

The FCCBC CONNECTION

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



We Are Family



FCCBC Vacation Bible School 2019. Story on page 6.

Photos courtesy of Sis. Angela Ray and Trustee Henry Smith

Service Times

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

Contents

Message From Our Pastor/Church Directory	2
Pastor's Anniversary	3
Ministry Updates	4-16
Member Spotlight	15-17
Potpourri	17
Passages	18
Notices, Calendar, Sick & Prayer Lists	19
Upcoming Services, Programs, and Fellowships	Back

Message From Our Pastor



“Bless the Lord, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless His holy name.” (Psalm 103:1)

Psalm 103 is a Psalm of David where he focuses on the gracious acts of The Lord. It also is a Psalm that reminds us of how good God is to us,

and the many reasons why He is worthy of all of our praise.

This Psalm teaches us that we also should, “bless the Lord, O my soul and forget not all His benefits.” (Ps.103:2) God’s benefits towards us includes forgiveness of sins, healing of our sicknesses, supplying our needs, and protecting us from evil, just to name a few. When you think about it, these are some major benefits; and God dispersed each of them upon all of us in spite of the fact that we are not deserving of any of them.

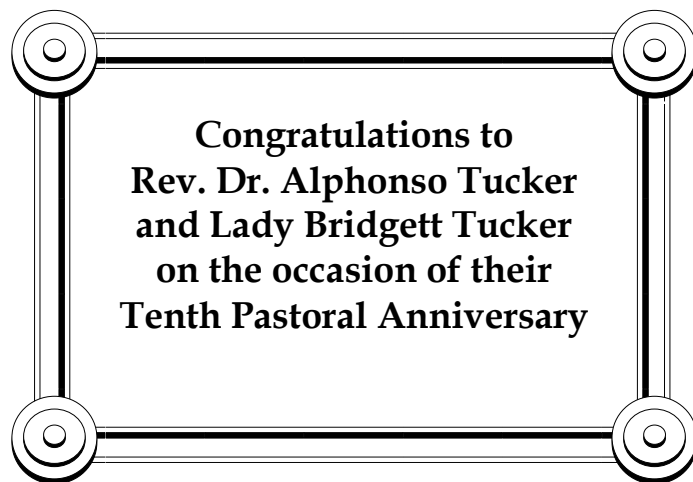
As we consider all of God’s benefits towards us, how can we be anything but thankful. However, even though God has showered us with so many blessings; there are some who always complain about their lives. Some complain about their jobs. Others complain about their families, and still there are those who even complain about the Church. I believe that when the spirit of complaining arises in you, just read the 103rd Psalm. This Psalm will help us to decrease and eventually eliminate those periods of complaining.

We are quickly approaching a new season. Summer is on it’s way out to the welcoming of Autumn. We too are quickly approaching a new season in our

Church as we are making way for my 10th year as Servant/ Pastor of FCCBC. We have accomplished so much in these last ten years that all I can really say is how thankful I am for another prime example of God’s benefits and blessings toward us. Lady Bridgett and I are so thankful for God putting this union of Church and Pastor together. God is the reason why we are able to celebrate ten years of Ministry and fellowship. We constantly pray for all of the members of our Church, and we solicit your prayers as well.

We are living in an evil and falling world, but” God is our strength and refuge in the time of trouble.” God is our defense, and he will never leave or forsake us. Keep the faith family, and stay prayed up; “ Beloved, now we are the sons of God, and it do not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that when He shall appear, we shall be like Him; for we shall see Him as He is.” (I John 3:2)

Humbly Submitted,



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

FCCBC Proudly Celebrates Tenth Pastoral Anniversary

We extend an invitation to you to join us for Rev. Dr. Alphonso Tucker and Lady Bridgett Tucker's tenth Pastoral Anniversary celebration September 18, 2019 through October 6, 2019, as we extend our thanks and appreciation to them for their service here at First Christian Community Baptist Church.



The anniversary theme will be: **"A Servant Committed to Kingdom Building"**

Our scripture is **"According to the grace of God which was given to me, as a wise master builder I have laid the foundation, and another builds on it. But let each one take heed how he builds on it."** (1 Corinthians 3:10 (NKJV)."

