

NJ Deacons Newsletter

"By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, If ye have love one for another.

John 13:35

The New Jersey State Baptist Deacons Convention *Deacon James R. Plummer — Parent Body President*

June 30, 2024

VISION: To serve as a model to the local church for the training of competent, enthusiastic and compassionate leaders that support God's plan and the pastors vision for the church.

PURPOSE: The purpose shall be: (a) to create an opportunity for growth and fellowship among Deacons, Deaconess and Youth of the Baptist Churches of the State of New Jersey; (b) to educate members so that they can better carry out their duties as church officers; and (c) to provide financial assistance for the needy or sick members.

Inside this issue:

Message from Presidents
Leaders and Youth Messages

40 years Service Recognition
Fathers Day and JuneTeenth
Public Service Announcements
August Memorial Golf Outing
Convention Announcements
What Really Matters in Life

Greetings in the Name of our Lord and Savior Jesus the Christ,

Praise the Lord NJ State Baptist Deacons' Convention!!! Bless His Holy name for He has done, is doing and continues to do, great and marvelous things for those who love Him and are obedient to His word.

At the beginning of my third year as President of the New Jersey State Baptist Deacons' Convention, I am truly grateful for your dedication and commitment that have been shown doing this new year. We can all say, "we have come this far by faith".

I solicit your prayers that God almighty will grace me with the strength, wisdom, and understanding to lead the state deacons convention to higher heights.

This time last year we were experiencing and learning new ways of communicating and staying connected with one another through conference calls, streaming on-line, and Zoom. Thanks be unto God, even during this time of confinement and difficulties, the gospel has reached many that would have never heard it had it not been for the confinement and difficulties we were experiencing.

We pause to thank God for the blessings in 2023; we were able to keep the NBDC King and Queen Banner. To God be the glory.

As we complete the second quarter of year 2024 being thankful for how the Lord has blessed us. Let's expect even greater blessings from the Lord in 2024. As it is written, "Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. "1 Corinthians 2:9 "

God Bless You All:

Deacon James R. Plummer, Parent Body President

Message from NJ State Baptist Deacons' Convention Newsletter Editor, Deacon Robert B. Greene

The NJ State Baptist Deacons Convention has a quarterly Newsletter to keep it's members and friends updated as to the events and activities of the convention. Activities and initiatives of the Parent Body, Women's Auxiliary and Youth/Young Adults will be documented in the newsletter. The **next** Quarterly newsletter will be available on Monday, September 30, 2024. Please take time to read and comment **on** this newsletter and recommend ways to make it better.

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June 16, 2024—Fathers Day

**HAPPY
FATHER'S
DAY**



Words to Live By

Our background and circumstances may have influenced who we are, but we are responsible for who we become.

Morality may keep you out of jail, but it takes the blood of Jesus Christ to keep you out of Hell.

Those who leave everything in God's hands will eventually see God's hands in everything.

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Don't be impressed with your own wisdom. Instead, fear the Lord and turn away from evil."

Proverbs 3:5, 7 NLT

Don't just count your blessings. Be the blessings that other people count on.

Good friends are like stars. You don't always see them but you know they are there when you need them.

A relationship with God will get you into places degrees and money can't.



2024

Greetings to everyone:

As we step into the month of June, we have a variety of celebrations and activities.

This is a time for graduations from high school, college or Masters or PhD advanced degrees where we applaud and acknowledge the hard work and achievements of our students as they step into the next chapter of their lives.

It has been said many times in different ways but no matter how it is said it is the unavoidable reality, Success begins with our youth. How we nurture and groom them is a direct reflection of what we can expect in the future.

Their accomplishments are the seeds which will blossom and support our progress. We must invest in our students /young people not just money and resources, but time and effort. We cannot push forward if our children are left behind.

We cannot build a great church -home -city -state--etc-if there is no one to fulfill the vision. A world that is dependent on one generation to sustain it, is a world that is doomed to fail. When we support our churches-children-youth-neighbors-friends-families and our communities, we plant the seeds that drive progress.

The person we reach back to pull along will lay the foundation for future growth. Each one helping another united is our desire to be better, to grow and to succeed.

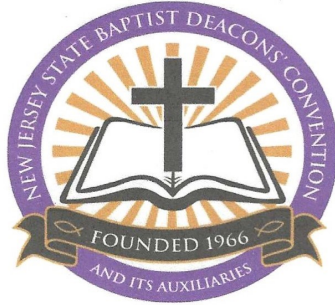
This is the power that will continue to push our churches -homes -communities and world forward and beyond so we can reach beyond and accomplish our wildest dreams.

