

# *the* BELLRINGER



Official Newsletter of Holman UMC



*Faith and Our Fathers*

JUNE 2024

## OUR MISSION

To fulfill the Great Commission by inviting people into discipleship with Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

## OUR VISION

*A place where bells are rung as we  
GATHER for dynamic worship,  
GROW through inspired learning,  
GO into joyful service, and  
LIVE the gospel of Jesus Christ.*

Cover art available <https://christianclipartreview.blogspot.com/2017/03/african-american-father-and-son.html>

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# I Am Chosen

I am Chosen...

awake at new dawning

eyes open and adjusting

first steps made trusting

that my life extends...

daily bread served as soul's rest ends.

I am Chosen...

to shine while rising

in gratitude for breath

that cleanses the palate of morning's distaste

and slumber's death.

As I exhale and take air that grace travels on

delivering a melody

familiar

a single lyric song in first light's silence

I hear singing as my spirit lifts

My heartsong

ringing out affirmation's gift

clearly spoken

I AM says

I am Chosen

Christian Washington  
"UR Significant"

# JUNE PREACHING SCHEDULE

## RE-VISION SERIES

- June 2 Rev. Christian Washington  
“Discerning the Next Decade” (John 4:16-21 MSG)
- June 9 Rev. Christian Washington  
“Promised Land Prosperity: 10 Years from Today”  
(Joshua 23:1-11 NIV)
- June 16 Rev. Christian Washington  
“Promised Land Problems: 5 Years from Today”  
(Joshua 1:1-9 NLT)
- June 23 Rev. Christian Washington  
“Promised Land Possibilities: 1 year from today”  
(Hebrews 12:1-3)
- June 30 Rev. Christian Washington  
“Promised Land Preparation: Commitment Sunday”  
(Joshua 5:1-9 NLT)



### WEDNESDAY NOONTIME ZOOM PRAYER

JUNE 12 @ 12:00 PM

JUNE 19 @ 12:00 PM

JUNE 26 @ 12:00 PM

MEETING ID: 863 8970 6849

PASSCODE: 492010

PHONE IN: (669) 444-9171

<https://us06web.zoom.us/>

## A word from the *Bellringer*

The *Bellringer* gratefully acknowledges a generous individual gift that will allow us to offer copies in color to sick and shut-in members for a year. June 2024 will be our first sponsored color issue.

Please consider contributing an article, photo or, announcement to one of the next issues. Send your content to the attention of one of the editors listed below, using the email address: [info@holmanumc.com](mailto:info@holmanumc.com).

### Editorial Board

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Ida Younge

#### Testimonials

Sharon Jackson

#### June Issue

Celebrating Graduates

Father's Day

Black Music Month

Pastor Washington Recognition

#### July Issue

Welcome Pastor Victor Cyrus-Franklin

Recognize Holman Nonagenarians

## Calling All Nonagenarians

*The Bellringer would like to  
interview you for our  
July issue!*



Pastor Christian raves about Mrs. Mary Johnson, "She's 96 and still DRIVES to church every Sunday from Rancho Cucamonga!!!"

Send your name, photo, and  
contact info to:

[caroline@holmanumc.com](mailto:caroline@holmanumc.com)

# JUNE 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>2 Pentecost 2</p> <p>8am Worship Service 9:30 Adult Sunday School 11am Worship Service</p> <p>"Discerning the Next Decade" (John 4:16-21 MSG)</p>	3	<p>4</p> <p>11:00-1:00 Hldman Staff Meeting (voicemail only)</p> <p>5:30 Lay Leader</p>	<p>5</p> <p>7:00 Discover Significance Bootcamp (L. L. White Hall)</p>	<p>6</p> <p>1pm Bible Study</p>	<p>7</p> <p>7:30am Prayer Service and Holy Communion</p>	<p>8</p> <p>10am-3pm All-Church TCI Retreat</p>
<p>9 Pentecost 3</p> <p>8am Worship Service 9:30 Adult Sunday School 11am Worship Service</p> <p>"Promised Land Prosperity: 10 Years from Today" (Joshua 23:1-11 NIV)</p>	10	<p>11</p> <p>11:00-1:00 Hldman Staff Meeting (voicemail only)</p> <p>6:30pm SPPRC</p>	<p>12</p> <p>12 pm Prayer Shawl Ministry</p>	<p>13</p> <p>1pm Bible Study</p>	<p>14</p> <p>7:30am Prayer Service and Holy Communion</p>	<p>15</p> <p>9am HUMM</p> <p>DEADLINE: Claudia Whitmore / Beatrice Borders Memorial Scholarship</p>
<p>16 Pentecost 4</p> <p>FATHER'S DAY</p> <p>8am Worship Service 9:30 Adult Sunday School 11am Worship Service</p> <p>3pm BMCR Mtg</p> <p>"Promised Land Problems: 5 Years from Today" (Joshua 7:2-13 NIV)</p>	17	<p>18</p> <p>11:00-1:00 Hldman Staff Meeting (voicemail only)</p> <p>7pm Trustee Board</p>	<p>19 Juneteenth</p> <p>OFFICE CLOSED</p> 	<p>20</p> <p>1pm Bible Study</p>	<p>21</p> <p>7:30am Prayer Service and Holy Communion</p>	22
<p>23 Pentecost 5</p> <p>8am Worship Service 9:30 Adult Sunday School 11am Worship Service</p> <p>"Promised Land Possibilities: 1 Year from Today" (Joshua 1:1-9 NLT)</p>	24	<p>25</p> <p>11:00-1:00 Hldman Staff Meeting (voicemail only)</p> <p>6:30pm Finance</p>	<p>26</p> <p>12pm Prayer Shawl Ministry</p>	<p>27</p> <p>1pm Bible Study</p> <p>6pm Stewardship</p>	<p>28</p> <p>7:30am Prayer Service and Holy Communion</p>	29
<p>30 Pentecost 6</p> <p>8am Worship Service 9:30 Adult Sunday School 11am Worship Service</p> <p>"Promised Land Preparation: Commitment Sunday" (Joshua 5:1-9 NLT)</p>	31	28	29	<p>30</p> <p>1pm Bible Study</p>	<p>31</p> <p>7:30am Prayer Service and Holy Communion</p>	1

