

The FCCBC CONNECTION

First Christian Community Baptist Church
4116 Groveland Avenue Baltimore, MD 21215
410-664-7443



We Are Family



Photos courtesy of Sis. Sharon Johnson and Trustee Henry Smith

Service Times

- Sunday School* Sun. 9:15 a. m.
- Sunday Service* Sun. 11:00 a. m.
- Mid-Day Bible Study** Tues. 1:00 p. m.
- Prayer & Praise Service** Wed. 6:00 p. m.
(first Wednesday of each month)
- Bible Study ** Wed. 7:00 p. m.

* Summer break. Resumes in Fall.

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Message From Our Pastor



“ For we are laborers together with God: you are God’s field you are God’s building.” (1 Corinthians 3:9)

In the book of Corinthians, Paul addressed one of the oldest problems in the Church; which is division. It is impossible to achieve anything for God, as a group of

people, if we are divided. No family, community, or church can function effectively if they are divided.

We must understand that not only is there strength in unity, but ‘none of us’ is as smart as ‘all of us.’ In this Christian journey we need each other. The Bible teaches us to “...be perfectly joined together, and that there be no division among you.” (I Corinthians 1:10) Even though we live in an era where it seems that the powers that be are trying to divide us by singling out our differences; we must not allow that kind of negative attitude to hinder us from celebrating our similarities. Each member is necessary, and every member is important; and it takes all of us to function as one body.

God put us in the Work so we can experience the joy of working together as one; and see by the Power of God what fruits we are able to produce in the name of Our Lord. Jesus said in His Word that, “every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation; and every city or house divided against itself shall not stand.” (Matthew 12:25) That is the reason why unity, teamwork, and working together as one must first begin in the house of God. We are supposed to be the ones who set an example of how to be One in Christ. In I Peter 3:8-9a, it says, “...be ye all of one mind, having compassion one of another, love as brethren, be pitiful, be courteous:

not rendering evil for evil, or railing for railing...”

This passage of Scripture teaches us that when we are working together as one; we show and experience harmony, sympathy, compassion, and like-mindedness towards one another. This is the example that God wants His Children to show to the world. I am so thankful to belong to a Church Family who really looks out for one another. When one of us hurt, we all hurt and when one of us rejoice, we all rejoice together.

Keep working together Family! “ The Lord is doing great things for us whereof we are glad.” (Psalm 126:3) We have been called by God to serve Him and each other in order to promote the gospel of Jesus Christ. We must and will continue to spread the message of Jesus and His love.

However; it is of even greater importance that they SEE the gospel of Jesus Christ and His Love lived in our daily lives.

Lovingly Submitted,
Pastor Alphonso Tucker, Servant

SAVE THE DATES!

First Christian Community Baptist Church will be celebrating Rev. Dr. Alphonso Tucker and Lady Bridgett Tucker’s Tenth Pastoral Anniversary

Wed., September 18th • 7 p.m. Greater New Hope

Wed., September 25th • 7 p.m. Isaiah Baptist

Wed., October 2nd • 7 p.m. Sweet Hope Freewill

Sun., October 6th • 11:00 a.m.

• 3:30 p.m. Mt. Zion Hill

Please come out and celebrate with us!

Church Directory

Pastor	Rev. Alphonso Tucker	410-466-5776 (home) 410-664-7443 (study)
Chairman of Deacon’s Ministry	Deacon Lawrence Waller	410-281-9185 (home) 410-984-5268 (cell)
Church Clerk	Marilyn Dorsey	410-298-4892 / 443-676-6261
Asst. Church Clerk	Kitty Owens	410-255-7713
Bus Driver	Everett Cash	443-850-5494
Courtesy Phone—Lower Auditorium		410-367-9776

Holy Week

Holy Week began on Palm Sunday, April 14 and ended on Resurrection Sunday, April 21st. First Christian Community Baptist Church commemorated the Passion of our Lord and Savior Jesus, the Christ through a sequence of events.

Sunday, April 14 – 11:00 A.M. Palm Service worship service. Rev. Alphonso Tucker began Holy week by preaching a powerful sermon on Jesus' triumphant return to Jerusalem. His sermonic topic was, "*Who is This?*" (Matt. 21:10-11). Palms were blessed by the Pastor and distributed to the congregation.

Wednesday, April 17 – Prayer and Praise Service was led by the Deacons. There were powerful prayers of adoration, thanksgiving and supplication by the ministers and diaconate ministry in response to written requests. Testimonies and songs of praise were offered throughout the service.

Thursday, April 18 – 7:00 P.M. Maundy Thursday is commemorated. The teaching by Deaconess Mary Murphy revisited many of the events and mandates that Jesus issued on this day. The two that were emphasized were to love and serve one another with humility and to remember His sacrifice.

Friday, April 19 – Noon – Good Friday service was held at Grace Baptist Church. Seven preachers preached on The Seven Last Words:

- ⇒ **First Word** by Pastor Ronald Covington with the sermonic topic, "*Let it Go!*" (Luke 23:34)
- ⇒ **Second Word** by Pastor Eric Holder with the sermonic topic, "*A Moment with the Master*" (Luke 23:43)
- ⇒ **Third Word** by Pastor Haywood Bradley, Jr. with the sermonic topic, "*A Portrait of Love*" (John 19:26-27)
- ⇒ **Fourth Word** by Pastor Melvin Dickens from the sermonic topic, "*When God Leaves You Hanging*" (Matthew 27:46)
- ⇒ **Fifth Word** by Bishop George Stanton from the theme, "*Jesus is Thirsting for You*" (John 19:28)
- ⇒ **Sixth Word** by Pastor James Butler, "*It is Finished*" (John 19:30)
- ⇒ **Seventh Word** by Pastor Alphonso Tucker from the sermonic topic, "*The Word that Shows the Way*" (Luke 23:46)

Sunday, April 21 – Resurrection Sunday

7:45 a.m. - Breakfast by the Culinary Ministry

9:30 a.m. - Annual Resurrection Service by the Sunday School and Drama Ministry

11:00 a.m. - Resurrection morning Worship service. Pastor Tucker ended Holy Week with a climactic sermon, "*Joy Cometh in the Morning*" (Matt. 28:1-8).