YOU ARE STUDENTS OF EXCELLENCE THAT ARE A CHOSEN CREATION OF ROYALTY.
TO EVERYONE: LOVE, PEACE, JOY, KINDNESS, and GOODNESS.

Deaconess Joyce Murphy, President of Women's Auxiliary

May, 2024 NJ State Baptist Deacons Convention Annual Session

NEW JERSEY STATE BAPTIST DEACONS' CONVENTION, INC.
IT'S AUXILIARIES WOMEN, YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS



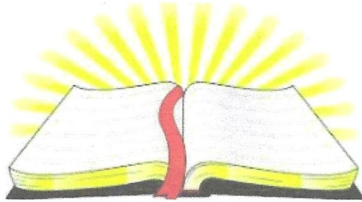
RECOGNIZING



**Deacons &
Deaconesses**

with 40 years or more of Christian service

**For those who serve well as deacons gain a good
standing
themselves
great
in the faith
Christ**



1 Timothy 3:13 - ESV

**for
and also
confidence
that is in
Jesus.**

Preacher

**Reverend Mae Belin, Pastor
Rose of Sharon Community Church
Plainfield, NJ**

Host Union

**Baptist Deacon Alliance of Central NJ and Its Auxiliaries
Deacon Eugene McArthur, Parent Body President
Deaconess Linda McArthur, Women's Auxiliary President**

State Officers

**Deacon James R. Plummer, Parent Body President
Deaconess Joyce Murphy, Women's Auxiliary President
Brother Yamir Chapman, Young Adult/Youth President**

58th Annual Session

Theme
**"Moving Forward
with God"**
Isaiah 41:10

**Saturday
May 11, 2024**

11:00 am

**Pines Manor
2085 Lincoln Highway
Edison, NJ 08817**

**Tickets
\$65.00**

Contact:
Deacon Eugene McArthur
908-245-7581
gllrmk@comcast.net

**Bring a Friend
Join Us!**

Deacons and Deaconess with over 40yrs of service were recognized at the NJ State Baptist Deacons Convention Annual Session Luncheon on Saturday, May 11, 2024.

May 11, 2024

day, May 11, 2024.

RECOGNIZING



**Deacons &
Deaconesses**

with 40 years or more of Christian service

For those who serve well as deacons gain a good standing themselves great in the faith Christ



for and also confidence that is in Jesus.

11:00 am

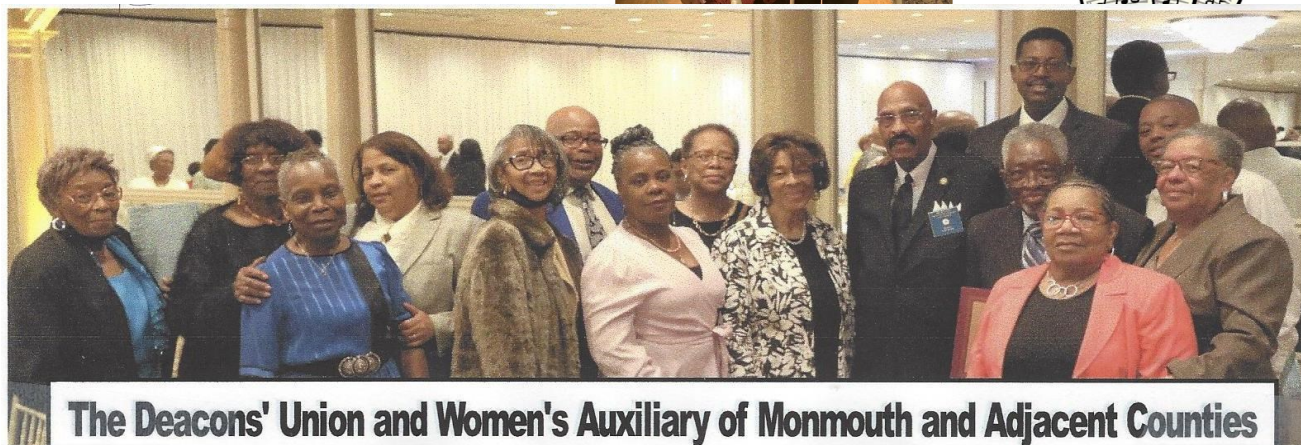
**Pines Manor
2085 Lincoln Highway
Edison, NJ 08817**



N J State Baptist Deacons' Convention's Banquet,

honoring members of 40 years from all 5 New Jersey local organizations.

pictured ; honoree , Deacon Jesse Grier, and one of his daughters Jean Winkler . He is known as our esteemed "Singing Deacon".



