



# Delivering the Heart of Christ to the Heart of the City

## Central Baptist Church Newsletter

**MARCH THEME: When God's People Pray**

### Fighter Verse: Ephesians 6:18

**A**nd pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people.

### OUR WORSHIP IN-PERSON

LIVESTREAM, FACEBOOK & YOUTUBE @ 11:00AM  
www.centralbaptistnyc.org

**Nursery available at 10:45a — Infant to 5 years old**

### SUNDAY SCHOOL

Adult Sunday School 9:45AM In Person and via Zoom  
Youth Sunday School 11:15AM  
Kindergarten to 12th Grade  
2nd, 3rd and 4th Sundays.

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**Women's Day  
Weekend  
2026  
March 7 & 8**



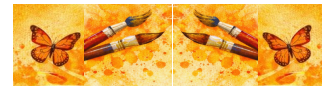
**SATURDAY, March 7th, 9 AM - 2 PM**  
*A day of creative workshops to explore  
your God-given gifts and talents!  
Lunch will be served.*

*Free raffle to win  
Courageous Creative*



*Join us for a fun day of creative workshops  
on Saturday, March 7 from 9-2 pm.  
Lunch included!*

Register **HERE**  
<https://tinyurl.com/CBCWomenCreate>



**SUNDAY, March 8th @ 11 AM**  
*Women's Sunday Worship*



*Guest Speaker:  
Rev. Crystal Paul-Watson*

**Mission Re-vision**

**Mission**

Central Baptist Church exists to Deliver the Heart of Christ to the heart of the City.

**Purpose of this Re-vision**

We are empowering a skillful highly resourceful and creative congregation with a deep passion for serving, disciple making and unifying in a rapidly changing economically diverse and racially divided Community.

\*\*\*\*

This statement says the people of Central are skillful, resourceful, and creative. This statement says go and serve, make disciples and be a unifying agent. The upper west side of New York is economically and racially divided. In God’s economy, that cannot stand.

That’s why we deliver the heart of Christ to the Heart of the City. Our economically and racially divided community needs to come to Christ first and become children of God in Christ Jesus. As many as will receive Him.

For the next few months, one of the mission measures will be highlighted. These are the disciples we are pressing to become not only as individuals but as a congregation to reach this community and beyond.

The most important component is prayer. At the February 7th meeting we received an 8 week prayer journal starting February 8. The journal is a guide for us to pray through the Mission Measures recording our experiences. Instead of the Evening Prayer meeting on Zoom the last Friday of the month we will do something different. On Friday, March 27th at 7:00PM, the end of the 8 weeks, we will come together to worship and testify how God is working in us, through us and blessing us.

**Mission Measure of the Month  
COMPASSIONATE CHANGE MAKER**

I am creating an environment where disciples can live and grow.



**Questions for Reflection**

- ◆ Am I empathetic to others?
- ◆ How can I create this environment?
- ◆ Who am I discipling?
- ◆ Do I aid others in their needs and commitments by giving as Jesus would give?

**PRAYING THE VISION TESTIMONY NIGHT**

Friday, March 27, 2026  
at 7:00PM  
In-Person Worship  
Service



**March Devotional**

**MARCH TOWARD THE CROSS**

By Debby Holland Diaz MA ThM

*While Pilate was sitting on the judge’s seat, his wife sent him this message: “Don’t have anything to do with that innocent man, for I have suffered a great deal today in a dream because of him.” But the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowd to ask for Barabbas and to have Jesus executed. “Which of the two do you want me to release to you?” asked the governor. “Barabbas,” they answered. “What shall I do, then, with Jesus who is called the Christ?” Pilate asked. They all answered, “Crucify him!” “Why? What crime has he committed?” asked Pilate. But they shouted all the louder, “Crucify him!” When Pilate saw that he was getting nowhere, but that instead an uproar was starting, he took water and washed his hands in front of the crowd. “I am innocent of this man’s blood,” he said. “It is your responsibility!” All the people answered, “Let his blood be on us and on our children!” (Matthew 27: 19-25 NIV)*



Our march to the cross begins this very month of March because Easter is early this year. God has led me to focus us on one of the most terrible verses in scripture, found in the Matthew passage which begins with a woman warning her husband, Pilate, not to judge Jesus at all! As the Roman Governor of Judea whose duty is to stop Jewish insurrection, Pilate does what he can to free Jesus from the mob incited by their religious leaders, but finally he washes his hands and puts Jesus in the hands of those who want him crucified to death. Pilate proclaims his own innocence and shifts responsibility to them.

