

**UPCOMING  
EVENTS**

- Jan. 16th  
3rd Sunday  
Explosion w/  
Yashawn  
Mitchell
- Jan. 19-21  
Prayer Revival
- Jan. 28-30  
Annual  
Singles  
Conference
- Feb. 6  
Talent Night
- March 5  
Church Info  
Meeting
- March 9-11  
Revival

**INSIDE  
THIS ISSUE:**

|                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| Stop Looking Back       | 2 |
| Singles Conference      | 2 |
| Homeless Outreach       | 2 |
| Special Recognition     | 3 |
| Children's Choir Carols | 3 |
| A Course Correction     | 3 |
| Faith Bible Institute   | 4 |
| A New Year Health Tip   | 4 |
| Talent Night            | 4 |
| Help Wanted             | 4 |
| Still Time              | 4 |

## Celebrating 25 Years of Ministry

Compassionate Outreach Ministries celebrated 25 years of life-changing ministry last month! The ministry was founded by Bishop Larry J. Dennison on December 18th, 1985. In honor of the church's Silver Anniversary, Bishop and First Lady Dennison were presented with proclamations from both the Gainesville City Commissioners and the Alachua County Commissioners declaring Sunday, December 19th, 2010 as "Compassionate Outreach Ministries Day."

Church members and ministry friends gathered together at the Gainesville Hotel & Conference Center on December 18th for a celebratory banquet. The Honorable Gainesville City Commissioner Scherwin Henry spoke at the banquet about the consistent integrity of Bishop Dennison and also about the positive impact that Compassionate Outreach Ministries has made on the community over the last 25 years. After a scrumptious dinner, Recording Artist/Songwriter Jeremia Cannon led the group in praise and worship as she sang songs that included, "Serving The Lord Will Pay Off After A While," "Ain't Nobody Mad But The Devil,"



Prophet Anthony Moore speaking a blessing into the life of Bishop Dennison.



The Honorable City Commissioner Scherwin Henry at the 25th Anniversary Banquet

"We're Blessed," and "His Eye Is On the Sparrow." Cannon, who is from Texarna, Texas, has recorded with the Full Gospel Holy Temple Founder's Mass Choir and has released two solo CD's: "From the Soul" and "It's My Time."

The next morning, the celebrants gathered in the sanctuary of Compassionate Outreach Ministries for a special worship service. Bishop & First Lady Dennison personally welcomed the attendees, the church's history was recounted, and the charter members were recognized. The people of God then praised God for all that He has done and is doing. During the service, the Adult Choir sang, the Praise Dancers danced and several members shared what Compassionate Outreach Ministries means to them. Also, the Honorable County Commissioner Rodney Long commented on the difference that Compassionate Outreach Ministries has made in this area of Florida and Recording Artist Cannon sang "I Won't Complain." The Word of God was shared through Prophet Anthony Moore. Dr. Moore encouraged the body to praise the Lord in all circumstances, to diligently seek God's blessings in spite of obstacles, and to expect God to bring good out of

every situation. Then, Prophet Moore declared that the next year would produce a harvest based on all the work that has been done over the past 25 years at Compassionate Outreach Ministries. He also laid hands on Bishop Dennison and spoke a blessing into the man of God's life.

On the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the ministry, Bishop Dennison shared that his heart was "overwhelmed and overjoyed in what God has done." He noted his gratefulness for "First Lady Margaret Dennison, who stands with, and supports the vision God has given



The Honorable County Commissioner Rodney Long presenting a proclamation to Bishop & First Lady Dennison

me, with all of her heart, soul and body." He also stated that he is thankful for the continuous support of his children, family, church family, friends, and ministry partners.