The Deacons' Union and Women's Auxiliary of Monmouth and Adjacent Counties



Deacons & Deaconess with over 40 years service were recognized at the NJ State Baptist Deacons Convention Annual Session Luncheon on Saturday, May 11, 2024.



Baptist Deacons Alliance of Central NJ, Inc. and Its Auxiliaries



The Deacons' Association of New Jersey, Inc., and It's Auxiliaries



The Deacons' Union of Trenton and Vicinity, and It's Auxiliaries

MEMORIAL DAY MAY 27, 2024

Memorial Day (originally called Decoration Day) is a federal holiday in the United States for **honoring and mourning the U.S. military personnel who died while serving in the United States Armed Forces**. It is observed on the last Monday of May and is a day for visiting cemeteries and memorials to mourn the military personnel who died in the line of duty.

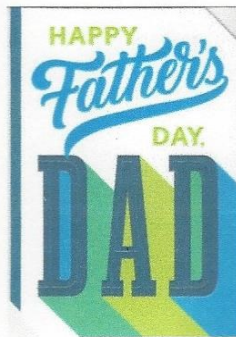
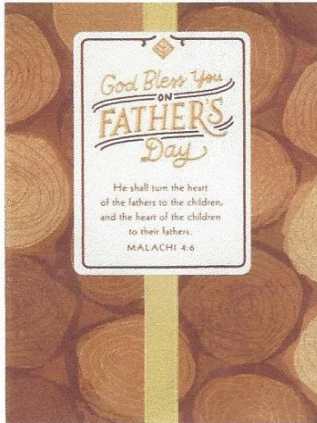
Memorial Day Tribute



From the Tuskegee Airmen, Buffalo Soldiers and Montford Point Marines to the Triple Nickles, 761st Tank Battalion and Redball Express, we thank those who paved the way for our current military. We salute all of our past and current military and thank you for your service and your sacrifice.

Celebrating Fathers Day

We celebrate Dads everywhere with Father's Day on Sunday, June 19. There are no words that can express the love of a father and the love that we all have for them. This day honors our fathers who selflessly love and support their wives and their children.



"Wishing a very Happy Father's Day to all the dads who have loved us, pampered us and made us fortunate kids with their affection, protection and care." Thanks for all you are, and all you do. May the love and **respect** we feel for you make up for the worry and care we have caused you.

F riendship - you are a true **friend**

A ffection - you always display your love for me

T eacher - you have been and still are my best life teacher

H umor - you display and showed me the importance of laughter

E nthusiasm - your never discouraged, you always encouraged

R ole model - you are an example for me to follow!

"Anyone can be a father, but it takes someone special to be a dad, and that's why I call you dad, because you are so special to me.

Thank you for your **encouragement**, for your love and support.

Today is your day. A day to celebrate and let you know how much you are appreciated and loved Dad!



Gospel Jam
June 8th, 4-7 pm

(after the Juneteenth Festival)
celebrating the 225th anniversary of

Mt. Zion AME
(Underground Railroad Station)

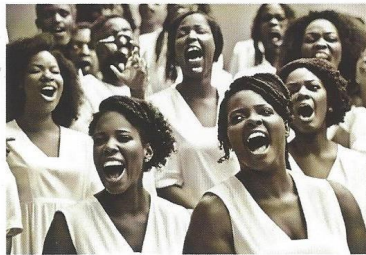
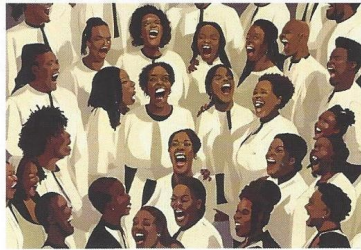
Gospel choirs, bands, and soloists

Kingsway High School, Lot F

172 Garwin Rd.
Woolwich Township, NJ

www.helpinc.org

Don't miss it!



Mt. Zion AME Church, 172 Garwin Road, Swedesboro, NJ was a Station on the Underground Railroad.



NEW JERSEY STATE BREAKING NEWS !

