

August 2021

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Giving Circles..... 2  
 Rev. Jackson Interview... 4  
 Dr. Stewart Interview .... 5  
 Prayer Corner..... 7  
 Our Beginnings..... 8

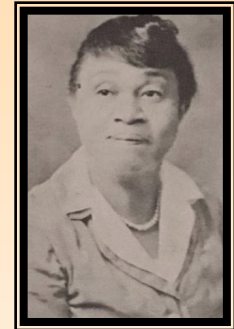
**Standing on Our Sisters’ Shoulders**

**A**s a witness to what will be a historic occasion in Lott Carey history – the election of Rev. Dr. Gina Stewart as the first woman president – I am grateful for the ability to look back at what was and to delight in this present moment. Looking back, I applaud and celebrate a remarkable group of pioneering women – Mrs. Alice E. James, Mrs. I. Toliver, Mrs. J. W. Kirby, Mrs. Lillie Hope, Mrs. Alberta Cosby Randolph and Mrs. Mary M. Ransome – who blazed a trail for women serving in the missionary field today. The 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemorative Program for Lott Carey’s Women’s Auxiliary, the WISE predecessor, says that “These women leaders deserve much credit for keeping the mission torch aflame and laying the foundation for an organization that would make the world better through sacrificial service.” This Newsletter offers reflections on our past, a view of our present and a glimpse at our future. As you read the articles and reflect on the vintage photos, I believe your very soul will cry out HALLELUJAH! I thank God for the path paved by our pioneering sisters. I thank God for the trail Dr. Stewart is blazing for generations unborn. My prayer today is simply this – that we continue to keep the mission torch aflame as we stand on the shoulders of our sisters.



Dr. Angelita Clifton

Rev. Dr. Angelita Clifton  
 First Vice President of WISE



Mrs. Alberta Cosby Randolph  
 Women’s Auxiliary Leader  
 1912-1952

**ENGAGING THE WORLD**

Ready, set...the 124<sup>th</sup> Annual Session of Lott Carey will convene virtually on August 10. Attendees can expect to enjoy the full complement of Lott Carey’s programs and activities. The session theme is **Engage – Transforming the World through Missions and our sub-themes are Advocacy/Justice, Empowerment and Evangelism**. Here’s what you can expect.



Dr. Cynthia Turner Wood

**Rise and Shine.** Begin each morning by joining with the saints in prayer during the Martha Murphy Sunrise Prayer Service at 6:30am. Each prayer session, which will be led by a dynamic devotion leader, will have a specific prayer focus underscoring the Annual Session theme. Rev. Dr. Cynthia Turner Wood, Pastor of Dayspring Community Church, Lanham,



Start Time:  
 6:30 AM



Rev. Dionne Boissiere

continued on page 3

### What Is a Giving Circle?

A giving circle is a group of people who collectively give of their time, talents and finances to help others. The circle might include friends, family members, or co-workers.

### History Highlight

“In recognition of the service-oriented life of our member, **Mrs. Rebecca Mullins**, who was an outstanding missionary leader in our church, association and committee, they chose to name their group the Rebecca Mullins Foreign Mission Club.”

Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church  
Ringgold, VA



Tidewater’s Nickels for Nigeria Coin Project

## Giving Circles An Old Idea Made New

The challenge for any group involved in kingdom building on earth is finding the resources to do so – both the faithful and the finances. According to *Philanthropy Together*, “documented giving circles are hundreds of years old! ... [The] model spans the globe and goes by many names, from “susu” in West Africa to “tanda” in Mexico.” Giving circles are not new to congregations supportive of Lott Carey. Since 1970, the Lott Carey-Rebecca Mullins Foreign Missions Club, based within four communities in Virginia, has designated the fourth Sunday in April as its Missions Day.



The “Fasting to Feed the Hungry” campaign asks people within the Chatham, Danville, Dry Fork and Ringgold communities to donate the cost of a meal. These communities then pool their contributions and make a gift to Lott Carey.

