

# **It's Not Life Without Light**

**Mt. Hebron Missionary  
Baptist Church**

*2017 Beaux and Debutantes for  
Christ Program*

*May 21, 2017 • 4:45 PM  
1233 State Highway 66 • Garland, TX 75040  
Senior Pastor Leonard O. Leach*

**[www.onthemount.org](http://www.onthemount.org)**

# *Congratulations To Our 2017 Graduating Seniors*

NICHOLAS ALVIE ALEXANDER  
BRENDAN DREW BROOKS  
DyVEON JaJUAN CARPENTER  
KIARA CHARLES  
TYLER TERESSA DAVIS  
DONALD LEON DOBSON  
DARIUSS ECKLES  
SAHARA OLLIE FOX  
KASHIR ALI HOPKINS  
DARIA MONIQUE HOWARD  
KENEDI SAUMMONE JOHNSON  
JAELENE IMANI LUPER  
KAMRON TRAVON MATTHEWSON  
CHRISTOPHER GRANT MCKENDALL  
JAMIRIK RASHAD McLEOD  
OLIVIA NANCY NKECHI OKAFOR  
MICHAEL ANTHONY PURDY, II  
ARRYAN LAVON ROBERTSON  
CASEY SEON THURMOND  
CALEB MICHAEL WESLEY  
LANCE XAVIER WRIGHT

# *"It's Not Life without Light"*

## *Scripture John 8:12*

"Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, 'I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.'" John 8:12

The light bulb, invented by Thomas Edison, profoundly changed human existence by providing light in places where none had previously existed. As Christian young men and women, you should strive to shine brightly, providing light in this dark world.

These words, "I am," sometimes begin sentences; other times they begin confessions, and often times, an announcement. Sometimes, as they are here, they are used as a self-identifier! Two little words that seem insignificant are actually quite powerful. In the theme

verse, Jesus says, "I am the light of the world. Anyone who follows Me will never walk in the darkness but will have the light of life." Of all the things you have been taught through the years, this one verse could potentially be one of the most significant.

Your high school years have provided you with greater knowledge, and as you are aware, with greater knowledge comes greater responsibility. The intellectual, creative and spiritual gifts with which God has distinctively blessed you will help you as you seek to find your place in the world. But know that these gifts are not exclusively yours. These gifts were nurtured by community: your family, teachers, friends, acquaintances and most importantly by God. This nurturing occurred so that you could contribute to an even wider community of people. By letting your light shine you make positive contributions to the world. Remember that you are the light of the world and your light must shine before all men.

Because of your relationship with Christ Jesus, you are full of light and fully able to shine brightly. As you move on to either college, military, trade school or directly into the workforce, try to connect yourselves to other likeminded sources of light. Courageously shine among your peers, communities, and organizations. Always remember that you are part of a whole body of light. Stay ready to do good in the world and never, despite the challenges, give up. Thomas Edison said, "Our greatest weakness lies in giving up. The most certain way to succeed is always to try just one more time."

Beaux and Debutantes for Christ, today marks one of many defining moments of transition from high school students to young adults. As you move forward, always remember that even though your future is bright and hopeful, you cannot sustain yourselves. Your attempts to do so will only lead to burnout. Make sure to find your true power source, Christ Jesus, and plug in often to prevent burning out.

Sharon and I encourage you to flip on your light switch and shine because the world needs your beautiful light to brighten the path of others.

Congratulations 2017 Beaux and Debutantes for Christ,  
Pastor Leonard & Sharon Leach



*"It's Not Life without Light"*  
*Scripture John 8:12*

Ayyyyyye! You made it, and I'm so excited for you! When I graduated, my brother said, "welcome to the real world..." and I'll leave it at that. I say that to say this, you've been in the real world; you're just on a different stage now. It comes with its own privileges and its own struggles; it comes with freedom and but also major responsibilities.

Have fun; meet new people; go on trips to different states...during spring break not during classes; join school clubs. If you are feeling really good, start a club. Whatever you do, make the most of this time in this stage of life. Keep up with your grades; study early; do what's necessary to stay on track.

Most importantly, make sure Christ is the center. I want you all to pray for some Godly friends; find a church that is centered around the gospel and serve those around you with a willing heart. What you say you believe will show in your actions.

I love you all. My youth team and I will be in constant prayer for you.

Congratulations 2017 Beaux and Debutantes for Christ,  
Caleb Berry



## Reflections

Mrs. Dorothy Wesley first presented the idea of the Beaux and Debutantes for Christ Program to the Scholarship Ministry in 1978. She had gotten the idea from her home church in Los Angeles, California. In 1979 the Debutantes for Christ began as a program which provided spiritual development for the young ladies of Mt. Hebron, ages 13-19. The young men of the Mount first participated in the program as Beaux for Christ in 1995. For twelve years, the program included competitive awards for Miss/Mr. Congeniality and Volunteer Service. The youth with the highest grade point average, the most volunteer service hours, and the Debutante soliciting the most funds received the Beaux/Debutante for Christ award and reigned for a period of two years. Today, the Beaux and Debutantes for Christ Program generates funds used to support activities of the Scholarship Ministry at Mt. Hebron. The program funds activities such as retreats, career and college seminars, the children's lock-in, college tours, tutoring, cultural activities for the children and youth of Mt. Hebron and scholarships for youth who graduate from high school and enroll in a college/university or trade school. Today, the Beaux and Debutantes have an opportunity to receive the Dorothy Wesley Scholarship, The Mt. Hebron Baptist Church Scholarship and the Volunteer Service Award. Mt. Hebron's past reigning debutantes are Jackie Young, 1979, Michelle Young, 1980, Yolanda Davis, 1981, Carla Wood, 1982, Tiffany Davis, 1983, Shonna Signater, 1985, Kindralyn Banks, 1987, Tiffanie Coleman, 1989, Tabitha Hayes, 1991, Adrian Signater, 1993, Vangee S. Creft, 1995, and Barbara Clark, 1997.



The Beaux and Debutantes for Christ program has evolved and is now a ministry to high school seniors. The Program continues to provide for the spiritual development of the Beaux and Debutantes and serves as a means of financing scholarly activities for students in kindergarten through high school. The Program includes the participation of any high school senior who commits to the requirements of the Program. High school seniors participating in the Program must complete volunteer service/community service hours, a thirteen week Bible study course, become involved in a church ministry and solicit contributions for Mt. Hebron's scholarship fund. All Beaux and Debutantes who graduate from high school and enroll full-time in a post-secondary institution will receive the Mt. Hebron Baptist Church Scholarship and have an opportunity to receive the Dorothy Wesley Scholarship. The Beau or Debutante who solicits the most funds receives the Mt. Hebron Baptist Church Scholarship plus the Dorothy Wesley Scholarship which is 10% of the overall amount generated by the Program. Beaux and Debutantes who meet the goal of \$1,000.00 receive \$20% of the funds personally solicited. All other Beaux and Debutantes receive 10% of the funds they solicit. The program continues to thrive and has provided scholarships to hundreds of youth who have gone to college, graduated, and are now productive members of our society serving where they are planted in the cause of Christ.