**CALLING ALL NEW JERSEY LOCALS!!!
HELP THIS STATE KEEP OUR**



**As you all know the Annual
State King & Queen Contest
is coming up again in July.**

New Jersey won 2-years in a row!

**LET'S KEEP THE CROWNS IN NJ!
Our Scholarships & Charities deserve it!**

Send your donations to:

Deacon George Sims A.S.A.P. !!!

**Our Goal is \$10,000. or more, that
is an easy \$2,000 per Local Union!**

Send to: Deacon George Sims

869B Liverpool Circle, Manchester NJ 08759.

**To Zelle directly to NJSBDC account use
gj12nj34@gmail.com Indicate what money is for.
*any further questions call: 908-433-2474***



Deaconess Joyce Murphy and Deacon James Highsmith won the 1ST PLACE trophy for New Jersey for the first time at NBDC Rally in Cherry Hill, NJ in July, 2022.



Deaconess Joyce Murphy and Deacon James Highsmith won the 2ND PLACE trophy for New Jersey for the second time at NBDC Rally in Columbia, SC in July, 2023.

**The most expensive
liquid in the world
is a tear. It's 1% water
and 99% feelings.
Think before you hurt
someone.**



My Mother Taught Me, even when I didn't want to Listen

1. My mother taught me about WEATHER.
"Your room looks like a tornado hit it."
 2. My mother taught me about RELIGION.
"You better pray that comes out of the carpet."
 3. My mother taught me about TIME TRAVEL.
"If you don't straighten up I'm going to knock you into the middle of next week."
 4. My mother taught me about OSMOSIS.
"Shut your mouth and eat your supper."
 5. My mother taught me about the CIRCLE OF LIFE.
"I brought you into this world, I can take you out."
 6. My mother taught me about ENVY.
"There are millions of less fortunate children in the world who don't have wonderful parents like you."
 7. My mother taught me about RECEIVING.
"You are going to get it when we get home."
 8. My mother taught me about GENEALOGY.
"Shut that door... You think you were raised in a barn?"
 9. My mother taught me about JUSTICE.
"One day you'll have kids... I hope they turn out just like you!"
 10. My mother taught me about LOGIC.
"Because I said so, That's why."
 11. My mother taught me about STAMINA.
"You'll sit there until your spinach is gone."
 12. My mother taught me about IRONY.
"Keep crying. I'll give you something to cry about."
- Share if you've ever hear these words from your mother's mouth or possibly said them a time or two yourself!..

Word for Today - Encourage

verb

To give support, confidence, or hope to (someone).

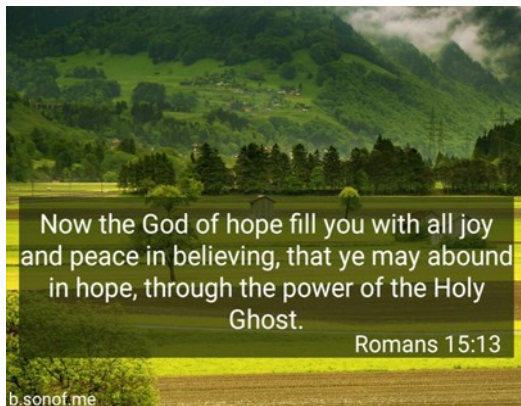
"we were encouraged by the success of this venture"

Similar:

To Uplift, inspire, invigorate, lift the spirits of, raise the morale of give support and advise to (someone) so that they will do or continue to do something.

"pupils are encouraged to be creative"

An example of encourage is **telling someone everything is going to be okay**. An example of encourage is telling a singer they have an amazing voice.



Happiness, Fun, Laughter, and Joy are among the world's cheapest and best medicines. Give yourself large doses of these often...It's contagious...allow those you come in contact with to catch it...

Just as every snowflake is unique, every person is unique because God created us in his image...Don't Try To Fit In, When You Were Born To Stand out...Don't Try to Fit In... Fit Out!...Be the person God made you to be...WE are fearfully and wonderfully made..". **Always be a first rate version of yourself and not a second rate version of someone else.**" "Somewhere along the way, someone is going to tell you, 'There is no "I" in team.' What you should tell them is, 'Maybe not. But there is an "I" in independence, individuality and integrity....I'm all that and more. Don't Be Afraid To Be Amazing....Be Like The Turtle, At Ease in Your Own Shell.