With an appreciation for the potential of giving circles, WISE-initiated regional giving circle teams create giving circles in designated areas. Local churches are invited to participate and receive support with various fundraising ideas. The teams plan and implement activities throughout the year to generate financial support for Lott Carey. Two such examples follow.

### Tidewater Regional Giving Circle

Several churches in the Tidewater area of Virginia comprise this giving circle. As the leader of the Tidewater Regional Giving Circle of WISE, we encourage personal and group projects to assist with the needs of women globally. We have provided disposable sanitary napkins, toiletries, t-shirt dresses, and school supplies for women in the U.S. and abroad. “Dimes for Zimbabwe” and “Nickels for Nigeria,” are examples of two campaigns that provided funds for special projects in these countries. We share Lott Carey’s goals and objectives with other missionaries and churches in our area. Additionally, circle member congregations are encouraged to participate in other WISE initiatives – Thursdays in Black, the awesome Digital Couch sessions, monthly prayer calls, and 31 Days of Prayer and Giving as well as the virtual Spring Conference and Annual Session. Each one can reach one because we are SALT – serving and learning together.

Contributed by **Lynette Richardson**

continued on page 6

## Engaging the World

continued from page 1

MD, will lead the Tuesday morning service with an emphasis on “**Engage.**” On Wednesday morning, Rev. Dr. Jonnel Green, Pastor of Bethesda Baptist Church, Jersey City, NJ, will lead the prayer service with a focus on “**Empower.**” The Thursday morning prayer emphasis will be “**Evangelize,**” and is fittingly being led by Rev. Dionne Boissiere, Chaplain of Church Center for the United Nations, New York.

**Do Justly.** With a keen focus on the supporting theme of **Advocacy/Justice**, this year’s mission education classes will examine the “whys” and delve into the “how-to” of the church’s response to societal injustice. This year’s study book, “*To Serve the Present Age: Social Justice Ministries in the Black Church*” by Rev. Danielle L. Ayers and Rev. Reginald W. Williams Jr., provides a compelling examination of the impact the church can have on society, culture and community.



Start Time:  
9:00 AM

**Learning and Growing.** An amazing array of live interactive breakout sessions will delve deeper into this year’s sub-themes each afternoon. From topical sessions like “*Advocacy Matters: Giving Voice to those Impacted by Incarceration*” facilitated by Rev. Dr. Harold Dean Trulear to “*Pandemic Pastoral Care*” facilitated by Rev. Dr. David Emmanuel Goatley and Dr. Jacqueline Madison-McCreary, there’s something for everyone – youth, lay men and women, and the clergy. W.I.S.E. will host a special breakout session, “*A Candid Conversation of Being Made in the Image of God,*” on Tuesday. Rev. Brenda K. Harewood and Rev. Dr. Gina Stewart will lead the discussion. These breakout sessions are great opportunities for you to learn, grow and engage to be able to make an even larger impact in missions.



Start Time:  
11:30 AM

**Worship.** Each day will end with a spirit-filled, uplifting service of worship. Rev. Carl A. Pace, Jr., Pastor of True Light Baptist Church, Grand Rapids, MI, and Rev. Dr. TaNikka Sheppard, President of Baptist Women of North America, will be the Tuesday and Wednesday night preachers, respectively.



Start Time:  
7:00 PM

**Thursday Evening Worship/President’s Night.** This year’s President’s Night will mark the passing of the baton from our current president, Rev. Gregory J. Jackson to our incoming president, Rev. Dr. Gina Stewart. Dr. Stewart will be the first woman to serve as president of Lott Carey Global Christian Missional Community.