# *Dorothy Wesley Scholarship Recipients*

1999 Alana Lyons  
1999 Robert Hurd, Jr.  
2000 Jackie Barnett  
2001 Jonathan Miller  
2002 Tiffany Bride  
2003 Jasmine Smutherman  
2004 Shatise Prowell  
2005 Janae Bride  
2006 Kayli Anais Klass  
2007 Kobrin Wade Brown  
2008 Lawrence J. Jackson  
2009 Lauren Nicole Taylor  
2010 Jacqueline Ronee' Pleasant  
2011 Jusiah Lynn Prowell  
2012 Erin Ayan Gaddis  
2013 Justin Ray Herman  
2014 Lexi Arielle Wesley  
2015 Tatiyonna Nashae Hawkins  
2016 Brianna Renee Natania Buford

# *Dr. Joyce Miller Volunteer Service Award*

2007 Jasmine Pleasant  
2008 Danielle LaDon White  
2009 Brandie Arielle Butler  
2010 Jacqueline Ronee' Pleasant  
2011 Dacia YaKira Kings  
2012 Frederick Berry, II  
2013 D'Andrea Leshae Foreman  
2014 Jaalah Raeann Herman  
2015 Kayla Shaun Dukes  
2016 Taylor Nicole Young

# *Mount Hebron Baptist Church*

## *2016 Scholarship Recipients*

Ashli Raquel Bates	Richland Community College
Garreth "G" Avery Bell	Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi
William Keith Berry	Collin County Community College
Brianna Renee Natania Buford	Duke University
Zaccheaus Carter	McMurry University
Josiah David Cobb	Richland Community College
Taylor Denise Daffin	University of Alabama
Riagn George	Richland Community College
Joshuah Maleek Goss	North Central Missouri University
Aaliyah Alexandria Green	Prairie View A&M University
Gusbot "Bo" Alexander Hayes	Abilene Christian University
Tevvon Lamar Hines	University of North Texas
Destiney Bre'an Kelly	University of North Texas
Drake James Oliver	Prairie View A&M University
Tijonea Yoland Simmons	Richland Community College
Kavion Javai Washington	University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff
Taylor Nicole Young	Langston University

*The 2016 Dorothy Wesley  
Scholarship Recipient*



*Brianna Renee Natania Buford*

Sophomore  
Duke University  
Durham, North Carolina

# 2016 Beaux & Debutantes Program



# *2016 Beaux & Debutantes Program*



# 2016 Beaux & Debutantes Program



# 2016 Beaux & Debutantes Program



# Nicholas Alvie Alexander

It is with great pleasure that we introduce our son, Nicholas Alvie Alexander, a graduating senior at Sachse High School. Nicholas was born on October 17, 1998 in Atlanta, Georgia weighing exactly seven pounds. His father assisted in his delivery.

We have been members of Mt. Hebron for 17 years and Nicholas was dedicated at the Dairy Road location. Nick accepted Christ at the age of 7 when he told Deacon Ed Charles his desire to be baptized. Pastor Leach, whom he affectionately refers to as "Granddaddy," and his Dad, Rev. TC Alexander, subsequently baptized him. At the Mount, Nick has participated in the children's ministry, the youth usher board, step team, and the True Praise Choir. He is currently serving with the Sunday count team alongside his father.

Nicholas attended Kids Across America for nine years and is a recipient of their most distinguished honor, the "I Am Third" award, for putting God first, others second and himself third. Nicholas is also a graduate of the three-year Higher Ground Servant Leadership program. As a part of this program, he participated in several mission trips in challenged communities in Missouri and Oklahoma. This summer he served in both Haiti & the Dominican Republic, both experiences he describes as life-changing.

At the age of four, Nicholas began playing football as well as running track. He had an unrelenting desire for all things sports and was called upon by his peewee coaches to write game plays for them. He enjoyed every aspect of sports and this passion allowed him to develop a strong sense of teamwork, work ethic, leadership and dedication. He was named Offensive MVP as a sophomore, Special Teams MVP as a senior and was ranked fourth fastest football player in the State of Texas.

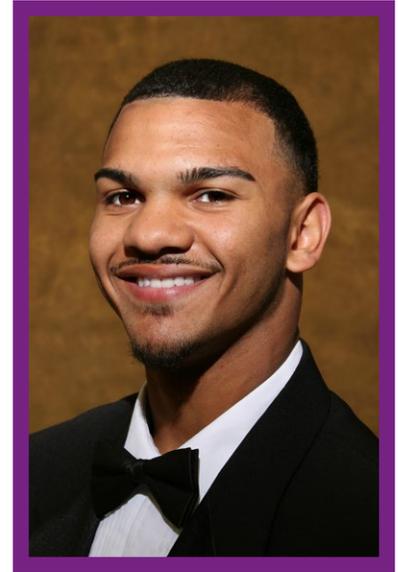
On the track, Nick was a member of the Sachse Varsity team as a freshman. He qualified for the State track meet as a member of the 4x1 relay team that was ranked seventh nationally. Nicholas is currently ranked fourth in Texas and in the top ten nationally. He is a Junior Olympic National Qualifier and has been invited to participate in the prestigious New Balance Invitational in North Carolina in June. He has been awarded the NAACP Athlete of the Year Award as well as the City of Garland Sports Hall of Fame award.

After being pursued by numerous universities for both football and track opportunities, Nicholas has accepted a track scholarship at the University of Houston, where he will be trained by former Olympians Leroy Burrell and Carl Lewis. He aspires to run track professionally and participate in the 2020 Tokyo and 2024 Los Angeles Olympic Games. While attending the University of Houston, Nick plans to pursue a degree in either Criminal Justice or Law.

Nick's favorite scripture is Mark 11:22-24. "And Jesus answered them, 'Have faith in God. Truly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, 'Be taken up and thrown into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that what he says will come to pass, it will be done for him. Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours."

We are proud to say that our son is loyal, dedicated, honest and of strong moral character. We consider it a blessing that neither a teacher nor any authority figure has ever summoned us because of our son's behavior. As parents we don't take that for granted. Nick's most admirable quality, in our opinion, is his humility. He does not boast about himself and prefers his parents not "brag" on him. A close second is his love for family. He always attributes his success to Christ and to the strong support he has always received from what we lovingly call his "village." As parents, we feel blessed to have Nicholas as our son. We will continue to love and support him as he pursues this next phase of his life and have no doubt that the Lord will use him to do great things for His Kingdom.

Love you the most,  
Rev. TC & Gladys Alexander



# Brendan Drew Brooks

Brendon was born on February 2, 1999, and was our first child. We were so blessed that God gave him to us and have been blessed ever since.

Brendon has always loved sports. We would watch sports together every weekend and when he turned three, we signed him up to play soccer. He caught on quickly and has done that every time he has been involved in an activity. Next on his list was football and he started playing that when he was five. He loved flag football and as he got older moved on to tackle. However, basketball is his first love and he continues to play to this day.

While sports kept us all busy, Brendan was making a name for himself in caring and helping others. While attending Liberty Grove Elementary School, he was awarded the Young Citizenship Award from the Rowlett Exchange Club. The award highlighted how he excelled in demonstrating quality conduct in his everyday life, particularly in the areas of Citizenship, Character, Attitude, Service, Academics, Leadership and Sportsmanship. He has always tried to help others to achieve no matter who it was. He has always been like that, and it carried forward through his middle school years and continues through high school.



While attending Schrade Middle School, Brendan excelled in academics and sports. He was awarded the prestigious Falcon of the Year Award, which equates to Student of the Year. The Falcon of the Year embodies being friendly and nice to everyone, having good academics, being a leader, showing good citizenship and having the ability to manage many difficult tasks well. As Brendan has grown, he has focused on helping others and being counted on, no matter what may be needed.

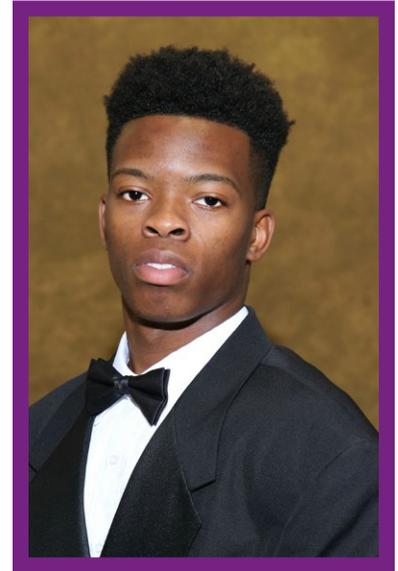
At Lakeview Centennial High School, Brendan has become a three year starter for his basketball team which includes being a captain this year and going 12-0 in their district. His high school major is TV and Broadcasting and he has helped produce several newscasts and short films. He is also a member of the National Society of High School Scholars and has a 3.8 grade point average, while taking advanced placement and dual credit courses.

Brendan has always been the person to bridge the gap between friends. He is the "laid back" one, keeping everyone light and laughing. We pray that God guides his path and places His purpose on his heart. Deuteronomy 31:6 says, "Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you." The journey is not over, and we look forward to all that God will do through you! We love you so much and are so proud of you!

