# The Year Of Strategy and Success



## **Weekly Service Schedule**

#### Sunday

CHRISTIAN EDUČATION | 9:00AM

BREAKFAST| 9:00AM

WORSHIP SERVICE | 10AM

#### Tuesday

TUESDAY NIGHT LIVE | 7:00PM

Wednesday

MORNING PRAYER | 11:00AM



Bishop Mark C. Tolbert

**Overseer** 

1st Presiding Bishop—PAW



District Elder
Christopher D. Collier
Senior Pastor

## **VLC Insights Newsletter**

## January 2025 Issue

Message from Our PastorPage 2
PrayerPage 3
Scripture ReadingsPage 3
In Loving MemoryPage 3
Words of Encouragement from Baptism MinistryPage 3
Featured StoryPage 4
BMCT—12 Reasons Why I Should TithePage 5
Grandma's Collard Greens RecipePage 6
Happy Birthday Dr. KingPage 6
Inspirational: Buckets & DippersPage 6
Advertise Your Business With UsPage 7
Misc. InfoPage 8
Sick & Shut inPage 8
Cold and Flu Update from The CDCPage 8





## **Message From Our Pastor**





## Dear Victorious Life Church Family,

Happy New Year! As we step into 2025, I am filled with gratitude for each of you and the journey we've shared. This year, the Lord has placed a clear message on my heart for us as a church: 2025 is **The Year of Strategy and Success.** 

In Proverbs 16:3, the Bible says, "Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and He will establish your plans." This verse is a reminder that success doesn't happen by chance—it is birthed from prayerful planning and unwavering trust in God's guidance. This year, I believe the Lord is calling us to embrace intentionality in every area of our lives.

## A Year of Strategy

As individuals and as a church family, we are called to move forward with purpose. Strategy requires **clarity**, **discipline**, **and focus**. It's about aligning our goals with God's will and creating actionable steps to fulfill His purpose for our lives. In 2025, I challenge each of us to seek God for specific strategies in areas such as:

- Spiritual Growth: Commit to daily time in God's Word and prayer. Build habits that deepen your relationship with Him.
- Family and Relationships: Strengthen the bonds with loved ones by investing time and energy into nurturing them.
- Finances: Be good stewards of what God has entrusted to you. Plan, save, and give with a generous heart.
- Health: Honor God by caring for your body and mind, knowing they are His temple.
- Kingdom Impact: Strategize how you can better serve the church, your community, and the world.

## **A Year of Success**

God desires us to succeed, not for our glory, but for His. Joshua 1:8 tells us, "Keep this Book of the Law always on your lips; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful." Success in 2025 means walking in alignment with God's Word and seeing the fruit of faithful obedience in every area of life.

## Here are some ways we will pursue success as a church:

- 1. **Vision Alignment:** We will continue to walk in the vision God has given Victorious Life Church—to transform lives through the power of Jesus Christ.
- 2. **Empowered Ministry:** We will equip and empower you to discover your gifts and fulfill your purpose in God's Kingdom.
- 3. Community Outreach: Together, we will impact our community through acts of love, service, and generosity.
- 4. **Spiritual Revival:** We are praying for and expecting God to pour out His Spirit in ways that bring revival and renewal.

**Your Role in 2025** 

Each of you has a unique part to play in this Year of Strategy and Success. I encourage you to seek God's guidance on how He wants to use you in this season. Take time to reflect, pray, and write down your personal goals for the year. Then, share them with someone who can walk alongside you in accountability and encouragement.

Victorious Life Church, I am confident that 2025 will be a year where we see God's hand move powerfully in our lives, our church, and our community. Let us move forward together with **faith**, **focus**, and **expectation**.



With Love and Blessings, Fastor Christopher D. Collier









## PRAYER FOR THE **NEW YEAR**

O Lord, as We stand on the threshold of this new beginning, we come before You with a heart filled with gratitude.

Thank you for the gift of fresh starts and the chance to begin anew. In this moment we ask for Your divine guidance and Your wisdom as we step into uncharted territory.

Shine light upon our paths and lead us towards the purpose You have set for our lives. Let this be a year of Strategy and Success.

But most of all; let someone come to know You as their Lord and Savior. This we ask in the name of Your Son Jesus Christ. AMEN!