**Beyond the Battlefield 24/7 PRAYER LINE**  
**Bible Study (Phone)**  
**Prayer Service (Phone)**  
**Adult Sunday School Class**  
**Children's Ministry/Sunday School**

**(323) 703-1545**  
 (605) 313-4179/Code: 399683  
 (605) 313-4179/Code: 399683  
 Sundays @ 9:30 a.m.  
[Electronic newsletter](#)



# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

## *June Celebrants*

DIANE BERNSTEIN  
DAWN WEEKS GLENN  
HOWARD HOBSON II  
RICK ALLEN PERSAUD  
JANE WILSON LUCY

HAZEL STOREY

MARY BOYD

JUNE BLEAVINS

BRIGETTE THOMPSON

DARNELL MITCHELL-CLAY

JOAN GILL

SAUNDRA VARNADO-WILBURN

KAROLYN HAMM

VIVIAN HALL

MAUREEN NEAL

JOANN LANCASTER-WILLIAMS

KERRY L. NORWOOD

WALTER CATHEY, SR.

JACK HAYES

RICARDO LJ MOWATT

KLARKE HOBSON

Bless them with Your presence and surround them with Your love,  
that they may enjoy many happy years, all of them pleasing to You.

*United Methodist Book of Worship*



# Faith and Our Fathers: How I Learned a Practical Lesson of Faith

by Sandra Thompson Bishop



Let me take you back to when I was about five to seven or eight years old. I was a little tomboy and loved to climb trees, play marbles, jump off the garage roof (it was low), and the banister on the front porch.

I always looked forward to when my Dad came home from work. You could set your watch with his timing. I would watch the clock, and a few minutes before I knew he would be coming home, I would go to the front porch (it was three steps high) and climb upon the banister railing.

My Dad would pull up in front of the house, and I waited excitedly for him to get out of the car and walk up toward the porch. As he approached the porch, I would yell, “Catch me!” and jump off the banister. And guess what? He caught me every time. The banister was high for a little kid, and I had to also jump over the brick planter (and plants) that was below the porch - did I say I was also a dare-devil? I did this until I grew too tall and heavy for my Dad to catch a ‘flying object’ and he told me that I would have to stop jumping off the porch.

My Dad and I used to have wonderful conversations about everything, especially the Bible and how our beliefs as Christians shaped our lives. I was a young adult and one day Dad and I were talking. I asked him about having faith and what that meant. We know what the Bible says, but his very practical way of explaining faith to me was this: He asked if I remembered jumping off the porch when I was a child. Sure, I did. He then said, “You used to yell ‘Catch me!’ and would just jump, not knowing if I was close enough or if I had my lunch pail in my hand. You just jumped and, each time, I caught you.”

He then said, “That is the how we practice faith in God. You jump in faith, and trust that God will always catch you. Every day we step out on faith and trust that God will have our back no matter what the day will bring.



*Sandra Thompson Bishop* is Chair of the Holman United Methodist Church SPPRC

# *Holman Honors the Class of '24*



**Kenneth Alan Brown '24**

Master of Music, Trumpet Performance  
University of California - Los Angeles  
Herb Alpert School of Music



Devin Lawson '24

Los Angeles Center for Enriched Studies (LACES)  
California State University Northridge (CSUN)

# Thank You, Pastor Christian



Pastor Christian has had and continues to have a profound impact on the collective psyche of our congregation. Pastor Christian's transparency, careful translation and integration of scripture as it relates to the human condition, and boldness in his asks of us are like fresh dew revitalizing the congregation's spirit. Pastor Christian is a model of John the Baptist, making way for Pastor Victor Cyrus-Franklin to lead Holman UMC based on divine possibilities! Glory to God for sending His messenger, Pastor Christian to reignite the weekly mantra of truth within the congregation, "We are significant because God says so and we were created to do significant things!" Amen.