Bill and Dana Brooks

# DyVeon JaJuan Carpenter

Our son, D.J. Carpenter, was born February 10, 1999, approximately two months early and seven whole days before my twenty-first birthday. Although the doctors attempted to delay the delivery you decided this was YOUR birthday and the emergency section was the choice of your delivery. The delivery room was on fast forward because I was unable to deliver and the race was on to ensure you and I both survived. Although it seemed like forever, in a matter of minutes you were delivered, without a sound. The room became silent because your cry was missing, and you had not exhaled your first breath. I still remember the hot tear that rolled down my cheek and the only words I could say were "Please God!" Just like that you exhaled and screamed and we became two separate heartbeats living.



As I looked you over to ensure the presence of 10 toes and fingers, you smiled and your dimples appeared; but of everything that I saw on you it was your left hand that caught my attention. There was shape of a heart as clear as day. I believe that heart was placed on your hand from my mother to let me know she is okay. As you grew you had this idea that you were going to be a preacher and play the drums. You enjoyed playing outside or playing with your imaginary friend, which disturbed me for a while until you told me who it was that kept your attention all day. I will never forget when you were five and I showed you a picture of my mother and you told me you already knew her and how she visits with other kids and you all play together. My heart stopped because my mother passed in 1993 and you had never seen her. I remember telling you to tell her that you couldn't go with her any time soon. I laugh now because your imagination was free and childlike.

Soon it became the time to introduce you to sports; t-ball, basketball and football were the sports we tried out. T-ball was the first to be eliminated, then basketball. However, you quickly learned and enjoyed football. We were your biggest fans, and I was ready to tackle those kids to protect. I saw how you connected with sports and watched you learn offense and defense. I particularly enjoyed watching you teach yourself how to kick. You learned that you could kick a ball using your left or right foot with ease; even your coaches noticed your talent early in your life.

We cheered you on when you came out of your shyness and actually spoke in a class program. When you felt like I was always pushing you for more while you believed that you could only do a little, we let you know you are your only limitation. Here we are, 18 years later, and your high school graduation is upon us. As your mother, I have to believe that you have heard everything your father and I have told you, and you have seen our examples to you during this time. We will continue to cheer you on and encourage you to do your best; however now is the time for you to put into to practice the lessons you were taught. Live your life everyday, and remember that every time you open your eyes, God is telling you that there is still work to be done.

Now is the time for you to leave your footprints by the decisions that you make and the stand you will take even if you are all alone. Hold onto God and always love no matter what, and life will love you back.

We love you, DJ  
Love always, your Mom, Dad, sister and brother

"You must give everything to make your life as beautiful as the dreams that dance in your imagination"  
- Roman Frayser

# Tyler Teressa Davis

It is with great honor and pleasure that we introduce our daughter, Tyler Teressa Davis. Tyler has a very quiet spirit and is somewhat reserved, but her most valued qualities are humility and integrity. At the age of seven, at her own initiative, Tyler asked what she needed to do to be saved because she believed in Jesus. That was the one of the greatest moments of our life, and we have never been more proud of her. She has been a member of The Mount since confessing hope in Christ. During her preteen years she participated in the Praise Dance and Drama Ministries.



Tyler is a graduating senior at Rowlett High School (RHS). She has maintained all A's throughout high school giving her a GPA ranking of 7 out of 749 students her senior class. She is also the highest-ranking African American in her class. Tyler attended Dallas Christian School (K-5th), Vernon Schrade (6th), and the Classical Center at Brandenburg (7th-8th). Tyler is a member of the National Honor Society and the National Society of High School Scholars. In her junior year she was voted "Best Editor" by the high school yearbook staff and voted "All RHS" her sophomore and junior years by the high school faculty based on academic excellence and exceptional behavior in the classroom. Her love for art enabled her to receive two Honorable Mentions at the Garland ISD Student Art Show for a mixed media and pencil drawing.

Tyler has served her community by volunteering for the National Food Bank Drive, Toys for Tots, Buckner Shoes for Orphan Souls, Crohn's & Colitis Foundation, Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, and the Perot Museum of Nature and Science. However, her greatest service was the assistance she provided at home assisting in the care of her 106-year-old great-grandmother for five years.

Tyler has a strong passion and love for gymnastics. Because of her tumbling and flipping throughout the house as a toddler, we placed her in gymnastics at the age of 18 months at the suggestion of a family friend. Over time she excelled in gymnastics, reaching Level 10, and has gone on to compete and win at the State and Regional Levels. She qualified and competed at the Junior National Level in 2016 and 2017. Tyler has also studied ballet and Taekwondo.

Tyler sacrificed much of her social life to achieve the goals she set for herself in gymnastics and in school but she believes that her hard work will pay off in the long run. She says that "even if the benefits don't show up quickly, they will come in due time, and will be manifest in different forms." She has faced some difficult trials and tests in her life that at times made her question God's love for her but sooner than later, she always realized that He never left her and loved her through each of those moments.

Tyler received acceptance letters and scholarship offers from several exceptional schools that also recruited her to compete in their gymnastics programs. After much consideration, Tyler accepted a Congressional Appointment to the United States Air Force Academy where she will pursue a degree in bioengineering and compete in their NCAA Division I Gymnastics Program.

We pray she will continue walking with God, mature in her faith, and seek His plan for her life.

Lawrence and Teressa Davis

# Donald Leon Dobson

Our son, Donald Leon Dobson Jr, the proud son of Angela and Donald Dobson Sr. We have been members of Mt. Hebron for over 16 years. He is escorted by his mom Angela Perry Dobson. Donald is a graduating senior at Rowlett High School. Where he is involved in Varsity football, Band and track. In 2013-2014, Donald, along with other band members, received the outstanding percussion concert band award. As an only child Donald has been the recipient of an abundance of blessings and love from family, friends and others since even before birth.

Donald was a graduate of Mt. Hebron Christian Academy class of 2010 where he grew spiritually. As a member of Mt. Hebron Church, Donald has participated in AWANA, Genesis of Praise, True Praise and Bible Drill.

Early in life, our family attended Leath Street B.C. where Donald was christened. At a very early age, he showed an interest in music, particularly the drums. At the age of 3 we bought him a junior set of drums and the drummer at the church began teaching him. On Sunday services he played beside the drummer at church.

Donald also participated in the City of Garland's national Prayer Day where he prayed and represented Mt. Hebron Christian Academy in leading the program in prayer. He also participated in sports with the Rowlett Mustangs and the speed racers under the leadership of coach Kelvin Curry, TC Alexander and coach Ralph Wells. He played football, basketball and track and won district and regional awards in track Shot-putt.

Donald attended Schrade Middle School where he received Athlete of the Year 2011-2012. Donald has been honored this year as First Team All District Tight End in Garland. Donald will be attending Southern Arkansas University this fall on a Football scholarship. Donald's Major is Business Administration. Donald's favorite Bible verses are Roman 8:28. And we know that all things work together for them that love God, to them who are called according to his purpose; and Roman 8:31, what shall we then say to these things? If God be for us who can be against us? And Psalm 19:14 Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, my strength, and my redeemer. Donald's favorite songs are "Never would have made it," "He saw the best in me," "Order my Steps," and "Stand."

We Love You, Donald,

Angela and Donald Dobson Sr.



# Sahara Ollie Fox

Sahara Ollie Fox was born June 29, 1999 and was a highly anticipated addition to her family and extended family. At six months of age she was christened at Victory Baptist Church of Rowlett by Pastor Kyle Brown. Sahara seemed to love church and fellowship from the very beginning. We knew early on that she would love to sing because before she could walk, Sahara would hum and rock all on her own.

Sahara accepted Jesus Christ as her Lord and Savior at the age of 11 as she entered middle school. It was at this time that she began a whirlwind of involvement at school and in the church. The Lord blessed her with a spirit of peace and leadership which led her to serve as a Peer Mediator and Mentor at Schrade Middle School, earning a Certificate of Completion in Peer Mediation. In her 7th grade year Sahara founded the first ever step team at her school called the Schrade Steppers. The following summer, Sahara began attending Mount Hebron's Crush Camp, and her love for the Lord blossomed exponentially through her participation in the many daily activities involving praise and fellowship. During this time she also participated in her school choir and served as the Schrade Mascot.



