“...write the vision and make it plain on tablets, that he may run that reads it.” Habakkuk 2:2 NKJV
Word Of Faith Times

a publication of the
Word of Faith Family Worship Cathedral’s Media Ministry

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WOF Times provides its readers with relevant and current information pertinent to the Christian walk and lifestyle. The WOF Times staff will make every effort to provide material which is educational, entertaining, encouraging and inspiring. All of this is done in an effort to assist WOF Times readers in developing a more intimate relationship with Jesus Christ.

LOVE

is patient
it does not envy
keeps no record of wrongs
does not delight in evil
Rejoices with the truth
always protects
always trusts
always hopes
always perseveres
Never Fails

1 Corinthians 13:4-7
Finish this sentence: 2018 is the year I ________________________.

What’s your vision for this year? If you don’t know where you want to go, any road will take you there! Time flies. But the good news is that you are the pilot! We can no longer just passively sit back and let life happen to us. We are not born to simply react to everything that happens. We are born to make a difference. We are born to create a legacy. Legacy is about setting something in motion! So what’s your plan to set something in motion that matters?

This is the year for you to dream boldly about doing something for God. Don’t just tell God that you are available to Him; ask Him for a dream of what He can do through you! You need a bold dream! To do something great for God requires BOLDNESS. You don’t just get boldness from praying for boldness; you also get it by spending time with Jesus! The more time we spend with Jesus, the more we also develop a greater heart for:

- Compassion
- Simplicity
- Patience

We are here in the earth to:

- Live
- Love
- Matter
This is the Year of Vision for Word of Faith Cathedral. We manifest this in 3 dimensions:

**I. Illuminate the past.**
Ask:
- What has the past prepared you for?
- What worked for you?
- What failed? Why?
- What can you do better?
- What are your strengths?
- What are your weaknesses?
- How can you make better choices in the future?

You must illuminate the past to discover the treasures that it holds for you.

**II. Empower the present.**
What can you do now? Here is a good exercise for starters: Practice writing your own obituary—Ask,

**“How do I want to be remembered?”**
Here is a real key to intentional living—The secret of success is found in your daily routine. What needs to change in your daily routine? If you want a change of heart, you must change your habits!

**III. Inspire the future.**
Discover and create something new.
- What new exposure are you planning for yourself this year?
- What new sights will you see?
- What new adventures will you take?
- What new places will you go?
- What new foods will you try?
- What new people will you meet?

Plan on this being your most productive year yet! Make no little plans; dream big for God!

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Thursday Night School of the Word has a new format created by Bishop Bronner. **True Talk** was initiated during the spring of 2017. It’s an informal and occasional dialogue within a relaxed home-style setting. This fresh approach presents real life situations and issues to the congregants with solutions, strategies and answers that are biblically grounded.

Congregants can look forward to hearing from an individual guest, as well as panel discussions within a wide range of topics. Bishop Bronner kicked off True Talk with life lessons from his personal journal. Members were left enthralled and blessed with Bishop’s profound wisdom and his signature touch of humor!

Mother Emma Roland, our centenarian, was interviewed by our First Lady, Dr. Nina. The interview did not disappoint. Again, wisdom and humor reigned true.

Over the past months, guests contributors to this spiritual charger have included: Bishop T. D. Jakes; actress, Kim Fields; writer and director, Tyler Perry; Shelley “Butch” Anthony, III, business owner of “This Is It!” restaurants; Ambassador Andrew Young and former Atlanta Mayor Kasim Reed.

Make True Talk an item high on your list of “things to do.” As Bishop Bronner stated, “be inspired and encouraged as guests share how they have received Jehovah Jireh’s miraculous provision in their life.”
Bishop Bronner cast the vision for Discipleship Groups in May 2015 and we launched 50 groups in February 2017 with 100 leaders. The amazing testimonies from the group members are still being shared. We are really excited as the Discipleship Group Ministry moves forward into 2018 and start the second congregational offering of additional groups. We have over 50 groups this year and commissioned 39 new group leaders on January 25th. Bishop Bronner’s vision for small groups is taking place right now and we give God the glory. Real life change happens in the community and we have seen lives being changed during the process.

2018 is the Year of Vision and we are so very thankful that Bishop heard the voice of the Lord to start small group ministry at WOF. Proverbs 29:18 says; Where there is no vision, the people perish…
It all started when Tribe of Judah dancer, Joycelyn Johnson Cromartie asked her soon-to-be, nine year old daughter, Morgan, what she wanted to do for her upcoming birthday. The response she received was not what she expected; not a party, not a sleep-over with pizza and not the skating rink with friends. No, Morgan stated that she’d like a trip to New York City! And that’s exactly what she got; an airplane trip to the Big Apple where she took in the Sponge Bob Square Pants Broadway musical; a date at the American Girl Place in Rockefeller Plaza where she and her doll had a manicure; and a visit to the “Good Morning America” show where she met some of the cast including host, Michael Strahan.