If you fuel your journey on the opinions of others, you are going to run out of gas. Fill up with God...He's the ultimate Premium and He'll take you where you need to go.

Word for Today - Encourage (Con't)

YOU are one of a kind. You are blessed enough to have something that makes you different and sets you aside from everyone else. **Embrace your individuality. You are amazing just the way you are.**

Every single one of us can do things that no one else can do, can love things that no one else can love. We are like violins. We can be used for doorstops, or we can make music. *"We can't always choose the music life plays for us but we can choose how we dance to it."* If you put a small value upon yourself, rest assured that the world will not raise your price. **Love yourself...Value yourself...Respect yourself.. Forgive Yourself..and never accept less from others.**

"You can't always have a good day. But you can always face a bad day with a good attitude." **The mind is everything. What you think you become...So think that you are awesome..Stay awesome.. and have a truly awesome day.**

Wishing everyone a Safe and Blessed week...and encouraging you to remember that God doesn't make junk. God loves you, and so do we.

No matter how stressed you are, remember how blessed you are."

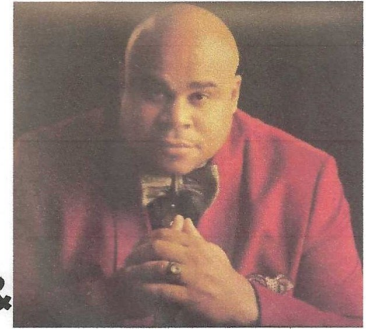
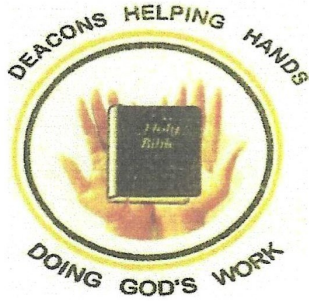
— Unknown





Richard Standard and William Chandler representing the Bethany Baptist Association Laymen at the Camden City "March For JESUS" on Saturday, May 18, 2024.

We are a mouthpiece
for God. There's
someone somewhere
who can't find their
way and may be lost.
Spread the gospel.
Tell them about
Jesus.



**June "5th Sunday", In Person &
Service**

YOU'RE INVITED – BRING A FRIEND!
We look forward to seeing some new faces!

Sunday, June 30th, 2024
3:30 pm till 5:00 pm

Zoom Video and Conference Call (Also)

Meeting ID 651-325-1092

Password 865040

Dial in phone #: 929-436-2866

Host Pastor

Rev. Dr. RF. Donato, Pastor
New Hope Baptist Church
South Toms River, New Jersey

Deacons' Union Officers

Deacon William Smalls, President
Deacon James R. Plummer, Vice President
Deaconess Desiree Smalls, Secretary
Deacon Leroy Abrams, Financial Secretary
Deacon Early Ford, Chaplain
Sister Deirdre Dunn, President Women's
Auxiliary

*"Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I
am thy God: I will Strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea,
I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness."*

Public Service Announcement

JULY/AUGUST 2024

GLOUCESTER COUNTY TODAY

PAGE 6

All the news you need and more from Gloucester County | [Facebook](#) [Instagram](#) GloucesterCountyNJ | www.GloucesterCountyNJ.gov

SUMMER SAFETY FOR SENIORS

Summer safety is crucial for senior citizens, especially during July's hot and humid days. As we age, our bodies become less efficient at regulating temperature, making older adults more susceptible to heat-related illnesses. Here are some essential tips to keep seniors safe and healthy during the rising temperatures of summer.

Stay Hydrated

Drink at least eight glasses of water or fruit juices daily. Avoid alcoholic and caffeinated beverages, as they can lead to dehydration. Increase fluid intake if you're physically active or if the weather is particularly hot.

Seek Shade and Stay Indoors

Extreme heat and high humidity can strain the body's ability to maintain a normal temperature. Limit outdoor activity during the most intense sun hours (10 am to 4 pm). If possible, stay indoors during extreme heat. Air-conditioning is essential; visit places with AC if your home doesn't have it.

Dress Appropriately

Wear loose-fitting, lightweight clothing made of natural, breathable fabrics like cotton. Opt for light colors that reflect the sun's rays rather than darker colors that absorb heat.

Protect Your Skin and Eyes

Wear sunglasses to block harmful UV rays and protect your vision. Use sunscreen with SPF 30 or higher that guards against both UVA and UVB radiation. Don hats to shield your face and neck from sun exposure.