In 2013 Sahara began attending Sachse High School, and quickly began establishing herself as a leader, serving as the Freshman Choir President. She joined the Sachse Show Stoppers Step Team and became an integral part of the multicultural club, serving both as host and participant in the Hispanic Heritage and Black History programs for multiple years. Sahara is also a prolific song writer and natural poet. She participates in the Garland All City Choir and has competed in Garland NAACP's ACTSO program in the vocal contemporary category. Sahara is currently a reporter for the Mustang Report video broadcast at Sachse High School and actively participates in Musical Theater. Sahara is a member of the True Praise Choir serving in the music ministry at Mount Hebron.

We are extremely proud of the young lady and person that Sahara has become, and we look forward to seeing how the Lord will continue to work through her. Sahara will be attending Southern University as a Legacy student in the fall of 2017 where she plans to continue serving as a crusader for Christ. Her favorite scripture says, "Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity." - I Timothy 4:12

Damon and Nicole Fox

# *Kashir Ali Hopkins*

We are the proud parents of Kashir Ali Hopkins. Kashir initially attended Lakeview Centennial High School where he was in the collegiate program; however, due to unforeseen circumstances, we thought it best to withdraw him while he was in good standing. He is presently a graduating senior at Garland High School. Kashir has been on the A/B honor roll the majority of his high school years and his favorite subject is science.

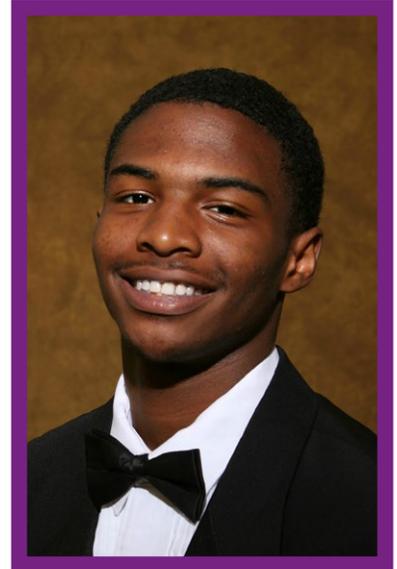
On Thanksgiving Day of his sophomore year, his father had a stroke. While he was recovering and rehabilitating from the stroke, he had a heart attack. On Christmas Eve, that same year, Kashir's father had another stroke. This was very crucial time in Kashir's life because young men need a father in their life. During this time, Kashir has shown he can be strong mentally and spiritually. His father is still bedridden; however, other father figures in Kashir's life have stepped up to help him, and for that we are grateful.

Kashir has always had a love for basketball on different levels. He participated in the basketball program at Lakeview High School his freshman year and was chosen as captain of the team. He played junior varsity and varsity at Garland High School. He did not always have the opportunity to play, but that experience exposed his character, showing him to have heart, and proved he is not a quitter. Being on the basketball team showed he can handle the ups and downs and still persevere.

Kashir plans to attend Texas A&M Commerce or North Texas State University and major in sports marketing. His favorite scripture is Philippians 4:13 which says, "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me". I personally feel this verse was made for him.

I have always told Kashir to give 110% in everything he does because if he slacks a little bit, he will still have contributed 100%. He knows nothing is promised to him and that he has to do his part. He also knows to put God first, to avoid doing anything illegal or immoral, and to make his parents proud.

We Love you, Kashir,  
Mom and Dad,  
Randolph & Michelle Hopkins



# *Daria Monique Howard*

Our daughter, Daria Monique Howard, is a graduating senior at Rockwall High School. She is the older of two children. Daria has always achieved academic excellence, which has continued in high school where she has consistently maintained a 3.5 GPA or higher. Daria is a member of the National Society of High School Scholars and the Garland NAACP. Some of her extra-curricular activities include basketball and choir.

Daria has been a member of Mt. Hebron Missionary Baptist Church for 10 years. She has served in Genesis of Praise, the Glory Dance Ministry, and is currently active in True Praise. She has participated in Kids Across America summer camp for four years. There she was involved in community service projects such as planting and gardening for the local arboretum and counseling the younger kids in the youth camps. Daria later advanced to the Higher Ground Servant Leadership Program where she completed the required bible study lessons. She helped feed the homeless and also served as a Teacher's Aide with at-risk children at the Mission Shelter. Her favorite scripture is Jeremiah 29:11 "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."



Daria currently works at Baylor Scott and White Medical Center in the nursery and neonatal intensive care unit. Her desire is to pursue a career as a pediatric or neonatal nurse. She has been accepted into Stephen F. Austin University, where she will obtain a Bachelor of Science degree in nursing.

We are so proud of you, Daria, and all your accomplishments. Continue to remain focused and always keep God first in your life. To God be the glory!

Darrick and Monica Howard

# Programme

## **"It's Not Life Without Light"**

Then Jesus spoke to them again saying, " I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

Prelude Performance

**Genesis of Praise**

Lolitha Pleasant-Herman, Director

Musical Prelude

*Entrance of Future Beaux and Debutantes  
Entrance of Parents of Beaux and Debutantes*

Invocation

**Rai'gn Simone Taylor**, Debutante 2016

Richland College

Dorothy Wesley Scholarship, 2nd Runner up

Greetings

**Taylor Nicole Young**, Debutante 2016

Langston University

Dr. Joyce E. Kyle Miller Volunteer Service Award

## *Presentation of 2017 Beaux and Debutantes for Christ*

**Deacon Ken and Deaconess Valrie Jones  
Deacon A.J. And Deaconess Sarah Signater,**

*parents of Debutante Shonna Pumphrey 1985, Debutante Adrian Signater 1993, grandparents of Beau Jonathan Signater 2012*

BEAU **NICHOLAS ALVIE ALEXANDER**

BEAU **BRENDAN DREW BROOKS**

BEAU **DyVEON JaJUAN CARPENTER**

DEBUTANTE **TYLER TERESSA DAVIS**

BEAU **DONALD LEON DOBSON**

DEBUTANTE **SAHARA OLLIE FOX**

BEAU **KASHIR ALI HOPKINS**

DEBUTANTE **DARIA MONIQUE HOWARD**

DEBUTANTE **KENEDI SAUMMONE JOHNSON**

DEBUTANTE **JAELENE IMANI LUPER**

BEAU **KAMRON TRAVON MATTHEWSON**

BEAU **CHRISTOPHER GRANT MCKENDALL**

BEAU **JAMIRIK RASHAD McLEOD**

DEBUTANTE **OLIVIA NANCY NKECHI OKAFOR**

BEAU **MICHAEL ANTHONY PURDY, II**

DEBUTANTE **ARRYAN LAVON ROBERTSON**

DEBUTANTE **CASEY SEON THURMOND**

BEAU **CALEB MICHAEL WESLEY**

BEAU **LANCE XAVIER WRIGHT**

Tribute to Beaux and Debutantes,  
Glory Dancers

**"I Never Lost My Praise," Tremaine Hawkins**

Reflections

**Brianna Renee Natania Buford**, Debutante 2016

2016 Dorothy Wesley Scholarship Recipient

Duke University, Durham, North Carolina

Expressions of Love

**Herb and Kelly Buford**

Parents of Debutante Brianna Renee Natania Buford

Prayer of Dedication

**Rev. Caleb Berry, Youth Pastor,**  
Mt. Hebron Baptist Church

Tribute in Song

**2017 Beaux and Debutantes for Christ**  
"Pulling Me Through" Todd Delaney

Mount Hebron Baptist  
Church Scholarship Award

**Deacon Cletis Rumphs** and  
**Deaconess Cassandra Rumphs.**  
Parents of Debutante Clarissa 2005  
Debutante Celeste 2009,  
Beau Ceon Rumphs 2012

The Dorothy Wesley Scholarship Award

**Deacon David and Deaconess Ethelene Lyons**  
parents of Debutante Andrea 1999 and  
Debutante Alan Lyons 1999

The Dr. Joyce E. Kyle Miller  
Volunteer Service Award

**Shonna Signater Pumphrey, BBA, CPA**  
Texas A&M University College Station  
1985 Debutante Queen

Outstanding Male and  
Female Youth Award

**Kindralyn Banks Lott, BS**  
Texas Woman's University  
1987 Debutante Queen

Invitation to Christ

**Rev. Caleb Berry, Youth Pastor,**  
Mt. Hebron Baptist Church

**Rev. Caleb Berry, Youth Pastor,**  
Mt. Hebron Baptist Church

## *Passing of the Baton Ceremony*

Presentation of the Charge

**Beau DyVeon JaJuan Carpenter**

Acceptance of the Charge

**Haylea McNeal, 11th Grade**

Remarks and Recognitions of  
Former Beaux and Debutantes

**Marilyn Taylor Walker, Scholarship, Chairperson**

***Photography Session — Audience, please remain seated***  
***Kenneth Brown, Sr., Photographer***

Benediction

**Pastor Leonard O. Leach, Senior Pastor**  
Mt. Hebron Baptist Church

Recessional

**2017 Beaux and Debutantes for Christ**

# *Kenedi Saummone Johnson*

Our daughter, Kenedi Saummone Johnson is a graduating sophomore. She has been given the opportunity to graduate at the age of fifteen (15) years old and we are very proud of her. Kenedi is a member of National Honor Society. She was also a proud member of the Lady Tigers Volleyball team. At school, she is known to present excellent projects for her school's STEM fair each year. Presently, Kenedi is taking dual credit classes at Richland College. Due to the rigorous work that is given, she is unable to join many clubs. We are proud of her accomplishments.



