The word of the Lord came to me, saying “before I formed you in the womb, I knew you, before you were born I set you apart, I appointed you as a prophet to nation.”

Jeremiah 1:4-5

IN MEMORIAM
Reverend Matthews McGary Sr.
B.TH.M.Th.D.D.
1917 – 2011

Rev. Matthews McGary Sr. was born March 11, 1917. Rev. Matthews McGary Sr. was baptized in April 1937. He was joined in marriage to Frances Herbert McGary for 62 Yrs. They were parents to five children.

He was ordained by the First District Missionary Baptist Association. Rev. McGary attended McDonogh No.6, Hoffman and Gilbert Academy. He was one of the first students to attend Union Baptist Seminary where he received his bachelor and master of theology, and later became an instructor and member of the trustee board. He also attended the International Baptist Seminary in Houston Texas, where he received his Doctorate of Divinity.

Rev. McGary was called to pastor Second Zion Baptist Church No.1 February 8, 1950, where he served faithfully for 55 years. Rev. McGary ordained 19 sons in the ministry. As a visionary the Lord lead, Rev. McGary and the Second Zion Baptist Church No.1 family to established and build, Second Zion Baptist Church No.1 on the Island of Dominica in July 1984 at the estimated cost of $30,000.00. Fulfilling the great commission, Rev. McGary focused on foreign mission, teaching, and preaching the word of God and supporting the church in Portsmouth, Dominica. On June 24, 2011, he went to eternal rest.

“His Lord said unto him well done, thou good and faithful servant thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things enter thou into the joy of the Lord” Matthew 25: 21.

In January 2006, under the leadership of Reverend Gary Lee Curtis the vision continues, with a heart of compassion for God’s people, and a sense of urgency in reaching higher heights, Rev. Curtis traveled to Portsmouth Dominica teaching, preaching, and supporting Christian Education along with the membership, they are continuing the vision of Rev. Matthews McGary Sr., as it is stated in Matthew 28:18-20.
Our Baptist faith is important to us and we must honor the Great Commission as we honor our Father who art in heaven. Therefore, we are committed to serve a risen Saviour whose salvation we can never lose. Our strong membership in LMBSC will allow us to continue great works unto the Lord for Kingdom Building as we strive together for a profound Christian experience to restore the SZBC in the West Indies ravaged by Hurricane Dean in 2008.

Many of us in Louisiana, particularly in New Orleans know about the struggles to rebuild after a devastating natural disaster. We must restore this treasure for new generations of soldiers that will follow us because our days on this earth are finite.

In order to follow His work in the West Indies for recapturing the zenith of Kingdom Building here on earth lead by Rev. Jimmy Stevens, Pastor of New Covenant Faith Baptist Church, and Director, LMBSC Foreign Mission and Rev. Gary Curtis, Pastor of Second Zion Baptist Church #1, Executive Secretary, LMBSC Foreign Mission; and in continuing the legacy of our beloved Dr. Matthews Mc Gary, Sr. many of us will board the spiritual plane of prayer to this foreign mission project through the outpouring of financial support. We can face this restoration together because as believers we have Jesus the Christ, God’s providence and operate under the auspices of the Holy Spirit.

The Louisiana Missionary Baptist State Convention has throughout its 139 year history, supported mission work on several levels as evidenced by paragraph two of our Baptist Covenant: “We engage, therefore, by the aid of the Holy Spirit to walk together in Christian love; to strive for the advancement of this church, in knowledge, holines, and comfort; to promote its prosperity and spirituality and to sustain its worship, ordinances, discipline, and doctrines; to contribute cheerfully and regularly to the support of the ministry, the expenses of the church, the relief of the poor, and the spread of the gospel through all nations.” It is the relief of the poor and support of our ministry to bring others to Jesus Christ through bolstering foreign outreach activities in African providences that is the primary thrust for our foreign mission project 2012.