Know Your Medications

Some medications can increase sensitivity to the sun. Review your prescriptions and discuss any concerns with your doctor.

Recognize Heat-Related Illnesses

Be aware of signs such as disorientation, dry skin, excessive tiredness, headache, nausea, and confusion. Seek medical attention promptly if you experience symptoms of heat stroke, heat exhaustion, or dehydration.

Staying Safe When It's Hot Outside

When the temperature climbs above 80°F, older adults need to be proactive and take precautions to avoid ailments due to excessive heat.

Stay away from direct sun exposure as much as possible. If possible, plan your outdoor activities either early in the morning or when the sun starts to set.

Air conditioning is your friend in summer. Spend as much time as possible in air-conditioned spaces. If you don't have an air conditioner, go somewhere that is air-conditioned. For example, read a book at the library, walk around in indoor malls, watch that new movie at the theater, or meet your friends at the senior center.

Stay hydrated. Drink plenty of cool water, clear juices, and other liquids that don't contain alcohol or caffeine. Alcohol and caffeine cause you to lose water in your body by making you urinate more.

- **Dress appropriately.** Whenever you can, try wearing loose, light-colored clothes. Avoid dark-colored clothes as they may absorb heat. Top it off with a lightweight, broad-brimmed hat and you are dressing like a pro!

These simple changes will help you both stay cool and avoid sunburn.

Public Service Announcement

JULY IS HEALTHY VISION MONTH

This month is dedicated to prioritizing eye health as one prioritizes eating healthy and physical activity. Healthy Vision Month is dedicated to people of all ages.

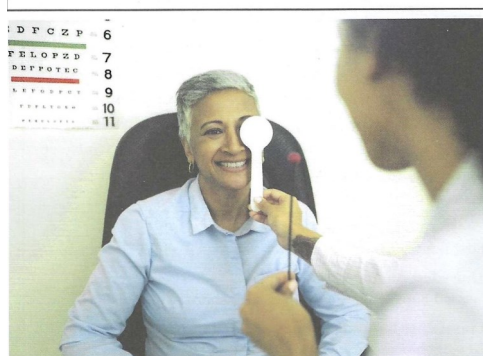
Though older adults tend to have more vision problems, even those as young as preschoolers can have vision issues as well. Only 1 out of 7 preschoolers receive an eye exam, and only 1 out of 4 receive vision screenings. It is recommended by the U.S. Preventive Services Task force to have children between the ages 3 to 5 years to check for irregular problems.

There are some eye conditions which can eventually lead to blindness. These conditions include cataracts, diabetic retinopathy, glaucoma, and macular degeneration. These conditions can be discovered through regular eye exams.

Ways to protect your vision include knowing your family's eye health history, maintaining a healthy weight, wearing sunglasses, and wearing protective eyewear when needed.

For more information on healthy vision please visit:

www.cdc.gov/visionhealth



**healthy
vision
month**

SAVE-THE-DATE

NJSBDC & PBC

Golf Classic

Deacon Samuel Nails Memorial Luncheon

Monday, August 5, 2024

Knob Hill Country Club

(Manalapan, NJ)

8am Shot-Gun Start

Men/Women Individual & Foursome Awards
Church Champion Award

Cost: \$175.00

(includes: green fee, breakfast, lunch, raffles etc.)

Early registration begins: May 1, 2024

www.pilgrim-baptist.org



Proceeds to support:

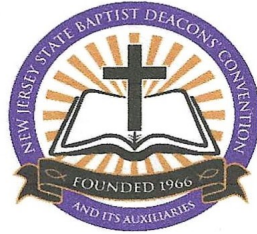
Student Scholarship in NJ

Homeless Initiatives in Monmouth County
Hope & Comfort Center of Red Bank



The New Jersey State Baptist Deacons' Convention, Inc. (NJSBDC) and Pilgrim Baptist Church of Red Bank (PBC) are hosting the DEACON SAMUEL NAILS MEMORIAL GOLF OUTING on August 5, 2024. The event will take place at Knob Hill Golf Course, 1 Shinnecock Drive, Manalapan Township, NJ.

The purpose of the golf outing is to raise funds in order to provide scholarships for youth aspiring to further their education at the university level, as well as to help homeless initiatives in Monmouth County through the JBJ & PBC Hope and Comfort Center in Red Bank.