May you have the joy of Jesus as your constant companion in all the days to come.

Submitted by: Deaconess Mary H. Murphy



Deacon's Corner

To God Be The Glory. For they that have used the office of a deacon well purchase to themselves a good degree, and great boldness in the faith which is in Christ Jesus.

1 Timothy 3:13

I do greet you in the name of the Lord and Jesus the Christ. Beloved, the winter months are behind us and we thank God for bringing us thus far. To God be the Glory. It is truly a blessing for the Lord who has allowed this ministry to continue and serve to stay on the battlefield. We count it a joy and a privilege to visit the sick and shut-in for it is our duty and responsibility to take the church (word of God) to members who cannot attend church services. Visitations of the sick is one of our special duties as being a servant of God. "Work while it is day for when the night comes no man can work." John 9:4 The sick and shut in members are always so excited and happy when we visit them. We are asking for prayer and healing for all of our FCCBC members because we are FAMILY! For we know what prayer can do.

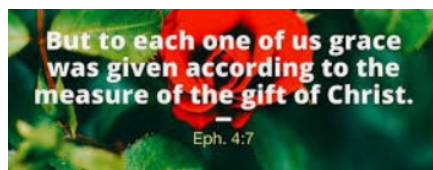
The 85th Session of The National Baptist Deacons Convention of American and it's Auxiliaries will have its convention in Downtown Baltimore July 22nd – July 26th 2019. We are so excited about this event. The conference is asking that every member invite their church family to come to their midday and afternoon services at the Radisson Hotel Downtown- Inner Harbor located at 101 W. Fayette St, Balto., MD 21201. No registration is required. More information will follow. We are looking forward to Baltimore to be well represented.

Congratulations to all of the graduates. For your accomplishments are well recognized and we the Deacons Ministry are very proud of each one of you. Enjoy your summer. Continue to be vigilant of your surroundings. Drink plenty of water while outside and please continue to check on those less fortunate. A phone call/text message or a visit can make a big difference in someone's life. My prayer is that every reader of this FCCBC Connection get a blessing from the Lord.

We encourage you once again to attend Sunday School, Vacation Bible School, Prayer meetings and Bible Study to show thyself approved unto God.

Humbly Submitted,

Deacon Lawrence Waller - Chairman



Deaconess Outreach

In giving we find the purpose the joy and the fulfillment of life. It is more blessed to give than to receive. Acts 20-35.

It has been a blessing to give to the homeless. We are so grateful for church members who volunteer and support us each time we give to the homeless. On April 6, 2019, we were able to give out 60 bags of food, 43 bags of toiletries, clothing, and shoes. We also gave out 50 booklets of *Our Daily Bread*. We want to thank all those who went out with us especially our bus driver and the deacons. May God continue to bless you in your giving. We will be going out again June 8, 2019.

Submitted by: Deaconess Hallie Allen



Photos courtesy of Sis. Audrey Highsmith

Sunday School Updates

Annual Easter Service Program

Sis. Marilyn Brunt, the director of the Drama Ministry, exhibited her adeptness in bringing the Easter Story to life. She was relentless in her casting tactics, garnering the support and participation of fledgling actors who strove to authenticate events that took place during Passion Week. The Resurrection story was told by first reenacting the Passover event and arrest of Jesus on Maundy Thursday, the crucifixion on Friday and the resurrection on Sunday. The depiction of Jesus (Bro. Owens Jr.) when He was crucified, brought gasps from the audience. He truly looked the part of the suffering servant. Sis. Jackie Ward's portrayals of the dual roles of Mary of Bethany and Mary Magdalene were heartfelt. Thanks to our director, Sis. Brunt and all of the "disciples" and the other characters who played a part in the Easter story. Many thanks to Miss Kaitlyn Sanders, Sis. Kitty Owens, Sis. Theresa Crusoe and Bro. Keith Owens, Jr. for their acapella performances. Sis. Mae Williams is to be commended for excellent narration.

The service was preceded by a delicious breakfast; thank you, culinary ministry. Easter treats were distributed after the morning service. May God continue to bless and keep each of you throughout the coming year.

Deacon James Bostick, Superintendent

Deaconess Mary Murphy, Assistant Superintendent

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2019

You can get your degree from the **SUPER TRAINING UNIVERSITY (STU) with JESUS** by attending Vacation Bible School this year at First Christian Community Baptist Church. Our theme is *Superheroes Train with Jesus*. As a student, you will understand your potential in Jesus Christ to set spiritual, emotional, and physical goals that result in achieving success in your relationship with God and others. In addition to your academic learning, there will be food, fun, and fellowship each evening. The cost of tuition is your presence. Please mark your calendar for June 24 – 28, 2019. The time is 6:00 P.M. – 8:45 P.M. We are looking forward to another exciting year and hope to see you take advantage of this extraordinary offer.

Deacon James Bostick, Dean of STU

Deaconess Mary Murphy, Assistant to the Dean



Bereavement Ministry Update

The Bereavement Ministry has received the approval of Pastor Reverend Dr. Alphonso Tucker to move forward with assisting members requiring assistance in their time of loss.

The Ministry met with the pastor and his Administrative Assistant Trustee Marilyn Dorsey eager, willing, and committed to offer our support. We openly received numerous suggestions from our pastor. The Ministry looks forward to following our vision.