Contributed by **Tisa Murray**

## Featured Conference Speakers and Facilitators



Rev. Brenda Harewood



Dr. TaNikka Sheppard



Dr. David Emmanuel Goatley



Dr. Jacqueline McCreary



Dr. Harold Dean Trulear

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*“We go to walk alongside people, love them, encourage them, pray for them, and do the very best that we can.”*

Rev. Gregory Jackson

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Rev. Gregory Jackson

## SEE, I Am Doing A New Thing

### Editor's Note

**H**istoric, momentous, and unprecedented are just a few words to describe the tenure of outgoing Lott Carey President, Rev. Gregory Jackson. He has led this community faithfully during a global pandemic which upended everything we do. Yet we pressed on. We thank him for his steadfast leadership in challenging times. We now come to a momentous occasion in the life of Lott Carey – the election of Rev. Dr. Gina Stewart as our first woman president.

Rev. Jackson and Dr. Stewart took time to share their thoughts and reflect on their leadership roles and Lott Carey experiences as part of our **Digital Couch** series hosted by **Sister Doriel Larrier**. The Digital Couch is broadcast live on the first Thursday of each month. The following are *select* excerpts from interviews with Rev. Jackson and Rev. Dr. Stewart. You can view these interviews in their entirety on the Lott Carey WISE YouTube channel or in the WISE SALT Facebook group. The excerpts have been edited for clarity.

### Reverend Gregory Jackson, President

Rev. Jackson is the Pastor Emeritus of Mount Olive Baptist Church in Hackensack, NJ, where he has served for 37 years.

#### Your Lott Carey Story

I started coming to Lott Carey reluctantly. I was a new pastor when Mrs. [Alice] Somerville came to Mount Olive. She would come every year. And that first year, I was 33 years old at the time, she said y'all let that boy come and I will pay for him. And she did. She paid for my trip and it was in Louisville, KY. I fell in love. It expanded my horizon, my vision, my thinking. Meeting her and being exposed to wonderful people has changed my life. She not only asked me, but she invested in me and I think that made the difference.

#### Supporting Home and Global Missions

It's a transformative journey to not fight the church over home mis-

sions, but just finding a new niche to ask people to give for global missions. I maintain God's got money in people's pockets segmented for certain kinds of things. When you get the right niche in a person's thinking, psyche and theology, they will give to it.

#### Making a Difference Globally with Our Presence

I recommend to any pastor to go on a mission trip with that purpose in mind to open your eyes and see how we can make a difference. We go to walk alongside people, love them, encourage them, pray for them and do the very best that we can. Hopefully, the gospel will intersect with the lives of those people. We're able to do a lot with technology now in terms of talking to people in the various countries

around the world, but there's no substitute for being on the ground.

### **Lott Carey's Transformative Work**

[We meet] the needs of people in terms of focus, education, ministry, or healthcare by being flexible and adaptive to whatever is happening on the ground. A few years ago it was HIV and AIDS. In other places it has been water initiatives in Michigan, or food initiatives in Zimbabwe, or dealing with some drought. In the States, it's been natural disasters, down in Louisiana [for example]. It seems like there's a natural disaster every time you turn around – whether it's in Haiti or whatever. Everything is transformative if you can make a difference in somebody's life. If you can step up and be there, and bring whatever resources you have to bear. We never have enough resources, but we come in the name of Jesus Christ. So we pray, we hold their hands and we minister together with people depending upon what's happening in their lives.

### **Words of Advice to Dr. Gina Stewart**

Do what you've been doing. Be yourself. Love people. Just go for it. *God's got you!*

## **Reverend Dr. Gina Stewart, President-Elect**

Dr. Stewart is the senior pastor of Christ Missionary Baptist Church where she has served for 26 years. She is an adjunct professor at Virginia Union University for the School of Theology and is currently pursuing a PhD in African American preaching and sacred rhetoric.

### **Inspiring Women Leaders Globally**

Lott Carey has strategic priorities which will help make it a more seamless type of transition. My responsibility, as I see it, is to come in and help to further advance and amplify those strategic priorities. Before I begin planning what I want to do with global leaders, I would be interested to hear what some of those needs are [from] some of our female leaders in global ministry. I know that some of the needs include equipping, training, education, empowerment, those kinds of things. The easiest way to do it is to plug into the strategic priorities that are already there. Lott Carey already has a major commitment to human trafficking. That's something I'd like to see us amplify. And, of course, as it relates to mentoring, and as mentoring leaders, training leaders and things like that would be some of the things that immediately come to mind. But it is important to have a conversation first about how we can work in solidarity with women and be a blessing in this new assignment.