Fellowship Celebration Line-up

Pre-Anniversary Services – All are invited to join us for spirit-filled services, 7:00 p.m.:

Wednesday, September 18th - Pastor Linwood Robinson and the Greater New Hope Baptist Church

Wednesday, September 25th - Pastor Meldon Dickens and the Isaiah Baptist Church

Wednesday, October 2nd - Pastor Terry Thornton and the Sweet Hope Freewill Baptist Church

We invite you to join us for our **"Pastor's 10th Anniversary Gathering"** as we host a special luncheon in Pastor and Mrs. Tucker's honor:

Saturday, October 5, 2019

Noon-4:00 p.m.

CARSON'S CREEKSIDE RESTAURANT AND LOUNGE
1110 Beech Drive Middle River, MD 21220 (on Dark Head Creek)

Enjoy a delicious meal, greetings, and salutations from members, family, and friends. The donation is \$42 per person (ages 11 and over) and \$5.00 for children aged 10 and under (kid's menu). Please see Trustee Marilyn Dorsey or Trustee Shirley Carter to purchase your ticket by September 29th.

Sunday, October 6th, 11:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m.

The anniversary celebration will culminate with services honoring our pastor. The guest preacher for the 11:00 a.m. service will be Rev. Vaughn Greene. The celebrant for the afternoon service will be Rev. Marvin McFadden, Pastor of the Mount Zion Hill Baptist Church.

Please come out and celebrate with us!



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

Grace be to you, and peace from God our Father, the Lord Jesus Christ as I once again greet you the readers of this FCCBC Connection. It is always a pleasure and blessing to share with you the good news and blessings from the Lord. Since our last edition, we were getting ready for the summer, leaving school and other activities with our family and friends for the enjoyment of summer.



The National Baptist Deacons Conference of America, Inc. would like to thank all of you that attended the conference July 22-July 26, 2019, being obedient and thought it not robbery to attend. Our theme was "The Power of Demonstration, Keeping the Message Alive" 2 Timothy 3:10-17 NIV. I personally want to thank Pastor Tucker, Rev. Moore, Evan. Samuels, Dea. Bostick, Dea. Carter, Deaconess Allen, Deaconess McCloud, Deaconess Waller, Sis. Waller, Sis. Ward, and anyone else whose names I may have left out. I was just so excited to see all of my family supporting the convention. Each of you put a huge smile on my face.

The summer months are nearing a closure and school is back in session. Back to studying to show ourselves approved unto God. I thank God for allowing us safe travels this summer. He blessed our going out and safe return to our individual homes. Many of you were able to travel outside of Baltimore and bridge the gap with friends and other loved ones and He allowed you to return to your FCCBC family.

Visiting the sick and shut-in is one of our primary duties being a servant of God. All of our visits to the hospitals, nursing home or private homes is where we can carry out the spirit of the covenant and the principles of God's word, who has called us out of darkness into the marvelous light. We pray that all who receive a visit or phone call will receive a blessing from the Lord and be encouraged. We also pray that they will know that God is always with them. Don't hesitate to call or let one of us know if you or a family member desires a visit. Continue to pray for us. We have had several members that were on the sick and shut in list who have since returned to worship with us on Sunday mornings and for that we are grateful. We regret the passing of Sis. Alma Davis. We had numerous visits with her both at home and in the hospital. Please keep her family in prayer. Death is never easy and sometimes a familiar face can ease that pain, so don't forget to call or visit with the bereaved families of FCCBC.

The Deacon's Ministry is asking for your continued prayer that God will keep His arms around us as we do His will. Continue to be vigilant with your surroundings as the season changes. Check in on those who may not be able to get out as much as they would like to.

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction. Proverbs 1:7. We encourage you once again to attend Sunday School, Prayer meetings and Bible Study to show thyself approved unto God.