Established in 1880 in Montgomery, Alabama the Foreign Mission Convention through connecting with southern black churches saw purposefulness in reaching emancipated slaves and free people of color to bring them closer to the Baptist faith and acceptance of Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. When the National Baptist Foreign Mission Board was developed in 1895 it was with the hope of outreach to areas of our world to win lost souls for Christ. Over a period of time throughout the history of our conventions, reorganizations have occurred such as the one with our own national in 1916, which resulted in the NBCUSA, Inc., but the work of our Lord for foreign mission has never changed. We must continue do as Christ instructed His disciples sharing the Gospel: “Go ye therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always even to the end of the age.” Matthew 28:19-20 (KJV)
The mission of the Louisiana Missionary Baptist State Convention Woman’s Auxiliary is to communicate God’s Word through evangelism, to educate the women through discipleship, to demonstrate God’s love through ministry, to bring the women to Jesus and membership in His family and to celebrate God’s presence in worship.

One of our major objectives is to extend ministry through mission-support and involvement in our communities and around the world. As our foreign mission trust, the Woman’s Auxiliary of the Louisiana Missionary Baptist State Convention financially supported the expansion of the S. Willie Layton Hospital built in 1984 by the NBC, USA Inc. Woman’s Convention in Chilembwe, Malawi, Central Africa. Our financial efforts are continuously being made to increase awareness about HIV and to prevent its spread in Malawi. Because Malawi is still undergoing a severe AIDS epidemic, the Auxiliary continuously responds financially to the crisis on a regular basis.

The Louisiana Missionary Baptist Women Auxiliary is working hard to help fight the HIV/AIDS epidemic through our S. Willie Layton Hospital in Malawi. The HIV / AIDS epidemic has stricken Africa more severely than any other continent in the world. Approximately 800,000 people are living with HIV/AIDS in Malawi! The AIDS crisis is causing children to be left without parents, without resources and without hope.

- By the year 2010, there will be an estimated 106 million orphans worldwide
- Approximately one quarter will be orphaned due to AIDS
- Africa has the highest proportion of orphans – 12%
- The number of orphans in Africa is expected to increase from 34 million to 42 million in the years to come

The Louisiana Missionary Baptist Women Supports Hospital in Malawi, Africa

Dr. Hilda J. Guillory, Director
BELOW ARE JUST A FEW SUGGESTIONS OF HOW YOU CAN INTRODUCE YOUR CHURCH TO FOREIGN MISSIONS:

1) **NOTHING** speaks for foreign missions better than a foreign mission missionary visiting your church. The personal testimonies of missionaries who have actually traveled abroad speaks loudly to your congregation.

2) **INVOLVE** your church members in praying for missionaries. Covering them in prayer is very vital to the success of their mission journey.

3) **PROVIDE** church members with general information about missions. Contact the National Baptist Foreign Mission Department for assistance.

4) **OBSERVE** special missions emphasis in your church program like Day of Prayer and Fasting for World Evangelization.

5) **USE** 5th Sundays for foreign missions emphasis.

6) **USE** audiovisual resources. The internet is a great resource for pictures of various countries.

7) **ORDER** a free world map (24"x37") or a larger one priced reasonably. Highlight countries where missionaries in our convention are serving.

8) **TRAIN**— Get as much training as you can.

9) **ENCOURAGE** members of your church to participate in a volunteer mission project.

10) **OBSERVE** annual foreign missions Sunday.

11) **UTILIZE** foreign missions programs.

12) **INTEGRATE** local non-Americans such as foreign students and their families in church activities.

...PRAY FOR MISSIONARIES

**How Can I Involve My Church in Foreign Missions?**

Matthew 25:35-36

35 “For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in:

36 Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me.”
The Foreign Mission Department of the Louisiana Missionary Baptist State Convention will be traveling to Portsmouth, Dominica in the West Indies on **August 11th-16th, 2012** for a mission project. Over the past nineteen years the Sunday School Publishing Board of the National Baptist Convention, USA, Incorporated has focused their international mission efforts in the West Indies.