Submitted by: Sis. Marilyn Brunt



WANTED!!

The Culinary Ministry is seeking new members.

All interested members, please see Sis. Tucker.

Men's Ministry

Men's Pre-Mothers Day Extravaganza - 2019

On Friday May 10th, the men hosted an evening of music and comic relief to start the Mother's Day weekend. The Master of Ceremony for the Men's Ministry event was Brother Keith Owens, Jr., who led the attendees with an opening hymn "Glory To His Name." The program continued with the Scripture Reading Psalm 100 by Bro. James Clark and prayer by Deacon Garry Carter. Brother Keefe Flanigan gave the official welcome on behalf of the Men's Ministry to all in attendance.

The evening entertainment began with the gospel jazz group Definite Friends Band. The Definite Friends Band featured Mr. Larry McCoy on saxophone with vocalist Ms. Sakia Richburg. FCCBC's Kitty Owens joined Definite Friends with a gospel selection that had the audience on their feet praising our Lord. Mr. McCoy gave individuals in the audience an opportunity to join in and sing a verse of "I'll Always Love My Mama." During a short intermission, Men's Ministry Chairman Tyrone Moore conducted a raffle where twelve attendees selected door prizes. The entertainment continued with comedian Larry Lancaster. Mr. Lancaster's jokes had the audience in total laughter throughout the evening.

The program concluded with remarks by Chairman Moore and Pastor Rev. Dr. Alphonso Tucker. Pastor Tucker expressed a heartfelt thank you to all who attended the Mother's Day Extravaganza, noting the proceeds of the event will support the FCCBC Building Fund Renovation Project.

The Men's Ministry thanks the FCCBC Culinary Ministry for preparing the delicious refreshments served in the lower auditorium following the program.

Chairman Tyrone Moore would like to thank all the members of the Men's Ministry for working to make this event a success.

Submitted by: Bro. Roscoe Johnson, III



Photos courtesy of Trustee Henry Smith

Men's Ministry (continued)

FCCBC Men's Second Quarter 2019 Meetings Report

The men of FCCBC meet each month for devotions, fellowship, and to make plans to give service in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. The Men's Ministry has decided upon and has been making preparations for the following remaining activities:

Men In Black— A spiritually filled evening of praise of the Lord in song by various men's groups, choirs, and individually talented singers. The event will be held at FCCBC on **August 2, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.**

FCCBC Youth Event - a major outdoor activity for all youth is scheduled at the U. S. Coast Guard facility located at 2401 Hawkins Point Rd, Baltimore, Maryland 21226 on Saturday, **August 17, 2019 from 9:00 a.m. -5 p.m.** There will be a full day of activities such as swimming, basketball, softball and tennis courts as well as a cookout at the base **Steinbock Grove Pavilion.**

All Adults and Youths must sign up for the event in order to be permitted on the base. Additional information will be forthcoming during Sunday Church services to detail the sign up process.

All men are welcome to join us at the next **Men's Ministry summer fellowship meetings on June 17th, July 29th and August 26th at 6:00 p.m.**

Submitted by: Co-Chairman Roscoe Johnson, III

Men's Ministry Car Wash

SAVE THE DATE - SATURDAY JULY 13, 2019

FCCBC Men's Ministry had the first of two car washes on June 15, 2019.

The June 15th car wash was a success as FCCBC Members and friends of the Church came out to support the car wash to help raise funds for Church renovations and outreach activities. The car wash also provided the opportunity for the Men's Ministry to fellowship with community residents and have like-minded people in Christian service spread the Gospel.

The Men's Ministry expresses their appreciation to the Culinary Ministry, represented by Lady Bridgett Tucker and Bro. Phillip Johnson. They prepared the food and sold out all that was available. While customers waited for their cars, they were able to purchase and feast on grilled hamburgers or hot dogs with all the condiments. There were also snacks, bottled water, and sodas from which to choose.

Remember the date, you will have the opportunity to support the car wash on Saturday, July 13th from 9:00 to 3:00 p.m. The Men's Ministry car wash crews will be cleaning interior and exterior areas of the cars. Freewill offering. There will also be grilled hamburgers, hot dogs, snacks, water, and sodas available to purchase.

We hope to see you there!

Submitted by: Co-Chairman Roscoe Johnson, III



Youth and Young Adult News

Youth Day 2019 was so Amazing. We just want to thank everyone from the bottom of our hearts that participated in Youth Day. My vice president, Sis. Kaitlyn Sanders, and I really, really appreciated it. Also thank you to everyone that came out to support Youth Day as well. See you guys next year same time same place! ❤️

Submitted by: Sis. LaNecia Owens



Photos courtesy of Sis. Sharon Johnson, Sis. Chrystal Nichols, Sis. Angela Ray, and Sis. Nikki Waller

Songfest

On Saturday, June 1, 2019, the youth and young adults sponsored a vibrant and enthusiastic Songfest, an afternoon of praise and worship. It was a joyous and spirit-filled event punctuated by spirited dancing by the Anointed Vessels of Praise. Invited guests, in addition to our very own Voices of Praise, Miracle Baptist Church, and Heritage United Church of God sang uplifting songs of praise and adoration to the Lord. It began, appropriately enough with the song, *“Praise is What I Do,”* setting the stage for the chorus of praises that emanated from the choirs and the congregation. The service ended on a high note when all the choirs sang, *“Joy, Joy.”* In times like these, we need the joy of the Lord. Hold on to the Word of God that says, *“Do not sorrow, for the joy of the Lord is your strength”* (Nehemiah 8:10).

We thank Miss Kaitlyn Sanders, who did an excellent job as Mistress of Ceremony and the music and dance ministries for their jubilant and inspirational performances.