How awesome was that! Morgan’s parents, Joycelyn and Michael Cromartie might need to brace themselves for the 10th birthday celebration. A rumor has leaked that Morgan has her eyes set on Greece for next year! Athens? Santorini? We’ll keep you posted….
Over 1,000 came out, despite icy roads and freezing temperatures for the 26th Church Anniversary Celebration held at the Georgia International Convention Center. The festive dinner was fused with the comedy and gospel music of David Mann, star of Bounce TV’s Mann and Wife and his beloved wife, Tamela, winner of multiple Stellar Awards, the Grammy and NAACP Image Awards, respectively. Former WSB-TV anchor and journalist, JaQuitta Williams served as Mistress of Ceremonies.
Covenant Keepers Corner

The SYMBIS Assessment
By Dr. Charles Houston

It has been said that a repair man is no better than his tools. In like manner, a counselor can be hindered or enhanced based on the tools he or she decides to use in session. In addition to the teachings of our Bishop, Covenant Keepers utilizes some of the methodology of Dr. Les and Leslie Parrott in marriage mentoring. In 2015, I took advantage of the training and became a SYMBIS Assessment Facilitator. S.Y.M.B.I.S. stands for Saving Your Marriage Before It Starts. The first pre-marital couple that I facilitated the SYMBIS Assessment process with was Meridith Rose and Charles Davis. I asked them 2 questions.

1. Did the SYMBIS Assessment help you learn more about your fiancé/fiancée and yourself?
2. What stood out to you about the SYMBIS Assessment? (comprehensiveness, cost, accuracy)

- Yes. The SYMBIS assessment allowed me to learn more about my fiancé in terms of our mindset, well-being, social support, finances, dynamics and expectations.

- Since my fiancé and I were both previously married, we purchased the "Saving Your Second Marriage Before It Starts" resources. Several things that stood out to me about the SYMBIS assessment were it’s comprehensiveness, accuracy and the fact that there were additional resources (e.g., book, workbook, DVD) available for my fiancé and I to use together to further learn about one another.

- I really enjoyed the SYMBIS! It did two things for me: It helped solidify growth in areas that I previously prayed about prior to meeting my fiancée and it also demonstrated areas where I still need growth. So, I really did learn quite a bit about myself. For me the real learning occurred in gaining a better understanding of my mate and how she thinks. The results of the assessment highlighted our traits, strengths, weaknesses and our overall compatibility. It provided us with insight on a variety of areas such as harmony, our thought processes, differences, finances and spiritual/faith walk. It ultimately led us to work toward improving our areas of weakness and encouraged us to continue to seek God and pray together for understanding of one another and further growth.

- The cost of the assessment was very affordable and worth every penny! It was great to know that there were several SYMBIS trained facilitators in the Atlanta area who could review the results of the assessment with us. However, we were both excited to learn that WOF was listed as having a facilitator on site, especially since my fiancée was a member of the church. I thought the assessment was primarily accurate, with only a few things here and there that made me raise my brow and say, "Ummm!" I felt that using the SYMBIS as a part of our premarital counseling sessions was enlightening and fun. It enabled us to have a deeper understanding and greater appreciation for one another.

Marriage mentoring is extremely effective in impacting the lives of married couples who desire to grow strong together in the Lord. Word of Faith Covenant Keepers is committed to helping marriages heal and become whole again. If you would like to receive more information about Covenant Keepers or the SYMBIS Assessment, contact Dr. Charles Houston at 770.874.8400, email us at wofcovenantkeepers@gmail.com, or “Like” our Facebook page and leave comments or questions at https://www.facebook.com/wofcovenantkeepers.
Who’s Sitting in Your Area?

By Minister Paula Palmer Green

Your WOF Brother Shelley “Butch” Anthony III, owner of the highly successful This Is It! Bar-B-Q and Seafood restaurant chain, is excited to announce the release of his life’s story in a memoir entitled God Has a Plan for the Underdog.

In his memoir, Shelley “Butch” Anthony III provides an awe-inspiring example that God can use ordinary people to do extraordinary things. As a young father with limited education and sparse financial resources, he eloquently shares how he successfully fanned the flames of a fire initially started by his parents in Tampa, Florida, and subsequently blazed a path for many to follow. With unfailing persistence, the end result of Mr. Anthony’s labor is a multimillion dollar empire that has gained national acclaim as one of the best of its kind. Readers will undoubtedly be inspired by all that has been accomplished by one who could have easily been labeled “The Underdog.” Indeed, God does have a plan for the underdog and this book is living proof.

