

### 3 Things to Do

1. Learn the names of all of your elected officials.
2. Pray for the concerns of the poor in your community and the nation.
3. Write a letter or email to your representative advocating for the poor and needy.

## Speak Up for the Poor and Needy

### THINGS TO THINK ABOUT

1. How does God feel about the poor and needy? How and when does he help them? God loves them, so why does he allow them to suffer?
2. What does God promise to do to those who exploit the poor and needy? When will God keep this promise?
3. God promises to bless those who are kind to the poor. Has God ever rewarded you for your kindness to someone who is poor or needy? Please explain.

## Church Calendar

### CHURCH SCHOOL

SUNDAY 9:30 AM

### MORNING WORSHIP

SUNDAY 11:00 AM

### HOUR OR POWER BIBLE STUDY/ PRAYER MEETING

WEDNESDAY 7:00 PM

### EVENTS FOR DECEMBER 2017

***Saturday, 9th*** — *The 2nd Check-Up Meeting will be held via Cyber. Beth Shalom is a designated host Check-Up Meeting Site. We will be joined by members of Full Gospel, Deliverance Temple and members from other Churches that live in Ft. Washington, Waldorf and Clinton.*

***Monday, 18th*** — *Ministry Team Meeting, 7:30pm — 3rd Quarter Conference Reports are due to Kim Elliott. Reports will cover the months of October through December 2017*

***Sunday, 24th*** — *Christmas Eve, Offering \$20 — Church School Christmas Program, 1:00 PM*

***Monday, 25th*** — *Christmas Day*

***Wednesday, 27th—Saturday, 30th*** — *C.E.D. Winter Meeting – Atlanta, GA*

***Sunday, 31st*** — *Watch Night / New Year's Eve, Offering \$20*

## Church Announcements

### Peace Benediction in E<sup>b</sup> By Darrell J. Gaskin

Please don't worry about anything  
But pray and ask God for  
everything you need  
Always giving thanks  
And He'll give you peace for your  
heart and mind.

And the peace of God,  
which surpasses all understanding  
will keep your heart and mind  
In Christ Jesus, the Lord.

**BETH SHALOM AME ZION  
CHURCH**  
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8100 Malcolm Road  
Clinton, Maryland 20735  
www.bethshalomamezion.org  
Facebook.com/bethshalomamezion

## Speak Up for the Poor and Needy

REV. DR. DARRELL J. GASKIN  
PASTOR



**Shalom!**  
*It's God's Plan for You!*

BETH SHALOM AME ZION CHURCH  
8100 Malcolm Road  
Clinton, MD 20735  
(301) 877-8097  
---- A Compassionate Ministry ----  
Rev. Dr. Darrell J. Gaskin, Pastor  
Rev. Dr. Rita J. Colbert, Presiding Elder  
Rt. Rev. W. Darin Moore, Presiding Bishop

Next Week

Policymakers are attacking the poor.

1. Efforts to repeal the Affordable Care Act.
2. Tax Reform that increases the federal debt.
3. Failure to fund the Children Health Insurance Program

Your Notes

## WHAT DID PASTOR GASKIN PREACH ABOUT TODAY?

It is our responsibility to defend the rights of the poor and needy. Let's stand with Bishop Moore and other religious leaders and pray and protest efforts to dismantle programs that help our poor and other vulnerable members of society. Let's do what we can to help because the Lord will bless our efforts and reward us for our kindness to the poor. God is on the side of the poor. He will repay them for their sorrows and punish those who oppressed them. Pray for policymakers who mistreat the poor that they will repent.

### *Speak Up for the Poor and Needy*

*Pray, Protest, Advocate, and Vote. Political Silence is Betrayal.*

- I. Bishop Moore and other religious leaders went to the US Senate Building on Thursday 11/30 to pray and protest.
- II. Someone must speak up for the poor and voiceless. Prov. 31:8-9
- III. Societies are judged based on how they treat their poor and most vulnerable members.
- IV. What does it mean to be an American? What is the essential American value? It's respect for the humanity and dignity of everyone.
- V. Oppressing the poor and currying favor with the rich is a losing proposition. Prov. 22:16
- VI. The Lord will avenge the poor. Prov. 22:22-23. Consider the story about the rich man and Lazarus in Luke 16:19-31. The Lord has a place of rest for the poor and a place of torment for their oppressors.
- VII. The Lord blesses those who are kind to the poor. He rewards them for what they do. Prov. 19:17

## Words to Remember

Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute. Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy. Prov. 31:8-9

One who oppresses the poor to increase his wealth and one who gives gifts to the rich – both come to poverty. Prov. 22:16

Do not exploit the poor because they are poor and do not crush the needy in court, for the Lord will take up their case and will exact life for life. Prov. 22:22-23

Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the Lord, and he will reward them for what they have done. Prov. 19:17