## Stop Looking Back

By Mother Inez McKinnon

I am walking down the road of life  
My dreams within me are a sack  
And while I always look ahead.  
I never ever look back  
Things always seem much clearer  
When there is distance in between  
And then we get the right perspective  
For at last we really see  
And we can fashion our tomorrow  
From the mistakes of yesterday  
We do not profit anything

From the pipe  
song we had to  
pay  
And now we  
are better.  
For lessons that  
life teaches us  
so well  
There would be  
no rising up or  
down  
If our feet had  
never failed  
It is good to be



a doer  
But dreams do have their place  
It is helpful to always remember  
That even a turtle can win the race  
I have learned that the highway is the  
straightway.  
But I love the old beaten down track  
The view ahead is lonely  
But I am never looking back  
So stop looking back and look ahead  
And God will bless you if you stay on  
the right road  
I pray that you will still look ahead.

## Singles Conference 2011: Saved & Kept



**Pastor Shwanada Jones**

The Annual Singles Conference at Compassionate Outreach Ministries is right around the corner! This highly anticipated event is a time when anointed spiritual leaders will pour into Christian singles and offer teachings on issues that specifically impact the lives of those that have never been married, those that are divorced, and those that are widowed. The conference will be held Friday January 28th through Sunday, January 30th. This year's theme is *Saved & Kept*.

The conference will kick off on Friday evening at 7:30 pm with special guest Prophetess Shwanada Jones. Pastor Jones is the Senior Pastor of Royalty Christian Fellowship in



**Ms. Cheryl Thomas**

Lumber City, Georgia and she is also the President and Founder of Shwanada Jones Ministries.

On Saturday morning at 10:00 am, the conference will reconvene with separate break-out workshops for males and females. The workshop facilitator for the ladies will be Ms. Cheryl Thomas. Ms. Thomas is a certified Christian life coach and counselor as well as the founder of Becoming Engaged Enterprises, a life empowerment company. She is also the author of "Becoming Engaged: Finding the Courage To Be Me." The workshop facilitator for the males will be announced at a later date.

After the workshops, a free lunch will be provided for



**Dr. Geraldine Eady**

all attendees. Then, Pastor Geraldine Eady will give a word of encouragement to the entire group. Dr. Eady is the pastor of Destiny Assembly Ministries in Brunswick, Georgia and she is also the Founder and President of Destiny Bible College.

On Sunday morning, the Singles Conference will conclude with Dr. Eady sharing the Word of God during the 10:00 am Worship Service.

Registration for the conference is free. To register, please visit [www.compassionateoutreach.org](http://www.compassionateoutreach.org).

*Child care will be available to conference attendees on Friday evening and Sunday morning.*

## Homeless Outreach

For the fifth consecutive year, the Homeless Ministry of Compassionate Outreach Ministries has reached out to the homeless members of the community during the holiday season. On Thanksgiving Day, about 250 traditional Thanksgiving meals were served on the Bo Diddley Community Plaza. The meals were a part of a special Compassionate Outreach Ministries program that included a prayer by Deacon Jeff Williams, a word of encouragement from Elder Darrell Russell, songs from the C.O.M. Men's Ensemble, and a praise dance from Dominique Tucker and Shawnise Williams. Compassionate Outreach Ministries returned to the Bo Diddley Plaza on Christmas Eve. At that time, 175 meals were served and gift bags made up of toiletries, hats, and gloves were given to homeless guests during a program that included a prayer by Deacon Floyd McAllister, songs from the C.O.M. Children's Choir and Adult Choir as well as a word of encouragement from Sis. Bonnie Means. When asked by TV20 news about the events, Bishop Dennison stated, "It is very rewarding when you can see that we are helping to impact the lives of others and when they turn around and tell us that they are appreciative that we are taking time away from our families to think about them and feed them on these special days." According to Sister Bonnie Means, the coordinator of the Homeless Ministry, "I thank God for everyone who helped make these events a success, especially the Bishop, the First Lady and the members. The members of Compassionate Outreach Ministries really came out in full force to offer their support. Each year just gets better and better!"