AP LaVerne S. Jones





## James Earl Jones

James Earl Jones was an American actor. A pioneer for black actors in the entertainment industry, he is known for his extensive and acclaimed roles on stage and



screen. Jones is one of the few performers to achieve the EGOT. Wikipedia

## Quincy Jones

Quincy Delight Jones Jr. was an American record producer, composer, arranger, conductor, trumpeter, and bandleader. Wikipedia



## Philippians 3:7-15 KJV





ΑP Cvnthia Jordan

But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ.

<sup>8</sup> Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ.

And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith.

<sup>10</sup> That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death.

If by any means I might attain unto the resurrection of the dead.

<sup>12</sup> Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus.

<sup>13</sup> Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before,

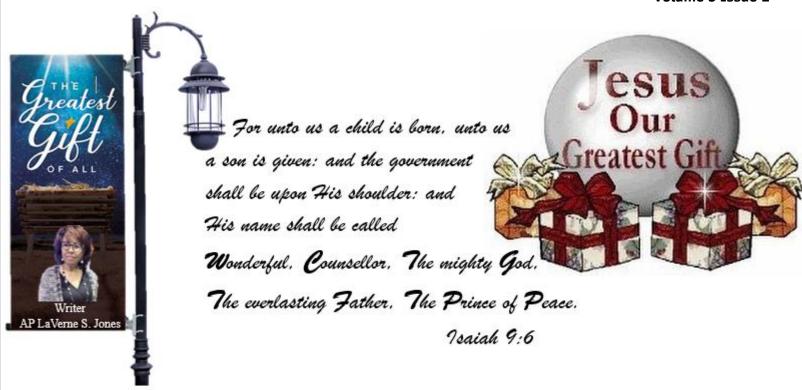
<sup>14</sup> I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

<sup>15</sup>Let us therefore, as many as be perfect, be thus minded: and if in any thing ye be otherwise minded, God shall reveal even this unto you.









For many, Christmas means waking early in the morning to a beautifully decorated tree surrounded by gifts of all sizes. The children are all filled with glee and laughter as they peel away the lovely wrapping that covers the gift hidden inside. Oh, what great joy the parents received watching their little ones as they played around the room. But there was another gift beneath the tree. One so tiny and plain that no one noticed that it was there. A glimmer of light shone about it near the corner of the tree.

After a while, the excitement waned, and a more serious tone ensued. "There's another gift beneath the tree," the mother soon proclaimed. "Let's all come over and take a look to see what it might be." She read the card attached that said, "A gift from Me to you and yours." Slowly she began to unwrap the tiny box and took a look inside. But there was nothing visible for her to see at first. The mother moved around the crepe that stuffed the box, and there she found a cross that read: John 3:16. "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

A flicker of shame flooded her soul. And, with that, the mother leaned over and whispered in the father's ear and the two began to explain the true meaning of Christmas. She told her children about the virgin birth and Jesus' mother Mary. They talked about the wise men and all the gifts they laid at the babe's feet. She explained how heaven sent Jesus to us as the Savior of the world. The children's eyes lit up as she spoke of this newborn King. "What a precious gift!" she said.

Let us remember that Jesus is the greatest gift!



# 12 REASONS WHY 1 SHOULD TO THE

#### 1. Giving opens the door to receiving.

Give and it shall be given unto you good measure pressed down shaken together and running over shall we give into your bosom. They don't have to know you, like you, or know you are in need: its just a divine order from God. Luke 6:38

#### 2. God Commands It!

In Malachi 3:10, God says "Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse". The storehouse God is referring to is the place where you worship and are spiritually fed, your home church. When you give to support charities or other ministries, you are giving offerings. But remember, you cant give God an offering until after you have brought Him the whole tithe, It is only a tithe when given to the Church. Upon this rock I will build my church and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

#### 3. Tithing Proves Gods Word is True.

In Malachi 3:10, God actually challenges every believer to "put Him to the test" in giving of your tithes and offerings, you will be incredibly blessed as you watch His blessings flow toward you and over take your life.

#### 4. God will Rebuke the Devourer.

You have a spiritual enemy who targets you When you bring God the whole tithe and give offerings as He leads, God will rebuke (stop) the enemy from stealing from you. You need Gods help if you are going to make it financially in these economically distressed times.

#### 5. Tithing teaches Me to Put God First.

According to Deuteronomy 14:23, the purpose of tithing is to teach you to purpose of tithing is to teach you to always put God first in your life. If God has your finances, he also has your heart. If you refuse to tithe, you prove that He isn't really Lord of your life.