Kenedi goes to Harmony School of Innovation. As a member of Mount Hebron Missionary Baptist Church, Kenedi has previously participated in True Praise. She is presently a part of the Youth Usher Ministry.

Kenedi has always wanted to help others ever since she was a child. In fact, her favorite game was playing doctor. That is exactly what she wants to do in life. She aspires to become a cardiothoracic surgeon at John Hopkins University. Colleges from New York to California to Hawaii have been scouting her. She has actually been chosen to represent Texas at the Congressional Medical Delegates Conference. Kenedi also has a keen interest in social issues, especially civil rights. She speaks her mind on her social media accounts. Others respond to her, which they always do in a positive manner.

Kenedi has chosen to go to Middle State Georgia University. They have offered her a full four-year scholarship. Kenedi's focused and sharp mind, maturity, and astounding grades have allowed her to receive this amazing opportunity. We are extremely proud of her daughter.

Adrian and Sandra Johnson

# Jaelene Imani Luper

Jaelene Imani Luper was born on April 13, 1999 in Iowa City, Iowa, and is the firstborn daughter of James and Willene Luper. The “Ja” in her name is borrowed from her father, James; and the “lene” in her name is borrowed from her mother, Willene. Her middle name, “Imani,” means “faith” in Swahili. To be sure, Jaelene has lived up to her name as she exudes, equally, qualities inherited from both her mother and father. And her faith is clearly demonstrated in her devotion to and walk with Christ.

Jaelene’s ambition to live for Christ translates into fruitful work and accomplishments. She has painted houses for the needy; conducted community bible studies with neighborhood children; and done mission work and servant leadership in Rio Grande through Christ in Action, a Christian youth leadership group. She has twice attended Kids Across America, an urban leadership training summer camp, and has volunteered at other Christian-based youth programs such as Young Life and the Summer Arts and Athletic Camp. Jaelene was a Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) member and officer throughout middle school. Currently, she The Youth Choir and she has participated in AWANAS, and youth other ministries at Mt. Hebron.



Jaelene is a graduating senior at Lakeview Centennial High School (LCHS) in Garland, Tx. During her time at Lakeview, she has maintained a 3.6 GPA while balancing a rigorous schedule of school-related and extracurricular activities. To wit, Jaelene has been an athletic trainer for three years while also participating in cheerleading, track, student council, Louder Than A Bomb – an expressive writing and poetry organization—and her school’s theatre program, where she earned main parts in the plays High School Musical and Alice in Wonderland, and the leading role in Cinderella.

Outside of LCHS, Jaelene, as a member of Wylie Elite Cheer, participated in at least a dozen competitive cheer competitions throughout the United States, culminating in a third-place finish in their division in the annual national cheer competition held in Dallas, Tx in February, 2017. In fact, Jaelene’s love of cheer has helped her to develop key leadership traits, a strong work ethic, and a fierce determination to achieve the goals that she sets for herself. For example, at LCHS she was voted Head Cheerleader two consecutive years in a row. Through Wylie Elite Cheer, she was able to secure a job as a cheer and tumbling coach at a local gymnastics business. In turn, she was able to achieve another of her goals of earning a prestigious position as a staff cheerleader with the NCA (National Cheerleader’s Association). Jaelene sees herself opening her own cheer and athletic gym some day.

Jaelene’s vivacious personality and leadership qualities are not lost on her peers either. She was voted vice president of her class two years in a row. She won Homecoming Princess for her class in 2016, and has been nominated for Class Favorite, Most Talented, and Miss LC (Lakeview Centennial).

Jaelene will be graduating from Lakeview Centennial in early June, 2017. Shortly thereafter, in an effort to continue her education, she will attend the University of Kansas where she will double major in Physical Therapy/Sports Medicine and Health Nutrition/Wellness. Her interest in this field began many years ago (in the 5th grade) when she broke her leg in a skating accident, but was fascinated by the healing process, as the bone with the break mended and became even stronger than before. It comes as no surprise that Jaelene’s interest in the healing properties of the human body coupled with her genuine care and concern for people would lead her into Sports Medicine.

Of course, as her parents, James and Willene, we stand in agreement with the scripture Jeremiah 29:11: “For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord. Plans to prosper you and not to harm you. Plans to give you hope and a future.” As far as we can remember, Jaelene truly has had a heart and mind for people other than herself. Our belief is that God began a good work in her and He will finish it until the end. We know that as long as she continues to put Him first in everything, and do His work following her passion, she will succeed. And our advice to Jaelene: If you want to be blessed, you can’t curse the struggle. God is just trying to prepare you for what he has prepared for you.

James and Willene Luper

## *Kamron Travon Matthewson*

Our son, Kamron Matthewson, was baptized at the age of twelve and accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as his Savior. He has worked in several ministries of the church, including the Usher ministry, Drama, and served as Youth Coach of the Upward Basketball Christian League. Kamron is set to graduate as a 2-year varsity basketball player and academically, a Distinguished Senior at Sachse High School. He plans to continue his basketball career at the next level.

Kamron has always been respectful and easygoing. He has a great sense of humor and quick wit, while being a positive influence on everyone he comes in contact with. He is a great role model to his two younger siblings, whom he is very attentive to. Kamron enjoys writing narratives and listening to music, as well as embracing foreign culture through things such as Manga and Anime. He is very polite, helpful, and always eager to offer insightful advice to peers. This helpful spirit nudged him to participate in several hundred hours of community service over the past few years.



It was evident starting in the fourth grade, when he took on the role of Barack Obama in a school play, that writing and speaking were his gifts. That translated into him receiving the Presidential Scholar Award for the state writing test at the age of nine. Later in middle school, he won the District Award for UIL Impromptu Speaking. As he matriculates through high school, he has taken on several dual credit college courses which will allow him to enter college as a second semester freshman. Kamron's transcript and SAT/ACT scores have made him eligible for over seven full academic college scholarships.

We are very proud of the young man Kamron has become, and look forward to seeing what God has planned for him as he begins the next chapter.

Tra and Kimberly Matthewson

# Christopher Grant McKendall

Beau Christopher Grant McKendall is the son of Christopher Michael McKendall and Laurie J. McKendall. He is the paternal grandson of the Zelda McKendall and the late Elsworth McKendall. He is the maternal grandson of Annie (Johnson) Record and the late Cleve Johnson Jr. Grant is the proud brother of siblings Avis, Kennedy, and Christian. Grant is a baptized member of the Mt. Hebron Baptist Church, where he participates in the youth ministry. His favorite bible verse is Matthew 23:11 "The greatest among you will be your servant."

Grant is a graduating senior student at Rowlett High School where he is an established thespian (theater student) and student body leader. Grant is the Rowlett Iron Eagle's captain and voted Mr. Rowlett High School 2016 by the faculty and student body. He is an awarded Choir UIL award recipient. He is academically accomplished, pursuing a challenging Advance Placement curriculum.

Grant is the recipient of the Barack Obama Presidential Gold Service Award, which he earned by volunteering more than 250 hours of service in one year. Grant is an NAACP Image Award recipient as well as a member of the Garland NAACP. Grant participated in the Delta EMBODI program. Grant is completing his Taekwondo requirements to earn his Black Belt. He is also in the final phase of earning his Eagle Scout Badge. Grant is a member of the Northeast Dallas Chapter of Jack and Jill where he serves at the current Teen President and he has served as Teen President for the past three years.

