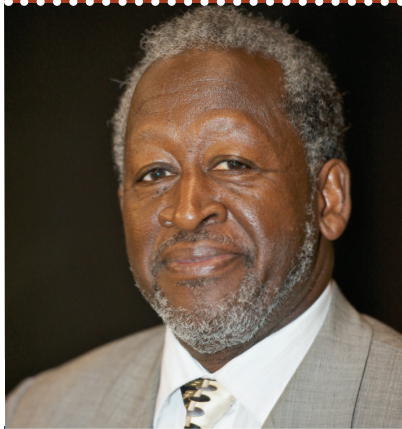


# WHY WE GIVE



## “A SERMON IS BETTER SEEN THAN SPOKEN.”

“There is no doubt that this sharecropper’s son has been blessed,” says the Rev. Joseph Abram Jr., who serves a three-point charge in South Carolina. “A sermon is better seen than spoken.”

“In a previous appointment,” he recalls, “I had one church whose parishioners were mostly aged persons with limited income.” He remodeled the sanctuary extensively for a \$3,500 gratuity.

In his current appointment, he has redone four restrooms, trimmed the exterior and repaired the steeple. Members of “one church came back after their week off,” he says, “to find their fellowship hall had been redone with chair railing, new painting, blinds and curtains.”

He encourages the churches to pay their apportionments, too.

“Two years ago,” he says, “I sent approximately \$2,000 of one of the church’s apportionments so there would be something on record for them. This past year, I promised to give \$2,000 of the salary, with the understanding that the salary-sheet report would not be reduced so it would not impact negatively the next pastor.”

People ask Abram why he does these things. His answer is simple.

“Whoever is blessed should be a blessing.”

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