**NEW JERSEY STATE BAPTIST DEACONS' CONVENTION
DEACON SAMUEL NAILS MEMORIAL GOLF OUTING
Golfer Registration Information**

Individual \$175.00

Foursome \$700.00

Early Registration * \$165.00 individual

\$660.00 foursome

Name Foursome: 1. Player_____

2. Player_____

3. Player_____

4. Player_____

Individual Registration _____

Golfer Contact Information

(At least 1 contact): _____

Make checks Payable to: NJSBDC GOLF OUTING

Mail to: Deacon George S. Sims

869B Liverpool Circle

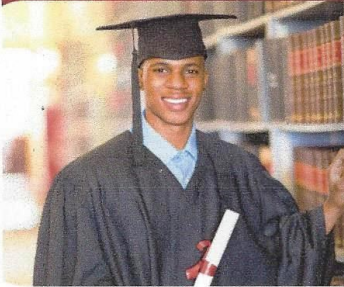
Manchester, NJ 08759

***FOR EARLY REGISTRATION DISCOUNT, MUST BE RECEIVED
NO LATER THAN July 13, 2024**



Deacon's Union of
Trenton & Vicinity

Annual Legacy & Scholarship Awards Luncheon



September 28, 2024 – 12:00PM

Mercer Oaks Golf Course

725 Village Road
Princeton Junction, NJ 08550

TICKETS: \$55

FOR TICKETS & SPONSORSHIPS EMAIL

DUTVLEGACYSCHOLAR@GMAIL.COM

*National Baptist Deacons Convention 2024
Annual Session will be held in Springfield, MA.
July 22 - 26, 2024*

Hosted By: Connecticut Baptist Deacons Alliance

Host Hotel: Sheraton Monarch Hotel Springfield

One Monarch Place, Springfield, MA 01144

Hotel Reservations: (844) 209-0788

(If problems, Ask for Daniel Pratt at: 413-263-2117)

Note: You must identify yourself as a member of the National Baptist Deacons Convention to get the discounted rate.

Room Rates: \$145.00 per night plus tax

On-Site Parking: \$19.95 per day or \$5.00 Hourly

WEEK-AT-A-GLANCE - 2024

Sunday, July 21, 2024, 11:00 a.m.

Pastor Richard Nash, Senior Pastor
Mount Calvary Baptist Church, Hartford, CT

Monday, July 22, 2024, 7:00 p.m.

Pastor Atu White, Senior Pastor
Mount Zion Baptist Church, Springfield, MA
President, United Baptist Convention of
Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and New Hampshire

Tuesday, July 23, 2024, 8:00 a.m.

Prayer Breakfast, Deacon Joseph G. Miller
NBDC Parent Body 4th VP., Hanover, MD

Tuesday, July 23, 2024, 12:00 p.m.

Pastor Dayhige Wright
Saint John's Church, Springfield, Massachusetts

Tuesday, July 23, 2024, 7:00 p.m., Holy Communion

Pastor Anthony L. Bennett, Lead Pastor
Mount Aery Baptist Church, Bridgeport, CT 06604

Wednesday, July 24, 2024, 12:00 p.m.

Minister Theron James, President
NBDC Young Adult Auxiliary

Wednesday, July 24, 2024 2:00pm - 4:00pm WA

President's Address - Deaconess Alfreda Levaine,
Charleston, South Carolina

Wednesday, July 24, President's Annual Address 7:00pm

Deacon Earl Wilson, Sr., New London, Connecticut

Thursday, July 25, 2024, 12:00 p.m.

Pastor Kenneth Young, Senior Pastor
Calvary Baptist Church, Haverhill, MA
Vice-President, United Baptist Convention of
Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and New Hampshire

Thursday, July 25, 2024, 6:30 p.m., Presidents'

Banquet - Bishop Benjamin K. Watts, Senior Pastor
Shiloh Baptist Church, New London, CT

Friday, July 26th - General Session – 9:00am

Close Out,

June 30

**Lead me by your truth and
teach me, for you are the God
who saves me. All day long I
put my hope in you.**

Psalm 25:5

Dear Lord, Mold me into your image
and likeness. Please cover me with
your protection and fill me with your
strength as I go about my days.

You are my hope.

The
Peace
of
Heaven

At the end of life,
what really matters
is not what we
bought but what we
built; not what we got
but what we shared;
not competence but
our character; and
not our success but
our significance. Live
a life that matters.

Live a life of Love.

