

## Christian Education News

"They'll know we  
are Christians by  
our love."

JANUARY – FEBRUARY 2021

Happy New Year to You  
and Yours!

We are starting all over again. It might be rough and tough but we are going to make it because God is on our side and He has NEVER failed us yet.

2020 for us was a challenge. We saw and experienced things that we have never had to encounter before, but Glory To God, we made it and are still enclosed in our right minds with enough strength to say, "I've come this far and I believe I can go a little farther."

Looking back to 2020, please permit me to say to each and everyone, "Thanks". Thanks for your prayers, concern and support; for your response to our requests and understanding, for your leadership and service, for your cards, gifts, and encouraging words.

As we journey into 2021, we will plan, act, and move according to the directions and recommendations made by those who are experts and specialists. We, who are of the Faith, will also listen to God, be directed by His Word and

act and move as instructed by the Holy Spirit.

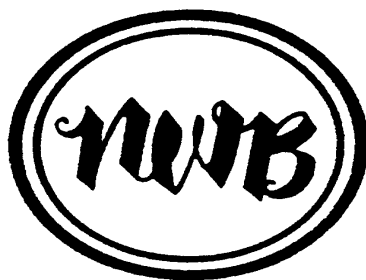
In the meantime, let us stay safe, healthy, and be wise. For you, I am praying and don't forget to pray for me and remember that "you are loved by God and by me".

With Love, Care, and  
Concern

Bishop J. Ervin Reddick  
Annual Bishop of the  
Northwest B Conference  
and  
General Bishop of the  
United American Free Will  
Baptist Denomination, Inc.

---

*Announcing*



*Northwest B Conference Christian Education  
29<sup>th</sup> Annual Unity Session  
Saturday, February 6, 2021  
11 a.m.*

*Focus: Evangelism*

*You do not want to miss this one- hour webinar of  
worship, education, and fellowship.*

*Information on how to join the webinar will be sent to you later this  
month.*

*"They'll know we are Christians by our love."*

*Annual Bishop .....Dr. J. E. Reddick  
General CE Director.....Elder Gregory Messick  
Conference CE Director.....Mother Jean P. Whitfield*

# Jayla Michelle Moore



## J. E. Reddick Scholar December 2020 Graduate

Ms. Jayla Michelle Moore, a member of St. Peter FWB Church in Snow Hill, NC is shown above as she celebrated her graduation from Campbell University with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Psychology on December 11, 2020.

Jayla is a J. E. Reddick Scholar and plans to continue her education at East Carolina University to pursue a Master and Doctorate Degree in Psychology.

Her parents are Deacon James Moore and Mother Selena Moore. She is a member of St. Peter FWB Church in Snow Hill, N. C. and her pastor is Elder William Thompson.

Congratulations Jayla.

# J. E. Reddick Scholarship

The J. E. Reddick Scholarship is separate and apart from the scholarships given by the Northwest B Conference. A formal application must be completed and submitted timely. All applications are reviewed, and the selection is made by the J. E. Reddick Scholarship Committee.

The scholarship recognizes service to the church, leadership potential, outstanding academic achievement, service to the community, and the desire to pursue higher education.

For an application, please contact Mother Jean P. Whitfield at 919.440.8256 or [ejwhitfield2002@gmail.com](mailto:ejwhitfield2002@gmail.com).

Applications must be postmarked by March 1, 2021.

\*\*\*\*\*

**“I Can Do All Things Through Christ Who Strengthens Me.”**

**Philippians 4:13**

\*\*\*\*\*

# Whitney Houston



Whitney Houston is a December 2020 graduate of East Carolina University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Nutrition and Dietetics. She plans to open many nutrition clubs and become a nutritional counselor. Whitney is a member of St. Mark UAFWB Church.

# Jamira Simmons



Jamira Simmons is a May 2020 graduate of East Carolina University where she majored in Criminal Justice. She is pursuing a career in music. She is a member of St. James.

Congratulations Whitney & Jamira!!!

# NORTHWEST B CONFERENCE 2021 BLACK HISTORY ESSAY

## “OVERCOMING CHALLENGES TO EMERGE VICTORIOUSLY”

Romans 8:37 (KJV)  
Nay, in all these things we are  
more than conquerors through  
him that loved us.