In the heat of the moment the people cry out, “His blood be on us and on our children” Alas, throughout history this terrible verse has been used by many Christian denominations and individuals to blame “the Jews” for the death of Jesus Christ! We who study God’s Word know this isn’t who killed our Savior! Because Rome occupied Judea, some might instead blame the government; I’ve heard it preached, “Jesus was executed by the State.” We who know The Truth that makes us free indeed realize that this is not what killed Jesus Our Lord! Who is to blame, then?

Who crucified Jesus? We did! Every one of us who has ever sinned is responsible.

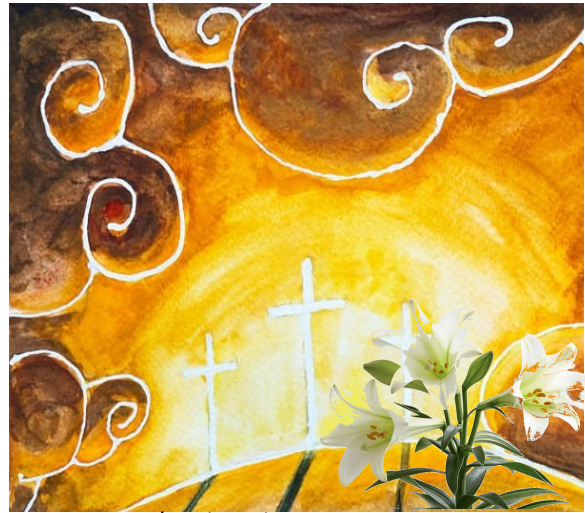
**March Devotional** *continued from Page 2*

We are all to blame for the death of Jesus on the cross because “all have sinned and come short of the Glory of God.” (Romans 3:23) Let’s not let anybody blame the Jews, God’s Chosen People. Let’s tell everyone who will listen that Jesus was a Jew and is The Messiah sent by God as the Ultimate Sacrifice for sin, to die on the cross, thereby saving humanity from “the wages of sin—death—“and offering the “the gift of God, Eternal Life!” (Romans 6:23) Let’s ask our listeners to accept this joyful Truth. Let’s stress that Jesus died and rose again and that’s why we celebrate Easter as Resurrection Sunday!

Therefore, Sisters and Brothers in Christ, let us share this Good News with our community as we celebrate The Resurrection every Sunday!



**RESURRECTION SUNDAY  
APRIL 5 — 11:00AM**



Getty Images/Credit: Adyna  
<https://www.gettyimages.com/photos/resurrection-abstract?page=2>

**FOCUS ON LEADERSHIP: Welcome the 2 New Deacons  
Karen Bobbsemple and Mona Parks**



Karen Bobbsemple & Mona Parks

**To: Central Baptist Church  
From: Karen and Mona**

Dear Central Family,

We thank God for the opportunity, and we thank you for the trust and confidence you've placed in us to serve as deacons.

It is an honor and privilege to assist the pastors in caring for the fellowship of Central. Our desire is to follow Christ Jesus, the ultimate Servant.

We ask for your continued prayers for wisdom, a servant's heart and for the guidance of the Holy Spirit in all we do.

Thank you for the encouragement and for allowing us to walk alongside you. We're looking forward to all that God will accomplish through our united efforts in serving.

With love in Christ,

Karen B. & Mona Parks

**The Origin of Deacons — Acts 6:1-6**

**I**n those days when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenistic Jews-among them complained against the Hebraic Jews because their widows were being overlooked in the daily distribution of food. So the Twelve gathered all the disciples together and said, “It would not be right for us to neglect the ministry of the word of God in order to wait on tables. Brothers and sisters, choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will turn this responsibility over to them and will give our attention to prayer and the ministry of the word.”

