



## WOMEN'S DAY (March is Women's History Month)

**Sunday, March 4, 2012**

**Daryl Walker, Lectionary Team Liturgist**

### **Worship Planning Notes**

Today we celebrate women who are wise builders. They build through their commitment to God, themselves, their families, churches, communities, and the world. Yet even the wisest builder has gone through some struggles. Hence, **“The Power of Wise Women Builders”** or **“Wise Women Builders”** or **“Celebrating Women Builders”** are suggested themes, and Proverbs 14:1 is the supporting Scripture: *Every wise woman builds her house: but the foolish tears it down with her own hands.* The goal is for women to witness to each other through music, movement, and testimony during worship and other related Women's Day or Women's Weekend events.

**Bulletin Notes:** Provide notes in the bulletin or on projection screens on the significance of specific pieces of music to the theme. Include supportive Scriptures that help connect the songs to the theme. Also include brief testimonies from individual women if possible.

**Testimonies:** The purpose of testimonies is twofold. First, they witness to the power of God and how God's goodness has changed lives. Second, they push past barriers of women not talking to each other and foster mutual support in building better lives through Christ. During the Bible studies and other activities leading up to Women's Day, solicit testimonies from individual women who can share how God's goodness helped them deal not only with overcoming personal hardships but also with struggles in moving from simple church membership to effective Christian discipleship. It would be helpful to share as many printed testimonies as your bulletin or projection system will allow. It would also enhance the worship experience if you could select three testimonies to incorporate into the worship service at the key points indicated below.

**Working with the Theme:** The Scriptures and music given below are suggested to help examine how women build wisely and what biblically based building blocks they use. There are three primary phases of constructing a building and they align with the three primary phases of a worship service. You might want to align your worship components to match the three phases as suggested below. If you have selected women to share testimonies, the sequence would be scripture, testimony, and song or liturgical dance/mime.

1. Preparing the site. Although this is called different things in different churches, it equates to the time of invocation, opening, praise, or personal testimony.

Scripture: Acts 20:32: "I commend you to God, and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified."

Songs:

- a) Sanctuary
- b) For Every Mountain
- c) We've Come This Far by Faith

2. Connecting the components or materials. This generally equates to the sermon period. Below are three scriptures from which to select and five songs from which to select.

Scripture: Luke 14:28: "For which of you, intending to build a tower, sitteth not down first, and counteth the cost, whether he have sufficient to finish it?"

Scripture: Psalms 127:1a: "Except the LORD build the house, they labour in vain that build it."

Scripture: Isaiah 9:10a: "The bricks are fallen down, but we will build with hewn stones."

Songs:

- a) We Fall Down, But We Get Up
- b) There's a Leak in This Old Building
- c) I'm Going to Another Level
- d) Brick by Brick (for liturgical dance or mime)
- e) If I Can Help Somebody

3. Releasing the newly built or renovated structure for use in the real world. This generally equates to the time of invitation, sending forth, or benediction.

Scripture: Jude 1:20-21: “But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost, Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.”

Songs:

- a) Present Faultless
- b) Encourage Yourself
- c) Through It All

### **1. Litany for a Wise Builder**

Leader: O God, My Lord, have mercy on me; we are wise women yearning to hear from You. Our souls need healing. My soul yearns for a revival to mend my broken heart. Lift up my bowed-down head and draw me closer to you.

**People: You are a Mighty God and you have promised to meet us at our point of need.**

Leader: We are wise builders who build our foundations on solid ground. We prepare for the storms and listen to hear from you.

**People: In our quietness you hear our cry and make provisions that we cannot see. Thank you, O God, for your blessings.**

Leader: Pour into me your word so I may continue to be a wise builder all my days. Lord, you are my dwelling place and I seek after you when I enter the sanctuary.

**People: Thank you, God, for your great creation and your instructions that guide us daily, helping us to be wise builders and not foolish ones who tear down our homes and our lives.**

Leader: I praise you O, Lord for your mighty acts as you lead me to that sacred place to bask in your spirit and worship you.

**People: Lord God, you have been my dwelling place and a very present help in time of need. Dear God, help the foolish builders become wise builders through the power of your Holy Spirit.**

Leader: Lord, help the foolish builders who chose to tear down rather than build. They have been hurt by past pains, low self-esteem, and bad decisions. Let some woman be a beacon of light for them so they might see the way.

**People:** Lord God, restore unto us the joy of our salvation. Give us the power to throw off foolish endeavors and engage in wise undertakings.