Born on October 20, 1964, Kamala Devi Harris is the Vice President-elect of the United States. A member of the Democratic Party, she is set to assume office on January 20, 2021, alongside President-elect Joe Biden. She will be the United States' first female vice president and the highest-ranking female elected official in U.S. history. Harris will also be the first Asian-American and the first African-American vice president. As a youth, Kamala would visit her father. This visit was painful because the neighborhood

children were not allowed to play with her because she was black. Although sad, this act of racism did not damage her self-confidence, and she emerged victoriously and is now the vice president-elect of the United States.

What challenges have you had to overcome, allowing you to emerge victoriously? Tell us about the lesson(s) you learned. Examples: (1) Victim of attacks by a bully (2) Extra study to learn algebra (3) Extra time to learn to play an instrument.

### ESSAY RULES

PLEASE BE INFORMED - this is not a book report about Kamala Harris and the essay should primarily address the question.

The essay should be at least 250 words.  
Double Spaced  
12 pt font  
Essays must have a Cover Sheet

Cover Sheet:  
Name  
Grade  
Church Name/Pastor Name  
District Union

Categories:  
Elementary School K-4  
Middle School 5-8  
High School 9-12

Your essay must be emailed to Dr. Sandra Coley no later than

January 10, 2021 (due to social distancing, essays are due earlier this year).

Email to:  
Countenance2003@yahoo.com

If you have any questions, please contact Dr. Coley directly at 919.221.8633  
Thank you!

**“If you  
want to  
walk on  
water,  
you’ve got  
to get out  
of the  
boat.”**

**Encouragement Corner**  
Daily dwell on God’s promises to you. Hide them in your heart and always remember, not one word has failed of all His good promises.  
*[Blessed be the Lord, that hath given rest unto his people Israel, according to all that he promised: there hath not failed one word of all his good promise, which he promised by the hand of Moses his servant.  
I King 8:56]*

# Reflections



*Dr. Sandra G. Coley*

As I reflect over the year 2020, I am in awe of how resilient we have become in shifting our places of worship from 11 o'clock Sunday morning church sanctuary to alternative places, how topics which were once considered taboo have become everyday conversations with our family and friends, how approaches to evangelism are stirring up our gifts of creativity and how we have shifted into a more intimate relationship with God. I am excited about 2021 and looking forward to the spiritual formation that will take place. It is amazing how we are being informed that God is the same yesterday, today and will be forever.

In March 2020, when an executive order went out to disband social gatherings such as church services, a shift began to happen, and some of our churches sought other ways of gathering for worship services. I am reminded of the tabernacle in the wilderness which was a portable place of worship that God

instructed the Israelites to build after they crossed the Red Sea until King Solomon built the first temple in Jerusalem. If the children of Israel endured a portable tabernacle for some 400 years, we can wait until the leadership of our local churches determine it is now time to return safely into the church building. We have studied, theoretically, that the church is on the inside of us, and now we are practicing it giving witness that worship is still happening. The church has not fallen by the wayside.

Some churches have embraced Facebook, telephone conference calls, zoom video conferencing, church parking lots, and other places for worship. Regardless of the place, our worship is the same; we hear the reading of the scriptures, prayers, singing, and people are given the opportunity for discipleship and given instruction accordingly. We observe Holy Communion, engage in fellowship, reading of the sick list and giving God praise with our lips, honking of car horns, flashing of car lights and yes, some have been known to step out the car, dance next to the car, or run around it, all while keeping a safe distance. The place has changed, but the worship is still enforced and intense.

Like the metaphor of the ball and the egg: they both were thrown to the floor; the ball bounced back up, but the egg broke and could not be put back together again. Northwest B is like the ball,

we bounce back recognizing this COVID-19 pandemic situation as a Tabernacle of Wilderness experience.

Not only are we experiencing worship in different places, but our conversations have shifted. We are being introduced to new words, alternative methods, and concepts, such as how we celebrate the life of our loved ones who have passed from labor to reward. To engage in conversation and assure we are on one accord when talking with others, it has become necessary to educate ourselves on a few terms such as:

Covid-19: Coronavirus Disease 2019; the first case was noticed in December 2019, in Wuhan in China.

Essential services: services we need to survive. These include hospitals, supermarkets, buses, electricity, and water services, and, of course, TV, radio, and online news!

Frontline staff: doctors, nurses, and other healthcare workers who treat patients with the coronavirus or encounter the virus at work.

PPE: personal protective equipment, such as gowns, masks, face shields, and gloves for healthcare workers, which helps stop them from catching the virus from patients.

