

CHURCH BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

African American Congregations

July - September 2008

July 6

In 2006, 116 people died *each and every day* in traffic crashes. During this time of year when you and your family are on the road for outings or to visit relatives, practice defensive driving and don't let distractions cause an avoidable crash. [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.](#)

July 13

July 16th is Ride Your Motorcycle to Work Day. In 2006, 55 percent of all fatalities in motorcycle crashes involved another vehicle. Motorcycle safety is not only the responsibility of the motorcyclist, but other drivers as well. Help make the roads safer for riders by being alert and giving them extra room to maneuver. [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.](#)

July 20

When you pack up your family for a fun-filled summer vacation, remember that safety belts are important for everyone in the vehicle, in both the front and back seats, and whether you're traveling on the highway or driving around town. [Protect their future. Steer them straight when you're in the driver's seat.](#)

July 27

Never leave your children or pets unattended in a vehicle. When the temperature outside gets above 86°F, the temperature *inside* a vehicle can quickly reach 134°F to 154°F! [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.](#)

August 3

This week is National Stop on Red Week. Practice patience and remember that the yellow light doesn't mean hurry up – *slow down* and obey the traffic laws to protect your family and the other vehicles on the road. [Kids know you care about protecting their future. Steer them straight when you're in the driver's seat.](#)

August 10

State and local law enforcement agencies will soon begin their annual Labor Day Impaired Driving Crackdown from August 15 through September 1. They will be out in large numbers to get drunk drivers off the road and into jail where they belong. Pass the word. [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.

August 17

Riding with someone who has been drinking puts you at great risk. Tell them that if they insist on driving, you are not going with them. Suggest that you will call someone else for a ride, take a cab, or walk. [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.

August 24

Next weekend is the Labor Day holiday, a day of rest and a time for family togetherness. But it can quickly turn into a day of sadness from traffic crashes caused by drinking and driving. The best defense against an impaired driver is to always buckle up. [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.

August 31

As children head back to school, help keep them safe by watching out and being extra careful near schools and bus stops. Children arriving late for the bus may dart into the street without looking for traffic. [Kids know you care about protecting their future.](#) Steer them straight when you're in the driver's seat.

September 7

Teens riding in a vehicle with other teens only buckle up 50 percent of the time. As a new school year begins and new drivers hit the streets, teach your teens to be a good influence by buckling up both behind the wheel and in the passenger seat. [Your family knows you care about protecting their future.](#) Steer them straight when you're in the driver's seat.

September 14

Bicycling is fun and great exercise, but not enjoyable when you have an accident. Check your bike thoroughly to make sure all equipment works properly and learn how to look for road hazards that can cause accidents. [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.

September 21

Child Passenger Safety Week begins today. Visit a local inspection station to have your child's car seat inspected. Make sure your precious occupants are riding securely and safely each time you buckle them into a vehicle. [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.](#)

September 28

Autumn has officially begun! As you keep busy with your children's activities, remember to check your vehicle's tire pressure at least once a month. Maintaining your tires can help keep your family safe on the road. [Your family knows you care about protecting their future. Steer them straight when you're in the driver's seat.](#)

PASTOR'S NOTES

Traffic Safety Message for Sermon

Every parent wants to protect their child. Unfortunately, many do not think of proper restraint in vehicles as an important part of this duty. But taking simple steps to protect your child each time you get into a vehicle can greatly decrease their risk of injury or death in a traffic accident.

Research has found that child safety seats reduce fatal injury for infants (less than 1 year old) by 71 percent and toddlers (1-4 years old) by 54 percent. When children have outgrown child safety seats they should be properly restrained in booster seats until they are at least 8 years old, unless they are 4'9" tall. Children are large enough for a lap and shoulder belt when they can sit against the vehicle seat back with their knees bent over the vehicle seat cushion. To avoid injuries from air bags, children 12 years of age and younger should always be buckled up in the back seat. However, a child safety seat survey showed that of those surveyed, 42 percent of minority children (of which African Americans were a part) were at greater risk of air bag related injuries because they were more often placed in the front seat of vehicles with passenger-side air bags.

Parents and adults also have a great influence on children's behavior as they grow up and make their own decisions. Set a good example by wearing your safety belt – no child wants to grow up without a parent. [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.](#)