

From the Pastor... 7-7-16 Changed Me



The date 7-7-16 pushed me from the spectator section of Police-Community relations to the field. I would have been at the Black Lives Matter march last year when those tragic shootings occurred, but I was with my dad, a retired Policeman in Charlotte, NC. He was dying of gastric cancer, and as any daughter who loves her daddy would do, I was right by his side until the glorious end.

The evening of 7-7 I was in the front yard talking with neighbors about our mutual disgust over the killings of Alton Sterling and Philando Castille. The disease had ravaged by gregarious dad, and all he could do was utter a few words occasionally. When I walked back into the house he was watching the live protests in Minnesota and Louisiana on CNN and softly informed me, "Police were killed in Dallas". I assumed it was the morphine talking. There was no way any Police were killed Dallas. I thought that my dad had gotten his cities confused and some other location was home of the shootings. Minutes later I stood in front of the television and saw the truth - five officers had been killed by a lone shooter. My dad said, "Police can arrest without killing. We have got to fix this thing".

Within a week I was back in Dallas and received a call from Dallas Mayor Mike Rawlings asking me to pray at a police memorial. Little did I know, the event would be nationally televised and attended by President and First Lady Obama!! My dad loved to hear me pray, but his cancer sapped even more of his strength, and I am told that all he could do was watch me on TV and smile.

My dad died a few weeks later, but his words about the reasons behind the Dallas shooting stayed on my mind. I believe they are urgings from God to do my part to "fix this thing". As the daughter of a cop, I bleed Blue as well as Black. My unique platform enables me to work toward solutions to bridge the large and painful gulf between the African American Community and the Police. I write on the topic and have held one city-wide event thus far.

This one year anniversary is a stinging, aching reminder that we have not gotten down the road towards "fixing it".

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Daphne Stephenson Baty

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NOMINATIONS BEING ACCEPTED FOR 33rd A. Maceo Smith Community Service Award
Five Community Servants Will Be Honored for Various Services

Dallas, TX – The coveted A. Maceo Smith Community Service Award will be presented Saturday, September 30, 2017 @ 10AM.

Five volunteers will be recognized for their outstanding service to the African American community in the area of Arts and Culture, Civic and Human Services, Education, Business, and Youth Involvement. A special award will be presented to a community servant under 40 years of age.

Deadline for nominations is Saturday, July 15, 2017

The award is named for A. Maceo Smith, a consummate community leader whose volunteer service spanned a period of more than 50 years. Smith served as a Regional Director of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Smith was also a leading figure in the Progressive Voters League, NAACP, Dallas Black Chamber of commerce, Dallas Urban League and Bishop College. He was integral in the development of Hamilton Park. He was also a trustee of New Hope Baptist Church and the National President of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity and Fisk University National Alumni Association. He was a foundering supporter of The African American Museum, Dallas and the founder of the Hall of Negro Life that was erected at the State Fair in 1936 for the Texas Centennial Fair. The award which had been given beginning in 1978 was last presented on October 31, 2009.

For more information, contact Daphne Stephenson Baty at 214-565-9026, ext. 3114 or email dstephenson@aamdallas.org

PRAYER MEETING

The 2nd Monday Monthly Prayer Meeting will be held tomorrow, July 10th @ 7:00PM in the Chapel. The focus of this time of prayer is for community and the church. Sister Cathy Parker and others will lead this prayer time for the needs of Hamilton Park and other communities. Our goal is to live the mission of our Church as we continue to be a Praying Community of Faith. Please come and invite others.

Pastor Archie Browne Leader of Prayer Ministries

CENTRALIZED COMMUNICATIONS

Communication at The Park must be focused and deliberate. As we move toward ecclesial excellence our interior messages and messaging must be uniform and follow protocol and procedure. This means all church-wide emails, Facebook posts, letters and worship announcements and bulletin inserts will flow through the Church Office first. This centralization will get us where we want to be.



Dear Dr. Booker & HPUMC Family:

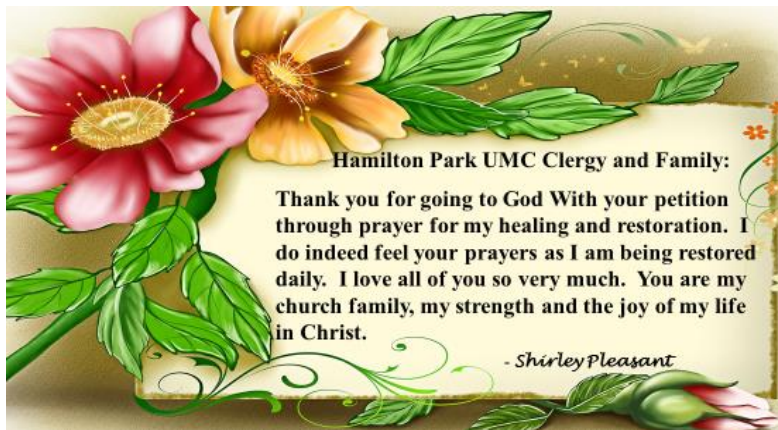
The family of Loda B. Simmons would like to thank all of you for the beautiful Homegoing Celebration of Life for her on June 17, 2017. Your greetings, scriptures, prayers, resolutions and hospitality were heart warming and comforting. You fed us graciously and served us with smiles. We felt right at home and at peace.

Again, we thank you!!! We were blessed coming in and going out.

With much love,

Renee Gray Greer & The Loda B. Simmons Family

We would like to thank SPPRC and the Hamilton Park UMC Family for the wonderful farewell celebration on Sunday, June 25, 2017. We will always remember the love and generosity we received from all of you. Blessings,
Dr. Jeremiah Booker & Mrs. Petrella Booker



Hamilton Park UMC Clergy and Family:

Thank you for going to God With your petition through prayer for my healing and restoration. I do indeed feel your prayers as I am being restored daily. I love all of you so very much. You are my church family, my strength and the joy of my life in Christ.

- Shirley Pleasant

7/2/17 Sermon Series Answers: 1. Resemblance 2. Faith 3.Favor 4. Unrequested 5. Burdens 6. Erase
7/9/17 Sermon Series Answers: 1. Supplanter 2. Israel 3. Jacob's 4. Wrestler