Submitted by: Deaconess Mary Murphy, Women’s Day Secretary



Photos courtesy of Sis. Crystal Nichols

2019 Family and Friends Retreat

Our 2019 FAMILY AND FRIENDS RETREAT will be held July 19-21, 2019 at the Sandy Cove Ministries Retreat Center located at 60 Sandy Cove Road in North East, MD.

To all those who have registered to attend the Family and Friends Retreat, we are approaching the conclusion of the payment schedule. The final payment is due on June 9th, however, if necessary we are asking that all payments be finalized no later than June 30th. Please see Min. Harvey Moore if you need to know your balance due and to make all final payments.

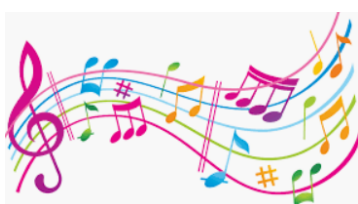
I would like to thank everyone for their cooperation and look forward to a blessed spiritual event you will always remember. Once again, further details about the Retreat are as follows:

- 1) We are scheduled to arrive at Sandy Cove on Friday, July 19th at 4:00 p.m. It's my prayer that everyone will be there on time so that we can begin the check-in process.
- 2) If you are riding on the Church bus, please arrive at First Christian no later than 2:00 p.m. The bus will leave promptly at 2:30 p.m. (It will take some time to load your luggage)
- 3) When packing your luggage, please remember there are indoor and outdoor swimming pools, basketball and volleyball courts, hiking trails, walking paths, miniature golf, and paddle boats. So pack some attire that would be comfortable and appropriate.
- 4) We will be departing on Sunday morning at 9:00 a.m. to arrive back at First Christian for morning worship (NOTE: casual attire).
- 5) Dinner will be served on Friday evening beginning 5:30 p.m. It will be buffet style, so bring an appetite. We may have time for breakfast prior to leaving on Sunday morning (to be determined).
- 6) Most importantly bring an open mind to receive God's revelation and experience His divine presence in an unique and inspiring way.

Submitted by: Minister Harvey Moore



Our Music Ministry Praise God for the great things He has Done!!!



First Christian Community Baptist Church is so Blessed in many ways, especially in our Music Ministry under the leadership of Minister Darlene Taylor. God has given many gifts to the saints of our church. We are blessed each Sunday with the melodious sounds of hymns, psalms, and songs of praise.

Minister Taylor and drummer Sierra Gaither are extremely instrumental in providing music for all of our church choirs. It is quite a blessing to have the choirs directed by two of our very own born and bred members, who grew up in the church - Sister Kimberlee Pelzer and Brother Keith Owens Jr. are dynamic directors. They work diligently every week with all of the choirs. They are all doing an outstanding job with their gifts from God.

Kudos to the entire Music Ministry of F.C.C.B. Church, where we are family!

Submitted by: Sis. Mae Williams

Recognition of Graduates and Award Recipients

On Sunday, June 9, 2019, FCCBC recognized academic achievements of the FCCBC extended family. We applaud each person's perseverance and commitment to excellence. May God give you the strength, confidence, and determination to reach your goals and pursue your dreams!

Pre-School through Kindergarten

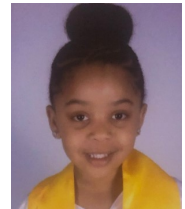
Arielle Mayfield

Goddaughter of Trustee Shirley Carter
From LRRPC to Lyons Mill Elementary



Kassidy Stanley

Granddaughter of Trustee Robert White, Great-granddaughter of Trustee Marilyn Dorsey, Niece of Sis. Evette Parker
6/14/19 From Loftin Love Daycare & Learning Center to Wilwood Elementary



Elementary School

Courtez France

Grandson of Sis. Amy Arthur and nephew of Sis. Tequilla Haynes
6/2/19 Beechfield Elementary



Desmond Watson

Grandson of Sis. Zenobia McLaughlin
June 2019 Kindergarten graduation Callaway Elementary. Honor roll every quarter



Elementary School through Middle School

Devaughn Banks

Son of Alexis Tucker, Grandson of Pastor Alphonso & Lady Bridgett Tucker
6/13/19 Woodmoor Elementary. All A's/Honor Society



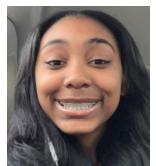
Makayla Booker

Granddaughter of Sis. Bessie Kittrell
6/12/19 Scotts Branch Elementary School to Northwest Academy Middle School. Honor Roll



Kiara Brown

Granddaughter of Sis. Deborah Cooper
6/12/19 Roland Park Elementary to Roland Park Middle



Kirsten Cole

Daughter of Sister Dené Cole, Granddaughter of Trustee Rudolph and Sis. Barbara Cole
Ascension Ceremony to 5th grade. KIPP Academy



Karlyce Owens

Daughter of Bro. Karl & Sis. LaNecia Owens, Granddaughter of Dea. Keith, Sr. & Sister Kitty (Icelon) Owens
6/17/19 Scotts Branch Elementary. Honor Roll Student all year



Braniya Watson

Granddaughter of Sis. Zenobia McLaughlin
June 2019 Callaway Elementary to middle school. Honor Roll student.



