A Season of New Beginnings

By Rev. Leander Johnson
Pastor, Historic True Vine Baptist Church

Are you ready to start over? I do not mean for you to make a New Year’s resolution, which most often we cannot keep. We owe it to ourselves to prepare for A Season of New Beginnings!

God is always ready to give you and me a new beginning. For in Isaiah 43:18-19, God told the Prophet Isaiah to tell the children of Israel that He wanted to do a “New Thing” in their lives.

Just as the Lord wanted to do a “New Thing” for the children of Israel, He wants to give us a “New Beginning” this year, but, there are some things we have to let go.

I know letting things go can be difficult, but you will never achieve your season of New Beginnings when you hold on to “old stuff” and “things” because they will stagnate you. So ask yourself, “What shall we leave behind?”

First, leave your past failures behind. We try so hard to be the best we can at everything we do. However, we do not always succeed, and in those times, we tend to get discouraged. Why, because we think we have failed. My grandmother often told me, “Nothing in this world beats a failure but a try!” We are called to be in Christ, and as long as Christ is in us, we are all Successes!

Second, leave your worries behind. Somewhere I read “to worry is like sitting in a rocking chair.” They (the worries) give you something to do, but they (worries) never take you anywhere – you get the picture. In 1 Peter 5:7, scripture says to cast “ALL” your cares upon the Lord for He cares for you. We have to take our worries to God for He is able to handle and fix them. When we carry around burdens of worries, it brings added stress to our lives. Give it to God and leave it there!

Thirdly, leave past hurts behind. It is unavoidable for us not to get hurt. Thus, we have to let hurt go and forgive those who have taken part in hurting us. In Matthew 18:21-22 (paraphrasing), Peter asked Jesus how many times must I forgive my brother or sister who

(Cont’d on Page 10)
Brotherhood Prayer Breakfast

The Brotherhood of New Hope Baptist Church invites all brothers and Fellowship Journal readers to the 2015 prayer breakfast on Saturday, February 21 at 9 a.m. New Hope Baptist Church is located at 434 Seventh Street, Gretna, LA. Rev. Warren E. Johnson is the pastor.

Black History Observance at St. Rock

The Saint Rock Baptist Church family would like to invite the general public to celebrate Black History Month during its morning worship service on Sunday, February 15, 2015 at 9:30 a.m. Sis. C. Washington will be speaking for the occasion and Sis. Nancy Howard is the program sponsor.

Rev. Alfredia Loston is host pastor and the church is located at 2300 Rochelle Avenue, Harvey, LA.
Leadership Conference/Celebrating Educators at Regular Baptist Church

The Regular Baptist Church family and its pastor, Rev. T. A. Hodge, cordially invite each and everyone to their services and events.

The church will hold an annual leadership conference on Saturday, January 24, 2015 at 9 a.m. This conference is followed by installation of the church’s ministry leaders during the 8:30 a.m. worship service on Sunday, January 25. Rev. Edward Joseph, pastor of St. Mary Baptist Church in Marrero, LA, will deliver the message.

"The Plight of Education in the 21st Century" is the theme for Black History Month at Regular B.C. The History Ministry will honor RBC’s educators at a prayer breakfast on Saturday, January 31, 2015 at 9 a.m. in the church’s fellowship hall. For additional information, see their ad on page 6.

The doors are open to you and yours at Regular Baptist Church, 901 Fifth Street in Gretna. Please join them on Sundays at 8:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. for worship experiences like none other; Mondays for Bible study/Prayer meeting at 6:45 p.m., and Thursdays for mid-week Inspirational Worship at 6:45 p.m. It is their prayer to see you at one of these inspiring services.

You can also watch Regular’s weekly broadcast weekdays on UPN My 54 and cable channel 2 at 6:30 a.m. and live video streaming: regularbc.org @ 9:30 a.m. & 11 a.m. and on ITunes! You can subscribe to the RBC PODcast by going to: http://itunes.apple.com/us/podcast/regular-baptist-church-podcast/id462903554.

