









#### Welcome Letter

# Cherish the Moments Marriage Retreat II (CTM 2)- Valentine's Day Weekend Married couples, Take Your Love To The Next Level

On behalf of the Historic Metropolitan Baptist Church and its Marriage Enrichment Ministry, as well as Clifton Park Baptist Church and Greater Saint John Cathedral Church, we welcome you and your spouse to this year's CTM 2. We trust that you find God's Sweet Sweet Spirit, both in this place and among all the couples with whom you will be in fellowship.

When people unite in marriage, two unique individuals become one. But as the Apostle Paul remarked in Ephesians 5:32, marriage can be a profound mystery because it requires time, energy, and commitment: for every man to love his wife as much as he loves himself, for every woman to respect her husband as she does Christ, and for two people with distinct experiences, personalities, strengths, and weaknesses to become a cohesive whole.

Becoming one by strengthening our marriages, as well as our covenant with God under whose presence we were brought together, is the goal of this year's CTM 2. Over these three days, you will learn how to address the expectations—spoken and unmentioned —that underlie our relationships; rekindle romance; and take time to laugh, sing, and dance with your companion in life.

We know that this retreat will help you and your spouse continue building a closer relationship with each other and with Our Father. Thank you for joining us, and may your marriage be blessed as you embark on this journey together.

Our blessings to you, The CTM 2 Planning Team







#### Greetings!

"And though a man might prevail against one who is alone, two will withstand him—a threefold cord is not quickly broken." Ecclesiastes 4:12 ESV

Welcome to Metropolitan Baptist Church's Cherish the Moments weekend at the Hyatt Regency Chesapeake Bay Golf Resort, Spa, and Marina. Led by Wendell and Elizabeth Carter, our Marriage Enrichment Ministry team has crafted an inspiring and meaningful time of fellowship just for you.

In this unprecedented season of ministry where challenge gives way to creativity, We are grateful to do ministry collaboratively. We are excited and appreciative to Bishop Kevin Gresham, Executive Pastor Gresham with the St John Cathedral couples. We are also appreciative of Pastor Estenio Lewis and the Clifton Park Church couples who have chosen to be a part of this time of refreshing and have also invested tangibly.

Marriage is a sacred blessing—meant to be honored, nurtured, and cherished. I commend you for your dedication to investing in one another. So, relax, enjoy, and make the most of this opportunity to deepen your relationships with God and each other.

Lady Joy and I pray you have a truly enriching experience as you Cherish the Moments!

Blessings, Rev. Dr. George L. Parks Jr. Senior Pastor, The Historic Metropolitan Baptist Church



VALENTINES WEEKEND MARRIED COUPLES RETREAT



**Rev. Dr. George L. Parks Jr.** Senior Pastor, The Historic Metropolitan Baptist Church

#### Dear Friends,

On behalf of Clifton Park Baptist Church, please allow me to be one of the first to welcome you to the Cherish the Moments Couples Retreat at the beautiful Hyatt Chesapeake Bay Golf Resort, Spa & Marina. We are overjoyed that you have chosen to invest in your marriage by joining together for this special time of growth, connection, and renewal. The next few days are designed to give you the space to step away from the busyness of life and focus on strengthening your bond with your spouse and with God.

It is truly a blessing to see couples from three different churches come together for this retreat. This partnership reflects the beauty of unity in the body of Christ, reminding us that we are stronger together. Just as we are united in purpose this weekend, we pray you will be encouraged to deepen the unity within your marriage.

Our foundational Scripture for this retreat is grounded in Ecclesiastes 4:9-12: "Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor: If either of them falls down, one can help the other up. But pity anyone who falls and has no one to help them up. Also, if two lie down together, they will keep warm. But how can one keep warm alone? Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken."

This Scripture reminds us of the power of partnership, the importance of communication, and the strength that comes from placing God at the center of our marriages. As you engage in the sessions, activities, and quiet moments this weekend, we encourage you to reflect on these truths.

Take time to truly enjoy one another's presence, rekindle your love, and embrace the fellowship of other couples walking similar paths. Marriage is a journey, and every step we take in unity and faith brings us closer to the relationship God desires for us.

May this retreat inspire you, equip you, and empower you to take your love to the next level.

With love and blessings, Rev. Dr. Essentino A. Lewis, Jr. Senior Pastor, Clifton Park Baptist Church









**Rev. Dr. Essentino A. Lewis, Jr.** Senior Pastor, Clifton Park Baptist Church

Dear Marriage Retreat Participants,

I hope you're doing great and feeling super excited about the adventure you're about to have! Choosing to go to this retreat is a fantastic way to take care of your relationship and make it even stronger. It's a chance to unplug from the hustle and bustle of everyday life and really get to know each other on a deeper level.

