

## Local Church Budget

***When we serve, miracles happen.*** For nine decades Oseola McCarty lived an unassuming, humble life. A washerwoman, like her grandmother, she learned early to be frugal. She started saving at 8-years old. When she died at the age of 91, her bank account stood at \$280,000, of which she donated \$150,000. The McCarty scholarship helps needy students. Her example inspired Ted Turner to donate one billion dollars to charity.

President Clinton awarded her the Presidential Citizens Medal. Harvard University gave her an honorary doctorate. The United Nations distinguished Ms. McCarty with the Avicenna Medal for her selfless commitment to education.

When we serve others, miracles happen. Let us commit to supporting our local church budget with a zest worthy of our Lord. Our local church budget sponsors programs that affect our communities and neighbors.

When asked why she chose the University of Southern Mississippi as a recipient of her donation, Ms. McCarty responded: "Because it's *here*." Our local church budgets are *here*, in need of our support. Let us pledge our systematic, long-term support this entire year to our local church budget.