Middle School Through High School

Alvin Flanigan III

Grandson of Deaconess Eileen McCloud
Mount Royal Elementary/ Middle to High School at Coppin Academy



Jordan Franklin

Grandson of Trustee Gwendolyn Franklin
Northwest Academy of Health and Science to Milford Mill Academy. Honor Roll



Rashard Herring

Grandson of Bro. Earl & Sis. Gwen Edwards, Great-Grandson of Deaconess Eileen McCloud
Northwest Academy of Health Sciences to Milford Mill Academy



Javier Troy

Grandson of Sister Mae Williams, Great-grandson of Mother Lillie Mae Campbell
6/14/19 Glenmount Elementary/Middle School to Baltimore City College



Recognition of Graduates and Award Recipients

High School through College

Asia Davis

Granddaughter of Sister Perlizer and Bro. Thomas Davis
August 2019 Carver Vocational Technical School. To attend Baltimore C.C. College



Phillip Hunter Stokes

Grandson of Sis. Phyllis Stokes
6/8/19 St. Paul's High School to Hampton University on scholarship



Arnitra Randolph

Daughter of Trustee Robert White & Granddaughter of Sis. Marilyn Dorsey
6/8/19 Catonsville High School. To attend Eastern Michigan University



Bridgette Sofia (Sofie) Tucker

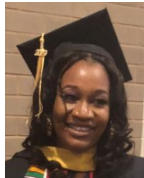
Daughter of Pastor Alphonso & Lady Bridgett Tucker
6/8/19 Western High School (Nursing Midwifery) to Coppin State University



College and Beyond

Lauren Highsmith

Daughter of Sis. Audrey Highsmith & Granddaughter of Deaconess Hallie Allen
5/17/19 Masters in Social Work from University of Maryland to Employment



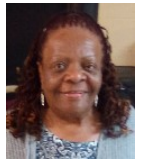
Malik Hudson

Grandson of Sis. Mary Webb, Nephew of Sis. Marilyn Brunt & Trustee Shirley Carter
BCCC to Morgan State University



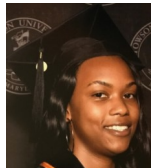
Deaconess Vurely Johnson

Wife of Bro. James Johnson
5/16/19 Dual Bachelors and Masters degrees in Theology. Northwestern Bible College & Seminary, Inc.



Taylor L. McCottry

Daughter of Sis. Cheryl Jones-McCottry
5/23/19 Bachelors degree in Exercise Science from Towson University. To attend Graduate School



Amira Michelle Powell

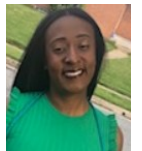
Daughter of Minister Darlene Taylor
5/12/19 B.S. in Business Administration from Hampton University to MBA program at Hampton University Graduate School. Graduated with Honors.



Member Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority. Member Community Sisters2Sisters

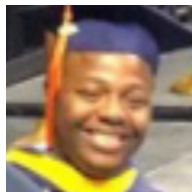
Tenier Sims

Daughter of Bro. Earl & Sis. Gwendolyn Edwards & Granddaughter of Deaconess Eileen McCloud
5/23/19 Bachelors in Social Work from UMBC. Pursuing Masters Degree at Morgan State University



Tyler White

Grandson of Sis. Delores Hines & Nephew of Bro. Michael Montoute
North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University & Clark Atlanta University to Employment



Award Recipient

Angela Grier

Niece of Sis. Annie Norris & Sis. Esther Steptoe
Celebrated for being a Preceptor/ Mentor Of The Year
Infant and Toddler Unit at the Johns Hopkins Children's Center



FOR I KNOW THE PLANS I HAVE FOR YOU, DECLARES THE LORD, PLANS TO PROSPER YOU AND NOT TO HARM YOU..
JEREMIAH 29:11 NIV

Education Updates

Educational Ministry Update

We thank everyone for contributions to the scholarship fund. We will continue fundraising to raise more funds to bless more eligible members with scholarships.

Selection criteria and an application were created for the Deotha Humphrey Memorial book scholarship. The scholarship was announced and the application made available. Applications were received and are currently under evaluation. Recipients will be announced in June. We collected graduation and award information and recognized 2019 graduates and award recipients of all ages with certificates during Youth and Young Adult Day on June 9th.

Our next event will be our annual School Supply Give-A-Way.

Submitted by: Sis. Sharon Johnson, Secretary



Celebrating
EDUCATIONAL
EXCELLENCE



On May 10th, Baltimore City Council President Brandon M. Scott took time out of his busy schedule to acknowledge Associate Minister Rev. Debbie Ervin during Teacher Appreciation Week. He visited her classroom and presented her with a beautiful bouquet of flowers. He posted the Tweet below recalling her impact while he was in elementary school:



Brandon M. Scott
@CouncilPresBMS

Follow

Today I took the time to show my eternal appreciation to my 3rd Grade Teacher Ms. Ervin. Ms. Ervin helped me tremendously as a 3rd grader at Dr. King Elementary & continues to nurture young minds at Gardenville I hope that all of our teachers had a great [#TeacherAppreciationWeek](#)

Rev. Ervin continues to positively impact students teaching mathematics/science in the Baltimore City Public School System.

We commend her for dedicating her life to helping young people reach their full potential.

Northwestern Bible College & Seminary, Inc. (NWBCS) Commencement

Northwestern Bible College & Seminary, Inc. held its twentieth commencement on May 16, 2019 at First Christian Community Baptist Church. The keynote speaker was Dr. Curtis Williams, CEO. Dr. Cynthia Dismel presided. This year, our very own Deaconess Vurely Johnson received her Bachelor and Masters degrees in Theology. Gloria Anderson received her Masters degree. Other recipients who received doctoral degrees in theology were Alvin Morris, Gwendolyn Williams, and Roxanne Young. Minister Harvey Moore delivered the invocation. Deacon Luther Dismel shared the scripture. Dr. Juliette Samuels welcomed all in attendance. Dr. Robert Manigo awarded the academic certificates to all degree recipients. The NWBCS Administrative Assistant awarded staff certificates.

Prayerfully submitted: Sis. Beverly A. Ward, NWBCS Administrative Assistant

Member Spotlights

FCCBC Newlyweds

Together with their family and friends,
Bro. Duran Banks and
Sis. Alexis Tucker will be married on
June 22, 2019 at FCCBC.