This retreat is not just about addressing challenges, but also about celebrating the joy and companionship that define a thriving marriage. Through engaging workshops, insightful discussions, and meaningful activities, you will gain tools and perspectives that can enrich your relationship not only during this retreat but for years to come.

Remember, every marriage is unique, and there is no one-size-fits-all solution. Be open to learning and sharing, to listening and expressing. Embrace the opportunity to grow together, and to find new ways to support and cherish one another.

We believe in the strength and potential of each couple attending. Your commitment to making your relationship a priority is a testament to the depth of your love and dedication.

May your journey be filled with wonder, blessings and joy.

Trusting in Elohim

Bishop Kevin V. Gresham, Sr. Greater Saint John Cathedral







**Bishop Kevin V. Gresham, Sr.** Greater Saint John Cathedral



Scripture: "A cord of three strands is not quickly broken." Ecclesiastes 4:12

# Thursday, February 13, 2025

#### **Arrival & Leisure Time**

12:00 PM - 3:00 PM	Meet & Greet in Hospitality Suite (Light Refreshments Available) Enjoy Resort Amenities (Spa, Gym, Golf, Pool, etc.)
4:00 PM	Hotel Check-In (Main Lobby)
4:00 PM - 5:30 PM	Retreat Registration – King Ababco Room (Right of Main Lobby)
4:00 PM - 6:00 PM	Date Your Mate (Dinner on Your Own)
7:00 PM - 8:00 PM	<b>Meet &amp; Greet - Tropical Paradise</b> (Indoor Poolside – Tropical Attire Encouraged) Includes Raffle Drawings & Social Mixer
8:00 PM - 10:00 PM	<b>Fun Fellowship</b> (Karaoke, Couples Games, etc.) <b>Chesapeake Ballroom</b>

# Friday, February 14, 2025

Morning Session	
8:00 AM - 8:45 AM	Breakfast (Included) – Chesapeake Ballroom
8:45 AM - 9:00 AM	<b>Morning Devotion &amp; Prayer</b> Led by Pastors, Reciting of Marriage Vows – Led by Team Hardy
9:00 AM - 11:30 AM	<b>Morning Workshop</b> Keynote Speakers: Dr. James & Tara Jackson
11:30 AM - 1:00 PM	Lunch Break (On Your Own)
Afternoon Session	
1:00 PM - 2:30 PM –	<b>Afternoon Workshop</b> Keynote Speakers: Dr. James & Tara Jackson
2:30 PM - 5:00 PM	<b>Enjoy Resort Amenities</b> Spa, Gym, Golf, Pool, etc.









Scripture: "A cord of three strands is not quickly broken." Ecclesiastes 4:12

### Friday, February 14, 2025

#### Break & Transition Time

5:00 PM - 6:00 PM Free Time to Refresh & Change for Evening Gala

#### **Evening Gala & Celebration**

6:00 PM - 7:00 PM	Pre-Dinner Reception & Red Carpet Photos
7:00 PM	<b>Doors Open for the Evening Gala</b> Elegant Evening Attire Required
7:10 PM - 7:30 PM	<b>CTM2 Welcome &amp; Celebration</b> Special Recognition Exciting Prize Drawings Acknowledgments from the Planning Committee
7:30 PM	Dinner is Served
8:00 PM - 8:45 PM	Comedian Performance – Featuring Chris Clark
9:00 PM - 9:30 PM	Presentation of Roses
9:30 PM - 12:00 AM	Dance the Night Away with DJ Duane Jordan! Music & Celebration!

# Saturday, February 15, 2025

#### Morning Session (Chesapeake Ballroom-ABCD)

7:30 AM – 8:25 AM	Praise & Worship Breakfast Guest Psalmist: Min. Brandon Burton
8:25 AM – 8:30 AM	Reciting of Marriage Vows (Led by Team Hardy)
8:30 AM – 10:15 AM	<b>Morning Workshop 1</b> Keynote Speakers: Pastor TL & Mabel Rogers
10:15 AM – 11:05 AM	Break & Hotel Check-Out Marriage Testimonials (if time permits).