Grant will attend Texas A&M University where he will major in Computer Science. Grant's desire is to attend law school after he completes his undergraduate degree.

Grant is considered a caring, considerate and an independent thinker. His favorite quote by President Barack Obama "Where we are met with cynicism and doubts and those who tell us that we can't, we will respond with that timeless creed that sums up the spirit of a people: Yes, we can."

Chris & Laurie McKendall



# Jamirik Rashad McLeod

Jamirik Rashad McLeod was born June 9, 1999, and raised in Dallas, Texas. His mother was born in Magnolia, Mississippi and father was born in Jackson, Mississippi they both graduated from Jackson State University and moved to Dallas, Texas in 1991.

Jamirik is the youngest of two son and has an older brother named Jarvis McLeod. Jarvis is a senior at University of North Texas pursuing a degree in Mass Media production and film. Jamirik was always inspired by his older brother, which led to his interests in graphic art, film, photography, and video production. Jamirik is currently a graduating senior at Rowlett High School, where he is an active officer in the DECA club. In 2016, he was one of the district winners sent to represent the District of North Texas at the DECA State competition. Jamirik is a very talented graphic artist, he designed a t-shirt and his design was chosen to represent DECA for the District of North Texas for 2017. Jamirik is very active at Rowlett High School. He assists with school events such as filming and editing videos for student activities. When Jamirik was in middle school he received the Golden Paw award at Coyle Middle School, and his name will forever hang on the wall at Coyle Middle School. Jamirik will be graduating on June 3, 2017, and he plans to attend Lamar University in Beaumont, Texas this fall to pursue a degree in Mass Communication with a concentration in media and film production. Jamirik has always been very dedicated and hardworking when trying to achieve his goals. His goal is to one day own a production studio where he can be the producer and director of mass production. Jamirik has a bright future as long as he keep his faith strong and remember his Christian values.



Jeffery & Robin McLeod

# Olivia Nancy Nkechi Okafor

Our daughter, Olivia Nancy Nkechi Okafor, is a graduating senior at Naaman Forest High School, in Garland TX. She is a cheerful, energetic, and family oriented person with a positive spirit. She grew up so fast in front of our eyes, and we are very grateful to God. She enjoys church activities. She likes assisting people and helping the needy through volunteer activities. Olivia began singing at church, and school at a young age. She attended various functions with the school choir.

Olivia ran track in middle school and in High School. Her favorite race were relays, and the 400m. She won medals at the track meets, and when she didn't win any she still had a positive attitude.

Coming into High School Olivia wanted to get involved, so she joined the Drill Team. Naaman Forest High School also has a fashion show that she participated in each year. Her first year she modeled in the show. After taking a year of fashion design class she learned how to sew and designed outfits for her group of models. Olivia is an amazing stylist.

Olivia has faithfully attended Mount Hebron Missionary Baptist Church for at least 4 years, and has actively participated in Mount Hebron True Praise Youth Choir, Women of Destiny conferences, Summer Art and Athletic camp and Higher Ground. Olivia is a self motivated and hardworking young lady. She keeps up with her school work and grades in addition to her part time job.

We are so proud of her achievements. We wanted to buy her first car for her this year, but she insisted on buying it herself with parental supervision. Things like that really show us that she's growing up to be very responsible. Olivia plans to continue her education at a community college, then transfer to a four year university.

She likes praying, reading and writing. On her free time she loves to watch family shows or hang out with friends. We are grateful to God for all He has done, still doing and what He is going to do in her life. To God be the glory. Amen.

Rev. George and Theresa Okafor



# *Michael Anthony Purdy, II*

We are proud to introduce our son to you, Michael A. Purdy II,

Michael is a graduating Senior at Lakeview Centennial High School. At school, his activities include ACappella Choir, Freedom Show Choir, Minuteman and Gymnastics. In the community, he participated in Boy Scouts where he did community clean ups after various activities.

Michael plans to attend Richland Community College and then transfer to a university. His ambition is to become known in the music industry and plan to create quality music.

Early in life, Michael did not truly understand how God really worked. After some serious challenges, he met God with serious intentions after going to a family friend's church. At 13, he listened to the sermon and felt God really spoke to him and encouraged him to get back in touch with God. Since then, he has seen many blessings come. A scripture he has found that can get him through the day is Philippians 4:13. It reads, "I can do all things through him who gives me strength."

Jackie Purdy & Michael Purdy Sr.



# Arryan Lavon Robertson

My daughter Arryan Robertson was born on August 11, 1999 and she is a graduating senior from Naaman Forest High School.

She began her education at J.W. Ray Elementary School and further along also Schrade Middle School. During her seventh grade year at Schrade Middle School Arryan was selected by the teachers and principals to receive the Goldie Locke Excel.

At the age of thirteen, Arryan decided to give her life to Jesus Christ and accept him as her Lord and Savior. She was baptized at the greatest church, Mt. Hebron Missionary Baptist Church. Throughout her years of high school Arryan has kept her focus on education and maintained all A's & B's.

Arryan is going to keep God her number priority at Prairie View A&M University. Arryan has one sister who was a Debutante and now attends Sam Houston State University. She has one brother who attends Cedar Park High School.



As a young child, Arryan volunteered her time at the South Dallas nursing home where she played games with the residents and participated in spa day. As a teenager she volunteered her services at Circle of Support Summer Camp in South Dallas under the supervision of DISD Bernadette Nutall.

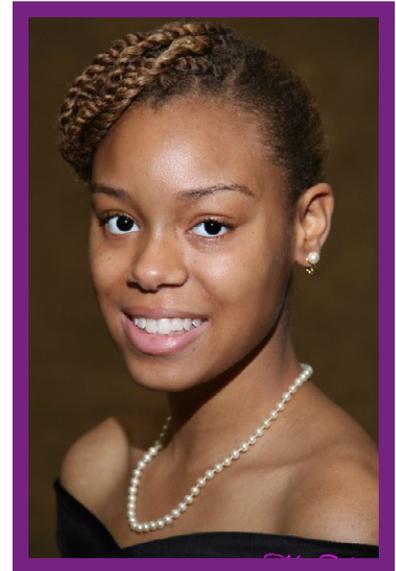
Dreaming of owning her own daycare, Arryan will major in early childhood education and minor in business. Arryan has passion for working with children. Arryan's favorite bible verse is Joshua 1:9, "Haven't I commanded you: be strong and courageous? Do not be afraid or discouraged, for the lord your God is with you wherever you go." As Arryan leaves for to attend college, Arryan plans to keep her focus and let God take control of her life and guide her in the right direction. I am looking forward to all the great things God has planned for Arryan as she begins her next chapter in life.

Carla Wilson and Clinton Robertson

# Casey Seon Thurmond

My daughter, Casey Thurmond, was born October 18th and is the oldest of my two children. She is currently a graduating senior at Naaman Forest High School. Casey is an athlete at heart. She was always most comfortable with a basketball or volleyball in her hand. She played on both the varsity basketball and volleyball teams for Naaman Forest. Casey was also voted as the 2017 most offensive player of the year in volleyball while serving as a middle blocker. She served as the basketball manager her senior year. Casey decided as a freshman that she was interested in science and medicine and is going to continue down this path during her college career.

Casey has determined that her major will be nursing with a specialty in neurology. She is full of energy and always willing to help others. Casey is very well known at her school as someone that her friends refer to as "Mama Bear" because of her constantly giving her friends sound advice on making smart decisions. Casey's personality and sense of humor are encompassing. When she is in the room, you know it. Her sense of humor and intelligence are the two things for which she is most known.



Casey is a military brat and because of that she has had the opportunity to travel. Casey and her family have been members of and deep rooted at Mt. Hebron since 1972. She has actively spent her senior year assisting in the Mt. Hebron Children's Nursery with the 2 year olds. Casey was baptized on June 14th, 2009.

Casey has been accepted to attend Texas A&M University – Commerce and will be going there in the fall of 2017.

Joshua 1:9 "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go."