## 6. Jesus Reaffirms Our Obligation to Tithe.

In Matthew 23:23, Jesus commended the Pharisees for tithing. Tithing was the only thing they were doing right.

## 7. Tithing is essential to Spiritual Growth.

Jesus said Luke 16:11, "If therefore you have not been faithful in the use of money, how can you expect Him to entrust greater riches to you?" Many Christians want to believe the promises of God, but don't want to obey His commands, In other words, to paraphrase Luke 16:11 How can you expect God to bless you, f you refuse to bring your tithes and offerings to him?

#### 8. Tithing Proves You Love the Lord.

In 2 Corinthians 8:8, God says that your giving tests the sincerity of your love. So, when you give God the first of your income, not the leftovers at the end of the month, you're proving you trust Him, love Him, and you are putting Him first in your life. You see, you can say you love the Lord, but your actions will always speak louder than your words.

## 9. Tithing is an Investment For Eternity.

Jesus told us in Matthew 6:20, "But lay up for yourselves treasures in haven..." when you give your tithes and offerings to the Lord's work you are investing your money in souls for the Kingdom. What an honor to give to God and see people's lives changed for eternity.

### 10. You cannot Out-Give God.

Paul tells us in /Galatians 6:7, "Do not be deceived, God is not mocked for whatever a man sows that he will also reap" In other words God is watching, and whatever you give to Him, He will give it back to you. You see, giving unlocks the windows of heaven on your behalf. You cannot "out give" God.

The more you give to Him, the more He will give back to you in multiplied proportions.

## 11. Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

"I have wondered why the bible did not say where your heart is, there will your treasure be also." I have learned over the years that sometimes those things that we sought to become wealthy in did not always pan out. Then something worked and we set our anchor and began to work what worked. Our hearts follow our treasure. Many people don't like their jobs, but because that job is providing a good income, vacations, college tuition for the kids. We put our heart in that job, or that business to do our best for it so it does its best for us, hence the wisdom of God where our treasure is there will our hearts be also. Matthew 6:21 if your treasure is with God and is word then tithing is not an option,

## 12. Without faith, it is impossible to please God!!!! Hebrews 6:12.

Many people say they have faith but they only talk abut what they b believe faith can do. Faith is action. If one only talks faith they talk about what they are going to do when their ship comes in. When you do faith, you pay your whole tithe give your offerings and build your ship like Noah did, having faith its going to rain. When the rain started Noah had a ship built by faith. What are you doing to show that your faith is alive and active?

"Our city could have a bountiful blessing upon it, if every person, business, and corporation paid tithes and trusted God to bring the increase. I know these tithing pointers if put into action, will change your life, your business and bless your financial status forever".

Bishop Mark C. Tolbert

# Grandma's Collard Greens

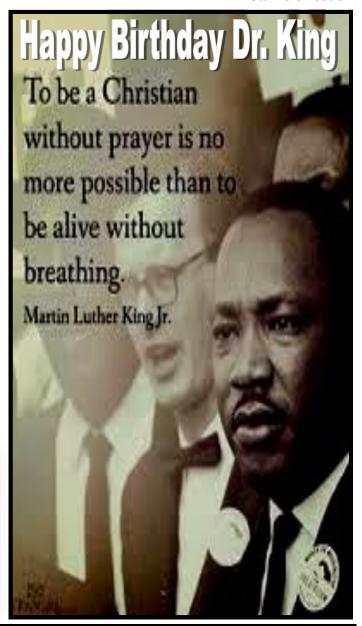
## **Ingredients**

- ♦ 2 cups chopped red onion
- ♦ 2 slices bacon, chopped
- ♦ 1 ½ cups chicken stock
- ♦ ¼ cup apple cider vinegar
- ♦ 2 tablespoons brown sugar
- 1 pinch red pepper flakes
- ◆ 4 pounds collard greens rinsed, trimmed and chopped salt and ground black pepper to taste

## **Directions**

- 1. Cook onion and bacon in a large pot over medium-high heat until onion is soft, 5 to 7 minutes. Add chicken stock, vinegar, brown sugar, and pepper flakes; cook and stir until brown sugar has completely dissolved, 2 to 3 minutes.
- 2. Add 1/2 of the collard greens, reduce heat to medium, and cook until greens are slightly wilted, about 10 minutes. Add remaining greens, toss to combine, and simmer over medium-low heat until tender, about 30 minutes. Season with salt and pepper.





