff development for a writing program that guaranteed student achievement of extremely high and consistent Standard of Learning Tests Scores.

Doris H. Dancy resides in Yorktown, Virginia with her husband Willie. They are the proud parents of two daughters, two sons-in-law, and three wonderful granddaughters.

Homegoing for Our Loved One

William Junior Harrod

August 10, 1927



December 9, 2013

*Grafton Baptist Church, Harris Grove
Yorktown, VA*

*Friday, December 13, 2013
11AM*

*Rev. Reginald Bagley
Officiating*

Obituary

God saw fit to make everything new for William on Monday, December 9, 2013, when He granted him eternal rest from the cares and pains associated with his earthly body. William is now enjoying the promise of 2 Corinthians 5:8 "... to be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord."

William was born the youngest son of 9 children to the late William and Carrie Cooke Harrod in Yorktown, VA on August 10, 1927. He gave his life to Christ and joined Grafton Baptist Church - Harris Grove, where he attended until his health began to fail.

William enjoyed traveling during his early years. He had an outstanding swagger and a flavor for fine clothing; suits, shoes and hats. He had one pair of jeans of which he wore only once. He was an avid Golfer. Known for his kindness to family and friends, he was jovial and full of life with a unique laugh and welcoming smile. He retired from Fort Eustis after many years of service. While working for Colonial Williamsburg, he was known by many as Captain Harrod.

He was a loving husband, father, grandfather, uncle and friend. He loved and enjoyed his family to the end.

He was preceded in death by his parents, William and Carrie Harrod; his brothers, Howard, Richard, Floyd and Jessie Harrod; his sisters, Pauline H. Wyatt, Rose H. Shields and Joyce H. Lewis and his two children, William Avon Harrod and Christine Donrita Harrod.

Left to cherish his loving memories is his wife of forty-four years, Ann McGill Harrod; his sons Larry, Keith and Andre Scott Harrod; five grandchildren, Jasmine, William T., Krystal, Larry Jr., and William, three great grandchildren; a sister, Thelma H. Griffin; a brother-in-law Clarence Jackson; two sisters-in-law, Dorothy and Lena Harrod; and a host of relatives.

*In Loving Memory
of*

SFC George W. Gray (Retired)



*Enlisted Honorably Discharged
June 9, 1937 December 2, 2013*

*Monday, December 9, 2013
11:00 a.m.*

Grafton Baptist Church – Harris Grove

*The Reverend Reginald Bagley, Officiating
The Reverend Wayne Tucker, Eulogist*

OBITUARY

*“The greatest legacy we can leave is a life well lived.
God’s legacy to us is a life eternal.”*

It was according to the will of God that our beloved husband, father, and grandfather, George W. Gray received his Honorable Discharge from his earthly home, to gain his final reward in his Heavenly Home of Eternal Life with the Lord. On Monday, December 2, 2013, he peacefully accepted his Master’s hand. Mr. George W. “Pop” Gray was born June 9, 1937, in Charleston, MS.

At an early age, George accepted Christ, was baptized and joined hands in fellowship with Holly Grove Missionary Baptist Church, Charleston, MS. He was a resident of Yorktown, VA. He enlisted in the United States Army and made it his career which spanned twenty-six dedicated years of service until his retirement in 1983. While serving in the United States Army, he earned numerous citations and medals including; Air Medal, Combat Infantryman Badge, Bronze Star Medal, Republic of Vietnam Service Medal, Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm, Army Commendation and Achievement Medals, Good Conduct Medal, Presidential Unit Citation, and Meritorious Service Medal. His tours of duty were national and global in scope and included; Germany, Iran, Korea, Vietnam, and later as an Aircraft Maintenance Senior Sergeant at Fort Eustis, VA. Upon his retirement from the United States Army, he worked at the Norfolk Naval Base as an aircraft mechanic on the F-15 fighter jets, and thereafter, he went to work with the

United States Navy as a Postal Clerk. He dedicated his life to serving his country.

George was an avid gardener who proudly gave his vegetables to neighbors and friends. He had a love for working on American automobiles and fixing friends' cars in the community. He enjoyed being among his family and friends, and cared for every member of his family. He was a kind and generous person, and was always willing to help his fellowman. His favorite time of the year was the Christmas Holidays.

He was preceded in death by his parents L.D. Gray and Corean Gray Simmons and a brother, Lloyd D. Gray. He leaves to cherish his wonderful memories, his loving and devoted wife, Queenella M. Gray; his daughters, Deneen Crowder (Stanley) and Rhoda Perrin; his grandchildren, Duawn Whitley, Devinn Whitley, DèAnne Vaughn, and Jaren Dent; his sisters, Alice Robinson (George), Cascilla, MS and Ella Mauldin, Memphis, TN; his brothers, John L. Gray, Memphis, TN and Gene E. Williams, Rockford, IL; his sisters-in-law, Joan Holloway (Mark) and Paulette Terrell (Kenny); his brother-in-law, Don Pierce (Maxine); his special niece, Sheryl Harrell (Michael); and host of other loving and caring relatives and friends.