Self-isolating: staying away from other people because you either have or might have the virus. Self-isolation usually lasts 14 days from the first time you feel unwell.

Underlying conditions: certain medical problems which can mean that the virus would have a much worse effect on someone.

Vaccine: This is a treatment that makes you better able to fight an infection by introducing a tiny bit of the germs into your body. It is not enough to give you the disease, but enough that your immune system knows how to fight it in the future.

Ventilator: A machine that helps you breathe.

Vulnerable groups: People who are more likely to get the virus, such as the elderly or people who already have certain medical problems.

Those of you who are parents of school-age children, students, or educators know, all too well, the concept of the virtual classroom. It brings its advantages as well as disadvantages. Students are encouraged to be disciplined, do your best, be respectful, and remember why you are in school; that being to learn. We have learned to adjust and move forward the best we know how carrying with us the Christian principles we were taught.

Funerals are one of the four ordinances we observe in the United American Free Will Baptist Denomination. Others are the Holy Communion Service, Baptism, and Weddings. All four ordinances require an ordained, licensed person to perform committal, pronouncement, and/or ceremonies. Styles of funerals and the number of people attending has somewhat

changed. Whether it is graveside only, live streaming, or in a building, a scripture or scriptures are read, prayer is given, in some instances, music is a part of the program; however, the people's mannerism is solemn and respectful. We practice the 3 W's while in attendance - Wear Mask, Wash Hands and Wait 6 feet. Death is sacred, and our celebrations of life are indeed celebratory.

God has blessed those working in the Evangelism field to be creative and intentional in their efforts. My pastor, Elder James Collins of Goldsboro Chapel, shared with the congregation that he has observed that some people are perhaps afraid of dying because they are not ready. Considering the number of reported deaths due of COVID-19 and the possibility of more deaths makes it a crucial mandate for evangelists and missionaries to be in the field. While we have the opportunity, let us cry aloud the interpretation of Romans 10:9 That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. Using your platform, EVANGELIZE to the glory of God.

Although we are wearing a mask, we can still birth a smile on the lips of people by sharing our smile with them. Practice by standing in the mirror with your mask on and smile; notice the radiance shining through the cloth. Make a

gloomy face, a sad face, an angry face, and notice the difference.

The Holy Spirit grants us access to an anointing that can be seen and felt by others. As we pass through this dark place called earth interacting with God's creations such as humanity, let us be mindful of our presence and ask God to show us how to take who we are, who we want to be, and what we can do and use it for a purpose that is greater than who we are. Let us build hope in others in that they reimagine themselves whole through Jesus Christ.

To my NWB family, these are uncertain days, but we have encountered uncertain days before, and God has always been with us and stayed with us through it all. Be encouraged knowing God is the same yesterday, at this moment, on tomorrow and will be forever. Let us enter 2021 with a determination to make good use of our stay-at-home time by spending quality time with God. Pray for ways to fight against injustices and treat people the way we want to be treated. As we continue being transformed on this journey of life, let us forever remember to trust God, forgive others and ourselves and be keenly aware that they (the world) will know we are Christians by our love.

[Dr. Coley serves as the Assistant Director of Christian Education for the Northwest B Conference.]

# CHRISTIAN EDUCATION LAY VOICES COORDINATOR



**Eldress Janice Myers, DD**

Eldress Janice E. Myers has accepted the responsibility to serve as the Lay Voices Coordinator for NWB Christian Education.

Eldress Myers is a member of St. Peter UAFWB Church in Snow Hill, NC where she serves as a Bible Study and Sunday School teacher, assists in training new ministers and local director of Christian Education. She also serves as an advisor for the youth department and is closely involved in the YPCL, NWB FAME production, and the Christian Education activities to include the Quiz Bowl and Spelling Bee.

The Lay Voices Ministry focuses on the growth in evangelism. New and current church members are expected to grow in their

Christian faith. This normal expectation stems from their involvement with other Christians and leadership of the pastor.

They are expected to bring others to Christ and/or in the church by befriending and witnessing to non-church persons. They attend church, Sunday school, Bible study, and prayer meeting regularly and are accountable for their financial obligations as a member in good standing. They also attend other church meetings and support auxiliary programs of the church.

Since the pastor and officers of the church, to include deacons, mothers, trustees, etc. already fulfill these expectations due to their role in the church, they are disqualified from Lay Voice recognition unless the new officer role was bestowed upon them since the last Lay Voice recognition; usually held during the month of August.