**Leader:** Lord, we are wise women who build strong homes, always lifting praises to you. Our testimonies concern your love and great sacrifice.

**People:** Lord God, you have built me up, you have purged my sins, and you have washed and made me whole. Now make me a testimony so others will desire your love and power.

**ALL:** All praises to God for wise women who are good builders and are now able to help foolish women make choices that please you. AMEN.

## **2. Hymns and Congregational Songs**

(a) We've Come This Far by Faith. Text and Tune by Albert A. Goodson

(b) We Are One in the Spirit. By Peter Scholte

(c) We Are Climbing Jacob's Ladder. Traditional

(d) Hold to God's Unchanging Hand. By Jennie Wilson; refrain by F. I. Eiland

## **3. Spirituals or Traditional Songs**

(a) Search Me Lord. By Thomas A. Dorsey

(b) Done Made My Vow. Arr. by Nolan Williams, Jr.

(c) A Charge to Keep I Have. By Charles Wesley. Negro spiritual

## **4. Gospel Songs for Choirs, Ensembles, or Praise Teams**

(a) Through It All. By Andraé Crouch

(b) Koinonia. By V. Michael McKay

(c) Higher Ground. By Johnson Oatman, Jr. Tune, (HIGHER GROUND), by Charles H. Gabriel.  
YouTube: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZR6SvuGRwHs>

(d) We Are Climbing Jacob's Ladder. Negro spiritual. Arr. by Horace Boyer

## **5. Liturgical Dance or Mime Ministry Music**

For an intergenerational blessing, start with seasoned saints singing "There's a Leak in This Old Building" and phase into younger women or teenage girls singing "I'm Going to Another Level."

(a) There's a Leak in This Old Building. Writer Unknown

YouTube: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ivkXg4vyusY&feature=related>

(b) I'm Going to Another Level. By Israel Houghton  
YouTube: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dyXRST6FkFY>

(c) Encourage Yourself. By Donald Lawrence  
YouTube: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S6FTGsXQA2Q&feature=related>

## **6. Anthems**

(a) Great Is Thy Faithfulness. By Thomas O. Chisholm Arr. by Nathan Carter

(b) A Virtuous Woman. By Guy Robinson

(c) Rejoice in the Lord Always. By Clayton White

## **7. Modern Songs (Written between 2000–2011)**

(a) Encourage Yourself. By Donald Lawrence

(b) For Every Mountain. By Kurt Carr

(c) In the Midst of It All. By Yolanda Adams

## **8. Offertory Song or Instrumental**

(a) Press toward the Mark. By Norman Hutchins

(b) You Should Be a Witness. By Charles Nicks Jr.

## **9. Song or Instrumental for the Period of Prayer**

(a) Create in Me a Clean Heart. By Donnie McClurkin

(b) Unity. Text and Tune by Glorraine Moone. Based on Psalm 113:1

(c) Give Me a Clean Heart. By Fred Hammond

(d) Sanctuary (choral introit). By John Thompson and Randy Scruggs

## **10. Sermonic Selection**

(a) If I Can Help Somebody (Psalm 127). By A. Bazel Androzzo

(b) Be Blessed. By Kurt Carr

(c) Order My Steps. By Glenn Burleigh

## **11. Invitational Song or Instrumental**

(a) I Give Myself Away. By Sam Hinn and William McDowell

(b) We Fall Down, But We Get Up. By Donnie McClurkin

(c) With a Made Up Mind. By Donald Vails

YouTube : <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bjr809qNgYY>

(d) The Solid Rock. By Edward Mote. Tune, (SOLID ROCK), by William B. Bradbury. *This selection can be done well with Caribbean rhythms.*

## **12. Benediction Song or Instrumental**

(a) Till We Meet. By Kirk Franklin

(b) Be Blessed. By Kurt Carr. *You can use the first verse only as a benedictory hymn.*

(c) Till We Gather Again. Text and Tune by Stephen F. Key

## **13. Audio Visual Aids**

“**Brick by Brick**” was the theme song for Prince George Winyah Episcopal Church Vacation Bible School (VBS), the theme for which was “God the Builder” in 2008. The choreography depicted in the video for “Brick by Brick” is designed to feature children. Online location: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jDtvv6tzZ3w>

### **Cites and Additional Information for Music and Material Listed**

Material in the Worship Planning Notes was contributed by:

- Brian Johnson, Executive Director of Sacred Music at Trinity United Church of Christ, Chicago;
- Ron Anderson, Associate Director of Sacred Music at Trinity United Church of Christ, Chicago;
- Marilyn J. Richardson Lewis, Principal of Higher Level, LLC; and
- Jacqueline Austin, Psalmist, Praise and Worship Leader at Trinity United Church of Christ, Chicago.