***“Everything is transformative if you can make a difference in somebody's life.”***

**Rev. Gregory Jackson**



**Dr. Gina Stewart**



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***“I heard Dr. Peterson say that Alfred Street was giving Lott Carey \$25,000....I remember ... asking God to bless our church so that we could give like that.***

**Dr. Gina Stewart**

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## **Rev. Dr. Gina Stewart**

### **Challenges for Women in Leadership Roles**

One of the things you have to realize when you're in a position like this or leadership in general is there's always resistance to leadership. There are certain things that just go with the territory and understanding that helps with expectations. Learning to depersonalize the way that people respond to us is critical. We need the energy and the passion and the resolve to keep moving forward. The other thing when we're in roles like this, we do have to challenge those instances from time to time when the opportunity presents itself. We do have to challenge the ways that people interact with women and with people in leadership.

### **Your Lott Carey Story**

I remember the first convention that I attended was in Louisville, Kentucky. I was listening to all of the great things that Lott Carey was doing, and I heard Dr. Peterson say that Alfred Street was giving Lott Carey \$25,000. I was just amazed that a church would invest that kind of money in missions. I remember going to my hotel room, getting on my knees, and asking God to bless our church, so that we could give like that. That was the only ambition I had. I believed in the mission, and I wanted our church to partner and invest in this kind of work. But of course, many are the plans in a woman's heart, but it's the purpose of the Lord that prevails. I'm amazed by what a yes to God will do and where a yes to God will lead you.

## **An Old Idea Made New**

continued from page 2

### **North Carolina Woman's Baptist Home & Foreign Missionary Convention**

The Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention Auxiliary is launching two mission campaigns for 2021. The “Christ in Every Home” project supports the work of the Salvation Army in helping the homeless. We want to be a positive force as these neighbors move from homelessness to stable housing.

The convention members, representing numerous churches, will also dedicate efforts to providing maize seed for families in Zimbabwe. Made aware of the shortfall in Lott Carey's need to continue providing maize seed to 2,500 families in Zimbabwe, the convention will respond to this clarion call for help. The 40lb bag of seed represents a brighter future and economic sustainability. It is our goal to be an instrument of empowerment for our neighbors in Zimbabwe. We ask that you pray for us as we live up to our name of being missionaries both home and foreign.

Contributed by **Lisa Murray**

## Martha Murphy Prayer Corner

**L**ord God Almighty,  
We come humbly before Your Throne with thanksgiving in our hearts. We bow before you in adoration and submission. We shout Alleluia to Your Name.

All Honor and Glory belong to you, Oh Lord . We thank you for this opportunity and the privilege of Prayer. We are so grateful for the loving kindness and tender mercies that You bestow upon us daily.



We confess our sins and seek your forgiveness. Father God, we know it is in Your Word there is life. The Scriptures attest to Your omnipotence, omniscience, and omnipresence. Your Word brings a cleansing to our

souls as it saturates us in Your promises

Holy Spirit, guide us in our prayers. Holy Spirit, renew our minds daily to the precepts that God has set for us, and show us God's steadfast love. Continue to encourage and strengthen all the Lott Carey women as we seek to serve Your children, all over the world.

Oh God, as we pray and look at parts of Your creation such as our hands, we see You! Our thumb is closest to thee Oh Lord, And it tells us to pray, for those close to us, our family, and our friends. Our index finger tells us, to pray for those who teach us, our Pastors and Spiritual Leaders, and our Lott Carey leaders, we humbly lift them up to You. Our next finger reminds us to pray for those that lead our country, guide them, Oh Lord God. Our fourth finger, the ring finger, tells us to pray for the weak, all those sick and those plagued by problems, such as homelessness, drug addiction, sexual, gender and domestic abuse, and mental illness. Our final finger, the smallest, reminds us to pray for ourselves.