Humbly Submitted,

Deacon Lawrence Waller

Photo courtesy of Deacon Garry Carter



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

As we give out each bag of food, toiletries, and the booklet, “*Our Daily Bread*,” I wish we had more time to sit and talk with the homeless. Our main mission is to introduce them to God. God created the five purposes for us — to love him, to be part of his family, to become like him, to become more like him, to service him, and tell others about him. I wish we could talk to them about the goodness of God and how it has changed our lives and how you can go to God in prayer. Each time we give out the items, they said “God bless you.” I want them to know God will bless them too if they give their life to him. Some of our helpers do talk to them, but I don’t know if they really hear us. We will continue to help the homeless. We want to thank all those who give the canned goods, toiletries, clothing, and monetary gifts. We hope that one day, we played a small part in changing their lives. May God bless you in your giving.



Photos courtesy of Sis. Audrey Highsmith

Submitted by: Deaconess Hallie Allen

Missionary Ministry 65th Anniversary



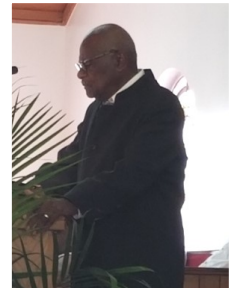
On Sunday, July 28, 2019, at 3:30 p.m., the FCCBC Missionary Ministry celebrated their 65th anniversary.

Our speaker was Rev. Patrick Hipkins, who brought an inspiring messaging on the theme, “Talk Is Not Cheap.”

The choir sang from the depths of their hearts, plus having a special soloist, none other than our very own Pastor Reverend Dr. Alphonso Tucker who led “Trouble In My Way.” He sung like never before!!

We truly had a blessed 65th anniversary because the Lord was in this place! If you were not here, you missed a treat.

Submitted by: Sis. Mary Jones



Photos courtesy of Trustee Steven Jones

Vacation Bible School



A sea of orange T-shirts flooded the congregation on May 26th during the morning service. Emblazoned with our Vacation Bible School (VBS) logo, they heralded the coming of our VBS which began on June 24. It was most heartwarming to see the support from the congregants, as this was also a fundraiser for the building fund. Most everyone, again, wore their T-shirts at the beginning and the end of VBS. Other T-shirts from previous years were prominent throughout the week.

We had well-prepared and dedicated teachers, some of whom had attended a training workshop for teachers that was sponsored by Urban Ministries Incorporated (UMI). This company presented its program, provided pertinent information, and offered suggestions on how to be more effective teachers. In addition to the teachers, our pastor (Rev. Dr. Alphonso Tucker), the director and assistant director were in attendance. Valuable information was acquired.

Students were eager to learn and teachers were excited to teach. Their acquisition of knowledge and preparation were evident in our closing activity on June 28th, the last day. There was no shortage of help; each class had two or more assistants. All the teachers performed admirably but Sis. Mae Williams, a recently retired teacher, who subbed for teacher Sis. Tequilla Haynes for two days, did a fantastic job before leaving for a preplanned family obligation. In addition to these teachers, other eager helpers included Deaconess Eileen McCloud, Sis. Betty Jackson, Sis. Audrey Highsmith, and Trustee Shirley Carter. Many thanks to them and other teachers and their aides, namely: Sis. Zenobia McLaughlin, Trustee Marilyn Dorsey and Sis. Gwendolyn Taylor; Sis. Jackie Ward and Sis. Angela Ray; Bro. Keith Owens, Jr. and Minister Harvey Moore; Deacon Garry Carter and Sis. Chrystal Nichols; Dr. Bob Sanders, Evangelist Dr. Juliette Samuels and Rev. Debbie Ervin and their classes: Primary, Junior, Teen, Young Adult and Mature Adult, respectively. Students from the Arts and Craft classes made memorable works of art under the supervision of Sisters Carolyn Phillips and Evette Townes. Trustee Henry Smith captured the VBS activities for future posterity.

Sincere thanks to the Culinary Ministry, under the leadership of Lady Bridgett Tucker, for those delicious, timely and nutritious meals. We also thank those who braved the heat outside to assure the safety of our children during their game activities.