May our Lord bless and keep his servant,  
Pastor Christian

Joyce Burrell Garcia

Pastor Christian was exceptionally motivating, which made us feel that we were in L.A. and not traveling. His ability to demonstrate the Scripture via YouTube so that youth could relate was very inspiring. Most of all Pastor Christian was no stranger to anyone. We feel that we met him personally. May God be with Pastor Christian always!

**Dr. Bettye and Prof. Hal Walker**



I appreciate the leadership and consideration that Pastor Washington has exhibited. He has the amazing gift to empower and elevate those around him. He is an amazing person and his patience with us serving in many capabilities in the church was very helpful. Wishing him and his family the best.

**Reginald Grant**



Pastor Washington has brought us joyous, Christ-centered and educational sermons...his laughter and speaking skills and pure appreciation for life so much complementing the outstanding leadership of Pastor and Michelle Walden who shepherded us through the pandemic. Earnest and I are grateful that Holman selected Pastor Washington for this season in the life of our church. Thank you, Pastor Washington...you are always welcome in our lives. We look forward to remaining involved in our church and we welcome Pastor Victor Cyrus-Franklin.

Gratefully,

**“Peggy” Margaret and Earnest Preacely  
Long Beach**



Pastor Christian has infused a new Rebirth Spirit in the congregation @ Holman. Personally, his sermons have been Educational, Inspiring and have propelled me into a new space of "Significance." Thank you Pastor Christian for all you have done in your brief tenure @ Holman and for all you continue to do...

Love & Respect,

**Ricardo**

I appreciate all Pastor Washington has done to reinvigorate the Children and Youth ministries. His call to action to all congregants regarding Holman's future and its legacy has been a great reminder to us that God is not done with us and there is so much more ahead for us as a congregation. I wish him many blessings in his calling and look forward to him continuing in partnership with us in the future.

**Deborah A. Mitchell**



What I most enjoyed about Rev Washington was how he was able to get participation from the congregation either by song or letting everyone know that they are significant. Enjoyed Rev. Washington's personal journey about seeking therapy as a Black man.

**Cynthia Matthews**



Pastor Washington has been so passionate and inclusive about what he brings to Holman UMC. Each service or class continues to be engaging and a learning opportunity to grow as a church/individual in faith and our walk with Christ. Thank you! May God continue to bless you as you move forward on your journey.

**Linda Hillary  
Telephone Care Ministry**



I am so grateful for Holman UMC that we have experienced the strong leadership and impact Rev. Christian Washington has had during his service as our interim pastor! He has sparked new hope in not only rebuilding our church but inspiring us to greater heights. His gifted manner of developing and delivering sermons, I would think, have touched some area of need for each and everyone who has heard them. I pray for his continued anointing to reach, teach, and lead in whatever new assignments God has for him.

Blessings, Rev. Washington,

**Jo Isabel-Jones**

OMG...Pastor Washington has lit the flame of opportunity and insight in my heart and soul. He is absolutely breathtaking. I have never enjoyed church so much. His sermons were captivating. I learned so much more about love and what true love is from our Heavenly Father and the love we have for each other. What love is and what love ain't!

Before Pastor Washington came to our church. I was going through some personal things that needed sorting out. But his passion for the Lord and his word, his sermons and all the energy he brought have helped change my trajectory. I am on the true path of healing.

Thank you Pastor Washington. You are and have done God's work for Holman United Methodist Church. You've opened hearts and minds. You've unknowingly opened hearts to others to assist them in finding purpose. You've also encouraged us that, no matter how life begins for you, you can change your outcome. With God...therapy and effort, there is nothing that you can't do when God lays His hand on it.

Again, Pastor Washington was a blessing to us all. God bless everything that has to do with him and for him. Thank you Sir, you are truly ONE OF KIND! When God made Pastor Washington, he for sure broke that mold!

He will be missed! I truly thank God for your time with us.

THANK YOU!

**Carmen Hayes**



Pastor Washington, thanks for blessing Holman with your knowledge, tutelage, and kind, loving spirit. You have really stepped in to keep Holman moving forward and upward, and we were blessed to have you. Continue your success and please come back from time to time and bless us with your beautiful voice.

Blessings,

**Robert Rodgers**  
**Finance Chair**

Reverend Washington, you brought such love, such insight and revelation to us. You revived, renewed and restored our spirit, our hearts, our souls for God, lifted us up, inspired and motivated us. You brought joy and light to our lives. You made us remember how to smile, how to laugh again. You were the answer to our prayers. Thank God for answering our prayers through you.

God bless you and keep you, enfold you in his love and care.