## Special Recognition

*HAPPY 33rd ANNIVERSARY!  
To Bishop & First Lady Dennison  
We Wish You Many More!*

### HAPPY WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

|  |      |          |
|--|------|----------|
| Bishop Larry J. & Sis. Margaret Dennison | 2/4  | 33 years |
| Mr. Harold & Mrs. Gwendolyn Jenkins      | 1/8  | 29 years |
| Mr. Keith & Mrs. Patricia Jeter          | 2/9  | 21 years |
| Mr. Patric & Mrs. Kathy Kimbrough        | 2/18 | 8 years  |
| Mr. Bruce & Mrs. Kathy Robinson          | 1/5  | 21 years |
| Mr. John & Mrs. Donna Smith              | 2/12 | 11 years |

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

To everyone born in the months of January and February  
*We Love You, We Do!*

### CONGRATULATIONS DR. EUGENE JONES!

Dr. Jones received a doctoral degree from the University of Florida in December 2010.

## Children's Choir Carols

By Sister Dawn Harris

For the past few years during the month of December, the Compassionate Outreach Ministries Children's Choir has visited facilities in the community to spread holiday cheer through Christmas caroling. On Tuesday, December 21st, 2010, the Children's Choir was invited to a night of Christmas caroling at Tacachale, a community for the developmentally disabled. This is the choir's second year at Tacachale and they were really excited to participate in this event again. The residents and staff of Tacachale really enjoyed the program and joined in by clapping their hands and singing songs with the choir from "He Reigns Forever," to "Joy to the World," and "We Wish You a Merry Christmas," led by little Miss Vershawna Petty. At the end of the program, the audience applauded the children for their outstanding a cappella performance. The Children's Choir was honored to be invited to celebrate the holidays with the residents and staff of Tacachale for another year, and look forward to what is to come in the future.



## A Course Correction

By Dr. Karen Woods

Have you ever felt like your life needed a course correction? If you answered "yes," what a blessing that you are able to tell when you need to make change or that change needs to be made in your life. No matter what your circumstances may be, it is a blessing to realize that your life, as it is, needs to go in a different direction. For a majority of us, I suspect, we cannot answer "yes" because most of the time we may not know it. As you go through your everyday life, things may be going well. You have a good job (or in the case of today's economy – you have A job), you are able to resolve issues at home, you feel fairly good about your spiritual walk, and things are generally going really well. However, when God is ready to use you, to bring you into the purpose of your life for Him, and to do His will, your life may make a course or



directional correction. Things will begin to happen, you may begin to feel uneasy at your job, and you may begin to question things you see around you. Then, when you go to church (Compassionate, of course) you begin to think that some of the message applies to you. In other words, you begin to feel uncomfortable – as Bishop has often told us we would. Your colleagues at work may engage you in discord, your marriage or family relationships may begin to be stressed or stretched, and you may

even wonder, "Why is the enemy bothering me?" Welcome to the beginning of the time of your purpose! God will sometimes allow discomfort in your life. God wants to take us to closer, different, and higher places in Him, and the only way to get our attention is to cause us to think about and depend more on Him. When we think about Him, we talk to Him, we cry out to Him, we beseech Him, we invoke Him, we praise Him, we worship Him, we allow Him to guide our path (or order our steps – as the song states), we yield to Him, we seek Him until we find a new place of comfort and peace in Him. But don't get comfortable, because He is not through with us yet! This is just the beginning of your course correction. Just grab onto God and he will steady you through this phase of your course correction.

*It is a blessing to realize that your life, as it is, needs to go in a different direction.*

## Compassionate Outreach Ministries



Pastor & Founder: Bishop Larry J. Dennison  
First Lady: Sister Margaret Dennison

320 SE 43rd St.  
Gainesville, FL  
352-373-1888  
1-888-780-7729

### Website

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

### E-mail

[info@compassionateoutreach.org](mailto:info@compassionateoutreach.org)

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

## Faith Bible Institute

The next semester of the Faith Bible Institute at Compassionate Outreach Ministries begins on Monday, January 24th. It is not too late to sign up. If you have desired a greater understanding of God's Word, then this is an opportunity to get just that!