The FCCBC family extends a hearty congratulations to you and wish you God's blessings and all the best as you begin your new lives together!

Photo courtesy of Sis. Alexis Tucker

Western Senior Prom

It's Prom Season!

On May 30th, Sofia Tucker, a Western High School "Dove," attended her Senior Prom. She was accompanied by her niece Sanaa Stanley.

Family and friends gathered to see them off.



Photo courtesy of Sis. Nina Hooks



After forty-five years of dedicated service in the financial sector, Sis. Annette Moore retired from M&T Bank on May 31, 2019.

May God bless you as you move into this next exciting stage of your journey! Congratulations on your retirement!



Photo courtesy of Minister Harvey Moore



In February 2019, Deacon Garry Carter received an award for thirty years of service with the United States Postal Service. He is also a candidate for the prestigious "Million Mile" club which estimates the miles he's walked as a letter carrier.



Photo courtesy of Dea. Garry Carter

We commend him on his dedication and loyalty.

Congratulations and God bless!



Sister Jewel Social

Our jewelry making event was held Saturday, April 13 from noon – 3:00 p.m. It was quite a learning and creative experience. Many made jewelry pieces independently after initial instructions but a few received one-on-one assistance from Sis. Carol Laster. We had good fun, fellowship, and food. All seemed to have enjoyed themselves. Some pieces were quite impressive; however, I don't think Jared or Kay's Jewelers have anything to worry about. Many thanks to Sis. Laster for her leadership and expertise in executing this activity.



Prayer Breakfast 2019

The Women's Day ministry hosted a Prayer Breakfast on May 18, 2019 at FCCBC. Our Prayer Breakfast, under the watchful eye of our chairlady, Deaconess Vurely Johnson, and guided by our Mistress of Ceremony, Sis. Shirl Farrare, was quite the success. It was a sold out crowd. Warmly welcomed by Sis. Mae Williams, we then dined on a sumptuous fare of assorted breakfast foods prepared by the Culinary ministry.

After dining and fellowshiping with each other, we had words of encouragement from our pastor, Rev. Dr. Alphonso Tucker. Miss Kaitlyn Sanders heralded the sermon by singing acapella, "*My Hallelujah Belongs to You;*" it was beautiful and heartfelt. Predicated on our motto, "Women Serving and Leading by Faith," Rev. Debbie Ervin, our dynamic preacher, admonished her audience to "*Work Your Faith*" from the supporting Scripture, Matthew 15:21-28. She further admonished the audience to "*turn from sin and seek the Lord.*"

Many thanks to all who supported our mission in any way. We give effusive thanks to our Culinary ministry, who as always, did an excellent job preparing for this occasion and our chairladies, who tirelessly worked to bring this event to fruition.

The Women's Corner (continued)

Women's Day

Our final event, Women's Day, will be held June 23rd during the 11:00 a.m. morning service.

Submitted by: Deaconess Mary Murphy, Secretary

Planning Committee Update

The FCCBC Planning Committee Ministry is pleased to report pre-development activities for the building renovation project continue to move forward. The architectural and civil engineering design plans have been completed for the church property and released to prospective general contractors to submit bids for the construction work. Below is a rendering of the addition to our church building:



There are four General Construction companies interested in bidding on the church construction work. They met at the Church for a mandatory pre-bid meeting on June 13th at 11:00 am. Pastor Tucker opened the meeting with prayer and introduced himself along with Trustee Robert White, Chairman of the Planning Committee Ministry to the construction company's representatives. Trustee White introduced the project architect Brian Skorpa who presided over the pre-bid meeting. Mr. Skorpa explained the bidding process and answered questions related to construction design plans. Bid sealed proposals are due July 9th and will be submitted to the business office of Skorpa Design. The sealed bids will be opened by the FCCBC Planning Committee the evening of July 9th or a designated time during that week. After a complete review of the proposals, the Planning Committee will select the general contractor to provide the services at a price that meets the needs of FCCBC.

Once the contractor is selected, Trustee Shirley Carter will coordinate the preparation of documents required to close the loan process with M&T Bank.

The Planning Committee Ministry will work with ministries to assess the impact on activities including weekly services, bible studies, and outreach. Volunteers will be solicited to assist in packing fellowship hall items for storage prior to construction.

The Planning Committee Ministry thanks members and friends for their continued faithfulness in honoring Building fund pledges.

Submitted by: Planning Committee Ministry

Member Spotlight - Rev. Dr. Freddie Samuels



Associate Minister, Rev. Doctor Freddie Samuels is the husband of Evangelist Juliette Samuels, the father of four, grandfather of seven (5 grands and 2 great grands).

Q. Rev. Freddie Samuels, may I have a brief background of where you began this journey called life?

A. I began this journey called life in 1943 in Timmonsville, SC.

Q. Do you have siblings and what number are you?

A. I have six siblings, I am the fourth.

Q. During your journey to Christianity, who inspired you or what is your inspiration?

A. God inspired me to preach his Word.

Q. What is your favorite scripture and why?

A. My favorite scripture is John 3:16. Why? God gave his best and that's what he wants us to do.

Q. What do you do for fun or relaxation?

A. For fun, I love playing with my grandchildren and watching TV (westerns).

Q. Share with us a few words of wisdom.

A. Just be you.

Compiled by: Sis. Leslie Hyman

Getting to Know You

Usher's Ministry: Ushering to the Glory of God

Called to *Serve*



"We pray and ask God to heal and bless Sister Rosetta Quarles and Brother Gordon Quarles that they may be back in service with FCCBC."

We, the Junior & Senior Ushers, are the face of our Church. We count ushering as an honor that God will enable us to greet and make His people feel welcome!

