

Petersburg,
Hopewell & Vicinity
Ushers Union

September 18, 2021

Officers

John R. Jones – President

Denise Greene-PigGee' 1st
Vice President

Karen Jones – 2nd Vice
President

Monica Harris – Recording
Secretary

Yvette Kennedy – Financial
Secretary

Hattie Lambert – Asst.
Financial Secretary

Stephenny Finnie – Treasurer

Theoria Nixon –
Correspondence Secretary

Novella Payton – Asst.
Correspondence Secretary

Joseph Semien – Chaplain

Debbie Semien – Asst.
Chaplain

Glenda Howard – Executive
Chairperson

John Hayes – Sgt-at-Arms

Kayln Myers – Youth President

Our Mission –
"Working Together as
One"

Greetings from the President

Deacon John R. Jones

Greetings my brothers and sisters in Christ. It is hard to believe that we are nearing the end of summer and fall is around the corner. The word of God tells us in Ecclesiastes 3:1, "For everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven." As we approach the end of 2021, "Let us not grow weary in well doing; for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not, Galatians 6:9." The Ushers Union of Petersburg, Hopewell & Vicinity has had a wonderful year thus far. We continue to work in our theme, "**Working Together as One.**" A few of our accomplishments have been a successful fundraiser and our first Virtual Fruit of the Spirit Program. When we work together, it's amazing what we can accomplish.

While we have shared successes, we have also shared moments of grief and loss for loved ones which God called from labor to reward. Through it all, God has been our helper and our strength. As we continue to forge ahead into 2022, I pray that nothing will separate us from the love of God and each other. I pray much success for this Union and our members. We have done much work; however, there is still much to be done. We, as a body, can do anything but fail if we put God first and trust him every step of the way. It is truly an honor to serve as the President of this Union and to serve with such kind, dedicated, and committed men and women of God. Please stay safe and may God bless you all!



Psalms 84:10 "For a day in thy courts is better than a thousand. I had rather be a doorkeeper in the house of My God, than to dwell in the tents of the wickedness."

Committee Members & Chairpersons

Carolyn Jones & Rosa Lewis – Benevolent Committee

Hattie Lambert, Karen Jones, & Novella Payton – Fruit of the Spirit Committee (Host Church – New First Baptist Church)

Amanda Wyatt, Debbie Semien & Novella Payton – Scholarship Committee

Glenda Howard, Denise PigGee', Novella Payton & John Jones – New Bodies Committee

Al Harper, Karen Jones & Stepheny Finnie - Delegates

“ Our Union Churches’

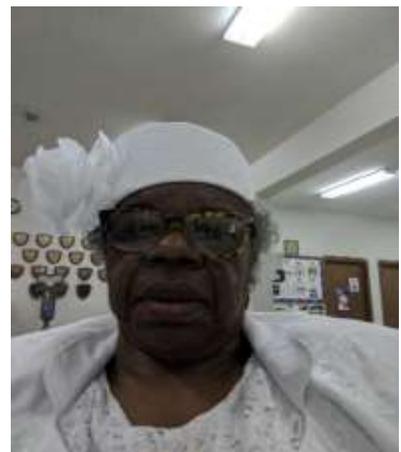
Mt. Olivet Baptist Church, Petersburg, Virginia 23805
Pleasant Grove Baptist Church, Prince George, Virginia 23875

Mt. Carmel Baptist Church, Hopewell, Virginia 23860
New First Baptist Church, Petersburg, Virginia 23805
Mt. Calvary Baptist Church, Dewitt, Virginia 23840
Sharon Baptist Church, Petersburg, Virginia 23803

“ We Do It Better Together’



Mt. Olivet Baptist Church Senior Ladies Ministry



What Makes a Good Usher? A good usher comes prepared mentally, physically, emotionally, and spiritually. Ushering should not be seen as a duty, but a privilege to connect with God as part of your preparation. Ushers are usually the first official representative of the church that people meet when they arrive. An usher's dress, attitude, words, demeanor, and body language all speak a message to the worshipper. Ushers stand ready to assist anyone in the congregation who may require assistance.



The Fruits of the Spirit – Galatians 5:

Love – Faith, hope and love, the greatest of these is love. Love the people that you serve as an usher!

Joy – Take God seriously. Your spirit will be contagious to others.

Peace – You can add peace, calm and order to what might be otherwise a hectic experience.

Patience – You can set a good example to those that are impatient.

Kindness – This attitude makes you approachable as an Usher. Going the extra mile can make all the difference in the world.

Goodness – This quality is a gift from the Holy Spirit's power.

Faithfulness – Faithfulness as a Christian bleeds over into your faithfulness as an Usher.



Mt. Olivet Baptist Church Joint Ushers Ministry



Top Picture: Mt. Olivet Baptist Church Young Ladies Ushers Ministry

2nd Picture: Pleasant Grove Baptist Church Joint Ushers Ministry

3rd Picture: Mt. Carmel Baptist Church Senior Ushers Ministry

Fruits of the Spirit Cont'd:

Gentleness – A mature usher never misuses his or her authority. The best usher is humble and seeks to put others first.