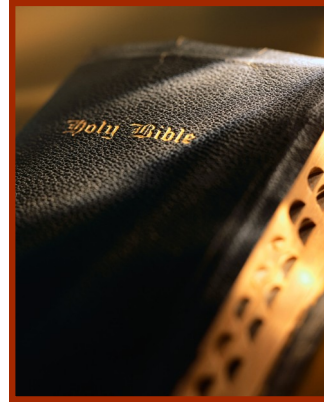
The Faith Bible Institute at Compassionate Outreach Ministries is a through-the bible course for every Christian. Students take a chronological study of the entire bible through every major doctrine. Faith Bible Institute combines solid bible teaching with an interactive DVD video format using student workbooks, charts, maps and visuals to produce a life changing learning experience.

Basic classes meet on Monday evenings (from 6:00-9:00 pm) each week

at 320 SE 43rd St. The three year course is divided into six semesters of 17-18 weeks each. A Bible College Diploma will be provided to those completing the basic curriculum while

an Advanced Diploma in Biblical Studies will be provided to those completing the basic curriculum & required elective courses.

Throughout the country, about 12,000 Christians have already completed the Faith Bible Institute program of study. The course is offered at a nominal fee to church and community members.



Late registration for the upcoming semester will run through January 28th. Payment plans are available. For more information, please contact the church office during normal business hours at 352-373-1888.

## A New Year Health Tip

From The C.O.M. Health Team



One of the best ways to guarantee goal-setting success is to ensure that each of your goals or New Year's resolutions fits the SMART formula. SMART is an acronym that stands for Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Realistic and Timely. When your goals have these characteristics, you are more likely to achieve them. Setting short-term, medium-term, and long-term goals for yourself is a key to success in your life. If there are things that you want to achieve or ways that you want to grow, setting clear goals as stepping stones is an important strategy to attain the success you want. A goal should provide guidance and direction. Goals like 'lose weight,' 'eat better,' or 'have less stress' are far too vague and unspecific to help you achieve the changes you want. Use the S.M.A.R.T. criteria to help put more detail into your goal. Below is an example of a SMART goal to eat at least 5 servings of fruit and vegetables a day.

**Specific:** Eat 1 piece of fruit at breakfast, 1 piece of fruit at 4:00 pm, 2 servings of vegetables at lunch, and 2 servings at supper.

**Measurable:** Record how many veggies and fruit I eat each day & Use a measuring cup to make sure I eat 1 cup of vegetables.

**Achievable:** I am going to start by eating 2 pieces of fruit a day.

**Rewarding:** When I eat 2 pieces of fruit a day, I will feel like I have really done something to improve my health.

**Time Frame:** This week I am going to eat more fruit. Next week I am going to eat more fruit and eat more vegetables.

Spending a little time up front to create effective goals with the SMART characteristics will pay off in the long run. (Adapted from CHOICES)

## Talent Night

On the evening of the 1st Sunday in February, C.O.M. members of will have an opportunity to share their hidden talents to the glory of God. The young and the old alike are invited to participate. Undoubtedly some will sing, others will dance, and a few will play musical instruments, but all are welcome to be on the program. If you are ready to reveal your special talent, then please sign the sheet posted in the foyer. For more info, please see Sister Shawndria Dennison.

## Help Wanted

The Heart-to-Heart Newsletter needs your help! If you want to write a story about a C.O.M. event that you have attended, if you have a wedding anniversary or special accomplishment to share, if you have a word to encourage the believers, or if you would like to share a poem, then please provide your submission to the church office during normal business hours. The deadline for submissions is the 2nd Sunday of each publication month.

## Still Time

There is still time to include your expression of what Compassionate Outreach Ministries means to you on the C.O.M. website. Simply provide your submission to the church office during normal business hours and the entire world will be able to read about the positive impact that this ministry has made in your life!