

**Compassionate  
Outreach  
Ministries**

**UPCOMING  
EVENTS**

- **January 27th**  
Faith Bible Institute
- **February 22nd-23rd**  
Children's Choir  
Weekend Celebration
- **March 1st**  
Informational Meeting
- **March 14th**  
Power House Family  
Worship Center
- **March 21st-23rd**  
Singles Conference
- **April 13th-16th**  
Live Drama (Final  
Destination)
- **June 19th-21st**  
Women's  
Retreat

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# Heart-To-Heart News

VOLUME XVII, ISSUE I

2014 NEW YEAR EDITION



*Happy 36th Wedding Anniversary to  
Bishop & First Lady Dennison  
from the Members of  
Compassionate Outreach Ministries*

**February 4, 2014**

## **A Fresh Start**

### **Bishop Larry J. Dennison**

The new year is time for a fresh start. As you move forward, recognize that God is far more interested in your future than in your past. Forget about what happened yesterday. You can not change the past and more importantly, you are going to spend the rest of your life in the future. So look ahead with the expectation that you will have a better year, God will give you favor, and the devil will be defeated. There are several things that you can do to enjoy a fresh start:

- Disconnect yourself from friends that encourage you to override godly principles. II Thess. 3:6
- Spend more time with God alone. Psalm 63:6
- Devote more attention to your love life. I Cor. 13.
- De-emphasize material things and emphasize heavenly things. St. Matt. 6:19.
- Set higher standards for yourself. St. Matt. 5:16

Nobody can hold you back or hinder you but you. The sky is the limit. This is the first day of the rest of your life. Make a Fresh Start!

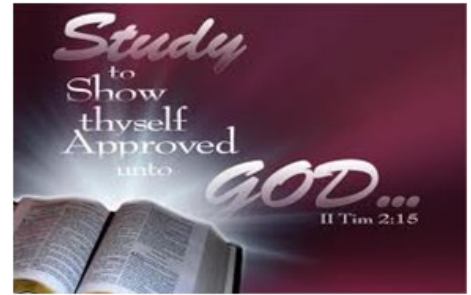
## Healthy Hearts: Develop Your Spiritual Health

Sister Vondalyn White

### Seeking a Transformational New Year? Develop Your Spiritual Health

As we usher in 2014, I am absolutely blown away that 2013 has come and gone so quickly. While reflecting over the goals I set in years past, I realize that my focus was a little off. They were not things that were necessarily wrong - simply things that I thought would make me a better me. In this season the Lord is leading me to shift my focus to developing spiritual health.

I believe that for many of us goal setting has become a process that is more about our plans and not at all about God's plan for us. So this year rather than set personal goals, I chose a verse for the year-"Study to shew thyself approved unto God"- 2 Tim. 2:15. I selected this verse after looking back over my life and reflecting on the things that worked for me and the things that did not work. I must confess that this was an extremely challenging year for me and I would have no doubt collapsed under the pressure if I did not have God's word. The bible tells us that God's people perish from a lack of knowledge. This is a very true statement-it is His Word that sustains us.



Many are collapsing and retreating because they can't bear the weight. If we intend to survive this race, it is imperative that we change strategies. Now, more than ever we need to pray for and with our children and teach them how to live according to God's word. We've been way too passive-too relaxed- it's time for us to rise up before we lose this generation completely.

Over the last year or so, the Lord has increasingly shown me how Satan is after our children. In the bible 1 Peter 5:8 tells us, "Stay alert! Watch out for your great enemy, the devil. He prowls around like a roaring lion, looking for someone to devour." If you do any research on lions, you will find that they seek out the youngest of the herds. They know they are the easiest target and don't have a fighting chance. I know he's out to destroy everyone, but the easiest prey is our children. His plan is quite clever: inundate them with things of the world, let them stay home from church or just not participate, teach them that it's all about them and that any and everything goes, and make sure we're too busy or stressed to have family prayer and bible study at home.