Lots of love and appreciation

**Ethel Edison**



Pastor Christian, you are a breath of fresh air and I am grateful for your time with the Holman Church family. You have planted seeds for the work of God at Holman. We are now charged to water these seeds that they may grow, bloom, and bear fruit, indeed destroying the box and serving hand in hand, and heart to heart with church and community as one. As followers of Jesus, may your example propel us to continue to move forward as the significant people that God has created us to be, individually and collectively, doing significant things for the Kingdom. Praying blessings beyond for you and Johanne as you continue in ministry and service with God's people everywhere, that his Kingdom may come on earth as it is in heaven.

Joy, Grace & Peace,

**Joni Arlain**



I have truly enjoyed having Christian Washington as our interim pastor. His sermons are heartfelt, educational, and even a bit fun. I look forward to hearing his words of wisdom every week. He has opened up to our congregation. It is refreshing to see the human side of our Pastor. I hope he will fill in when Rev. Victor is away from the pulpit. Thank you Rev Washington for showing us a new style of worship.

Love,

**Karen Middleton-Hill**

Pastor Washington has given inspiring/relevant sermons each Sunday, allowing us to utilize his message in our daily lives. I feel the congregation is more united regarding the direction we want to take to grow the church. I wish him blessings in the future.

**Sandra Hardy**



Thanks Dr. Washington for delivering enlightening sermons that have uplifted us, educated us, and increased our spiritual journey. You have lit a fire within Holman and we appreciate your devotion to assisting us. God be with you as you continue your spiritual quest.

Stay Blessed,

**Camille**



Pastor Washington,

You are significant and you taught us ALL how to be significant and to do significant things! We will ALL be forever grateful for the life changing messages you have shared each and every week! You will be sorely missed and I pray you will do wellness check ups from time to time!

**Melida**



Pastor Christian thank you so very much for blessing Holman with your positive, energetic and loving spirit. Thank you also for shining the light on foster care and supporting the work of 3FN. We will miss you! Please don't be a stranger!

**Nancy Harris**  
**Holman Member**  
**3FN Executive Director**



Thank you, Thank you, Thank you, for always being available and kind! I truly appreciate you on and before the days of our family event. You will always be in our prayers!

**Cynthia Marroquin-Henley**

Pastor Washington,

Your positive energy, messaging and knowledge are deeply appreciated. Thank you for providing us with fresh perspectives to propel us forward in our journey of growth, while also preserving the enduring legacy of Holman with hope and relevance. Your support in uplifting and encouraging the music and all essential ministries of the church is invaluable. Special gratitude goes to you, Pastor Washington, for your exceptional leadership, guidance and innovative contributions throughout the Lenten Season. Your creativity and insights greatly enriched the experience for the entire congregation, making it a truly profound and meaningful journey.

Blessings,

**William Campbell, Jr.**  
**Choir Director**

**Sheila V. Faulk**  
**Lenten Task Force**  
**Chairperson**



Pastor Christian has been a tremendous boost to our church community:

- Inspiring sermons
- Bringing attention to who and what we are as a church in a manner that most can, or should be able to understand
- He's brought a sense of vision to the church; something that has been sorely missing.
- He's helping many to understand that church is not only a place for worship but is also a business ... God's business.

**David R. Sears**



Thank you Pastor Christian for the energy, and vitality you brought to the pulpit with sermons based on solid Biblical principles. I also enjoyed the way you would weave songs in that tracked the message. Thanks as well for leading the 5 Love Languages Bible Study. I learned a lot about what's important to me. Finally thanks for leading the 4 week Boot Camp on moving a vision to reality in 90 Days... permission granted!!!

Holman has truly been blessed by your ministry leadership.

Yours in Christ,

**E. Lynn Matthews**

It has been a pleasure to work and worship at Holman with Pastor Christian Washington. Throughout this interim period, he has reminded the Holman family of the great things that are within our grasp.

We thank God for blessing him to teach and serve on all occasions with great creativity and exuberance.

It is with gratitude for his insight that we will use our renewed skills and mindset to destroy fear, communicate in love, strategically plan, and build bridges for a joyful future in ministry. Truly, this is God's plan for all of us.

May Pastor Christian always claim the Holman family as his own.

With appreciation,

**Alvairene Scott**



“Where would we be without God’s forgiveness? That is what Rev. Washington has enlightened me with.”

**Ernestine Smith**



Pastor Washington, thank for supporting Holman's ongoing programs and emphasizing intergenerational activities. A special appreciation for the original Seder service.

**Elton and Gloria Bailey**



Dear Rev. Washington,

I do sincerely appreciate your leadership during this inflection point in our Holman Family journey.

Your sermons have been inspiring, motivational and filled with God’s message. You never cease to educate and provoke curiosity to learn more about God’s word and purpose for our lives.

Thanks so much for sharing so much of yourself with us.

In gratitude,

**Alnita Dunn**

Where to begin this I am not quite sure. I must admit that I am a mix of emotions. I guess I would start with gratitude; gratitude for having the opportunity to be guided, work alongside and get to know such a passionate, engaging and dynamic speaker and person as Rev. Christian Washington. His transparency from day one about his motives, his calling, and his life has been refreshing and inspirational to say the least. His willingness to be an advocate for the people of Holman - both present and future - has been done seamlessly, providing a safe space for all to be heard and touching all generations.

