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#### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Pastor Praylow	1
The Precious Holy Spirit	3
A Prayer	4
lt's Just A Thought	5
Jesus Joy	5
Blessings	6
Fathers!	7



#### **NURTURE, BORN OF GOD'S LOVE** BY **P**ASTOR **P**RAYLOW

God has given us fathers and grandfathers, uncles, brothers, cousins, steps fathers, fathers in law, spiritual dads, mentors and all men who have answered the call to Godly nurture. On this observance of Father's day in the life of our beloved Fifteenth Street Presbyterian Church family, I give God thanks for all men who nurture and model loving others as Christ has loved them.

When I think of the role played by our fathers and all men who daily answer the call to nurture, I am reminded they carry and care for their children, their families, their churches and their local and global community. Like God has carried all of God's children down through the ages, our fathers and men called of God, have carried us, through their faith in God and acts of service modeled off the love of Jesus.

We are reminded in scripture proclaimed in Deuteronomy 1:30, that "the Lord our God,



who goes before us...is the one who fights for us and carries us just like a parent carries a child. We are so thankful that God sent us fathers, grandfathers and all men of Godly nurture who carried us and continue to carry and support us throughout the mountain highs and valley lows of our day to day living as God has strengthened them. Let us be encouraged! As God is with them, yesterday and today, God is with us and a nurturer to us all!

May God's peace and blessings rest upon you all.

### HAPPY FATHER'S DAY!

**Rev. Perzavia T. Praylow, PhD., Pastor** *Fifteenth Street Presbyterian Church Washington, DC* 





### **THE PRECIOUS HOLY SPIRIT** BY **E**LDER **V**ELMA **D**ARDEN **C**OX

The Precious Holy Spirit lives inside of me. He manifests Himself, so that all the world can see.

I recognize and obey, the Spirit of the Lord. When the Spirit speaks to me, I recognize the Voice. I try to always obey His will—I really have no choice!

What a blessing to have such a wonderful relationship with the Holy Spirit that is so dear. He always keeps me safe from harm and I have no fear.

I will always be led by the Precious Holy Spirit, not man, And always hold to God's unchanging hand.

The Spirit leads and guides me, day and night. He grants me discernment to do what is right and what is pleasing in God's sight.

I love the Lord, oh, yes, I do! And I know that He loves me, too! I will do whatever He leads me to.

His voice is the sweetest that I have ever heard. I pray each day, that He will order my steps in His Holy Word.

In the name of the Father, the Son and the Precious, Holy Spirit. Amen and Amen.

Page 4

## PRAYER AND PRAISE TO GOD

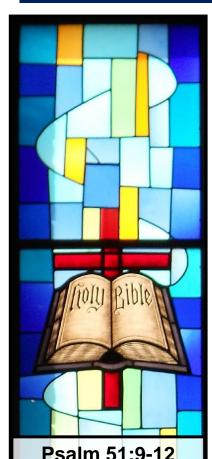


Thank You, Father, for another month of peace, love, kindness, and happiness for all the people in this world. I really thank You for waking us up every morning, clothed in our right minds with prayer and praise for everyone on this earth. I cannot help but praise Your name Dear Father for Your love, guidance, and protection for everyone. I pray every day and all during the night for Your love to continue in every corner of this world so that all will enjoy a wonderful life. Each month the prayer warriors are so good at expressing themselves so brilliantly. We praise Your name for being so good. They pray for all, and they love all. We thank the Lord each day for them.

Thank You, Lord, for giving us each day. We cannot help but thank God for every day He gives us. Thank You for Your love, Father God. Keep on blessing us. We thank You for long life and for Your love. We thank You for the children and for all You have done for them. We cannot help but praise Your name for bringing us this far by faith, leaning only on You, Father God. Thank You for letting us know we cannot do anything without You.

Thank You, kind heavenly Father, for life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. We know we cannot make it without You. You are life and everything good. We praise Your name and bless Your holiness. We thank You for having made us. Thank You again and again for loving us. Without You nothing is possible.

