



# News from the MOUNT

The Newsletter of New Mount Moriah African Methodist Episcopal Church

May 2020

For we walk by faith, not by sight. 2 Corinthians 5:7

Volume 1, Number 1

## From the Desk of the Pastor ...



Over the past almost eight years, New Mount Moriah has been blessed with a Young People's Department (YPD) of exceptional young people. Their willingness to use their gifts for God's glory, speaks to their understanding that it is God who has gifted them and not they themselves.

The Word of God states, "children are a heritage from the LORD, offspring a reward from him. Like arrows in the hands of a warrior are children born in one's youth. Blessed is the man whose quiver is full of them. They will not be put to shame when they contend with their opponents in court."

As your Pastor, I am thankful to God that the quiver of New Mount Moriah is full of children! Please never forget that you have an opponent called the devil but a supporter name Jesus, and because of Jesus, you will not be put to shame!

It is my prayer that during this time of darkness, the light of God continues to shine upon you, and COVID-19 has taught each of you, that the most important thing in life is Jesus and family!

Pastor,  
Sha'Reff A. Rashad

### Roderick Sampson, Jr. YPD President



Rod is the son of Roderick Sampson, Sr. and Trish Sampson. He is in the 11th grade at Baldwin Jr and Senior High School. In addition to being YPD President, Rod is a member of the M. O. King Youth Choir, Sons Of Allen, Bible Discovery Hour, Mime Ministry, and Youth Usher Board.

A member of the ROTC, Rod was awarded a 4 year Academic and Performance ROTC Scholarship from Florida State University. He also received a 4 year ROTC Scholarship from Valdosta State University.



## Spotlight on the Young Peoples and Children's Department (YPD) "Growing, Glowing and Going for Christ"

Roderick Sampson, Jr, President  
Talana Mobley, Director

The YPD under the leadership of the Women's Missionary Society provides meaningful youth training programs and opportunities for leadership experience in all areas of church life. By providing training in Evangelism, Christian Social Relations, and Education programs the YPD is designed to connect youth more fully to the mission of the church and increase knowledge of the African Methodist Episcopal Church history and the scriptures.

### Meet the New YPD Director



My name is **Talana Mobley**. I am the new YPD director. I was raised by my mother and stepfather, although I consider him to be my dad. I am the second youngest out of 11, 5 girls and 6 boys. I have been in the church since I was 5 years old when my mother joined Ebenezer Apostolic Pentecostal Church, Elder Robert E. Palmer, Pastor. I was engaged in many different activities as a child such as choir, step team, and track at school.

After living in my hometown of Akron, Ohio, I moved to Jacksonville, Florida at the age of 25. I met my husband Kendric in 2009 at work and we were married a year later. We are celebrating our 10 years anniversary on April the 23<sup>rd</sup>. We are a blended family of four boys, Khamarun, Gavin, Kendrick, and Calvin.

We joined New Mount Moriah in 2013 where I have been spiritually and richly blessed by the word of God. I am so blessed to have such a wonderful church family and I am so proud to be your YPD director. I have fun and creative ideas for the youth to continue moving them forward in the word of God. I would like to thank all the parents for entrusting your children with me. My hope and prayer are to continue doing the work of the Lord by having fun experiences with your children teaching them how to have fun doing God work God way! Thank you and God Bless.

### Jasmine Gill East Conference YPD First Vice President

2016 IStar Award Executive Board Member



Jasmine served as the East Conference YPD assistant recording secretary for 3 years and Recording Secretary for 4 years. Her nickname for that position was "Queen of Minutes".

Jasmine states that "this organization teaches you how to be a leader for others and helps you grow as a person. I've learned so much being apart of this and the YPD helps you in the real world when you become an adult. This year we have been focusing on Living in your truth and believing in it."

Jasmine has traveled all over the country and the Bahamas representing the East Conference YPD.