Our Mission as Ushers are:

To have and maintain a close relationship with God

To honor God with the first fruits of all thy increase

Seek the anointing of God through prayer, serving His people and displaying Christian kindness at all times, to people from all walks of life

Dress appropriately, be professional but also comfortable

Support our Pastor and Officials with congregation management as it relates to greeting and seating God's people, collecting tithes & offerings and maintaining a safe worship environment.

Aide in effective Christian outreach whenever needed

Be an effective role model for our youth & young adults

"Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth." 2 Timothy 2:15 ESV

Submitted by: Sis. Shirley Carter

A Poem for Mama



Photo courtesy of Sis. Mae Williams

Thank You Lord!!!!

It is truly a blessing for me to say

That I am so thankful that my Mother is still with us today!

God has truly Blessed her with longevity.

She is still able to get around even though she moves slowly.

When I look at her I whisper, Thank You Lord!

I am so blessed and I know for sure;

That God is still in the Blessing Business and:

He Continues to show me more and more.

It does my heart good to know that she is 90 years old.

It is confirmation that GOD, and only GOD is in Control!

Again I say Thank you Lord. I know that I am very Blessed.

Truly Blessed by the BEST!! Thank you Lord.

Submitted by Sis. Mae Williams

Potpourri

Helpful Hints

*Thirty minutes a day of exercise is better than none at all. If you have stairs in your home, go up and down the stairs for thirty minutes. Other things you can do for thirty minutes—dancing, yoga, running in place, and lifting 5-10 pound weights. **JUST DO SOMETHING! MOVE!!***

Eight foods that are helpful to manage blood glucose levels and to improve your overall health:

*Spinach Blueberries
Tofu Walnuts
Flax seeds
Oats (steel oats are best)
Sweet peppers Beans*

Submitted by: Sis. Beverly (Jackie) Ward

The above is not intended to be a substitute for professional medical advice, diagnosis, or treatment. Always seek the advice of your physician or other qualified health provider with any questions you may have regarding a medical condition.

Support Our Newsletter

The FCCBC Connection is a quarterly newsletter designed to share news and to keep our members and friends informed of church services, fellowships, programs, and projects as well as information of interest (prayer requests, testimonies, birthdays, awards, retirements, anniversaries, weddings, births, etc....).

Our goal is to distribute newsletters before each season ends (Winter by 3/21, Spring by 6/20, Summer by 9/21, and Fall by 12/20). **The DEADLINE to submit articles, photos, and announcements is 3/3, 6/3, 9/1, and 12/1.** Ministry representatives and members are asked to submit photos, articles, announcements, information and suggestions to Sis. Sharon Johnson or Sis. Nikki Waller-Harrison or email to newsletter@myfccbc.org. Thanks to all for supporting our newsletter ministry.

Summer newsletter photos, announcements, and articles will be due on 9/1/19.

Blessings and Birthday Wishes To:

We inadvertently overlooked the June birthday below. We apologize for the oversight:

June 2019

Sis. Perlizer Davis

July 2019

Special Honoree:
Deacon Lawrence Waller

Bro. Darrell Aldridge
Sis. Amy Arthur
Sis. Kimberly Brice
Sis. Evelyn Bright
Deacon Garry Carter
Sis. Gwendolyn Edwards
Sis. Sheila Fenwick
Sis. Audrey Gregg
Sis. Darlene Harrell
Master Arion Heaggans
Sis. Delores Hines
Samara Jones
Bro. Leroy McAllister
Sis. Evette Townes
Sis. Destinee Robinson
Trustee Henry Smith
Master Jordan Troy

August 2019

Bro. Troy Brooks
Sis. Jeliza Dickenson
Bro. Earl Edwards
Bro. Bruce Flanigan
Sis. Yvette Fowlkes
Sis. Tequilla Haynes
Bro. Roscoe Johnson III
Deaconess Ollie Kelly
Sis. Flore Mincey
Sis. Brenda Pledger
Sis. Rosalind Sims
Bro. Frank Speller
Bro. Calvin Taylor
Master Jayme Troy
Bro. Tyler White
Sis. Tamiah Williams

September 2019

Special Honoree:
Evangelist Juliette Samuels

Deaconess Hallie Allen
Sis. Winifred Berry
Sis. Theresa Boyd
Rickia Briggs
Sis. Michelle Bright
Sis. Bonita Fisher
Sis. Paula Foote

Tyshawn Gaines
Sis. Sierra Gaither
Sis. Amanda Hall
Bro. Oliver Hill
Bro. Walter Jones
Bro. Michael Montoute
Sis. Annie Norris
Miss Kennedee Pelzer
Sis. Alana Powell
Sis. Amira Powell
Sis. Carolyn Phillips
Miss Shilo Randall-Bryant
Miss Sydney Smith
Min. Darlene Taylor
Sis. Bridgete "Sofie" Tucker

If you don't see your birthday, please notify Sis. Michelle Bright or e-mail newsletter@myfccbc.org so we can keep our records up-to-date. Thank you.

Member and visitor birthday honorees—be sure to get your complimentary sundae on "Birthday Sundae Sunday" the last Sunday of your birthday month! Ice cream sundaes will be available to the congregation-at-large for only \$1.00 (while supplies last)

FCCBC Wishes Comfort and Peace

Please continue to pray for:

Sis. Pamela Chapman on the loss of her aunt Ms. Geraldine Wright
Sis. Perlizer Davis on the passing of her sister-in-law Ms. Georgia Wells
Sis. Annie Norris and Sis. Esther Steptoe on the transition of their sister Ms. Sondra Hamlin
Deaconess Vurely Johnson on the passing of her aunt Ms. Anna Boots
Sis. Carolyn Booker and the Cole siblings on the loss of Mr. William "Butch" Booker
Cast your burden on the Lord who will sustain you
Psalm 55:22

When those we love have left this earth, we still can feel them near. We'll see a picture, hear a song, and it's just like they are here. And when we call upon our faith, when we believe and trust, we know the ones we care about are always close to us.