## Inspirational

## Buckets and Dippers

Have you ever encountered people who take away more in value than they add to your life? Well, we call those types of people dippers. They take away more than they add. Luke 6:38 tells us: "Don't pick on people, jump on their failures, criticize their faults—unless, of course, you want the same treatment. Don't condemn those who are down; that hardness can boomerang. Be easy on people; you will find life a lot easier. Give away your life, and you will find life given back, but not merely given back—but with bonus and blessings. Giving, not getting, is the way. Generosity begets generosity." (MSG) The moral here is to be the person who gives and adds value to others rather than the dipper who takes away.





Assistant Pastor LaVerne S. Jones





Web Base Advertising presence has become

one of the most important strategies for businesses to promote and communicate their services and products. Below are some reasons why you should consider advertising with The VLC Electronic Newsletter.

> Sister Tonya D. Hayes President

- Build Your Audience.
- Online advertisement is promoted electronically; therefore your business does not have to pay extra costs that are associated with postage, printing or delivery.
- Targeted online advertisement will save time and generate quick results.
- Online advertising will give your customers access 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

- Online advertising has gained huge popularity among the internet users.
- Most useful to attract customers from a particular region.

Thank you so much for supporting our ministry

**GET STARTED NOW!** 

CONTACT US.....tonyadhayes@yahoo.com

## **Business Card Size**

Approximate Dimensions

2.1 by 3.5

\$25.00

1/4 Page

Approximate Dimensions

41 by 6.1

\$50.00

Half Page

**Approximate Dimensions** 

5.5 by 8.5

\$75.00

Full Page

Approximate Dimensions

8.5 by 11

\$100.00



## - الراق

## Miscellaneous Information 💩





Please remember to <u>pray</u> for <u>and visit or call</u> our members that are sick, shut-in, or hospitalized.

Bishop Mark Tolbert-Overseer

First Lady Emelda Tolbert

**Britton Tolbert** 

Mother Bernice Faciane

Dist. Elder Chris Collier and Family

**VLC Assistant Pastors & Ministers** 

Councilman Jermain Reed

White House Staff

**VLC Family & Friends** 

Mayor Lucas & Kansas City, MO

**VLC Executive Board & Adm Staff** 

LATCA Staff and Students

**Mother Aurora Winn** 

Mother Hazel Lawrence

All VLC Senior Saints

**Brother Roy Reliford** 

**Brother Ryan A. Hayes** 

Sister Laverne Lunn

Sister Patrice Jordan

Sister Letitia Howard

Mother Joyce Pearson

Mother Gerri Graham

Bro OB & Sis Rosie Jemmerson

AP David & Viola Williams

Sis Vivian Brown

**Local Nursing Homes** 

**Homeless Families** 

The Kansas City Chiefs

**KC Homicide Victims Families** 

Israe

New Orleans attack on Bourbon Street and California Wildfires



In this year of Strategy & Success, I declare and decree that I will submit to the wisdom of God for good stewardship.

By Faith, I shall be a committed tither and an offering sower.

By Faith, I will diligently work the strategies of God's word, to produce a successful manifestation in my life. When I support God's house, God sustains my house!













# PREVENT COLDS & FLU

Because of the increased risk for flu, gastrointestinal and respitory illness at this time of the year, we ask that you take precautions to prevent the spread of germs.

WASH

Wash your hands for at least 30 seconds (sing Happy Birthday twice) with soap and warm water.



COVER Cover your mouth

Cover your mouth and nose when you cough or sneeze with your elbow or tissue.



DON'T TOUCH
Don't touch your eyes, nose or mouth! These
are the areas where a virus can enter your body.



AVOID Avoid close conta

Avoid close contact with those who are sick. Wash your hands or use hand sanitizer after.



PHEWI YOU CAN'T GO OUT
IN THAT FILTHY OLD THING!
GO TAKE THAT OFF AND
PUT ON YOUR NEW SUIT!
RENEWED MIND

NEW
SELF

You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; to be made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.

- EPHESIANS 4:22-24 NIV

The key to putting on your new self is to have your mind renewed by the Word of God

.Reporter

#### VLC

#### Insights Newsletter Staff

AP Cynthia Jordan......Responsive Reading

Dr. Kathy Jones......Writer

AP Laverne Jones.....Writer

Sister Karla Canada.....Treasurer

Sister Donna Cubit.



Sister Tonya D. Hayes

President

and



Chief Editor