**The Black Heritage Weekend** is an activity sponsored by the 11th Episcopal District Young People's and Children's Division (YPD) of the Women's Missionary Society of the African Methodist Episcopal Church. It is a weekend of activities designed to promote high self-esteem, academic achievement, and spiritual growth, while focusing on our African-American and Bahamian Heritage.



Our outstanding YPDers received the following awards:

- ◆ Khamarun Hendon won 2nd Place in Poetry
- ◆ Mya Darby won 2nd Place in Cheerleading
- ◆ Sya Darby won 2nd Place in Dance

**YPDER MAKENZIE BRYANT—Student- Athlete- Musician**

Makenzie is an eighth-grade student at Mandarin Middle School. She is a member of the Pep Band where she played at many football games. Unfortunately, she could not participate during the home basketball games because boys and girls had games on the same day. She is also a member of the Symphonic Band. When the Symphonic Band went to the Music Performance Assessment (MPA), they received a Superior rating in sight reading and an Excellent Rating for their on-stage performance. An athlete, Makenzie is a member of the Mandarin Middle School Girls Basketball Team.



**Anniversary of the Selma to Montgomery Voter's Rights March**

On February 20<sup>th</sup>, Our very own, Lady Sharon Rashad and Sis. Tonya Craig experienced an adventure that very few are ever blessed to experience.



After nearly a year of preparation and training, they loaded their road bikes and traveled to Montgomery, Alabama to participate in a Bicycle Ride commemorating the 55th Anniversary of the Selma to Montgomery Voters Rights March. Along with over 500 other riders, they completed a 55 mile bike ride. They stopped to see historic sights, envision the March, feel the tension, cross the historic Edmund Pettus Bridge, stand on the steps of the home were Dr. Martin Luther King slept, follow the paths of the foot soldiers and end in triumph and pride. They stopped at the campsites where the foot soldiers spent their nights and felt the sadness while stopping at gravesites along the road where those who started weren't able to finish their memorable journey. It was an unforgettable day full of sights that they will never forget.

Both Lady Rashad and Sis. Craig say that it was not only a time of pride and reflection in their lives, but it was truly a rewarding accomplishment that they were happy and blessed to experience together.

**Poetry by YPDer Khamarun Hendon**

we have the dance moves and bars to spit  
 you have the rights and the seats to sit  
 we have the cries and lives to morn  
 and you have the cops and courts all torn  
 i am a young man whose blind but woke  
 afraid to speak and truths unspoken  
 on the words and lives your greedy mouths have choked on  
 my brothers and sisters neither have roads to stroll upon  
 blindly accepting the fact that i'm racially talked to  
 by quote on quite friends i used to talk to  
 i go to stand and speak  
 you guys decide to sit me down making me feel weak  
 i'm done with this mistreatment  
 even sometimes it doesn't bother me  
 sleeping knowing one day you all will come to slaughter me  
 my eyes and heart yearn to taste true equality  
 i hope i'm not the only one. i hope it's not just me



**College**

**Tyree King** will graduate from the University of North Florida with a Bachelor of Science in Biology. He plans to continue his education by pursuing a Masters Degree.

**Rhadisha Scurry** will graduate from Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University with a Bachelor of Science in Social Work. She wants to work with infants and toddlers. In the future, she would like to work with at-risk youth in group homes.

**High School**

**Mykaylia Swain** will graduate from Bridge to Success at A. Philip Randolph Career Academies. She plans on attending Florida State College at Jacksonville pursuing an Associate of Arts Degree in Business Management.

***Honor Roll Students***

*Honesti Howe*

*Makenzie Bryant*

**Upcoming Events**

- |            |                                 |
|------------|---------------------------------|
| May 10     | Mother's Day                    |
| May 17     | Family and Friends Day          |
| June 15-16 | Bible Discovery Hour Convention |
| June 21    | Father's Day                    |
| July 7     | 3rd Quarterly Conference        |
| July 26    | Calendar Tea                    |