Self-Control – We can not control others if we can't control ourselves. Under pressure and last-minute changes, your grace and self-control will shine through.

“The person who is genuinely busy in the Lord's work cares nothing about whether they are noticed or not, and whether they gain position in the church or not. For Christ-like servants are always taken up with the interest of others, not with their own.”

**Sinclair B.
Ferguson**

Youth Ushers Working



Leadership/ Religious Quotes:

Never speak from a place of hate, jealousy, anger, or insecurity.

Evaluate your words before you let them leave your lips. Sometimes it's best to be quiet –
Tony A. Gaskins Jr.

“Even when life may be difficult, we should thank God for all He does for us which we do not deserve.” – **Billy Graham**

“Faith is taking the first step even when you don't see the whole staircase.” –
Martin Luther King

Meet Our Queen



Theoria Nixon, Queen Contestant for Ushers Union of Petersburg, Hopewell and Vicinity

Theoria Nixon has been a loyal member of Mt. Olivet Baptist Church since 1997, under the leadership of Rev. Dr. Wesley K. McLaughlin. She has served for over 20 years in the Young Ladies Usher Ministry where she's held the office of President for four consecutive years. She is a member of the Missionary Ministry at her church and lastly, she also serves as the Correspondence Secretary for the Ushers Union of Petersburg, Hopewell & Vicinity.

Theoria says she is passionate about being a servant for the Lord and her leadership at her church has been a testament to her dedication, faithfulness, and love for her church family. Theoria is devoted to her family, especially to her daughter Alicyn Sheppard, her amazing grandmother Abrea-Nicole Sheppard, and her loving fiancé' Jeffrey Barnes. Theoria works as a Procurement Manager at the Community Services Board and as a Realtor. She enjoys praise dancing, writing poetry and short stories. Her future plans are to retire and focus on full-time real estate.

John 14:1-3

“Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father’s house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.”

In Memoriam

Mrs. Annie M. Thomas – Friendship Baptist Church – April 11, 1949 - November 19, 2020

Deacon Andrew G. Claiborne – Sharon Baptist Church – September 11, 1945 - January 11, 2021

Mrs. Lorraine Hill – Friendship Baptist Church – February 9, 1923 - April 18, 2021

Mrs. Carolyn Ann Thomas – New First Baptist Church – August 27, 1949 - May 15, 2021



Contact Us

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 Chairperson
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Closing Thoughts

From the moment when we take our very first breath of life, we start the process of returning to the One who gave us life. Throughout life's journey, we travel roads that are full of potholes, bumps, detours, and even to dead-end places. Hatred, death, wars, poverty, and so many other pitfalls seem to come our way. We get turned around and sometimes we just can't seem to find that inner peace. No matter what the test has been, we've all been able to weather the storms of life. Without a test there would be no testimony. Marvin Sapp says it best in his song, "Never Could Have Made It Without You." The fact of the matter is we never would have made it without God. Yes, we could have lost it all. Some of us feel as though we really did lose it all and some of us may have really lost it all. Yet, His grace and mercy has proven to be sufficient in all aspects of our lives. Remember what God told Paul?

As we continue to press towards the mark of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus, let us not focus on the past, our hurts, disappointments, and unpleasant moments we've had to endure. Instead, let's focus on what lies ahead. Covid 19 really did a number on the world in 2020. And it doesn't appear to be ready to release the world from its grip anytime soon. Regardless of what does or does not happen, let's us continue to press on for we know the race is not always won by the swift but to those who endure to the end.

It is my sincere prayer that your days will be bright and all that you desire will come to pass. Jeremiah 29:11 tells us, "For I know the plans that I have for you; declares the Lord, 'plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you a hope and a future.'" On Christ the solid rock we must stand because we know all other ground is nothing but sinking sand.

Have a wonderful 62nd Virginia State Baptist Ushers Convention and may God's peace and blessings be with you now and in the days to come!

Deacon John R. Jones, President, Ushers Union of Petersburg, Hopewell & Vicinity!

Please be safe, wear your mask, and take the vaccine. It could save your life, literally!

*Officers of the Ushers Union of Petersburg, Hopewell
& Vicinity*

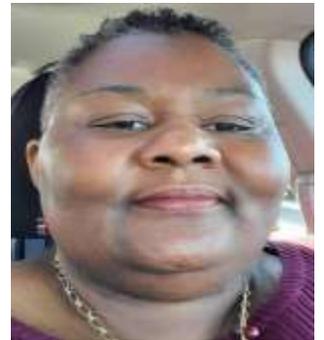
1st Row:

John R. Jones, President
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 Vice President**
**Karen Jones, 2nd Vice
 President**



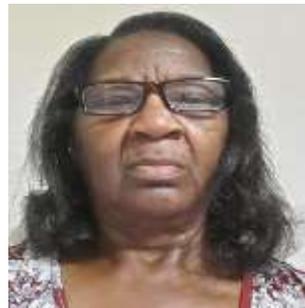
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John Hayes, Sgt at Arms



5th Row

**Glenda Howard, Executive
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**Kalyn Myers, Youth
 President**