REPAST

*In GBC Fellowship Hall
following Interment at 3:30 p.m.*

To Pop

We thank you for the love you have expressed to us in so many wonderful ways. For the beautiful memories, we will cherish forever. We loved you, but God loved you best. God saw that you were getting tired; therefore, He put his loving arms around you, and whispered come to me. With a tearful eye, we watched your health decline, and saw you gradually fade away. Although, we loved you dearly, we couldn't make you stay. Our hearts are truly broken, and you didn't go alone, for part of us went with you the day God took you home. We love and miss you. You will be in our hearts forever!



RAY, BASILE, W
1940-1978

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF



Elsie "Pousie" L. Gregory

March 13, 1954—December 3, 2013

Saturday, December 14, 2013

Grafton Baptist Church

1301 Old York Hampton Hwy (Harris Grove)

Yorktown, VA 23692

Rev. Reginald Bagley, Officiating

A time to Be Born

Elsie Louise Gregory was born March 15, 1954 at Kings County Hospital in Brooklyn, New York to the late James A. Tyler and Catherine Gregory Cothren.

A time to Live

She was educated in Virginia where she met many people who remained lifelong friends. She attended James Weldon Johnson and graduated from York High School in 1973 where she was one of the first black cheerleaders. Years later, Elsie decided to serve our great country in the United States Army. She also attended St. Leo and Stratford College. Her passion was dancing. She started dancing at the age of 12 where she attended the York School of ballet and later danced amateur and professionally. She performed in ballet, jazz, modern and traditional African dancing. She enjoyed spending time with elders and researching family genealogy, traveling, European and sports cars show/books thrift stores and shopping for vintage items. Elsie was a very eclectic fashionista and enjoyed shopping for "the gurlz" and friends in her own personal boutique.

A time to Serve

Elsie was a member of Grafton Baptist Church and sang in the young adult choir prior to enlisting in the military; and still attended frequently. Later in life, she joined Laurel Grove Baptist Church, Franconia, VA under the leadership of Pastor James E. Scott where she sang in the choir, served as church secretary and missionary prior to illness. Throughout her life, she never lost her faith right down to the end.

A time to Die / Mourn

"Pousie" entered into eternal rest on Tuesday, December 3, 2013. She was preceded in death by her father, James A. Tyler; mother, Catherine Gregory Cothren; her maternal grandfather, Clyde Gregory, maternal grandmother, Catherine Gregory. She leaves to cherish her siblings - brothers, Jerome Gregory (Melissa), Plainsboro, NJ, Kenneth Gregory (Denise), Bronx, NY, William Cothren, Jr. (Emma), Newark, NJ, Lucy Calomathi (Brian) Cambria Heights, NY, Dorothy Cothren, Springfield Gardens, NY Virginia Green (Joseph), Yuma, AZ, and Sharonda Harris-Binton (Darren), Elmer, NJ, godson, Gordon Cofield, an aunt, two uncles, eight nieces, five nephews, a great -nephew and a host of cousins and friends.



**Noon Bible Study and
Senior Citizens Ministry
Annual Christmas Luncheon**

Thursday, December 11, 2013 at 12:00 p.m. the Bible Study and Senior Citizens Ministry hosted their annual Christmas luncheon.

Members participated by bringing covered dishes. There was ample food and delicious homemade desserts. There were approximately 45 people present. This was an enjoyable prelude to the Christmas holiday.



Senior Choir



Annual Christmas Caroling

On December 16, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. the Grafton Baptist Church Senior Choir members boarded the van and some in cars to go to the home of Sister Bernice Robinson for their annual Christmas caroling. Sister Robinson is homebound and a former member of the choir.

At Sister Robinson's home we sang traditional carols, read scripture and had prayer. It was a very uplifting service.

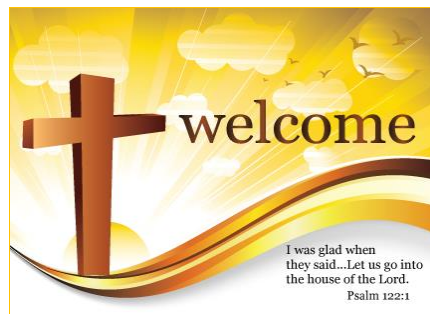
After leaving Sister Robinson's home, the choir attended a covered dish dinner at the home of Reverend Rebecca Jones; here they enjoyed a fellowship pot luck dinner.

On our trip back to the church we went sightseeing to enjoy the Christmas lights at the home of our Church member, Gene (Mickey) White, Sr.

The evening was enjoyed by all.



2013 New Members



- Nathaniel Ashwood*
- Adrienne Bagley*
- Stacy Bagley*
- Vivian Chisman*
- Amari Gomes*
- Cheryl Hill*
- Willie Jefferson*
- Michelle Leverette*
- Kim Richard*
- Erika Robinson*
- Sheila Small*

Grafton Baptist Church

*A place to begin
A place to belong
A place to grow*



***Open Hearts
Open Arms
Open Minds***