Many students received their diplomas (Certificates of Completion) from the Super Training University with Jesus (STU) after an intense week of instruction. Subject matter was geared toward Superheroes of the Bible. They learned about understanding their potential in Jesus Christ to set spiritual, emotional, and physical goals that result in achieving success in their relationships with God and others. With diplomas in hand, and in keeping with our theme, *Superheroes Train with Jesus*, our sincere desire is that we all go out into the world and become superheroes for Jesus by *“letting our light shine”* everywhere we go. And we know that we need to, *“Put on the whole armor of God, that you may stand against the wiles of the devil”* (Ephesians 6:11). Further, our desire is that everyone continues to study the Word of God at home, in Sunday School, and Bible Study. For the Bible tells us to, *“Study [Give diligence] to show [present] thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing [handling aright] the Word of truth”* (2 Tim. 2:15).

Again, thanks to *all* participants in our VBS. Have a safe and wonderful summer vacation. We hope to see you in VBS again next year.

Submitted by: Director James Bostick and Assistant Director, Deaconess Mary Murphy

Photos courtesy of Trustee Henry Smith and Sis. Angela Ray

Vacation Bible School 2019 (continued)



Men's Ministry

Summer of Christian Fellowship and Service 2019

The FCCBC Men's Ministry had a very active summer 2019 that included two Men's Car Washes to raise funds for the FCCBC Building Fund, the Men in Black Gospel Concert Fellowship, and FCCBC Youth Fellowship to promote positive communications and activities with our young people and their families. 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. All men are welcome to join us. The next Men's Monthly Meetings are scheduled for the following Mondays: September 23rd, October 28th, and November 25th at 6:00 p.m.

FCCBC Men's Ministry Car Wash

FCCBC Men's Ministry second car wash of the summer 2019 was held on Saturday July 13th from 9am – 3pm. The FCCBC Men turned out in mass working two shifts to clean interior and exterior areas of church members, friends, and neighborhood resident's cars. The proceeds raised will support the FCCBC Building Renovation Fund .

The car wash also served the dual purpose of permitting the FCCBC Men another opportunity to fellowship as they worked together to support the church's mission of sharing the Word of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. During the car wash, friends and community residents were encouraged to attend FCCBC Vacation Bible School as well as Sunday's church services.

The FCCBC Men would like to acknowledge Bro. Keefe Flanigan for donating car wash materials. The FCCBC Men want to extend a very heartfelt thank you to FCCBC's Culinary Ministry for preparing and serving the grilled hamburgers, hot dogs, and other refreshments that were sold out. Thank you Lady Bridgett, Sis. Marilyn Brunt, Bro. Phillip Johnson, and all of the volunteers who assisted with refreshments for your commitment in supporting the FCCBC Men's Ministry.



Photos courtesy of Trustee Henry Smith, Sis. Sharon Johnson, and Sis. Nina Hooks

Men's Ministry (continued)

Men in Black Fellowship Concert



The FCCBC Men's Ministry celebrated the 23rd Annual Men in Black Fellowship Concert. The concert, held on Friday August 2, 2019, gives FCCBC Men's Ministry the opportunity to fellowship with men from other churches spending an evening praising our Lord in song and dance. As in past years, Deacon Garry Carter served as sponsor of the event and recruited a very talented group of Christian men to perform

on this occasion. The evening's Worship Leader was Bro. James Clark, who announced the participants during the processional. The FCCBC Male Chorus marched in singing "Jesus will Pick You Up" led by Deacon Keith Owens, Sr. The concert attendee's response was spirit-filled to start the evening festivities. After the opening hymn, "I Am on the Battle Field for My Lord," a scripture reading from Psalms 98:4-9, was presented by Trustee Steven Jones. Bro. Keefe Flanigan offered a fervent prayer and Bro. Marty Kommeren delivered the Welcome Address to all in attendance. The Men's Ministry encourages the FCCBC men to take on leadership roles in church activities. The Men's Ministry acknowledges Bro. James Clark, Bro. Keefe Flanigan, and Bro. Marty Kommeren for serving in new roles during the evening. Jobs well done by all!

The entertainment continued with the singer group 'Prosper,' and a liturgical dance by Bro. Davon Butler, member of The Empowerment Temple.