During the past years our own Louisiana Missionary State Baptists, Dr. Jesse Bilsberry, Pastor of the Mt. Pilgrim Baptist Church of Baton Rouge, the late Dr. Matthews McGary, former Pastor of the Second Zion Baptist Church of New Orleans and Rev. Gary Curtis have traveled with our national work and invested their time, talents and treasures. Both Dr. Bilsberry and Dr. McGary have built churches in the West Indies. Their visionary leadership and untiring labor together with the people of the West Indies has been a beacon light to that corner of the world for Jesus Christ.

In 1984 the late Dr. McGary of New Orleans built Second Zion Baptist Church in the Portsmouth, Dominica. However in 2008 Hurricane Dean devastated the island and did much damage to the church building of Second Zion Baptist. The membership of that church has not worshipped in their building for the past four years.

The Foreign Mission Arm of our state convention has committed to help rebuilt Second Zion Baptist Church facility. This Summer Mission trip to the West Indies will be led by Rev. Jimmy Stevens, Foreign Mission Director, Rev. Gary Curtis, Foreign Mission Executive secretary, Rev. Milton Ceasar, Evangelism Director, and Dr. Tammy Mitchell, MD. and others of our convention. On this week there will be medical triage services, VBS, Christian leadership lecturing, and revival preaching. We will also be ministering in Calibishie, Dominica as well under the supervision of Dr. Thomas Bentley, Island Coordinator.

**YOU ARE WELCOME** to join us and become part of the team on this exciting week of international mission outreach to our brothers and sisters of the West Indies. The trip will cost approximately $1500.00. This will be a life changing experience for you. For more information you may contact Executive Secretary, Rev. Gary Curtis at 504-579-4279.
Rev. Gary Lee Curtis is the Pastor of Second Zion Baptist Church No.1 New Orleans LA, Overseer of Second Zion Baptist Church No.1, Portsmouth, Dominica. His educational & religious foundation, graduate of Booker T. Washington High School and he attended Loyola University, Master of Theology Degree, Union Baptist Theological Seminary in New Orleans LA,

**Religious Organizations’ Affiliations**

- Member, National Baptist Congress of Christian Education and National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc.

- Co-Laborer with Great Concord Missionary Baptist Church.- Dr. Cullian W. Hill, Pastor, Detroit, MI

- Instructor for Kingdom Building Ministry

- Instructor, Congress of Christian Education, First District MBA

- President, Sunday School Department First District MBA—Dr. Robert Turner, President

- Instructor Louisiana Baptist Congress

- President, Second Zion Baptist Church No.1 Rosie S. Harris Christian Leadership School

Rev. Curtis acknowledged a divine calling from God in 1988 to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Rev. Curtis was licensed to preach in 1990 from Second Zion Baptist Church No. 1 by Rev. Dr. Matthews McGary Sr.

Ordained August 20, 1992. Rev. Curtis, pastored at the Second Nazareth Baptist church for 14 yrs. In 2006 Rev. Curtis served as Interim Pastor, of Second Zion Baptist Church, Rev. Curtis was elected and installed as Pastor on January 28, 2007, at the Second Zion Baptist Church No.1, Reverend Curtis is married to Mrs. Cherlyn Steptoe Curtis they share 31 years of wedded bliss. Almighty God has blessed them to parent one handsome son, J’Air Cameron Curtis.
Pastor Jimmy Stevens was born and raised in Westlake, La. After graduating from Westlake High School, he obtained a Bachelor of Arts degree from McNeese State University. He continued his education through post graduate studies at New Orleans Seminary in New Orleans, La. which led to pursuing and obtaining a Masters of Theology from Cornerstone University. Ultimately Pastor Stevens received a Doctorate of Ministry from Lake Charles Bible College, where he currently serves as President.