I believe we've become too comfortable with the things of this world and as a result our power has weakened. We've become indifferent to many of Satan's tactics-I'm assuming it's because our culture is saturated with immorality-so it no longer shocks us. Movies, TV shows, magazines, music, books, games, internet- they are all affecting our children's development. What are we allowing in their hearts? Sorcery? Witchcraft (Disney channel)? Promiscuity? Homosexuali-

*(Continued on page 4)*

## Tips For College Bound Students: Now Is The Time To...

Minister Karen Woods



1. Complete and mail/submit online ALL incomplete college applications along with required recommendation forms.
2. Begin your Financial Aid application. This requires you to select a username and password initially for access to your application information. Go to [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov) to sign up. When you first begin your application online, take your time and complete it slowly. Read the questions carefully BEFORE you select or enter an answer. If you are 18 or under and live at home, you will need a copy of your parents tax return filed in 2013. If you are 21 and your parents claim you on their taxes, you will need a copy of their tax return. If you are 21 and older and file your taxes on an individual tax return, you will need a copy of your own tax return that you filed in 2013. Financial aid applications are processed by Colleges in the order they are received, so get yours started today!

3. Make an appointment with your Guidance Counselor to conduct an inventory on the classes and grades you will need to successfully graduate from High School. More on Graduation Requirements in the next edition.

# Out With The Old, In With The New

Brother Donald Mclean

At Compassionate Outreach Ministries we had a glorious time bringing in the New Year with singing songs to the Lord, praying, testifying, praising, dancing, fellowshiping, and hearing the word of the Lord. I think it is very inspirational to enter the New Year in the house of God. During this service, Bishop Dennison advised us to be conscience of how we use our time. He explained that time waits for no man, that time can be stubborn, and that time may be uncooperative. He clarified that he was not talking about prime time, nor about show time but that it was high time for us to be about God business. Our Bishop then explained that time effects our entire being, and that time pushes us into eternity. The new year is an exciting time of establishing new expectations, setting new goals, and looking forward to a brighter future. I know that without a vision, the people perish and I believe a man without a goal will easily become less ambitious and more stagnated. There are times that decision making can be somewhat confusing but we are not to worry. Jesus stated that we should take no thought for tomorrow but let tomorrow take thought for the things itself. We should always put our trust in God. So going into this new year is a time of refreshing and rejuvenation. We should be thankful, I believe that thankfulness produces joyfulness and the joy of the Lord is our strength. I think it is also a worthwhile experience to reflect back on the past year to do some self-examination, and to review past failures and successes. Perhaps these efforts will help us to improve our future decisions. Although, that does not give us an excuse to get stuck on our past. The Apostle Paul told us to forget those things that are behind us and press forward to the mark that we are called in Christ Jesus. We should be redeeming the time because the days are evil. "It is high time to live for God".

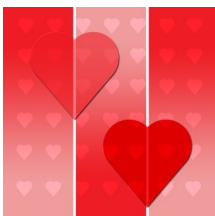


## Love Is In The Air

Sister Renee' Hall

### Love Is In The Air & God Is Everywhere

Love is in the air and God is everywhere  
 You don't have to be alone  
 Your heavenly Father is sitting on the throne  
 Have you spent a little time with Him today  
 Or have you been too busy on your merry way  
 I want you to remember that the redemption plan has been set in place  
 And you have the victory in this spiritual race  
 So pull your bootstraps up and get ready to shine  
 It's your season and it's your time  
 Love is in the air  
 And God is everywhere



## To Encourage

Mother Inez McKinnon

### Don't Let Folks Get You Down

There are those who talk the talk, but do not walk the walk. The bible tells us that not everyone that says "Lord, Lord" shall enter into the kingdom, but only him that does the will of the Father. There are some who say that they are Holy Ghost filled, but they only honor God with their lips while their hearts are far from his. Don't let folks get you down because you know. There are those who do their work only to be seen of man, but all their work is in vain. They love positions, titles and outward show. There are those who do nothing with the blessing that God blessed them with. And there are those who prophesy and cast out devils and do many wonderful works. But Jesus does not know them and their work is called iniquity. Don't let folk get you down because you know. There are those who watch that they might find fault and criticize, even when the will of God is being done. And there are those who backslide and go back to sin, laying aside the commandment of God while holding on to the tradition of man. Don't let folk get you down because you know. Please remember that Jesus said, "Behold, I come quickly and my reward is with me to give every man according to his work." Don't let folk get you down because you know.