We need your Divine guidance and wisdom in all that we do, in all that we say, and all that we think. This is our humble prayer, in the Precious Name of Your Only Begotten Son Jesus the Living Christ. **Amen**

Contributed by **Rev. Dr. Jeanette Goodson**



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### History Highlight

“Down through the years the attendance has been large, and the strength gained therefrom has helped in a telling way to keep the spiritual tempo of the auxiliary at normal. The untiring devout **Sister Martha Murphy** (Pennsylvania) has proved to be a God-inspired leader in such a service as this. In 1955, she gave up the responsibility as the leader, but is still and ardent participant.”

Mattie E. Rux, Ellen L. Alston and Mary M. Ransome, Lott Women's Auxiliary

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## Women in Service Everywhere

### WISE Officers

President

**Rosette T. Graham (D) (VA)**

1st Vice President

**Rev. Dr. Angelita Clifton (NJ)**

2nd Vice President

**Rev. Dr. Brenda McBorrough (VA)**

Secretary

**Sis. Terry Bradley Dunn (NC)**

Assistant Secretary

**Sis. Lottie McKoy (NY)**

Finance Secretary

**Sis. Lunita Williams (PA)**

Historian

**Edna Goodman (VA)**



Mrs. Lillie Hope, President  
Foreign Mission Society  
First African Church  
Richmond, VA

### Newsletter Team

Managing Editor

**Sis. Tisa Murray**

Copy Editor

**Sis. Lisa Glover**

Contributing Editor

**Sis. Veronica Waddey**

## Our Beginnings...

Dear Readers: This information is an account of the minutes of the **first** meeting of the Woman's Auxiliary of the Lott Carey Foreign Mission Convention.

After the Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention had operated for three years, the officers and members decided to accept Christian women as co-workers in the Body. To that end its president, Dr. C. S. Brown, called a meeting during the annual session held in Shiloh Baptist Church, Alexandria, VA, August 31, 1900. After making plain the vital need of a Woman's Department, organization was in order. The following persons served on the nominating committee: Mrs. Pattie Sheppard (NC), Mrs. Ella Gallery (MD), Miss M. A. Webb (PA), Miss Atlanta L. Brown (VA) and Mrs. N. Weaver (DC). During the period of waiting impressive talks were made. The Committee submitted its report, which was accepted, and the following were elected to serve on the official staff:

President – **Mrs. Alice E. James** (Pennsylvania)

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President – **Mrs. I. Toliver** (Washington D. C.)

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President – **Mrs. Ellen Gallery** (Baltimore, MD)

3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President – **Miss Atlanta Brown** (Fredericksburg, VA)

Recording Secretary – **Miss A. C. Morris** (Winston Salem, NC)

Corresponding Secretary – **Miss M. C. Webb** (Pittsburg, PA)

Treasurer – **Mrs. Rebecca Callis** (Baltimore, MD)

These resolutions were adopted:

**RESOLVED**, That the name of the organization shall be the Woman's Auxiliary of the Carey Foreign Mission Convention.

**RESOLVED**, That the annual meeting shall be at the same time and place as the Lott Carey Foreign Mission Convention.

**RESOLVED**, That the Constitution of the Convention shall be the same as that of the Foreign Mission Convention.

**RESOLVED**, That the officers for the first year shall constitute Executive Board.

The total amount of money reported was **\$10.60**.

Contributed by **Veronica Waddley**



**Mrs. Cora Ann Thomas**  
Served with her husband  
as Christian missionaries  
in Liberia for nearly 40  
years.

Lott Carey Mission Trip



**Dr. Wendell and Mrs. Alice Somerville**  
In 1940, Dr. Somerville became Executive Director of the Lott Carey Convention. Together, the Somervilles traveled the world extensively on foreign missions.