The Men's Ministry used this occasion to make special presentations to recognize Trustee Marilyn Dorsey, Church Administrative Assistant and Sister Kitty Owens, Assistant for their tireless work far beyond their formal church responsibilities to assist the Men's Ministry. Whenever their assistance is needed, Trustee Dorsey and Sister Owens are always available to provide a lending hand. FCCBC Men are truly appreciative of these Christian women's valuable support.

The FCCBC Male Chorus' second selection of the evening was "I Came To Tell You" led by Bro. James Clark. The evening in song continued with performances by the Vessels of God and the Helping Up Mission choir. The Vessels of God have participated in the annual men's fellowship for many years and always provide spiritually inspired performance. The Helping Up Mission is a faith based program helping men and women with addiction and homelessness. This is the second year that Helping Up Mission's men choir has participated. Over 35 members strong, the men had the audience on their feet clapping and praising the Lord in song.

An evening of song and fellowship was concluded with closing remarks from the Men's Ministry Chairman, Bro. Tyrone Moore, who thanked everyone for coming out and supporting the Annual Men in Black Fellowship Concert. Deacon Garry Carter remarked how he looks forward each year to planning the Annual Men's in Black Fellowship. He also stated how the fellowship of the men that participate doesn't stop with the concert but the men look enjoy worshiping together throughout the year and building a stronger relationships in sharing the Word of God with each other.



CONTINUED ON PAGE 10.

Men's Ministry (continued)

Men In Black (continued)

Rev. Dr. Alphonso Tucker, Pastor, FCCBC closed out the evening by thanking the men's groups for their continued fellowship. Pastor Tucker recognized Minister Darlene Taylor, Sister Sierra Gaither, and Brother Keith Owens Jr. , for their leadership of the Music Ministry and support of the Men's Male Chorus. Pastor Tucker also thanked Bro. James Clark for stepping up and serving as worship leader for this year's Men in Black Fellowship Concert. Pastor Tucker noted this was Bro. Clark's first time serving in this role.

The FCCBC Men's Ministry gives a special thank you to Sister Niecy Carter, Sister Kitty Owens, and Sister Alma Baker for decorating the fellowship hall as well as the FCCBC's Culinary Ministry for preparing the delicious refreshments shared by all attendees after the concert.



Men's Ministry FCCBC Youth Fellowship

On Saturday August 17, 2019, from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., the Men's Ministry had a day of fun and fellowship with FCCBC's youth and families at the Curtis Bay U. S. Coast Guard facility, 2401 Hawkins Point Road in Baltimore. The cookout was held at the base's Steinbock Grove covered pavilions. The Coast Guard facilities were awesome and all that attended were able to go swimming, fishing, play basketball, softball, and horseshoes.

First Lady Bridgett Tucker truly blessed the attendees and served a wonderful array of grilled hamburgers and hot dogs with all the fixings. The Men's Ministry is thankful to her for cooking the entire time. There was plenty of free food for all in attendance. The Men's Ministry would like to express a very special thanks to Bro. Earl Edwards for coordinating the use of the facilities with the U.S. Coast Guard.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 15



Photos courtesy of Pastor Alphonso Tucker, Bro. Tyrone Moore, Bro. Roscoe Johnson, III, and Sis. Sharon Johnson



Women's Day was the culmination of special events throughout the year: A Prayer Breakfast with Rev. Debbie Ervin as preacher, a Jewelry Making event hosted by Sis. Carolyn Laster, a Songfest by the youth and young adults. It was a day of powerful preaching and a day of inspirational singing by the Women's Day choir. The songs and preaching focused on *faith*. They were not without testimony to the power of prayer and the *faith* to believe that "with God all things are possible" and that "faith can move mountains. "As believers, we know that, *"But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him,"* Hebrews 11:6.

We were honored to have Evangelist Dr. Gwendolyn Williams to bring us a Word of exhortation. She regaled the beauty and attributes of women who serve God faithfully. Women, she said, are not to be marginalized but to be empowered to make a change. She extolled the importance of women as leaders and mothers who show compassion and love. She recounted potential obstacles that tried to derail her appearance but was determined to fulfill her obligation by trusting in God and having faith that stumbling blocks would be removed.