**1. Litany for a Wise Builder** by Rev. Joe Ann Watson, Administrative Assistant for Arts and Worship, Trinity United Church of Christ, Chicago, IL

### **2. Hymns and Congregational Songs**

(a) We've Come This Far by Faith. Text and Tune by Albert A. Goodson

Location:

African American Heritage Hymnal. Chicago, IL: GIA Publications, 2001. #412

Lead Me, Guide Me: The African American Catholic Hymnal. Chicago, IL: GIA Publications, 1987. #225

The New National Baptist Hymnal 21st Century Edition. Nashville, TN: Triad Publications, 2005. #529

This Far by Faith: An African American Resource for Worship. Minneapolis, MN: Augsburg Fortress, 1999. #197

Yes, Lord! The Church of God in Christ Hymnal. Memphis, TN: Church of God in Christ Pub. Board in association with the Benson Co., 1982. #395

(b) We Are One in the Spirit. By Peter Scholte

Location:

The Faith We Sing (Cross and Flame Edition). Nashville, TN: Abingdon Press, 2000. #22–23

(c) We Are Climbing Jacob’s Ladder. Traditional

Location:

African American Heritage Hymnal. #464

African Methodist Episcopal Hymnal. Nashville, TN: AME Publishing House, 1998. #363

The New National Baptist Hymnal 21st Century Edition. #217

The United Methodist Hymnal: Book of United Methodist Worship. Nashville, TN: The United Methodist Publishing House, 1989. #418

(d) Hold to God’s Unchanging Hand. By Jennie Wilson; refrain by F. I. Eiland

Location:

African American Heritage Hymnal. #404

African Methodist Episcopal Hymnal. #513

The Hymnal of the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church. Memphis, TN: CME Publishing House and Triad Publications II, Inc., 1987. #248

The New National Baptist Hymnal 21st Century Edition. #51

The New Progressive Baptist Hymnal: Aids to Worship through Living Standard Hymns, Favorite Gospel Songs, Choice Anthems, Best Loved Chants and Responsive Readings for Live People Who Join in Soulful Worship in Living Churches and Related Activities. Washington, DC: Progressive National Baptist Convention, Inc., 1982. #248

Yes, Lord! Church of God in Christ Hymnal. #406

### **3. Spirituals or Traditional Songs**

(a) Search Me Lord. By Thomas A. Dorsey

Location:

Various Artists. Precious Lord: New Recordings of The Great Gospel Songs of Thomas A. Dorsey. New York, NY: Columbia, 1973.

(b) Done Made My Vow. Arr. by Nolan Williams, Jr.

Location:

NEWorks Publications  
P.O. Box 4599  
Washington, DC 20017  
Phone: 877-293-9734

Online location: [newworksinc@aol.com](mailto:newworksinc@aol.com)

(c) A Charge to Keep I Have. By Charles Wesley. Negro spiritual

Location:

The African American Heritage Hymnal. #467

### **4. Gospel Songs for Choirs, Ensembles, or Praise Teams**

(a) Through It All. By Andraé Crouch

Location:

The New National Baptist Hymnal 21st Century Edition. #402

(b) Koinonia. By V. Michael McKay

Location:

African American Heritage Hymnal. #579

(c) Higher Ground. By Johnson Oatman, Jr. Tune, (HIGHER GROUND), by Charles H. Gabriel.

Location:

African American Heritage Hymnal. #419

(d) We Are Climbing Jacob's Ladder. Negro spiritual. Arr. by Horace Boyer

Location:

African American Heritage Hymnal. #464

### **5. Liturgical Dance or Mime Ministry Music**

(a) There's a Leak in This Old Building. Writer Unknown

Location:

Pace, LaShun. God Is Faithful. Tokyo: Savoy Records/Nippon Columbia, 2001.

(b) I'm Going to Another Level. By Israel Houghton

Location:

Israel and New Breed: Another Level, Live. New York, NY: Sony, 2004.



(c) Encourage Yourself. By Donald Lawrence

Location:

Lawrence, Donald & Tri-City Singers. The Grand Finale: Encourage Yourself. Brentwood, TN: EMI Records, 2007.