Love always,  
Melani Clemmons and Gregory Thurmond

# Caleb Michael Wesley

We would like to introduce our second born child to you, his name is Caleb Michael Wesley. Caleb is a graduating senior at Rockwall High School. Caleb has been a member of The Mount since 1999, when his parents moved from Lubbock, Texas. He accepted Christ and was baptized at the age of 8 years old. Caleb started his education at Rockwall Christian Academy and later moved to Rockwall ISD for the rest of his education.

Caleb started his journey in GOP (Genesis of Praise) under the leadership of his father, Eric Wesley, who was the children's pastor at that time. He then moved to True Praise. Caleb was also an active member in Bible Drill and he participated in the Kids Across America camp and the Higher Ground Servant Leadership program.

While at Rockwall High School, Caleb has been on the varsity basketball team since his sophomore year. Through the basketball program, Caleb has participated in community service activities, such as feeding the poor, giving can goods to those in need, assisting at Helping Hands and sponsoring a child for Christmas who was less fortunate.

Caleb has a passion for basketball, and whenever he has free time, you will not have to go far to find him because he usually spends it in the gym working to improve his basketball skills. Caleb has had a basketball in his hand since age 3. He has played basketball across the United States with various AAU teams. He was invited to an elite basketball camp last summer at Barry University in Miami, Florida. Caleb also has played football and attended performance camps at Rockwall High School where he received the highest award as being the star player of the year for Performance Camp.

In his spare time he loves to listen to music, watch movies and hang out with friends and family.

Caleb's aspirations are to attend a four year university where he will study sports medicine or physical therapy. We are very proud of the young man he has become and we look forward to seeing what God has in store for him.

Rev. Eric and Terri Wesley



# Lance Xavier Wright

It gives me great pleasure to introduce my son Lance Xavier Wright Jr. He was born on June 16, 1999. Lance is a graduating senior at Garland High School. He received an early Christian foundation attending Mt. Hebron Christian Academy and was baptized at Mt. Hebron Missionary Baptist Church at a very early age. He participated in Genesis of Praise, Sunday school and Awanas. Lance also served on the youth usher board, AV ministry and is active in True Praise.

The greatest accomplishment Lance has made in his life is to have accepted Jesus as his Savior. As a little boy we would learn Bible scriptures. One of his favorites scriptures was, "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me," Philippians 4:13." He would write down goals he wanted to accomplish and put them in a place that was visible. He learned early on in his life that without God, the goals he set for himself are meaningless.

Lance attended Park Crest Elementary School where he received the NAACP Goldie Locke Excel Award. He was also selected for the National Society of High School Scholars. Lance is also a true athlete at heart. Sports has always been a major part of his life. In his younger years, he played Soccer, Track and Field for which he received many medals. As he got older, he began to develop a great love for Basketball. He has played for his high school team for the last four year of school. Lance is a team leader and demonstrates his leadership on his school's basketball team. He is passionate, committed and dedicated to encouraging and inspiring his teammates. He has received honors on his High School team for being best defensive player of the year. Without Christ in his life none of these accomplishments would be possible.

My prayer for Lance is the he walks in the purpose and plan that God has ordained for his life. "Jeremiah 29:11. For I know the plans 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".

Lance and Vera Wright



## *Platinum Plus*

Anthony & Tammy Abernathy

Mildred Abu

David & Barbara Anderson

Clara Batty

Beverly Clemmons Beasley

Mark Beasley

Kimberly & Bruce Bell

Dwight & Willie Bogar

Ken & Marilyn Brown

Herb & Kelly Buford

Ed & Doris Charles

Lawrence & Teressa Davis

Frederick & Karen Ellis

Damon Fox

Barbara Bogan Giles

Joyce Guthrie

Michael Harris

Peter & Doris Harris

Laura A Johnson

Philip & Pam Klass

Rev. Leonard & Sharon Leach

David & Ethelene Lyons

Toya Majors

Fannon & Stacy Meador

Daryl & Camille Miller

James & Joyce Miller

Deacon Robert & Loray Montgomery

Lyndon & Lori Moorehead

Willie C Owens

Clarissa Rumphs

Shelita Seals

Mario & Rachelle Shane

Ricky & Kathy Shavers

Jesse & Deborah Smutherman

Southern University Alumni Dallas

Kelly & Dolores Stewart

Matthew & Marilyn Walker

Herma Walls-Wilson

Eric & Terri Wesley

Mrs. Loretta M. Williams

# Platinum

Antoine & Kimberly Abernathy

Zaneta Adams

Carla Lee Allen

Mary Austin

Edna Moss Ball

David Batty

Travis & Shakira Bolton

Keith Boutte & Family

James & Valerie Bride & Family

Cathy Brighenti

Melvin & Geneva Bright

Kevin Bullard

Renisha C. Butler-Guilliod, MD

Theresa Cannon-Pruitt

Arthur Castle

Winston & Lola Champion

Wathenia Clark

Cassandra Clemmons

Gwen Clemmons

Gail Belinda Cook

Carolyn Crawford

T'Shaunda Davis

Laressa Dent

Helen Dorsey

Melanie Gonzalez

Tiffany Gray

Elrie & Kelly Freeman

Henry & Felicia Hammons

Bernard & Elina Henderson

Louanna Henderson

Willie Henderson

Norwood & Betty Henry

Michelle Hopkins

Stephanie Hosea

Monica Howard

Minnie Hudson

Rev. Mary E. Hyman, M. Div.

Mrs. Clarence (Ruth) James

Jeffery Jamerson

Ethel Jernigan

Patience Johnson

Rose Johnson

Diamond Jones

Faye Jones

James & Stella Jones

Ken & Val Jones

Ruth Jones

Elvin & Patricia McCurdy

Jeff & Robin McLeod

Ricky & Najeda McNeal

## *Platinum*

Vernessia Oyetade

Keenan Paris

Greg & Shonna Pumphrey

Delois Purdy

Virginia Ross

Cletis & Cassandra Rumphs

Dennis & Sherry Russell

Valencia Scott

Brian & Carol Shelton

AJ & Sarah Signater

Steven & Shirlene Singleton

Hughie & Frances Smith

Julia Stephens

Margarine Terry

Geraldine Vine

Ivan & Debra Walls

Dorothy Walls-Douglas

Helen Juanita Walls-Pace

Robert & Paula White

Chonda Williams

Dennye Williams

Janice Williams

Diane Willis

Marcus Wyatt & Phyllis Wright

Harold & Tiye Young

## *Gold*

Barbara Arnick

Shawna Baker

Roosevelt & Roslyn Broach

Larry & Maggie Brooks

Mr. & Mrs. Ronnie Brown

Vincent & Jackie Butler

Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Collins

Alphonse & Tabitha Ford

Hazel Griffith

James & Tominko Musco

Theresa Okafor

Jason Smith

Gary & Susan Taylor

Felicia Thompson

Greg Thurmond

Jerry & Karen Tyler

## *Silver*

Tangela D Allison

Josephine Anthony

Billy & Michelle Armstrong

Nina Austin

James & Melba Barnett

Jesse Bell

Linda Bell

Caleb Berry

Gloria Young Brody

Cammie Brown

Linda Brown

Evelyn Carr

Lynn & Annette Coumpy

Loretta Deal

Norman Dillon Jr.