Pastor Stevens served as Pastor of Zion Tabernacle Baptist Church in Lake Charles, La. He is presently the Pastor of New Covenant Faith Baptist Church. He is the author of numerous books, including but not limited to, the book entitled "Your Riches in Jesus Christ" a discipleship exposition of Ephesians Chapter One. Pastor Stevens is the former president of the National Baptist Junior Laymen Convention USA, Inc., as well as other community, state and national affiliations.

Rev. Stevens is a member of the 7th District Baptist Association, where Rev. Gerald Perkins is President. He serves as Director of Missions and is a certified teacher with the Congress of Christian Education of the 7th District.

Pastor Stevens is available as a teacher, speaker, evangelist and mentor in the areas of Christian education, church growth for small and medium congregations, and church planting. His international travels include Mexico, Israel, Europe, and Haiti.

Pastor Stevens lives with his wife Patricia, their daughter Jamie, and grandson Jeremiah in Lake Charles, La.

Pastor Milton J. Ceasar was ordained in May of 2003 at Mount Zion Baptist Church in New Orleans, Louisiana under the Leadership of Rev. Mitchell J. Stevens, Sr. Pastor Ceasar has been preaching for 17 years. Pastor Ceasar served as Pastor of the Nazareth Baptist Church in New Orleans, LA for 2 years and returned to Baton Rouge, LA following the catastrophe of Hurricane Katrina.

In October of 2007, Pastor Ceasar was elected to lead the St. Mark Missionary Baptist Church in Jonesville, LA. Pastor Ceasar is a member of the Union Determined Missionary Baptist Association, Inc. and serves as Director of Christian Education. Pastor Ceasar also serves as Assistant Dean of Congress of Christian Education in the Little River Baptist Association and Executive Secretary of the Catahoula, Concordia, and Tensas Tri-Parish Ministerial Alliance. Pastor Ceasar, recently was appointed to serve as Late Night Worship Director for Louisiana Baptist Missionary State Convention.

Pastor Ceasar is a proud graduate of Southern University A&M College of Baton Rouge, LA, where he received a Bachelors of Arts Degree in English. Pastor Ceasar is a member of the LA. Baptist State Convention, LA. Home and Foreign Mission Baptist State Convention, National Baptist Convention USA, Inc. and Omega Phi Psi Fraternity Inc. Pastor Milton J. Ceasar is the proud husband of Keisha Yvette Dandridge Ceasar. His wife fully supports the ministry by being his prayer partner and his support system by making their home a refuge. Pastor Milton and Keisha Ceasar are the parents of 2 sons, Kristion DeSean12 and Kameron Isaiah 10, and one daughter, Katherine Louise 7.
Dr. Jesse Bernard Bilberry, Jr.  
Leading His 19th Missionary Delegation to the West Indies

Jesse Bernard Bilberry’s character exudes godliness, humility, commitment, dedication and perseverance as evidenced by his life. He is the oldest of 10 siblings born May 12, 1929 in Marion, Louisiana to the late Reverend Jesse Bernard Bilberry, Sr. and Joe B. Bilberry.

Dr. Bilberry began his missionary journey to Dominica, West Indies in 1993 and was presented with the Frontiersman Award from the Sunday School Publishing Board of the National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc. on December 8, 1993 for the leadership he rendered in this successful venture. He and the church where he serves as pastor, the Mount Pilgrim Baptist Church, 9700 Scenic Highway, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, committed themselves to the financial support of the Bellevue Baptist Church, Rev. Boniface Lloyd, pastor. Through their generosity, the Bellevue Baptist Church was rebuilt and furnished to the glory of God. In August of this year, 2012, Dr. Bilberry will lead the West Indies delegation to Dominica for his 19th missionary journey.