## **6. Anthems**

(a) Great Is Thy Faithfulness. By Thomas O. Chisholm Arr. by Nathan Carter

Location:

African American Heritage Hymnal. #158

(b) A Virtuous Woman. By Guy Robinson

Location:

Guy Robinson and Friends: Acknowledge Him. Evergreen, CO: Evergreen Music, 2006.

(c) Rejoice in the Lord Always. By Clayton White

Location:

GIA Publications, Inc.  
7404 South Mason Avenue  
Chicago, IL 60638  
Phone: 1-800-GIA-1358

Online location: [www.giamusic.com](http://www.giamusic.com)  
Item #G-7126

## **7. Modern Songs (Written between 2000–2011)**

(a) Encourage Yourself by Donald Lawrence

Location:

NTIME MUSIC COMPANY  
4913 Albemarle Road #103  
Charlotte, NC 28205  
Phone: 704-531-8961

Online location: [www.ntimemusic.com](http://www.ntimemusic.com)

(b) For Every Mountain. By Kurt Carr

Location:

NTIME MUSIC COMPANY  
Phone: 704-531-8961

Online location: [www.ntimemusic.com](http://www.ntimemusic.com)

(c) In the Midst of It All. By Yolanda Adams

Location:

NTIME MUSIC COMPANY  
Phone: 704-531-8961

Online location: [www.ntimemusic.com](http://www.ntimemusic.com)

### **8. Offertory Song or Instrumental**

(a) Press toward the Mark. By Norman Hutchins

Location:

Battlefield. Inglewood, CA: JDI Records, 1999.

(b) You Should Be a Witness. By Charles Nix Jr.

Location:

The St. James Baptist Choir and: The Melodies Linger On. This album is out of print.  
You can hear the song online at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Lygk2Mtuu94>

### **9. Song or Instrumental for the Period of Prayer**

(a) Create in Me a Clean Heart. By Donnie McClurkin

Location:

Again. New York: Zomba Recording Corp., 2003.

(b) Unity. Text and Tune by Glorraine Moone. Based on Psalm 113:1

Location:

African American Heritage Hymnal. #338

(c) Give Me a Clean Heart. By Fred Hammond

Location:

NTIME MUSIC COMPANY  
Phone: 704-531-8961  
Online location: [www.ntimemusic.com](http://www.ntimemusic.com)

(d) Sanctuary (choral introit). By John Thompson and Randy Scruggs

Location:

African American Heritage Hymnal. #462

### **10. Sermonic Selection**

(a) If I Can Help Somebody (Psalm 127). By A. Bazel Androzzo

Location:

Walker Music Academy  
Online location: [wm\\_academy@msn.com](mailto:wm_academy@msn.com)

(b) Be Blessed. By Kurt Carr

Location:

Morton, Paul S. Still Standing. Kissimmee, FL: Tehillah Music Group, 2006.

(c) Order My Steps. By Glenn Burleigh

Location:

African American Heritage Hymnal. #333

The New National Baptist Hymnal 21st Century Edition. #526

### **11. Invitational Song or Instrumental**

(a) I Give Myself Away. By Sam Hinn and William McDowell

Location:

McDowell, William. As We Worship Live. New York, NY: Koch, 2007/2009.

(b) We Fall Down, But We Get Up. By Donnie McClurkin

Location:

The Essential Donnie. New York, NY: Verity, 2007.

(c) With a Made Up Mind. By Donald Vails

Location:

He Decided to Die. Jackson, MS: Malaco Records, 1979.

(d) The Solid Rock. By Edward Mote. Tune, (SOLID ROCK), by William B. Bradbury. *This selection can be done well with Caribbean rhythms.*

Location:

African American Heritage Hymnal. #385

African Methodist Episcopal Zion Bicentennial Hymnal. #286

Yes, Lord! Church of God in Christ Hymnal. #103

### **12. Benediction Song or Instrumental**

(a) Till We Meet. By Kirk Franklin

Location:

Kirk Franklin and the Family. Inglewood, CA: Gospocentric, 1993.

(b) Be Blessed. By Kurt Carr. *You can use the first verse only as a benedictory hymn.*

Location:

Morton, Paul S. Still Standing. Kissimmee, FL: Tehillah Music Group, 2006.

(c) Till We Gather Again. Text and Tune by Stephen F. Key

Location:

African American Heritage Hymnal. #638