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# Saturday, February 15, 2025

Morning Session (Chesapeake Ballroom-ABCD)

11:05 AM – 11:10 AM	Brief Group Discussion & Transition to Breakout Sessions
11:10 AM – 11:40 AM	<b>Breakout Sessions</b> Wives: with Mabel Rogers (Chesapeake Ballroom-ABCD) Husbands: with Pastor TL Rogers (Cutter AB)
11:40 AM – 11:45 AM	Transition Back to Group
11:45 AM – 12:00 PM	<b>Morning Workshop 2</b> Keynote Speakers: Pastor TL & Mabel Rogers
12:00 PM – 12:30 PM	<b>Closing Ceremony: Blessing of the Marriages</b> All Pastors Participating Words of Encouragement & Closing Remarks by CTM2 Planning Committee Completion of Retreat Survey (QR Code & Paper Copies Provided <b>)</b>

#### **Lunch & Afternoon Activity**

12:30 PM – 1:30 PM	Lunch on Your Own
1:40 PM	Depart Hotel for Harriet Tubman Museum & Mural Tour
2:00 PM	Group Tour of Harriet Tubman Museum & Mural

Location: Hyatt Regency Chesapeake Bay Dates: Thursday, February 13 - Saturday, February 15, 2025 A Weekend of Love, Renewal, and Celebration!

For any questions or assistance, please contact the CTM2 Planning Team.









Mr. & Mrs. Aba Mr. & Mrs. adkins Mr. & Mrs. Anderson Mr. & Mrs. Bailey Mr. & Mrs. Ball Mr. & Mrs. Bernard Mr. & Mrs. Biddle Mr. & Mrs. Blanc Mr. & Mrs. Burton Mr. & Mrs. Campbell Mr. & Mrs. Carperter Mr. & Mrs. Carter Mr. & Mrs. Clark Mr. & Mrs. Curtis Mr. & Mrs. Pavis Mr. & Mrs. Pillon Mr. & Mrs. Duckett Mr. & Mrs. Elon Mr. & Mrs. Emerson Mr. & Mrs. Faison Mr. & Mrs. Freeman Mr. & Mrs. Goode Mr. & Mrs. Gresham Mr. & Mrs. Hailes

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TAKE YOUR LOVE TO THE NEXT LEVEL

# MR. GEORGE & DR. ROCHELLE HARDY TEAM HARDY

MR. LYNN & MRS. FAY TEAM WALLACE











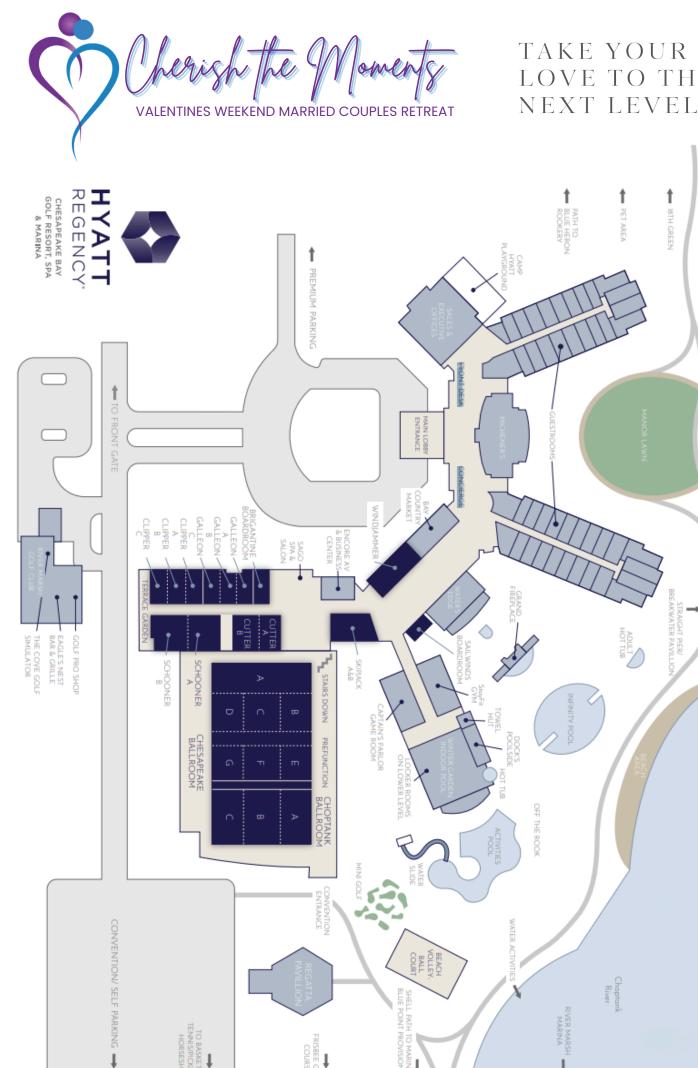






ΗΥΑΤΤ ア EGENCY MAP

ΗE



SHELL PATH TO MARINA & BLUE POINT PROVISION CO

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COURSE ļ

TO BASKETBALL, TENNIS/PICKLEBALI HORSESHOES

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RIVER MARSH