In the role of Lay Voices Coordinator, Eldress Myers will be responsible for planning and implementing educational and recognition programs that will fulfill the purpose of this ministry.

## Brother

**Terrence Chapman**

**Greater Mt. Zion**

*Addition to NWB Necrology  
Report of November 2020*

## A NEW YEAR'S GOAL

**OUR GOAL IS TO  
FULFILL OUR  
PURPOSE.**

**OUR PURPOSE IS  
TO BECOME A  
DISCIPLE OF  
CHRIST.**

### Encouragement Corner

The troubles we face are the same for humans everywhere, and if God has brought others through, we can depend on Him to do the same for us. He is faithful to His Word and His promises.

*[There hath no temptation taken you, but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.]*

I Corinthians 10:13 KJV

# Whole Health



Marri "Nicki" Fryar

## Mindfulness "Three Good Things"

### WHY YOU SHOULD TRY IT

In our day-to-day lives, it's easy to get caught up in the things that go wrong and feel like we're living under our own private rain cloud; at the same time, we tend to adapt to the good things and people in our lives, taking them for granted. As a result, we often overlook everyday beauty and goodness — a kind gesture from a stranger, or the warmth of our heater on a chilly morning.

In the process, we frequently miss opportunities for happiness and connection. This practice guards against those tendencies. By remembering and listing three positive things

that happened in your day and considering what caused them, you tune into the sources of goodness in your life. It's a habit that can change the emotional tone of your life, replacing feelings of disappointment or entitlement with those of gratitude, which may be why this practice is associated with significant increases in happiness.

***10 minutes/day for at least one week.***

**HOW TO DO IT** - Each day for at least one week, write down three things that went well for you today, and provide an explanation for why they went well. It is important to create a physical record of your items by writing them down; it is not enough simply to do this exercise in your head. The items can be relatively small in importance (e.g., "my neighbor cut my grass today") or relatively large (e.g., "I paid my mortgage today"). To make this exercise part of your daily routine, some find that writing before bed is helpful.

As you write, follow these instructions:

1. Give the event a title (e.g., "my neighbor cut my grass today").
2. Write down exactly what happened in as much detail as possible, including what you did or said and, if others were involved, what they did or said.
3. Include how this event made you feel at the time and how this event made you feel later

(including now, as you remember it).

4. Explain what you think caused this event—why it came to pass.
5. Use whatever writing style you please, and do not worry about perfect grammar and spelling. Use as much detail as you'd like.
6. If you find yourself focusing on negative feelings, refocus your mind on the good event and the positive feelings that came with it.

This can take effort but gets easier with practice and can make a real difference in how you feel.

**WHY IT WORKS** - By giving you the space to focus on the positive, this practice teaches you to notice, remember, and savor the better things in life. It may prompt you to pay closer attention to positive events down the road and engage in them more fully—both in the moment and later on, when you can reminisce and share these experiences with others. Reflecting on the cause of the event may help attune you to the deeper sources of goodness in your life, fostering a mindset of gratitude.

**SOURCES:** Jeffrey Huffman, M.D., Harvard Medical School, Massachusetts General Hospital  
Sonja Lyubomirsky, Ph.D., University of California, Riverside

[Marri 'Nicki' Fryar, MBA, MHA, BSN-RN, NE-BC, VHA-CM. Associate Director, Patient Care Services, Durham VA Health Care System, Durham, N. C.]



# Concerns at the Local Church Level: Reaching the Next Generation

When presented with a list of possible challenges facing their church, half of Protestant pastors note that “reaching a younger audience” (51%) is a major issue for their ministry. Just over one-third of pastors (34%) marked this statement as a top three concern for their church, with 12 percent noting it as the top concern.

Half of pastors also agree that “declining or inconsistent outreach and evangelism” is a major issue facing their local church. Of all the pastors who affirm this statement, exactly two in five or 40% say it falls within their top three concerns, with 14% agreeing it is their largest concern.