## Special Recognition

### HAPPY WEDDING ANNIVERSARY!!!!

Bishop Larry & Sis. Margaret Dennison	2/4	36 years
Mr. Harold & Mrs. Gwendolyn Jenkins	1/8	32 years
Mr. Keith & Mrs. Patricia Jeter	2/9	24 years
Mr. Bruce & Mrs. Kathy Robinson	1/5	24 years
Mr. John & Mrs. Donna Smith	2/12	14 years

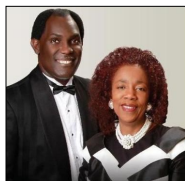
### HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!!

To everyone born in the months of January & February!

## WATCH!

*Watch your thoughts; they become words. Watch your words; they become actions. Watch your actions; they become habits. Watch your habits; they become character. Watch your character; it becomes your destiny.*

## Compassionate Outreach Ministries



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First Lady: Sister Margaret Dennison

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**We Are Reaching Out, Not Out Of Reach**

## Dollars & Sense For 2014

It's a new year and it is time to become financially smart, to put your economic situation into perspective, and to act responsibly. This year:

- Pay your tithes and give your offerings cheerfully and consistently.
- Track and analyze every dollar that you spend.
- Develop a spending plan that prioritizes needs over wants.
- Leave credit cards at home to reduce credit card spending.
- Pay off debts beginning with your highest interest rates.
- Save a portion of all of your income.
- Eliminate impulsive spending.
- Avoid all new or unnecessary debt.
- Refrain from charging anything that can't be paid off at the end of the month.
- Don't make financial promises that you can't keep.
- Seek out a licensed credit counseling agency, if necessary.

*(Adapted from [cbn.com](http://cbn.com))*



## Healthy Hearts: Develop Your Spiritual Health

*(Continued from page 2)*

ty? Foul language? We must not be fooled-Satan wants us to think these things are harmless. But it isn't harmless and it's shaping our children's future and the way they think.

God commands us to equip our children with his Truths. Teach them to your children. Talk about them when you are at home and when you are on the road, when you are going to bed and when you are getting up. Write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates, so that as long as the sky remains above the earth, you and your children may flourish in the land the Lord swore to give your ancestors Deut 11:19-21 Satan is a strategist- a mastermind and we are no match for him. But don't worry- I have good news. God left us something to fight with-His Word. The even greater news is that His Word is packed with power and sharper than any double edged sword. Saints of God, this is life changing news and it is time for us to change our strategy and shift our thinking.

As you write out your plans for the New Year, I would like to propose incorporating one of the most effective tools proven to equip us for the journey ahead-- Sunday School. I know, I know-it sounds too simple but this is where we learn about God's word and how to apply it to our everyday lives. Satan knows this, which is why he tells us that Sunday School is not important. But, if we plan to stand up to the enemy's tactics, prepare the next generation of children to follow Christ faithfully and advance God's Kingdom, we need this training.

What if I told you that Sunday School is statistically proven to significantly reduce the likelihood of life problems in our children's lives. Well, that's exactly what is does. Research has revealed that regular Sunday School attendance:

- Increases life expectancy by 8 years
- Reduces use of alcohol and drugs
- Reduces the risk of committing suicide and committing crime
- Improves attitudes and increases school participation
- Reduces rebelliousness
- Helps rebound from depression 70% faster

God's word is designed to increase our faith, change our thinking and ultimately our behavior. Studying God's word in a small setting like Sunday school allows us to share successes as well as failures in order to encourage each other. It also allows us to break the word down and make it applicable to everyday living. If you have a desire to strengthen your relationship with God and your family, I would like to encourage you to consider attending Sunday School to assist you in this endeavor. Study after study has proven that God's Word has the power to transform anyone and anything. I pray God's blessings upon all of us this year as we commit to developing into the people that He created us to be.