This proposal pleased the whole group. They chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit; also Philip, Procorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas from Antioch, a convert to Judaism. They presented these men to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them.

*Praying Together*

**W**ith so many opportunities to pray corporately with one another. Below are the leaders and ministries who need your prayers. Create a prayer journal and keep track of the requests and praise reports.

<b>CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH</b>	<b>CITY, STATE, COUNTRY &amp; PERSONAL</b>
Pastor Fils-Aime	New York City
Pastor Robert Casteline	Leadership of NYC, State and Country
Willana Mack Hudson	The World and personal circumstances
Deacons & Elders	
Ministries	
Missionaries	<i>Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. Hebrews 4:16</i>
Members and Friends of Central	
Sick and Shut-in	

**DAILY PRAYER MEETING BY CONFERENCE PHONE**

Led by Elder Deryck and Sonya Tonge  
 (609) 746-1164  
 Access Code: 667293#  
 Monday — Friday  
 6-6:30 AM

**Evening Prayer**

**PRAYING THE VISION TESTIMONY NIGHT**

Friday, March 27, 2026  
 At 7:00PM

In-Person Worship Service  
 Zoom Meetings will resume next month.

**L**et us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. Hebrews 4:16

*Praying for our Leadership*

**B**elow are the names of our Elders, Trustees and Deacons. Please pray for them and their families. As members of our congregation, we each have a Deacon who will reach out to you periodically to see how you're doing and if you have any needs or prayer requests.

If you don't know who your Deacon is, call the church office and leave a message requesting a call from your Deacon.



**ELDERS**

Rev. John Fils-Aime  
 Vincent Clark



**TRUSTEES**

Myrna Phillips Gibson  
 Taji Phillips  
 Natasha Robinson



**DEACONS**

\*Deacon Karen Bobbseple  
 Deacon Charles Callaway  
 Deacon Kimberly Casteline  
 Deacon Otis Coleman  
 Deacon Sharrata Hunt  
 Deacon Michelle Newkirk  
 \*Deacon Mona Parks  
 Deacon Joyce Powell  
 Deacon Esther Romero



# CHURCH WIDE EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

## BIBLE STUDY

### SUNDAY SCHOOL

#### Adult

9:45AM— In person and via Zoom

<https://zoom.us/j/6831601413>

Enter the meeting ID 683 160 1413 when prompted.

Phone: 646-558-8656

### Sunday Youth Group

11:15AM—2nd, 3rd & 4th Sundays

In-Person OR

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/6831601413>

Enter the meeting ID 683 160 1413 when prompted.

Phone: 646-558-8656



### Senior Bible Study

Wednesdays

12 Noon to 1:00pm

Miss Ann's Room

March 3/4, 3/11, 3/18, 3/25

**I**f we're creating disciples properly, discipleship goes beyond personal improvement. We are preparing those who will embrace God's mission and are passionate to continue it.

Robert Casteline

**Curious? Confused? Attend Wednesday in the Word.**

### WEDNESDAY IN THE WORD

7:00—8:00PM

Wednesday Night Bible study is a great way to keep your heart and mind on God! Join us for an interactive, in-depth reflection on the scriptures and how they can be applied to your life.

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/6831601413>

Enter the meeting ID 683 160 1413 when prompted.

Join Zoom by Phone: 646-558-8656

7 PM on Zoom



Join us to dig deeper into Pastor's Sunday sermons.

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/6831601413>

Or dial in on your phone:  
(646) 558-8656

Enter the meeting ID 683 160 1413 when prompted.