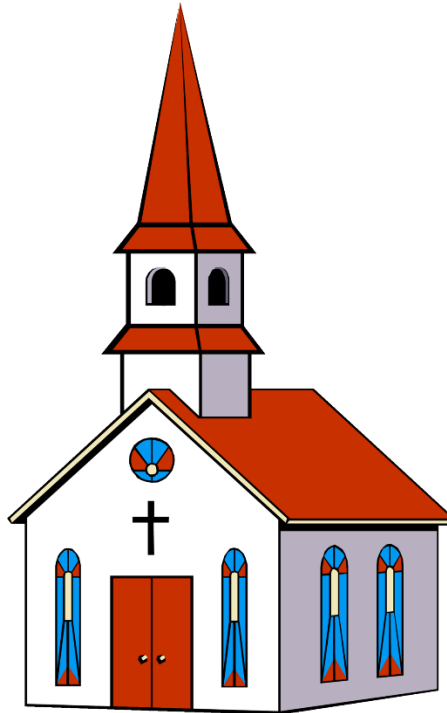
The findings above fall in step with past studies which offer a glimpse into the ups and downs of ministry work. One such example shows that “low spiritual maturity among churchgoers” has been an increasing pain point for pastors over the years.

Meanwhile, the practice of evangelism has fallen out of favor



Sharon Sauls

{Excerpts from research by Barna Group 2020 and shared with our readers by Sister Sharon Sauls.}



even with young adults who are practicing Christians.

Overall, more than one in three pastors note that “declining or inconsistent volunteering” is an issue facing their ministry today, with about one-quarter saying it is one of the top three problems. Similar proportions express worry in regard to “stagnating spiritual growth”.

One in four United States pastors select “lack of leadership training and development” as a major concern facing their church today. In terms of developing young leaders, data featured in both *The State of Pastors and Leadership Transitions* reports show that as of 2017, only 15% of senior pastors were 40 years old or younger, echoing the need for younger pastors in ministry. *The State of Pastors* research also showed that 7 in 10 United States pastors agree “it is becoming harder to find mature young Christians who want to become pastors.”

For their recent poll, Barna also asked pastors to rate issues facing the Christian Church at large in the U. S. While a variety of issues were mentioned, a few concerns related to strong discipleship and teaching during an era of secularization bubbled to the top. U. S. pastors rank “watered down Gospel teachings” as the largest issue.

**Questions or Comments**  
Contact Mother Jean P. Whitfield  
[ejwhitfield2002@gmail.com](mailto:ejwhitfield2002@gmail.com)

*The following poem is being shared with our readers by Sister Ethel Patrick, age 92, of Jerusalem UAFWB Church.*

### THE TRAIN THAT WENT TO HELL

The train was crammed from the front to the rear  
The devil himself was the engineer.  
The plead for life I can almost hear,  
On the HELL BOUND TRAIN.

There were men and women among the crowd,  
The high, the low, the meek, and the proud.  
There were beautiful women and the handsomest  
men, Who had gambled their souls for the  
price of sin.

There were rich men most wealthy, among the crew  
Deacons, church members, and ministers, too.  
There were elders on crutches and others on canes,  
All trapped within the HELL BOUND TRAIN.

There were men of all races, men of great names,  
Men of sound knowledge and wisdom and fame.  
There were men of all creeds, the young and the old  
Who had gambled with Satan for the price of their  
soul.

They were all in the aisle, and packed in their seats,  
And tied with chains both hands and feet.  
The windows and all of the doors were chained,  
There was no escape from the HELL BOUND TRAIN.

Satan took his seat and the journey began  
To eternal damnation, "The Result of Sin".  
Now one of the prisoners among the crowd  
Gathered the strength to say,  
Satan, "what have we done that we deserve to be  
treated in such a way?"

"What have we done," cried the others,  
"that we deserve to be punished by you!?"

"Well, I'll tell you, said the devil,  
You did what I told you to.

You've lived the way I told you to live  
and said all I told you to say;  
And unfortunately, that is why  
your souls are lost today!"

But Satan you said we'd never be lost  
if we gave our lives to you,

"Of course I did, the devil sneered,  
what else was I to do!"

