



Message From The President



Dear Top Ladies,

Welcome to the January 2024 edition of the Orchard. May this year bring new opportunities to you, your family, and our chapter. As we move into 2024, I wish you good health, joy, and abundant success. May your hard work, dedication, and achievements make the upcoming year successful as we grow together to new heights. Each of you brings so much to our organization, and I want to thank you for your contributions to the success of the Guilford County Chapter of Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc.

We have exciting projects to look forward to as the new year approaches. I know I can count on all of us to contribute to these upcoming worthy causes. I can hardly wait to see what great things you will do next.

Yours in sisterhood, service and love,

Lady Gloria Jackson

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SPIRITUAL CORNER



Everything New

As we proceed into a new year and venture into a space and place never seen before, may we approach this journey as confident women who are bound and determined to enjoy life with new zeal and new purpose.

Gospel recording artist Tye Tribbett has a song entitled “New,” where he includes familiar lyrics from a congregational selection back in the day: “Looked at my hands and they looked new; Looked at my feet and they did too...” He continues to identify all of the things in our lives that can become “new,” such as a new heart, new joy, new strength, and a new

start. Although we might not be able to change all the physical parts of ourselves, we can certainly take a minute to look inside our hearts. How do you feel about yourself and your abilities? Do you focus too much on your weaknesses and shortcomings?

What new strengths and abilities can you take into 2024? Why not begin by taking a step of faith and seeing yourself as God sees you? –Fearfully and wonderfully created (Psalm 139). It’s okay if you have fallen short or missed the mark; this is a new season, a time to become better and to become “new.” Reflect on the scripture, Romans 12:2, and be transformed by the renewing of your mind. You can transform into a “new” person by changing the way you think, by decluttering your room, or simply engaging in self-care.

The scripture in Luke 5:37-39 (NKJV) encourages us to forsake old things: “And no one puts new wine into old wineskins, or else the new wine will burst the new wineskins and be spilled...” I encourage all of us to look forward to the newness of life and grow from the memories and failures of the past.

Having “new wine” can be symbolic of many things illustrated through your daily life; however, having a positive outlook on the harvest of blessings about to flow in your life should rejuvenate and inspire you to flow into whatever you define as your “new.”

So, in 2024, try focusing on being renewed and becoming “new.”

Prayer for encouragement:

Lord, help us to be balanced in our thinking and not focus on issues of the past. Instead, show us how to overcome the negative areas of our lives by courageously taking a step into the joy, blessings, and newness of life. Help us to live our lives which develops greater character and strength to celebrate the victories in store for 2024. Amen.

Lady Faye McRavion, Chaplain



Guilford County Chapter
"Making a Difference, One Person at a Time"



Sickle Cell Anemia Warm Blankets for Warriors Campaign



The Guilford County Chapter of Top Ladies of Distinction collected blankets for our Warm Blankets for Warriors Campaign. Our chapter and the teens collected thirty-five blankets during November and December. The chapter will donate the blankets to the Piedmont Health Services and Sickle Cell Agency. We are very appreciative of your generosity and altruism.

Founders' Day and Sisterly Relations Highlights



Making a Difference in the Lives of Our Community

On behalf of our chapter, we thank Lady Jackie Pettiford and Lady Rawiyah Nash for their continued support of ensuring our community's families have a wonderful holiday. The food and gifts you donated made a positive difference in the lives of many families over the holiday. We thank you for your commitment to our community. You are truly making a difference for the people in Guilford County.



Pink and Blue MLK Day of Service: Guilford County Top Ladies and Top Teens distributed bags of toiletries to senior citizens at Camden Health and Rehabilitation Center

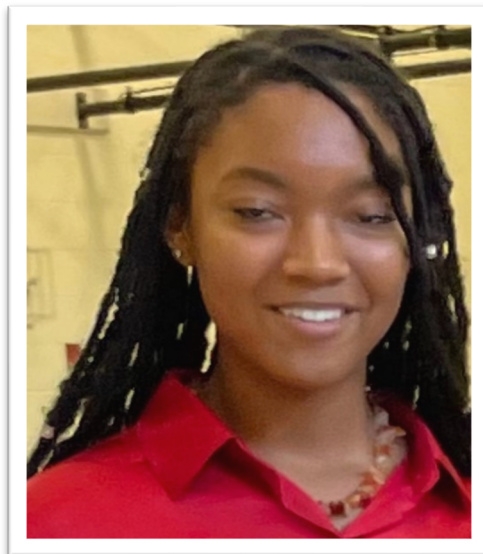


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Announcements



Lady Joretta Simmons. 1-12
Lady Jacqueline Pettiford 1-13



We are happy that Teen Nila Newkirk, TTA 1st Vice President, was featured in the winter edition of Top Teens of America's Official National Newsletter, The Voice. She showcased her business, "N'joyce Creative Designs." The article highlighted her entrepreneurial journey. Teen Nila talked about the challenges and rewards of entrepreneurship. Please go to the National website to read the featured article. **CONGRATULATIONS** Teen Nila Newkirk!!

Announcements



Lady Veronica N. Thompson earned her Master of Art in Educational Technology from North Carolina Central University with honors.



Lady Gloria Jackson and Lord Barney Jackson were honored as the 2024 Power Couple at High Point Country Club, sponsored by Carl Chavis YMCA

OUR
MEETING **NEXT**

The Griffin Recreation Center
5301 Hilltop Road
Jamestown, NC 27282
3:30 p.m.
February 11, 2024

