

# CHURCH BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

## African American Congregations

### April - May 2008

#### April 6

Among fatal crashes of 16 year old drivers, 78 percent of the tragedies were the result of driver error. Remember that you're a role model and can help teens to learn by example by wearing your safety belt and practicing safe driving—they will notice. [Protect their future. Steer them straight when you're in the driver's seat.](#)

#### April 13

Prom and graduation season is just around the corner. Drinking alcohol can have immediate effects on judgment, especially in teenagers. With more than one-third of teen traffic deaths involving alcohol, it's important to teach teens that even one drink is too much. Talk to your teenagers about making responsible decisions when they drive. [Protect yourself and your loved ones with simple actions that can prevent injuries and death. Earn trust, gain respect, and obey the law; your community and family will be grateful.](#)

#### April 20

Driver inattention is the leading factor in most crashes and near-crashes. Drowsiness, talking on cell phones, and putting on make-up are all distractions that can cause serious accidents, putting you and others on the road with you in harm's way. [The simple choices made every day often determine whether or not there will be a tomorrow for you. Choose the future—play it safe every time you get behind the wheel.](#)

#### April 27

Motorcycles are vehicles with the same rights and privileges as any vehicle on the roadway. Share the road with motorcycles—make an extra effort to thoroughly check for motorcycles in traffic, whether changing lanes or turning at intersections. [Protect yourself and your loved ones with simple actions that can prevent injuries and death. Earn trust, gain respect, and obey the law; your community and family will be grateful.](#)

#### May 4

Tuesday is National Teachers Day. Each of us can be a teacher when we set a positive example for those around us. This week, teach someone to be good driver, and take those few extra moments to buckle up each time you get in a vehicle. [The simple choices made every day often determine whether or not there will be a tomorrow for you. Choose the future—play it safe every time you get behind the wheel.](#)

## May 11

Almost 7,000 lives have been saved by the proper use of child safety seats during the past 20 years. Today, as you and your children honor Mother's Day, show care for them in return by buckling up your children to protect them every time you get behind the wheel. [Kids know you care about protecting their future. Steer them straight when you're in the driver's seat.](#)

## May 18

Wearing a seat belt is important because it protects you and your family, but it's also important because it's the law. Buckle up during every trip so you won't risk a ticket, a fine, or worse, your life. [Click It or Ticket. Protect yourself and your loved ones with simple actions that can prevent injuries and death. Earn trust, gain respect, and obey the law; your community and family will be grateful.](#)

## May 25

Approximately 42,000 Americans die in traffic crashes each year, and another three million are injured. This Memorial Day, make the decision to help stop preventable deaths from motor vehicle crashes—wear your safety belt, obey the speed limit, and always pay attention to your surroundings. [The simple choices made every day often determine whether or not there will be a tomorrow for you. Choose the future—play it safe every time you get behind the wheel.](#)

## June 1

A child's body warms 3 to 5 times faster than an adult's. Never leave your children unattended in a vehicle, especially in the summer when cars can heat to unbearable levels within minutes. Be responsible and always supervise small children around vehicles, inside or outside of the car. [Kids know you care about protecting their future. Steer them straight when you're in the driver's seat.](#)

## June 8

When school is out for the summer, many new drivers are also out on the streets and highways. Don't rely only on driver's education; take an active role in helping teenagers learn how to drive safely, encouraging seat belt use at all times. [Protect yourself and your loved ones with simple actions that can prevent injuries and death. Earn trust, gain respect, and obey the law; your community and family will be grateful.](#)

## June 15

Aggressive driving has become a serious issue. As you and your family celebrate Father's Day, emphasize the importance of patience and safety on the roadways by practicing safe speed and following distance, and always buckle up! [The simple choices made every day often determine whether or not there will be a tomorrow for you. Choose the future—play it safe every time you get behind the wheel.](#)

## June 22

Summertime has officially begun! As pedestrian activity increases throughout the warm summer months and children are more likely to play outside, be cautious at all times when you're behind the wheel and especially when backing out of driveways, in residential areas and anywhere children might be walking or playing. [Your family knows you care about protecting their future. Steer them straight when you're in the driver's seat.](#)

## June 29

Riding a bike is a great way to enjoy the outdoors, but if you or your children are going to ride in the street, follow these safety precautions to prevent injury: wear a bicycle helmet, use lights and reflectors, wear bright clothing to be easily seen, check your bicycle equipment before each ride, and follow the rules of the road. [Protect yourself and your loved ones with simple actions that can prevent injuries and death. Earn trust, gain respect, and obey the law; your community and family will be grateful.](#)

# PASTOR'S NOTES

## Traffic Safety Message for Sermon

Traffic crashes are still the leading cause of unintentional death in the United States, but good decisions can make a great difference in traffic safety. Wearing safety belts, obeying the speed limit, using proper child safety seats, and paying attention every time you are in a vehicle can help to prevent avoidable crashes.

Parents and adults in the community have a great responsibility to teach children and teenagers how to act as both a passenger and a driver. This is no small task, since 42,000 Americans are killed in crashes each year, and of those accidents young drivers account for three times as many fatalities as all other drivers.

The laws created for traffic safety save lives. The U.S. Department of Justice reports there are nearly a million and a half people arrested for driving under the influence in 2006 every year. Police officers and communities are working hard to keep the streets safe, yet car crashes and deaths are happening more often than other crimes.

The following shows how U.S. motor vehicle crashes compare with crime:

### Crime

- ➡ One murder every 34 minutes
- ➡ One violent crime every 22 seconds
- ➡ One property crime every 3 seconds
- ➡ One crime every 3 seconds

### Motor vehicle crashes

- ➡ One fatality every 13 minutes
- ➡ One injury every 10 seconds
- ➡ One crash causing property damage every 7 seconds
- ➡ One crash every 5 seconds

Don't become a statistic. Obey the law and be responsible every time you get into a vehicle, practicing good habits and acting as a role model for your loved ones and friends. [Protect yourself and your loved ones with simple actions that can prevent injuries and death. Earn trust, gain respect, and obey the law; your community and family will be grateful.](#)