Speaking as a young adult – at least that’s how I see myself - as well as a parent, spouse and in so many other domains of my life, I have experienced growth. I am all the more confident of my significance and I regularly “borrow” but really share insights from his messages and teachings with others because that which is good, is worth sharing.

I am so grateful for his ability to resonate with my children in particular and the way in which they have been able to articulate their faith and their desire for a continued relationship with God much because of his delivery and personality, hence, connection to them. In a world where our children are being bombarded with more of everything ungodly, it has been my desire for my children to transition truly into seeking God for themselves and Rev. Washington has been key to that in these short months.

And did I mention my increased understanding of my love language and showing up for others that may have a different love language! So back to that word gratitude...I am grateful for our meeting. I am grateful for his time as Interim Pastor at such a time as this. I am grateful for getting to know him and his wife, Johanne, and only wish there were more time. But what I know, is that this relationship is not over. I am grateful for the time had and know that God has more work for him to do.

So while sad to see you go, I am excited for your journey! And what I want you to know is that Los Angeles welcomes you home anytime! That Holman loves you and The Brown family loves you and there is nothing you can do about it!

**Atta’ya Reed-Brown**



Pastor Washington,

Thank you for shepherding the Holman flock during this period of transition. Your infusion of energy and messages of inclusion and self-evaluation have served as a call to action as we move forward strengthening our ministries and sharing the Good News in the greater community. Your willingness to share your story and engage others in exploring God's hand upon their lives has been a blessing. And I really enjoyed a "singing preacher." Continue to "Walk in the Light."

**Donna Richardson**  
**Greeters Ministry**



The **Holman United Methodist Men** acknowledge Rev. Christian Washington for his leadership, vision and passion for the church while serving as Senior Pastor. There is always a "Take away" in your sermons. We are better for your presence. **YOU ARE SIGNIFICANT.**

Thank you.



Dear Pastor Washington,

I'm so glad we, all of us here at Holman, had the opportunity to spend our Sundays, Wednesday, Saturdays with you Learning we are Significant and we do Significant things. Thank you for helping us to realize and recognize others as significant and show our appreciation for each of them and all the good things they do.

You are Significant, and I thank you for sharing your spiritual gifts of leadership, knowledge, humor, caring, timing, wisdom, memory, gratitude, singing, patience, peace and joy with all of us at Holman.

Blessings Always,

**Connye Thomas**  
**Holman UWF, Executive Board**  
**Harriet Tubman UWF Circle**  
**Holman Lay Servant**

As I reflect on our time together as part of the Holman Family, I am filled with gratitude for the remarkable impact you've had on our church community. Your leadership, guided by your heart and spirit, has been a source of inspiration and joy to us all. Your transparency has allowed us to form a deep connection with you, and we are grateful for the way you've become a part of our lives.

Your presence has been a blessing, and we thank you for the many ways you've served us. Your teaching, guidance, and encouragement have been a steady source of strength and comfort. Your ability to listen, mourn with us, and celebrate with us has created a sense of belonging and community that we cherish.

Your beautiful voice has been a gift to us, whether through your sermons or singing. Your passion for ministry is contagious, and we've been inspired by your commitment to guiding us on our Christian journey.

Please know that we are deeply grateful for your presence among us. Your dedication to our church has been evident in every way, and we are so thankful for the love, care, and guidance you've shown us over the past four months. Thank you, thank you, thank you for being called into ministry with us. We are blessed to have you as part of our family.

Your Sister in Christ,

**Toy R. Hightower**



# May in Review









*Opposite:* Assisted by former Associate Pastor Rev. Paul Hill, the Rev. Gary Bernard Williams baptized third-generation Holmanite Micah Jules Russell, flanked by his parents Herman and Kimberly Green-Russell. *Center:* Proud grandfather Jules Green with the newest member of the body of Christ. *Left:* Hospitality ministers strike a pose.

*Below:* Pastor Christian visits with Dr. Quinton James and family.



# God Is Good All the Time! Sharing My Testimony

by Sharon Jackson

Life is full of surprises. Things you wouldn't expect to happen, happen, and some things you do expect happen because of the circumstances. You see, the Lord sets your paths, and it's up to you to make the right choices.

What happened at my job at an elementary school a long time ago was bizarre. The school I used to work at had its ups and downs.

It was lunchtime for the children and staff. I was going to stay in the classroom and finish some schoolwork for the kids during lunchtime, but I was hungry, so I decided to stop working and go to the cafeteria to eat.

As I walked down the hall passing the front office, I saw a co-worker, running toward the front door. She was crying. I was going to mind my own business when I had the urge to stop her. I grabbed her arm and stopped her from running out the door and asked her, "What's wrong?"

She looked at me with rage and with tears in her eyes and told me, "I don't want to talk about it, and you can't stop me."

I wondered what she meant by that. At the moment, I was hoping and praying that I could help her.

So I asked her again what had happened. I told her, "I'm not going to stop you; I just want to know."