Regular Baptist Church is “The End of Your Search for a Friendly Church.”
**Greater St. John B.C.**
2823 A-Privateer Blvd.
Barataria, La. 70036

Sunday
Sunday School ............... 7:30am
Sunday Service ............. 8:30am
Lord's Supper (4th Sun.) ... 8:30am
Tuesday
Bible Class ................. 7:00pm
Prayer Service ............. 8:00pm
Thursday before 4th Sunday
Speaking Meeting .......... 7:00pm
Saturday
Sunday School Teachers’ Meeting .. 10:00am
Youth Study Ministry (4th Saturday) .......... 12 noon

Rev. Dr. Harold E. Clark, Sr.
Pastor

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**ROCK OF AGES**
BAPTIST CHURCH
6533 Acre Road, Marrero

Sunday
Sunday School ............... 9:45am
Midday Service ............. 11:00am
Lord’s Supper (4th Sun.) .... 11:00am
Pastor’s Aide (5th Sun.) .. 11:00am
Monday
B.T.U. ................. 6:00p
Tuesday
Choir Rehearsal ............ 6:30p
Thursday
Prayer Service ............. 6:00p
Bible Class ............... 7:00p
Saturday (2nd & 4th)
Outreach Street Witness Min. 4:00p

You Got Something To Do With Whatever God Will Do For You! --Proverbs 3:5,6

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**FIRST AGAPE B.C.**
3219 Thalia St., N.O.
New Orleans, Louisiana 70125

Sunday
Sunday School 8 a.m.
Worship Service 9:15 a.m.
Lord’s Supper 1st Sunday

Wednesday
Prayer Service 6:30 p.m.
Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

Rev. Eddie M. Payne
Pastor

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**Olive Branch**
Baptist Church
1134 Branch-Joseph / 801 Odeon Avenue
Algiers, Louisiana 70114
www.theolivebranchbc.org
www.cornerstonembga.org

Sunday
Prayer Service 7 am
Worship Service 8 am
Sunday School 10:30 am
Spiritual Boot Camp 10:30 am
Communion-1st Sun. 8 am

Wednesday
Prayer Service 6:30 pm
Bible Study 7 pm

Rev. Reginald Nicholas, Sr.
Pastor/Teacher & President

"The Church where the Christians are labourers together with God."

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**Mt. Sinai B. C.**
“Proclaiming God’s plan for the redemption of man through Jesus Christ”
1249 LeBoeuf St., New Orleans, LA 70114

Sunday
Sunday Worship ............. 7:00a
Sunday School ............... 9:30a

Monday
Home Prayer (before 2nd Sun). 7:00p

Tuesday
Prayer Hour ................. 7:00p

Wednesday
Prayer Service ............. 12 noon

Thursday
Bible Study ................. 7:00 - 8:00p
Testimonial Period
before 2nd Sun. .......... 7:00 p

Rev. Dudley Watson
Pastor

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**SECOND HIGHWAY**
BAPTIST CHURCH
1533 Haydel Drive, Marrero, LA 70072

Sunday
Morning Prayer Service
9:00 a.m.
Sunday School (all ages)
9:30 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship Service
11:00 a.m.
Lord’s Supper Service
1st Sunday
Tuesday Night Prayer/Bible Study
7:00 p.m.
Saturday Afternoon Street Evangelism
12:00 noon
Men and Young Men’s Bible Study
4th Saturday

Come and Go with us on **The highWAY**
that leads to Heaven (John 14:6)

Dr. Sherman R. Smith, Sr.
Pastor/Teacher
Pastor’s Day of Reflection

The officers and members of New Hope Baptist Church in Gretna, LA will reflect upon the pastor’s third year of service. Their beloved pastor is Rev. Warren E. Johnson. Three services are planned for this special occasion.

Pre-anniversary services were held on Tuesday, January 13, 2015 with guest speaker Rev. Keith Paul Stewman, pastor of Evening Star Baptist Church, and Thursday night, January 15 with Rev. Orin D. Grant, Sr. of St. Paul B.C., both whom delivered the Word of God.

The anniversary service will be held on Sunday, January 18 and the guest speaker for the 11 a.m. worship service will be Rev. Dr. T. A. Hodge, pastor of Regular Baptist Church in Gretna, LA. The theme is “Every Pastor Needs a Word.”