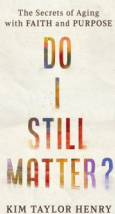
## Senior Ministry Events

### Senior Book Club

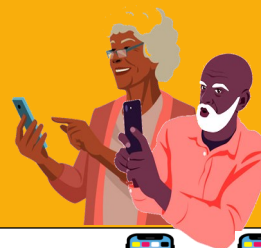
Saturday, April 4, 2026

2pm to 4pm - Miss Ann's Room

"Do I Still Matter?" The Secrets of Aging with Faith and Purpose by Kim Taylor Henry



### Senior Technology Class



### "Basic Cell Phone Usage"

Wednesdays

11am to 12 Noon

Miss Ann's Room

March 3

March 11

March 18

March 25



### Senior Ministry Exercise Program

Time: 11:00am to 11:45am

Location: Chapel

Saturday, March 7  
Saturday, March 14  
Saturday, March 28



### SENIOR MINISTRY MONTHLY MEETING

SATURDAY, MARCH 21

2PM — 4:PM

CHAPEL

## Calendar March 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>1</p> <p>9:45A ---Adult Sunday School</p> <p>11A-SUNDAY WORSHIP</p> <p>11:15-Sunday Youth Group</p>	<p>2</p> <p>6-6:30A Prayer on Conference call</p>	<p>3</p> <p>6-6:30A Prayer on Conference call</p> <p>7PM-Tuesday Talk Back</p>	<p>4</p> <p>6-6:30A Prayer on Conference call</p> <p>12P Senior Bible Study-Miss Ann's—Miss Ann's Room</p> <p>7P-Wednesday Night Bible Study-via ZOOM</p>	<p>5</p> <p>6-6:30A Prayer on Conference call</p>	<p>6</p> <p>6-6:30A Prayer on Conference call</p>	<p>7</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>WOMEN'S DAY WEEKEND CREATIVITY IN CHRIST</b> 9A-2PP</p> <p>8A-1P-Pickleball</p> <p>11A-Senior Exercise-Chapel</p>
<p>8 -WOMEN'S DAY WEEKEND CREATIVITY IN CHRIST</p> <p>9:45A ---Adult Sunday School</p> <p>11A-SUNDAY WORSHIP</p> <p>11:15-Sunday Youth Group</p>	<p>9</p> <p>6-6:30A Prayer on Conference call</p>	<p>10</p> <p>6-6:30A Prayer on Conference call</p> <p>7PM-Tuesday Talk Back</p>	<p>11</p> <p>6-6:30A Prayer on Conference call</p> <p>12P Senior Bible Study-Miss Ann's—Miss Ann's Room</p> <p>7P-Wednesday Night Bible Study-via ZOOM</p>	<p>12</p> <p>6-6:30A Prayer on Conference call</p>	<p>13</p> <p>6-6:30A Prayer on Conference call</p>	<p>14</p> <p>10A-RIVERSIDE REHAB</p> <p>8A-1P-Pickleball</p> <p>11:00-11:45A-Senior Exercise—Chapel</p>
<p>15</p> <p>9:45A ---Adult Sunday School</p> <p>11A-SUNDAY WORSHIP</p> <p>11:15-Sunday Youth Group</p> <p>SIP &amp; CHAT, Chapel</p>	<p>16</p> <p>6-6:30A Prayer on Conference call</p>	<p>17</p> <p>6-6:30A Prayer on Conference call</p> <p>7PM-Tuesday Talk Back</p>	<p>18</p> <p>6-6:30A Prayer on Conference call</p> <p>11A-Senior Ministry Technology Class—Miss Ann's Room</p> <p>12P Senior Bible Study-Miss Ann's—Miss Ann's Room</p>	<p>19</p> <p>6-6:30A Prayer on Conference call</p>	<p>20</p> <p>6-6:30A Prayer on Conference call</p>	<p>21</p> <p>8A-1P-Pickleball</p> <p>2P-Senior Ministry Monthly Meeting—Chapel</p>
<p>22</p> <p>9:45A ---Adult Sunday School</p> <p>11A- SUNDAY WORSHIP</p>	<p>23</p> <p>6-6:30A Prayer on Conference call</p>	<p>24</p> <p>6-6:30A Prayer on Conference call</p> <p>7PM-Tuesday Talk Back</p>	<p>25</p> <p>6-6:30A Prayer on Conference call</p> <p>11A-Senior Ministry Technology Class—Miss Ann's Room</p> <p>12P Senior Bible Study-Miss Ann's—Miss Ann's Room</p>	<p>26</p> <p>6-6:30A Prayer on Conference call</p>	<p>27</p> <p>6-6:30A Prayer on Conference call</p> <p>7:00P-TESTIMONY NIGHT—Sanctuary </p>	<p>28</p> <p>8A-1P-Pickleball</p> <p>11:00-11:45A-Senior Exercise—Chapel</p>
<p>29</p> <p>9:45A ---Adult Sunday School</p> <p>11A- SUNDAY WORSHIP PALM SUNDAY</p> <p>11:15-Sunday Youth Group</p> 	<p>30</p> <p>6-6:30A Prayer on Conference call</p>	<p>31</p> <p>6-6:30A Prayer on Conference call</p> <p>7PM-Tuesday Talk Back</p>	<p>APRIL 1</p> <p>6-6:30A Prayer on Conference call</p> <p>11A-Senior Ministry Technology Class—Miss Ann's Room</p>	<p>APRIL 2</p> <p>6-6:30A Prayer on Conference call</p>	<p>APRIL 5</p> <p>6-6:30A Prayer on Conference call</p>	<p>APRIL 4</p> <p>8A-1P-Pickleball</p> <p>2:00-4:00PM-Senior Book Club—Miss Ann's Room</p>