Tobie Donnell

Jacqueline Ellis

Dr. Aaron Gaddis

Mattie Gray

Vicky Jackson-High

Alfred Hudson

Tamara Jeffery

Sandra Johnson

Debra Jones

Fred Jones

Jannie Lowe

Felicia Lucas

Penny Miller

NAACP Branch #6260

Gwendolyn & Robert Pullum

Lilia Rangel

Jimmie D Rankin

Gwendolyn Richardson

Bonita Rodgers

Glendell Sample

Barranda Shepherd

William & Shirley Sibley

James Spencer

Anthony & Sandra Turner

Patrick Turner

Ronald & Kimberly Turner

Charles Wesley

Quincy Williams

Robert & Felicia Yankson

Cleve Young

# Bronze

Dhawn Alexander

Arlester Andrews

Ebonii J Bell

James Berry

Kristie Berry

Sandra Berry

Jowana Billingly

Fannie Blunt

Mary Brannon

Mary Broadnax

David & Sabrina Butler

Ora Byrd

Christine Cuffie

Jan Dawson

Beverly Dorsey

Erica Duncan

Cynthia Durham

Karana Fairley

Jerridean Gallagher

Queen Gallagher

Dana Glenn

Tonya Goffney

Erika Hamilton

Judie Hanes

Marquis Hankins

Marwan Henderson

Linda Herman

Jennifer Hollins

Ashley Howland

Alfred Hudson

Saundra Johnson

Shanita Jones

Sharon Lee

Portia & Jose Machado

Danisha Malcolm

Tess McCall

Jarvis McLeod

L.F. McLeod

Rodney & Michell McLeod

Joan Rauls Merklelove

Kathy Norderhaug

Stephanie Poland

Delisia Polk

Rhonda Porter

Jacqueline Purdy

Tim Rector

Shirley A Rose

C. Marie Ross

April D Scott

DeLois Scott

## *Bronze*

Doris Shelton

Bobby & Janice Smith

Angel Swainer

Yolanda Turner

Anthony Tyson

Karen Walters

Floyd & Mary Washington

Deneen Wesley

Geraldine Whitehead

M. Williams-Lloyd

Danny & Rose Willis

Georgiana Woodley

Lisa Wynne

## *Patron*

Carolyn Barnes

Darryel Barnes

Tamara Denise Banks

Tunisha Baylor

Pearlie Bell

Rhonda Boyles

Tena Brags

Sandra & Robert Brewer

Braylen Brooks

Shirley Brown

Deborah Carter

LaWanda Clark

Thelma Ward Claggion

Kyle Coleman

Zobrite Creech

Billie Crowder

Monica Cuffie

Trina Curry

Everett & Denise Darden

Paula Davis

Donald Dobson Sr.

Lee Durham

Paulette Ellis

Imogene Favors

Nona Fenceroy

Ashlee Field

Shirley Flowers

Precious Gilepsie

Patricia L. Harper

Kenneth Hicks

Adrian Johnson

Sherry Johnson

# *Patron*

Umika Johnson

Kathy Jones

Tanya Keelen

Jimmy Lewis Jr

Dianna Mackey

Kimberly McGee

Joseph Miller

Albert Mitchell

Darnise Moore

Leah Nolan

Katrina Owusu

Helen Poland

Bernice Porter

Darrell Rodgers

Marsha M. Rollins

Darius & Deidre Shelton

Donna R. Stephens

Kelvin Stepney

Dora Terry

Carleen Turner

Kyla J Turner

Herticine Ware

Omega Wheeler

Twymon Williams

Alden Wood

## *The Scholarship Ministry*

The Scholarship Ministry of the Mt Hebron Missionary Baptist Church was formed by Barbara Davis in 1977 under the pastorship of Rev. W.J. Davis. The first members of this Committee were T.C. Walls, Joyce Miller, and Barbara Davis. The purpose of the Committee was to provide recognition graduation tokens and scholarships for the high school graduates of the church. Overhearing the Committee's discussion regarding sources of funding, Dorothy Wesley offered the idea of the Beaux and Debutantes for Christ Program as a means of providing the funds. Dorothy first became aware of the program on one of her visits to her home church in Los Angeles, California. She described the program and brought copies of printed programs from Los Angeles.

The first Debutantes Program was presented in 1979 at Mount Hebron's 209 East Avenue D location. Funds were solicited by the debutantes, but all youth were the recipients of the scholarships. Eventually, boys became a part of the program. The first beaux were presented in 1995. Dorothy thought that a program requiring the kind of time and energy as the Debutantes program should only be presented every other year, and so the program was presented bi- annually from 1983 until 1999, after Pastor Leonard O. Leach became the Pastor at the Mount. Today, the Program is an annual program designed for high school graduating seniors.

The growth in membership of the Mount provides a ready pool of workers who annually make this program a reality. Dorothy would be proud. Over the years, as the Scholarship Committee focused on how to increase the number of youth who would pursue a post-secondary education and qualify for the scholarship, an annual retreat, initially designed for the girls, was created. The retreat addressed what the Bible says about premarital sexual relations. Various women of the Mount became a part of this effort. Gwen Clemmons, Joyce Guthrie, Frances Smith, Chris Shane, Willie Bogar, Joyce Miller, Patricia Fenceroy and others.

Mt Lebanon and other Baptist encampments were the sites of the first weekend retreats. When the location at 901 Dairy Road was built, the overnight, weekend retreats were held at the facility. The women shared their dating experiences as teenagers with the youth and emphasized the ever presence of temptations and the importance of knowing how to use biblical teachings to yield not to those temptations.

The activities of the Scholarship Ministry were expanded as the church operated without an organized youth ministry; the ministry always focused on spiritual and education-related activities designed to expand the scholarly horizons of the youth. To this end, organized visits to the symphony, ballet performances of the Nutcracker Suite, the theater, the Dallas Museum of Art, the zoo, the South Dallas Cultural Center, the African American Museum of Dallas, the International Cultural Center and the Science Place became important experiences for the girls and boys at Mount Hebron.  
*Continued...*

## *The Scholarship Ministry (Continued...)*

In recent years, the activities of the Scholarship Ministry have included college tours for all grade levels, Kindergarten through 12th grade, the Spring Break Teen Summit and the Children's Lock-In. Born in 1979, the Scholarship Ministry serves as an example of a youth ministry that emerged from the heart and mind of a single member of Mount Hebron. The creative energies of another member gave rise to the Beaux and Debutantes for Christ Program. Through the combined efforts of countless members of the Mount, this Program continues to fund scholarly activities for all youth of Mount Hebron. Over the years, this program through the members of Mt. Hebron has provided scholarships and encouragement to hundreds of young people. The legacy is to foster a college going and graduating culture of youth who keep God first, lead others to Christ and encourage the pursuit of education beyond high school.

## *Scholarship Committee*

Chairperson	Marilyn Taylor-Walker
Secretary	Phaleria Hollins
Beaux and Debutantes Attire	Loray Montgomery
12th Grade Class Instructor	Dr. Joyce Miller
Tutorials	Sandra Turner
Resume Writing	Lynn Irokwe
SAT College Program	Curry Jones
Children's Scholarly Activities	Gwen Clemmons
College Tours	Dr. Joyce Miller, Oliver Green, Patrick Alcorn, David Anderson
Beaux & Debutante Program Coordinator	Dr. Joyce E. Kyle Miller

## *Future Beaux and Debutantes*

Alan Abernathy	Kuria Bullard
Alivia Abernathy	Sydney Hawkins
Jackson Abernathy	James Jules
Courtney Buford	McKenzie Jules
Caitlin Bullard	

# Thank You

On behalf of our Senior Pastor, Rev. Leonard O. Leach, the graduating seniors, past, current and future Beaux and Debutantes for Christ participants and their parents, along with the Scholarship Ministry, we would like to sincerely thank each of you who have contributed to the scholarship funds. We recognize it takes a village to raise a child and your support and financial contributions are great examples of your commitment to our youth's success. Without your unselfish gifts to this ministry we would not be able to make the financial investment into the lives of each recipient. Thank you for being villagers who are, "Into What God is Up To"!!

Financial Accounting Team

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Gail Cook, Dale Bryer, Elvin McCurdy,  
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Data Entry Specialist

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Gwen Clemmons, Francis Smith, Patrick Alcorn,  
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Flowers

Ruth James, Florence Love

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Robert and Loray Montgomery, Marilyn Brown

Souvenir Booklet

Kathy Sims, Sharon Leach

Ushers

Joyce Crowley

Youth Ushers

Jaida Crowley, Harold Young, III, Taylor Young

Future Beaux and Debutantes

Shawntell Hawkins, Phalera Hollins,  
Yolanda Turner, Gracie Whitley

Song Director

Jamila Blount

Audio Visual

Kenneth Brown, Jr., Kelly Stewart

Videography

Kenneth Brown, Jr.

Photographer

Kenneth Brown, Sr., All In One Photography

Website & Online Giving Coordinators

Elvin McCurdy, Sharon -Scaife

College Tour Chairperson

Patrick Alcorn, Oliver & Yvonne Green,  
David Anderson

Photography Assistant

Gloria Young-Brody

Passing of the Baton Ceremony

Pastor Leonard O. Leach and Gwen Clemmons

Beaux and Debutantes Program Assistant

Cassandra Redmond

Beaux and Debutantes Program Coordinator

Dr. Joyce E. Kyle Miller



## **John: 8:12**

*When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."*

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