Father God, I am going now, thanking You for all You have done. Please let love continue on earth. Bless each one of us every day, kind heavenly Father. Father God, thank You for letting me pray this prayer. In Your name, we ask that You bless us continuously. Amen



Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. Do not cast me away from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit.

### Tr's Just A Thought

BY **E**LDER **C**EDRIC **B**OATMAN

A beautiful life does not just happen..... It is built on the sacrifices of Jesus Christ with His forgiving love. So just remember when you are building your life, there is laughter, patience, sacrifice, grace, mercy, love, and most of all forgiveness. Good morning, Good Evening, and Good Night.

Just A Thought!!!



#### JESUS JOY BY ELDER JANET LEONARD

Jesus gave His life for us. The Joy of the Lord is our strength!!! Examine the many blessings in your life. How great and too numerous if you count all the blessings. Count it all Joy when trials and temptations come your way. Use Jesus Joy as your special defense. Do not let negativity or anger rob you of your energy and Joy. Use what you have for today and never worry about tomorrow. In the loving hands of the Good Shepherd, we lack nothing. Be the best that you can be and enjoy the glory God receives through your testimony.

#### BLESSINGS BY DEACON PAMELA NELSON

This morning I awoke and instantly said thank You God for keeping me earth bound. Because too many precious souls did not make it to see today for many told and untold reasons. Realizing this fragile gift of life from You to me must be positively nurtured and fully embraced for my best and consistent human interaction. I pledge to be always thoughtful, kind and considerate in my daily interaction with my fellow humankind. To pause and reflect before reacting to difficult situations. To always let the first word I speak upon awakening be, thank You God; to always be the strength and guidance for family, friends and others as I traverse my life path; to make laughter, time-out, prayers and meditation my anchor for sustainability. Thank You God, for all the Blessings You have given me and for those to come... indeed Blessings.

Blessin

Page 7

### PRAYER AND PRAISE TO GOD

#### FATHERS! BY ELDER STEPHANIE COX

Our heavenly Father has blessed us with our earthly fathers and what a gift they are to us! From the moment we come into the world, we look to our fathers for guidance and protection, for provision and most of all their enduring love and strength. They are strong when we are weak, and they train us up in the way we should go. Even if we stray, they love us anyway, and remain steadfast in the faith, trusting that we will remember what they taught us. They teach when we see them kneeling in prayer to God Almighty or reading and studying God's Holy Word. They teach when they lecture (sometimes repeatedly) about being responsible, staying focused and paying attention. They lead the family in prayer, and they take us to Sunday school and church as they work and worship and serve the Lord there. Although we might not seem to listen, their words of instruction and wisdom do sink in, and those words return to us in times of need. Fathers are patient and gentle.

Fathers love and protect us, care, and provide for us. They work hard to keep a roof over our heads, food on the table and clothes on our backs. They see to it that we have opportunities for education and support us in our academic pursuits. They are proud of all our achievements, and they are never ashamed of us when we miss the mark. Fathers teach us to ride bikes, drive cars, to pay attention and to stay focused—to take responsibility for our actions and to be discerning in our choices. They take us to the playground, the park, the zoo, to the museums and on vacations (road trip!), when they might prefer to stay at home and read the paper or take a long nap.



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They show up for school programs and events. Fathers are our strong, superhero defenders who protect us from all hurt, harm or danger, and gather us up in their arms to dry our tears and calm our fears when we are wounded in body, mind, or spirit. Even though we might not be aware of it at the time, fathers are always watching out for us, watching over us, and worrying about us. Our fathers sacrifice for us and do not condemn us. They love us unconditionally. Fathers who love and serve the Lord, can rest in the knowledge that their children will be blessed because they have taught them by example, to love and serve the To all the fathers and men who have Lord. had a hand in nurturing and shaping our lives, we thank God for you and love you all. Happy Fathers' Day and God bless you!