Constance Parker Graham

Wedding Anniversary Wishes

July

14th - Dr. Robert & Trustee Brenda Sanders (4 years)
15th - Bro. Gordon & Sis. Rosetta Quarles (52 years)

August

2nd - Min. Harvey & Sis. Annette Moore (39 years)
30th - Bro. Lawrence & Dea. Eileen McCloud (39 years)

September

7th - Bro. Kermit & Sis. Yvette Fowlkes (6 years)
21st - Bro. Wayne & Sis. Chrystal Nichols (6 years)
23rd - Bro. Carl & Sis. LaNecia Owens (14 Years)



Baby Dedication



June 2, 2019

Mother: Stephanie Randall
Father: Shawn Mackey
Baby's Name: Shai Kash Mackey

Regularly Scheduled Ministries

Our Known Sick & Shut-In

Sunday School	9:15 a.m.	Sundays
New Members Ministry	9:30 a.m.	1st & 2nd Sundays
Mid-Day Bible Study	1:00 p.m.	Tuesdays (summer break)
Prayer & Praise Service	6:00 –6:45 p.m.	First Wednesday each month (summer break)
Bible Study	7:00 p.m.	Wednesdays (summer break)
Baptismal Service	9:30 a.m.	Third Sunday
HCE, Male Chorus, Unified Voices, and Voices of Praise Rehearsals	7:00 p.m.	Refer to monthly schedule

Dea. Walter Adams (Home)
 Sis. Pam Chapman (Home)
 Sis. Alma Davis (Home)
 Bro. Oliver Hill (Home)
 Sis. Rosetta Quarles (Home)
 Trus. John Spencer (Home)
 Sis. Ann Taylor (Home, VA)
 Bro. Calvin Taylor (Future Care,
 12020 Reisterstown Rd., 21136)

Church Calendar

July 2019 (casual attire, if desired)

5	Worship with Isaiah Baptist Church	7:00 p.m.
9	Worship with North Star	7:00 p.m.
13	Men's Car Wash	9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
19-21	Family & Friend's Retreat Sandy Cove	
21	Family & Friends Day	
21	Baptismal Service (if candidates)	9:30 a.m.
22	Men's Fellowship meeting (tentative)	6:00 p.m.
28	Missionary Ministry anniversary	3:30 p.m.

August 2019 (Casual attire, if desired)

2	Annual Men In Black Concert	7:00 p.m.
4	Unity Baptist worship with us	3:30 p.m.
17	Men's Youth Activity U.S. Coast Guard Facility	9:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.
19	Baptismal Service (if candidates)	9:30 a.m.
26	Men's Fellowship meeting	6:00 p.m.

September 2019

1	Male Chorus Anniversary	a.m. service
5	Quarterly Official Board meeting	7:00 p.m.
15	Baptismal Service (if candidates)	9:30 a.m.
22	Humphrey Choral Ensemble anniversary	a.m. service
23	Men's Fellowship meeting (tentative)	6:00 p.m.
18	Service leading up to Pastor's anniversary	7:00 p.m.
25	Service leading up to Pastor's anniversary	7:00 p.m.

Please refer to weekly bulletin for updates



Prayer List

Bro. John Arthur	Dea. Ada Bostick
Sis. Donna Bright	Mother Lillie Mae Campbell
Sis. Dené Cole	Bro. Ronnie Cole
Bro. Walter Jones, Jr.	Sis. La-Kia Kommeren
Sis. Flore Mincey	Sis. Annie Norris
Sis. Karen Cole Sanders	Sis. Annie Smith
Sis. Mae Williams	

REMEMBER THE SICK AND SHUT-IN EVERYWHERE IN YOUR PRAYERS. ANY ACT OF KINDNESS CAN MAKE A BIG DIFFERENCE IN THEIR LIVES

In God's House...

As we praise and worship God in this House, we are reminded to adhere to the following:

- The congregation shall stand when the choir enters the sanctuary
- The congregation shall stand during the reading of the Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John)
- All pulpit ministers shall wear white or black robes on Communion Sunday (as appropriate)
- During Communion, no one shall exit or enter the sanctuary
- Blessings of infants are to take place on the first Sunday of the month
- Turn off cell phones/electronic devices

Welcome to our New/Reinstated Members



Photos courtesy of Sis. Jackie Ward

Upcoming Services, Programs, and Fellowships

COME JOIN US ONE AND ALL FOR OUR 2019 FAMILY AND FRIENDS RETREAT

to be held at

**SANDY COVE MINISTRIES RETREAT CENTER
60 Sandy Cove Rd.
North East, MD 21901**

July 19-21, 2019

More information can be found on page 9

**July 13, 2019 9:00 a.m. 3:00 p.m.
Men's Car Wash**

**July 21, 2019 11:00 a.m.
Family & Friends Day**

**July 28, 2019 3:30 p.m.
Missionary Ministry's 65th anniversary**

**August 2, 2019 7:00 p.m.
Annual Men In Black Concert**

**August 17, 2019 9:00 a.m.
Youth Activity—U.S. Coast Guard**

**September 1, 2019 11:00 a.m.
Male Chorus anniversary**

**September 22, 2019 11:00 a.m.
Humphrey Choral Ensemble anniversary**

**September 18, 2019 7:00 p.m.
Service leading up to Pastor's anniversary**

**September 25, 2019 7:00 p.m.
Service leading up to Pastor's anniversary**

Strengthen Pray for Educate one another

First Christian Community Baptist Church Men's Fellowship

All men are invited to come out every 4th Monday at 6 p.m.

July 29 • August 26 • September TBA

First Christian Community Baptist Church
4116 Groveland Avenue
Baltimore, Maryland 21215