The New Hope family would like to invite all Fellowship Journal readers and all Westbank and Eastbank churches to join in honoring this anointed pastor. Come and be apart of this spirit-filled celebration at New Hope Baptist Church, 434 Seventh Street, Gretna, LA.
Black History at Macedonia

Join the pastor and members of Macedonia Baptist Church on Sunday, February 15, 2015 and take part in the church’s Black History program. Service commences at 8 a.m. Everyone is welcome to come and fellowship with Rev. Albert Mickel and the Macedonia B. C. family at 1219 Cohen St. Marrero, La.
into a national day of community service grounded in his teachings of nonviolence and social justice. It’s “A Day On, Not a Day Off!”

The following activities are planned this year around the theme, “Rise up! Restore the Dream.”

Sunday, January 18, 2015 is “A Day of Prayer” – In your homes, communities, neighborhoods, churches, wherever you are, stop and pray for a safe and successful year of events.

A Sit-in service will be held at 10:30 a.m. at Greater Zionfield Worship Center, 636 Eleventh St., Westwego, LA; Dr. Samuel Travis, Jr. is the pastor.

Monday, January 19, 2015, the MLK parade will proceed from Higgins High School in Marrero ending at Johnny Jacobs Playground, 8:45 - 10 a.m.

The 28th annual banquet will be held at The Four Columns, 3711 Westbank Expressway, Harvey, LA; 6:45 p.m. Guest speaker is Rev. Damian Brown, pastor of Little Zion Baptist Church in Avondale, LA. Tickets are $40 each.

For more info, contact Dr. Clara T. Byes, president, at 504-376-2130.

Have you found joy in your life; does it help others?

Little Zion B.C. #3

Fellowship Journal and its readers are invited to witness the installation of officers at Little Zion #3 on Sunday, January 25, 2015 during the 11 a.m. worship service.

Then on Sunday, February 8, everyone is invited to the annual Family and Friends’ Day celebration which also begins at 11 a.m.

The sanctuary is located at 441 Wilson St., Marrero, LA; Rev. Norman D. Smith III is pastor/teacher.
Calendar of events for Mt. Zion

All roads lead to Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church at 701 Huey P. Long Avenue, Gretna, LA. Come and fellowship each Sunday during the month of February with Pastor Noily Paul, Jr., officers, and members during the following services:

February 1, Deaconess Board #2; February 8, Missionary Society; February 15, Pre-Women’s Day and the Lord Supper is celebrated February 22. All services begin at 9:45 a.m.
Come Worship With Us!
Macedonia Baptist Church
1219 Cohen St., Marrero, LA 70072

Sunday
Worship Service ............ 8:00a
Communion (2nd Sunday) .. 8:00a

Tuesday
Prayer Service & Bible Class . 7:00p

Thursday
HTU (1st Thursday) .......... 6:00p
Speaking Meeting (Thurs. before 2nd Sunday) ............ 7:00p

Saturday
Saturday School ............. 10:00a
"A Faithful Servant Empowered
to do God's Will."
Email: macedoniabc@marrero.nocoxmail.com

Word Search
Theme: Pastors

JAMES
DENNIS
STEWMAN

HENSLEY
HENRY
MCQUARTER

There are seven differences in the second picture. Can you spot them?
Team Player of the Month:
Joquise Bridges

When it comes to preparing Fellowship Journal for distribution, this person is extremely vital to that part of the operation—Joquise Bridges. Joquise is the son of JoNathan and Ann Bridges. For nearly six years now, his dedication and commitment to FJ has been remarkable.

He is a student at Thomas Jefferson High School for Advanced Studies, in the 10th grade, where he aspires to become one of the top 10 students academically. Joquise, a member of Greater Zionfield Family Worship Center where Dr. Samuel Travis, Jr. is pastor, is active in the Men’s Ministry, Men’s Music Ministry, and the Media/Facebook Ministry.

His future goals include a career in the areas of music production and computer technology in video gaming.

Joquise turns sixteen this month, so happy sweet-sixteenth. FJ is blessed to have you as our “Outstanding Team Player” for this month.

When we get pass the hurt and forgive, it is for our healing!

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God has a desire to give us a New Beginning in this season, but you must be ready to walk in your season!

Happy New Year!!!

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