Celebrating more than 30 years in the Atlanta area, God Has a Plan for the Underdog is long overdue. “I am utterly amazed at what God had done through the years,” states Anthony. “It is my honor to share my testimony with others so that they, too, will see that all things are possible to those who believe.”

For more information on God Has a Plan for the Underdog, visit www.GodHasaPlanfortheUnderdog.com.

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eva’s world

By Eva Houston

I started volunteering as a Teen Volunteer at the church nursery about a year ago and I love it! The Word of Faith Nursery is located near the Beautiful Gate not too far from the connecting area between the Sanctuary and the Life Training Center. On a regular day we report to the nursery station wearing our green nursery shirts. We sign-in as a teen volunteer at the check-in station and then go to the classroom where they need our assistance. We get the opportunity to play with the kids, have a Bible lesson, feed them snacks, change their diapers, etc. (we essentially take on the role of siblings for the hour and a half or so while they are in the nursery). My favorite part of working at the nursery is getting to create relationships with each kid and volunteer that comes in. Every kid has their own unique personality and you literally watch them grow up. Recently, one of the kids who come on a regular basis, Dominic, celebrated his 2nd birthday with us in the nursery—which was bittersweet because it meant that he had to move on to the two-year-old class and couldn’t be in the nursery anymore. That’s the only sad part about working in the nursery, BUT there are so many good things about it as well. I personally don’t have any siblings and a lot of people tell me I’m not missing out on anything (lol). I love volunteering because I get to spend time with kids as if they were my siblings. It’s a true joy for me and I always look forward to spending my Sundays at the nursery.
The Love Feast with Cherry Hammond

Although the weather was wet and cloudy outside, a little “liquid sunshine” did not deter over 400 beautiful women from attending the WOW Love Feast held on February 10, 2018.

From the opening prayer to the final song of praise, the women engaged in high worship of our Lord and Savior. There was a sense of excitement and great anticipation from the ladies as to what the day would hold. This event was a manifestation of the spiritual urging of Dr. Nina Bronner’s prayer time.

What happened after the Women of the Word session was nothing short of AMAZING!!! The procession of women flowed out of the Fish Gate and entered the corridors leading to the Fellowship Hall. The long hallway had been transformed; the lights were dimmed, white sheer drapes lined the walls, tabletops draped with white linen were adorned with crystal teardrop trees and rose petals on the carpet—the ladies were greeted by 41 handsome men, dressed in black suits, crisp, white shirts with bow ties, and a white folded napkin draped across their forearms. They stood in formation on either side of the walls as the women proceeded to the celebration inside!

The feast was spectacular; from the appetizer to the entrée and desserts, coupled with live music, photos and door prizes. The ladies mixed and mingled and met new friends. Love was seen in every minute detail.

In closing, Dr. Nina Bronner implored each woman there to serve God with her whole heart, mind and spirit and for wives to serve their husbands with joy. She gave them a charge to forgive those who have hurt them. Love never fails.

Menu

Baked Chicken
Baked Salmon
Macaroni & Cheese
Rice Pilaf
Sweet Potato Souffle
Collard greens
Cornbread Muffins
Mango Tea
Speciality Cakes
prepared by Deacon Maurice Peoples:
Coconut, German Chocolate, Strawberry-Key Lime, and Red Velvet
Every year, during Black History Month, numerous profiles of African American achievers are highlighted on social media, news outlets, presented in the classroom by students and showcased at church services.

With the release of the movie, Black Panther, (which was filmed primarily in Atlanta) it is fitting to discuss the iconic, Ruth E. Carter. A native of Springfield, MA, young Ruth attended Hampton University. It was there, when she was not cast in a campus play, that she discovered her real niche—costume design! She began designing costumes for Hampton’s presentations and was in high demand.

Years after leaving college, Carter met director, Spike Lee who asked her to work on his project, School Daze. She was hesitant concerning that request because up to that point she had only been doing theater work. Ultimately, she took the job and the rest is history. At present, she has over 40 projects to her credit including: Do the Right Thing, Amistad, Selma, What’s Love Got to Do With It, The Butler and Marshall. Specifically talented in period costume and intense dramatic style, Carter was nominated for two Oscars for Best Costume Designer for Amistad and Malcolm X.

Carter was inspired for Black Panther from the Marvel comic books and trips she took to Africa. Her creative vision incorporated the vibrant colors and patterns she observed in various tribes all over the continent. She then blended science fiction and African culture to create a fantasy that pays homage to the ancestors and the motherland. Carter defines her work on Black Panther as “a celebration of life, color, culture and artistry.”