My friend started crying again and told me that four people working at the school had been talking about her and laughing at her. This had been going on for many months. She told me that they also had been picking on her oldest, an 8-year-old daughter (who attended the school). In one instance, the teacher made her daughter cry by benching her at recess so she couldn't play. There never was a reason why her daughter was benched.

My coworker yelled out, saying, "I'm going home to get my gun and stop all of this.

My eyes got big, and I had a chill over me. This was serious.

Everyone was at lunch.

I didn't want her to walk out that door.

No one was in the hallway.

I had faith that it would work out.

She started for the door again. I grabbed her again by the arm.

She said, "You're not going to stop me."

I started feeling confident, like my guardian angel was near me.

So I said again, "I'm not going to stop you, but I just want to ask you a question."

She answered, "What is it?"

“When you do this, who is going to take care of your children while you are in jail.” My coworker has four children. “Your husband will be devastated and they may take your kids away, too.”

She looked at me and started crying again. She said, “I knew you were going to do this, talk me out of this.”

All I could do was give my friend a big hug while she cried it out. I told her to report all that she had told me to our school principal.

She stayed at school the rest of that day and went home to her children. She called me later that evening and said, “Thank you so much for helping me not to get into trouble.”

Later that month, those people were reprimanded for bullying. They received pink slips.

Good is good all the time!



The Lord is a refuge for the oppressed,  
a stronghold in times of trouble.  
Those who know your name trust in you,  
for you, Lord, have never forsaken  
those who seek you.

**Psalm 9:9-10**

*Sharon Jackson*

Share Your Testimony

God is good all the time! If you have a testimony, you wouldn't mind sharing about what the Lord has done for you, please send it to my attention at this address:

[info@holmanumc.com](mailto:info@holmanumc.com)

Artwork available at <https://wallpapersafari.com/w/08T7Xo>

# Words of Appreciation

We are grateful to all who sponsored Easter lilies to prepare our sanctuary for worship on Easter Day

**Darlene Allen**

*In memory of Ruth F. Sloan*

**Lori Allison-Addison**

*In memory of Pearlene Allison*

**Elton Bailey**

**Gloria Bailey**

**Dr. Earl and Sue Barner**

*In memory of our mothers Lola Waits and Ben-  
nie Barner*

**Diane E. Bernstein**

*In memory of Elijah Hodges, Geraldine Hodges,  
Gary Bernstein, and Madge Abrams*

**Deborah Birch**

*In memory of my beautiful mother,  
Ida Thomas  
In honor of my wonderful godmother,  
Connie Thomas*

**Juanita Cannon**

*In memory of Rebecca & Aristide Sewell and  
Roberta & Noah Cannon  
In honor of Clifford & Antoinette Cannon and  
Clifford, Jamaul, Kirsten, and Preston Cannon*

**Francine Davis**

*In memory of Dr. George W. Davis, M/M John A.  
Cloud and M/M C.W. Hayes  
In honor of Phillip Cloud (brother) and Rosalind  
C. Ricks (sister)*

**Vilma and Ivar Dawson**

*In memory of Jacqueline "Jackie" Hawthorne,  
Wilber, Winston Babb Sr., Elma & Raymond  
Bramham*

**Alpha Dixon**

*In memory of Evelyn Gray Dixon*

**Alnita Dunn**

*In memory of Paul Dunn  
In honor of Amara Berry and Mikaela Berry*

**Joann Fletcher**

**Merlene Fuller**

*In memory of Collet Fuller  
In honor of Nathaniel Flowers*

**Patrice Grant**

**Helen T. Harris**

*In memory of Helen T. Lucas, mother*

**Kirsten Hayes**

*In memory of Daniel Gregory Anderson, Sr.  
In honor of Flemon Ingram, Jr.*

**Sandra R. Jefferson**

*In memory of My family Jefferson Mom and  
Dad; Person sister and husband; and Fletcher  
nephew*

**Marla Johnson**

*In memory of Muriel Parker  
In honor of Mother, Grandmother and Great  
Grandmother*

**Albertha D. Lewis**

*In memory of William H. Lewis*

**Joyce Marjorie Lewis**

*In memory of Roselle Ann Cattouse  
(grandmother) and Gwendolyn and Charles  
Lewis (parent)*

**Ovis Massey**

*In loving memory of my husband,  
Robert Massey  
In loving memory of my daughter,  
Vallorie Rolian*

**Cynthia Matthews**

*In memory of Dolores and Charles Matthews*

**Stephanie Maxberry**

*In memory of Henry and Vera Smith*

**E. Elaine Moore**

*In memory of Cloteal and Vincent A. Thomas*



**Barbara Neal**

**Mary D. Norris**

*In memory of Ms. Mary L. Davis,  
Ms. Betty Reynolds, Dr. and Mrs. Clarence and  
Lucille Norris, Dr. Clarence Norris, Jr.*