**L**ove the LORD, all his faithful people! The LORD preserves those who are true to him, but the proud he pays back in full. Be strong and take heart, all you who hope in the LORD. Psalm 31:23-24

## MISSIONARY OF THE MONTH

Matt & Nicole Paschall — United World Mission



**T**he **Paschall Family** has experienced a whirlwind of activities these past few months. Their eldest daughter got married in January. Their youngest continue with their studies. And, they moved from Hungary to Italy per the LORD'S leading to be able to minister to the diverse people groups living, working and studying in the country.

On February 28, QUEST Academy will celebrate the graduation of 25 students—most from immigrant and diaspora backgrounds—who have faithfully completed their ministry training and are now serving in challenging contexts across Europe and the Middle East. Their journeys reflect courage, perseverance, and a deep commitment to Christ and His mission.

To bring everyone together and properly honor these graduates, we urgently need to raise \$14,000 USD. Would you consider standing behind one graduate with a gift of \$100 or more? Your support will help cover travel materials and the graduation celebration ensuring each student is seen, celebrated, and sent with encouragement.

Here's the link: <https://www.mesaglobal.co/projects/65549>

This is a brief but meaningful moment to invest in lives already bearing fruit for the Kingdom.

### Prayer Requests:

We are asking the Lord to open doors that no government can shut and to grant safe passage for each one He desires to attend.

In January during the protests in Iran 24 QUEST students and family members were killed. News is still emerging slowly and many of our students do not yet know the full truth about their loved ones. The grief is heavy. We are walking with them through shock, sorrow, and trauma while trying to hold onto hope. **Your prayers for comfort, clarity, and the nearness of Christ mean more than we can express.**

Finally, I would deeply appreciate your prayers for my (Matt's) health. I was recently hospitalized here in Rome with a staph infection in my leg and underwent surgery on February 5th, followed by five days of IV antibiotics. The infection has not yet fully resolved, but I am feeling much better this week. **Please pray for complete healing and that I would be strong enough to travel for the graduation and our March events.**

Thanks again for walking with us in prayer and generosity and standing with us in this season of both celebration and sorrow.

Matt and Niki Paschall



**10% of Central's tithes and offerings go to support our missionaries.**

## MARCH BIRTHDAYS

**M**ay the LORD answer you when you are in distress;  
 may the name of the God of Jacob protect you.  
 May he give you the desire of your heart  
 and make all your plans succeed.  
 May we shout for joy over your victory  
 and lift up our banners in the name of our God.