And then he laughed an awful laugh that made his  
body shake;

And threw his head back on his shoulders  
And tears of joy streamed down his face.  
But Satan, said one, "you said, I was too young  
To give up the pleasures of life.  
You said I should wait and when I got old  
I could give my heart to Christ".  
You told me, said the wealthy, "that I was too rich  
and I didn't need God's GRACE.  
You said if I gave him all that I had  
Then my wealth would go to waste."  
You told me, said the haughty, that "I was  
Too proud to humble myself to CHRIST  
You said I could do without Him, and I didn't  
Need Him in my life."  
I lied, said the devil and you were all fools,  
To heed my words and obey.  
And indeed, I've been most clever  
To have blinded you in this way.  
Why friends, you've been faithful; you endured to  
the end,  
You've labored hard in the ways of sin.  
You hardened your heart and closed your eyes  
And shut your ears to the Word of God!  
You've worshipped me, is this not true?  
So as faithful servants, I must pay you.  
You've finished your course, so I'll carry you  
through,  
After all dear servant, that's the least I can do!  
And then he laughed and awful laugh that made his  
body shake,  
And threw his head back on his shoulders  
As tears of joy streamed down his face!  
But Satan you told us much too plain that this would  
never be!  
"Then you were fools, the devil sneered, to put your  
trust in me!"  
And so I have deceived you and brought you this  
fate,  
At last you're waking up, but now, it's too late!  
For when CHRIST desired to save your soul,  
You turned your back on Him  
And because you did, you cannot live,  
For death is the price of sin!  
Mercy Satan mercy! Came the million cries  
But Satan laughed and simply said "Merciless am I.  
You had your chance, you made your choice,  
You chose to live for me

Now give me one good reason why I should  
set you free.

But they cried still all the louder  
Please have mercy on our souls, but Satan turned to  
answer and his voice was hard and cold.

Why should my heart be softened and surrender to  
your cries,

When the Bible told you plainly that the soul that  
Sins shall die!

And then he laughed an awful laugh that made his  
body shake; and threw his head back on his  
shoulders, and tears of joy streamed down his face!

But, they cried, "just give us time to fix our hearts  
And to change our minds."

But he answered, "when you were called to bow,  
You wouldn't take heed, It's too late now".

He laughed and laughed and his body shook;  
He laughed with all of his might,

For they struggled in vain to loose their chains  
But Satan had bound them tight!

They cried and they pleaded; they screamed and  
they moaned;

They begged and they panicked, they shrieked and  
they groaned!

There was never a more heart breaking sound,  
Than the plead from the souls on the  
train Hell Bound!

And I can see the devil grin

When he laughs and say "Because you've sinned  
You shall die!"

Now the train moved on at an awful pace,  
As hot winds scorched their hands and face;  
When out of the distance arose such a yell  
"OH LOOK!" cried the devil, "we're now nearing  
HELL."

And then how the prisoners screamed in pain  
And begged the devil to stop the train.  
Some peered out the window at the horrible sight,  
For ahead in the distance, brisk smoke filled the  
night!

And in their despair, some fell to their knees,  
And begged the devil to set them free.

Others knelt down and began to pray  
But it was too late, for now they must pay  
For the work, which they had done.

"We're almost there," the devil said  
And now in the distance, they saw flames ahead.

And they twisted and pulled and struggled in vain,  
For their hands were tied and their feet were  
chained!

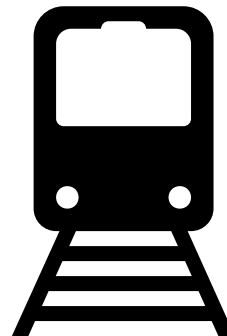
The windows and doors were all shut fast,  
The people screamed and the devil laughed!  
Some looked around and THERE WAS NO ESCAPE!  
So they covered their eyes and buried their face.

Women fainted and fell to the floor,  
for the horror of HELL was too much to ENDURE!  
Satan out laughed each scream and out laughed  
each groan,

He laughed louder than ever plea and moan.  
He laughed louder than every useless appeal  
For Satan was shrewd and he laughs even STILL!

As The high, the low,  
The rich and the poor were gone to hell....  
to return no more!!!  
REPENT OR PERISH!

Author Unknown



**BEWARE**

#1 Wherever there is  
a stand for right, the  
devil is there to start  
a fight.

#2 The devil cannot  
be seen, but his  
spirit can be felt.

# HAPPY NEW YEAR



Welcome to Flight #2021

We are preparing to take off into the New Year. ✈️

Please make sure your Attitude and Blessings are secured and locked in an upright position.

All self-destructive devices should be turned off at this time.

All negativity, hurt, and discouragement should be put away.

Should we lose Altitude under pressure, during the flight, reach up and pull down a Prayer.

Prayers will automatically be activated by Faith.

Once your Faith is activated you can assist other passengers.

There will be NO BAGGAGE allowed on this flight.

The Captain (GOD) has cleared us for takeoff.

Destination GREATNESS.