**Kerry Norwood**

*In memory of Esther Robinson  
In honor of Rev. James M. Lawson, Jr.*

**Valeria Norwood**

**Jacqueline Nunn**

*In memory of Roberta Y. Gilmore*

**Donna Richardson**

**Rosalind Ricks**

*In honor of my parents, John & LaRue Cloud,  
and my husband, Everett E. Ricks, Jr.*

**Caroline Robinson**

*In memory of Leonard and Irene McKenzie*

**Alvairene L. Scott**

Altar Palm Plants

**Ernestine Smith**

*In memory of Arthur & Frances Alexander*

**Gloria Smith**

*In memory of Irvin Smith  
In honor of Jacquie Gray*

**Daisy Spearman**

*In memory of E, Mary and Herman Spearman*

**Doris Spearman**

*In memory of Mr. and Mrs Erastus and Mary  
Spearman and Herman Spearman  
In honor of Ruthie Spearman, Daisy Spearman  
and ZeQe Spearman*

**Annie Stafford**

*In memory of Jameal Freeman,  
Victoria Johnson Family, Stafford Johnson  
Family, Michael Stafford, Sr.*

**Hazel C. Storey**

*In memory of my parents,  
Mr. Lavelle and Mrs. Eunice Conley, Sr.  
In loving memory of my husband,  
Mr. Warren Storey*

**Larry Strawn**

*In Memory of Mamie Strawn  
and Dr. Raphael Baranco*

**Edward and Sandrel Terry**

*In memory of our mothers, Lillie Crawford and  
Pearlie Edwards*

**Connye Thomas**

**Larry and Brenda Turner**

*In memory of our mother, Nannie McNealy, and  
Will Amanda Holt*

**Sharlene Vergo**

*In memory of Ruth White*

**Prof. Hal and Dr. Betty Walker**

*In memory of Rosetta Wilkerson,  
George Davis, Sr. and Mayme Davis  
In honor of 30 Years of the A-MAN STEM Centers*

**Edwena Weathersby**

*In memory of Liary M. Weathersby*

**Camille Woolfolk**

**Ida Younge**



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## Holman Bell Tree of Life

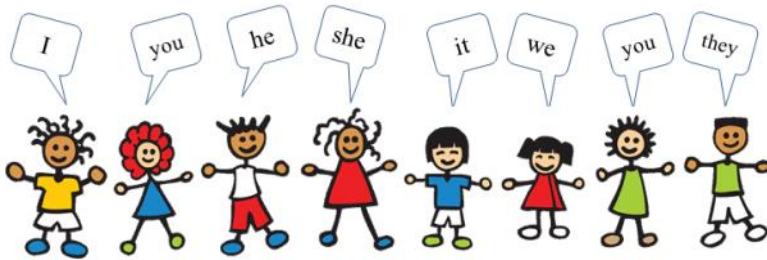


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Childcare available for youngsters  
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Sundays

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Attention: Jo Isabel-Jones

or

SSAAH

Holman United Methodist Church  
3320 W. Adams Blvd.  
Los Angeles, CA 90018

**Application deadline: June 29, 2004**

**Play DAY**  
+BLOCK PARTY 2024  
**Saturday, June 29, 2024**



Cal-Pac Camps  
**Imagine This**

**2024 Summer Dates**

**Cedar Glen**

Grades 6th-Grad: June 23-29, 2024

Grades 1st-3rd: July 7-10, 2024

Grades 3rd-6th: July 7-12, 2024

[www.campcedarglen.org](http://www.campcedarglen.org)

**Lazy W**

Grades 1st-3rd: July 14-17, 2024

Grades 3rd-6th: July 14-19, 2024

Grades 6th-Grad: July 21-27, 2024

Young Adult Camp: August 2-4, 2024

[www.lazywrench.org](http://www.lazywrench.org)

**Wrightwood**

Grades 2nd-6th: June 30-July 4, 2024

Grades 6th-Grad: July 7-13, 2024

Camp Shine (Autism Spectrum Youth Camp): July 28-31, 2024

[www.campwrightwood.org](http://www.campwrightwood.org)



Cal-Pac Camps





Lazy W Ranch  
Each grows here

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A CHILD SMILES THIS SUMMER**

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!!**

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**WE NEED:**

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Announcing the  
**Cal-Pac Queer Story Collection Project**  
 Contribute to the upcoming publication, *Voices from the Cal-Pac Rainbow*



Please send submissions to Rev. Dr. Denyse Barnes [dbarnes@calpacumc.org](mailto:dbarnes@calpacumc.org) by November 1, 2024 in order to have them included in the book

# Rev. Jim Lawson: A Luminosity of Spirit

Today we celebrate his extraordinary life  
Of ultimate service  
Of beloved struggle  
Of one who followed his conscience  
Above all else.

He is one who listened and understood  
Followed a FAITH that propelled him  
from a very young age  
To just" find another way"  
To deal with all the hate and fear.

He always presents us with the TRUTH  
A space we can enter  
Where we must choose  
Which path to follow.