Psalm 20:1. 4-5 NIV

*Happy Birthday*

Viola Holmes	3/3
Cristal Tejada	3/5
Adelle Marcelin	3/7
Jahzara Bryant	3/9
Elijah Rivera	3/11
Laticia Smith	3/11
Kristy Fils-Aime	3/14
Evelyn Trowell	3/17
Oliver Lair	3/18
Jordan Winn	3/19
Nadja Hicks	3/19
Diane Singleton	3/20
Willana Mack	3/20
Brandon Valentin Griffin	3/21
Ezekiel Uhrlass	3/21
Annie Friend	3/23
Xavier Lambert	3/24
Mamie Murray	3/27
Yemani Vasquez	3/31
Aria Whilby	3/31



<https://artofcakesbakery.com/>

Church Wide and Community Events



Central Baptist Church Senior's Ministry  
 Invites you to:  
**"JOSHUA"**  
 Sight & Sound Theatre  
 Lancaster, Pennsylvania

**SOLD OUT**

Saturday, July 18, 2026

\$245.00 all inclusive

See Otis Coleman for Details

Payment schedule

2nd Payment due **March 15, 2026 (\$100.00)**

Final Payment due **May 15, 2026 (\$100.00)**

**Make Checks or Money Orders payable to:**

Central Baptist Church (Note on check Senior Trip)

All payments are to be given to **Otis Coleman**

**150 Riverside Drive & West 87th Street, New York, NY 10024**



February's volunteers pictured left to right: Pastor Robert, Mona Parks, Sharrata Hunt, Aliana Soto, and Debra Washington

Each 2nd Saturday Central goes to The Riverside center to bring the residents a worship service. Come and bring a willing heart to serve. We meet at the church at 10AM and walk over to the center as a group. Ministry ends around 12 noon. See the upcoming dates.

<b>March 14</b>	<b>April 11</b>	<b>May 9</b>
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**Saturdays — 8:00AM—1:00PM**  
**March 7—CANCELLED**  
**Lower Gym**  
**Open to the public.**

**Keep Central's finances in prayer!**

**R**emember this: *Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.*  
**2 Corinthians 9:6-8**

**Newsletter Staff:** Pastor Robert Casteline, Oversight; Paulette Forbes-Igharo and Sharrata Hunt. Regular Contributors: Debby Diaz and Nadja Hicks. **Special thanks** to Guest Contributor Christopher Phillips and Tanya Glenn.

**THE LAST WORD**

**The Impact of Influencers**

by Nadja Hicks

*He asked her, "Woman, why are you crying? Who is it you are looking for?" Thinking he was the gardener, she said, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will get him." Jesus said to her, "Mary." She turned toward him and cried out in Aramaic, "Rabboni!" (which means "Teacher").*  
**- John 20:15-16 NIV**

*So the women hurried away from the tomb, afraid yet filled with joy, and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them. "Greetings," he said. They came to him, clasped his feet and worshiped him.* **Matthew 28:8-9 NIV**

**R**ecently I noticed an article about women who are top social media personalities called *influencers*. An *influencer* being a person well-known through social media that affects the decisions of others about products or services.



Josephine Baker

Barely recognizing any names, I thought of memorable women from eras when society held them in low regard. Like



Henrietta Lacks

Josephine Baker who, as part of the French Resistance, smuggled messages through her song lyrics during WWII. Henrietta Lacks, of the groundbreaking immortal HeLa cells (taken without her knowledge or consent) that still keep science on the run. Harriet Tubman whose whispered last words were like a prayer...

And more than 300 women, named and unnamed, appear in scripture. Wives and maidens, widows and orphans, old and young, mothers and childless, slaves and free, peasants and royalty. Even wisdom and foolishness are depicted in feminine terms in Proverbs.

The gospels record that the first sightings of the resurrected Christ were by women. While an honor and privilege, may ultimately have been an act of love. Perhaps the same weeping eyes that witnessed His last breath on the Cross were the same eyes He first sought to reveal He had risen. Faithful women whose hearts broke watching His death, the very first hearts He uplifted with His resurrected presence.

This month the historic impact of countless women is recognized. Those whose achievements made a lasting valuable impact on society, often when society valued them little. Yet may we also embrace the blessing of everlasting love from the Father who has always treasured His daughters as dearly as His sons.



<https://answeredfaith.com/women-of-the-bible-characteristics>