He presently serves as President of the Fourth District Missionary Baptist Association, Director of the Louisiana Missionary Baptist State Congress of Christian Education, Supervisor of the Department of Christian Ministries of the National Baptist Congress of Christian Education, and Chairman of the Board of Directors of Crestworth Learning Academy – Charter School.

Dr. Jesse and Mrs. Verta Lee Hamilton Bilberry have been married 58 years and are the proud parents of one daughter, Cassandra Gail.
The Rev. (Dr.) Benjamin F. Martin, the son of Mr. Joseph and Mrs. Adrian Martin, holds a B.A. degree from Southern University; a B.T. H. Degree from Coleman College; B.R.E. Degree from United Theological Seminary, Monroe, Louisiana; and a D.D. degree from United Theological Seminary, Manitou Springs, Colorado.

Dr. Martin began his services to mankind and humanity by serving as vocational teacher, high school principal, Farm Security Administrator, and Country Agriculture Agent.

Presently, Dr. Martin serves as the President of the United Theological Seminary and Bible College, Monroe, LA. This seminary has 19 extension centers located in nine states.

Dr. Martin is a family man, the husband of the late Hilda Mills Martin, the father of five children, fifteen grandchildren and 11 great grandchildren. He is loved throughout Louisiana, the United States, and in many foreign countries, as a gospel preacher, a builder, evangelist, humanitarian and a loveable character.

He was called into the gospel ministry in 1944 and began serving as Pastor in Homer and Monroe, Louisiana in 1945.

In 1958 and 1959 he was selected as one of an evangelistic team sponsored by the Southern Baptist Convention to go to Jamaica, British West Indies on a missionary tour. In 1963 and 1972 Dr. Martin traveled throughout the European countries visiting the Holy Land and many other points of interest to the Christian religion.

In 1977 and 1980 he traveled again to Liberia, Africa where he conducted a Pastor’s Institute for the Liberian Baptist Theological Seminary. He has also conducted seminars and institutes throughout the United States.

Dr. Martin has received numerous awards for his energetic and dynamic leadership, his dedication and his evangelistic and humanitarian services.

To name a few of his great accomplishments:

August 13, 1970—Made an honorary citizen of Bastrop, LA and presented the key to the city.

June 8, 1979—Received a congratulatory plaque from President Jimmy Carter for special service to mankind.

July, 1979—Received an award for 27 years of Christ-like leadership in bringing National Baptists and Southern Baptists in Louisiana to a New Day of Cooperation and Love.
Portsmouth is the second largest town in Dominica, with 2,977 inhabitants. It lies on the Indian River on Dominica's northwest coast, in Saint John Parish. Cabrits National Park is located on a peninsula to the north of town. Portsmouth has its own sea port in Prince Rupert Bay.

The official language is English and French.

There is 2% of the population of Dominica which is Baptist.

Portsmouth was initially chosen as the capital of Dominica, but only served in that capacity in 1760. After malaria broke out there the same year, the capital was moved to Roseau, where it remains.

The Ross University School of Medicine, which has over 1,000 students mainly from the United States and Canada, is located near Portsmouth, in Picard. The school's presence is a major economic resource for the local people.

The best local handicrafts are Carib made baskets. The earth tone colors come from burying the fibers in the ground for different lengths of time. U.S. citizens (likely others) need to ensure that the materials from which they are made allow them to be taken back home.

The Vision of Missions Continue

FOR MORE INFORMATION
Contact
Rev. Gary Curtis
504-579-4279 ph
revgarycurtis@bellsouth.net

The 2012 May Board of the LMBSC will convene at the Emanuel Baptist Church in Alexandria, Louisiana on May 8-9, 2012.

Tuesday night, May 8th has been designated by President Gordon as a Missions Initiative Emphasis.

Special mission offerings will be given on that night as seed money for the Second Baptist Church, Portsmouth, Dominica project. Special envelopes have been prepared for this night of mission giving. All checks should be made out to: Louisiana Missionary Baptist State Convention.