He has something inside so strong,  
something inside so strong  
Nobody knows the trouble he's seen  
Nobody knows all his sorrows  
So he tells us the road will not be easy  
That there would be mountains to climb and  
trials to endure  
**But that we've come too far to turn back  
now.**

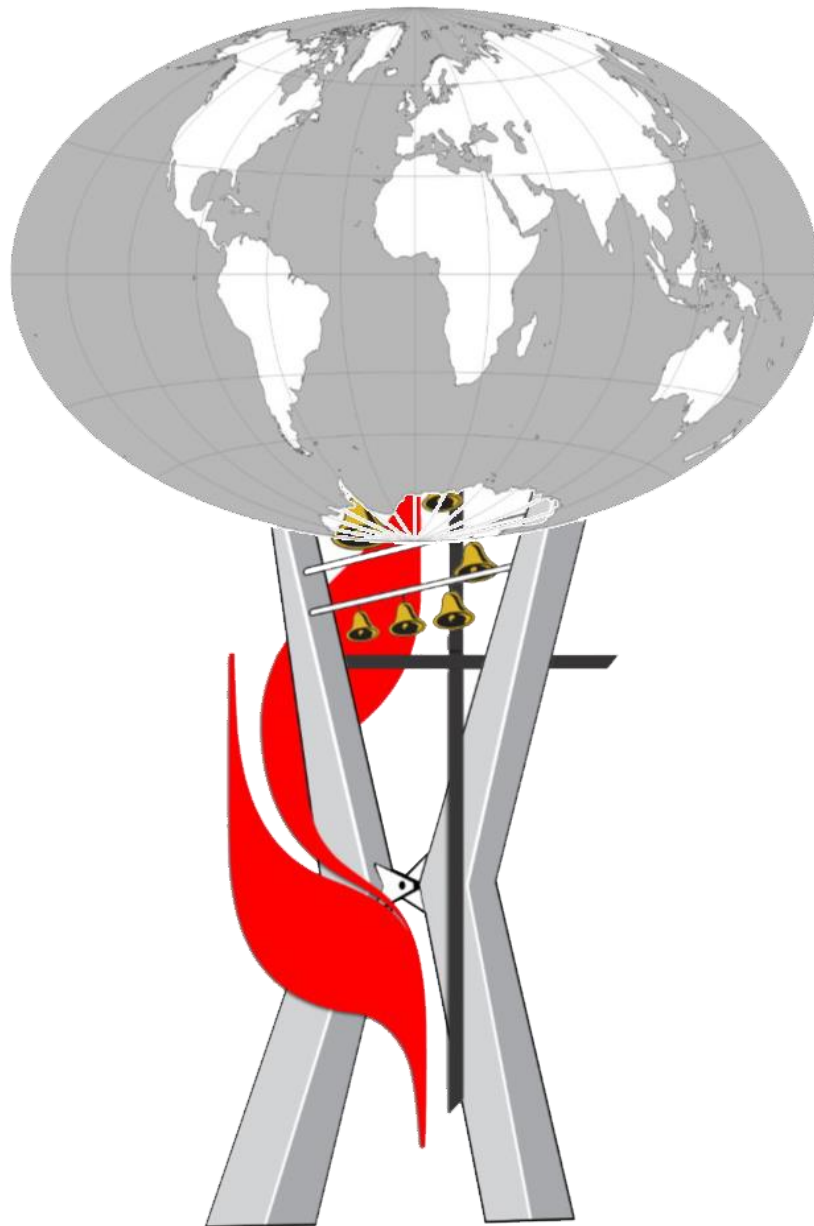
His own resilience inspires us  
He does not tire,  
but reminds us  
of the lines we must draw  
of the lines we must not cross  
of the rivers we must swim  
of the jails we must fill  
of the trials we must endure  
of the stands we must take  
**That there is redemption in common  
suffering  
When it calls out right from wrongs.**

His unique legacy goes beyond the Gospel  
Probes deeper  
Requires more of us  
Brings us to our knees  
Brings us to our feet  
To show up, to shout out  
To march and protest  
To seek reconciliation  
To always take a moral stand  
In this struggle that never ends  
Where spirit and humanity must embrace  
To forge a world  
With the hope of the peace that we seek  
Boldly claim the freedom that is ours  
His unique legacy goes beyond the Gospel  
Probes deeper  
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Brings us to our knees  
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To show up, to shout out  
To march and protest  
To seek reconciliation  
To always take a moral stand  
In this struggle that never ends  
Where spirit and humanity must embrace  
To forge a world  
With the hope of the peace that we seek  
Boldly claim the freedom that is ours  
And the justice we so deserve!  
So now let us shout together...  
**Amen and Hallelujah!**  
**Yes .... Amen and Hallelujah!!!**

Offered by **Peggy Trotter Dammond Preacely** in honor and in celebration of Rev. James M. Lawson, Jr.'s 95<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration at Holman United Methodist Church in Los Angeles - September 23, 2023.



**Rev. James M. Lawson, Jr.**  
**1928-2024**



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Holman United Methodist Church

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