Kudos to our chairlady, Deaconess Vurely Johnson and co-chairladies, Sis. Shirl Farrare and Miss Kaitlyn Sanders. They did a great job in bringing the year's events to a successful conclusion. Thanks to our pastor, the Rev. Dr. Alphonso Tucker and all the faithful women and men who supported us throughout the year.

Women, continue to keep the faith. The apostle Paul said, by inspiration of the Holy Spirit, to "Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong" (I Corinthians 16:13). As women of faith, we will exhibit these attributes as we continue to serve the Lord with gladness, sincerity, and in truth.

Submitted by: Deaconess Mary Murphy, Secretary

Photos courtesy of Trustee Henry Smith and Sis.. Sharon Johnson



Culinary Ministry News

FCCBC

5^{Loaves} 2^{Fish} Culinary Outreach

Supporting Scripture (NKJ):

...Then He took the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up to heaven, He blessed and broke them, and gave them to the disciples to set before the multitude. Matthew 14:19

The Culinary Ministry continues to bless others!...

PURPOSE OF MINISTRY...

Meet the needs of homeless individuals by giving free ready to eat meals that are cooked and distributed by the Culinary Ministry within the community on a quarterly basis to a minimum of (100) people.

When is it Offered?

5 Loaves - The last Saturday in (March, June, September & December)

How will this initiative be Funded?

The Culinary Ministry on continual basis will raise funds through various culinary-based fundraisers to obtain the necessary funds to self-sustain this initiative ...

Most recent outreach

Saturday, June 29th, 2019 - One of the hottest days of the summer season, prepared & distributed (100) turkey and cheese sandwiches, (100) applesauce cups and over (100) bottles of water & ice to the hungry in the downtown Baltimore area.



Special Thanks to our Deacon Chair, Lawrence Waller for always making his self-available to go out and help bless others and Sofie Tucker!!

Immeasurable appreciation to the committed Culinary Members who tirelessly give their talents and time to the 5 Loaves 2 Fish Outreach Ministry: M. Brunt, D. Cooper, M. Dorsey, L. Hyman, M. Kommeren, P. Johnson, A. Moore, Randall, S. Robinson and N. Roots ...

To God be all glory!

Article Submitted by Bridgett S. Tucker, Kitchen Manager |

Photos courtesy of Lady Bridgett Tucker

Birthday Sundaes Sundays

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)

Family and Friends Retreat



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

The Family & Friends retreat was absolutely fantastic! I believe all that attended truly enjoyed themselves. Our teaching agenda was very informative. The first session was based on the Church Covenant which we read every month prior to communion. We examined each paragraph of the covenant to get a clear understanding and meaning of what we are required to do as a body of Christ. The instructor for this session was Minister Harvey Moore. The second session was taught by Pastor Tucker and his teaching theme was "Positive Lessons of a Dysfunctional Family." The main focus was understanding and knowing our roles within the family. We shall be prayerful that these teaching sessions can be extended to the entire church for edification.

The free time allowed everyone to enjoy such activities as swimming (especially with the hot weather we had), basketball, billiards, miniature golf, and quality time to mediate on the beauty of God's creation.



We enjoyed a night of fun with our own version of Family Feud. Three teams battled to be crowned 'champion.' The game was set up with all questions based on the bible and the teams had to answer the questions correctly in order to advance. The team of Sanaa Stanley, Maya Jones, Samara Jones, and Kaitlyn Sanders were crowned champions after an amazing 'come-from-behind' win.

We are eagerly looking forward to the next planned retreat for the future. We ask individuals to share their photos from this year that we may post them on the Family & Friends board in the fellowship hall.

Submitted by: Minister Harvey Moore



Photos courtesy of Minister Harvey Moore, Trustee Steven Jones, and Sis. Nikki Waller

Education Updates

Educational Ministry Sponsors Annual School Supply Giveaway



Photos courtesy of Sis. Sharon Johnson and Trustee Henry Smith

Planning Committee Ministry Update

Building Renovation Update Report

In August, the FCCBC Planning Committee Ministry reviewed the general contractor's bids for the building renovation project. The Planning Committee found the bids submitted unsatisfactory in that the contractor's prices exceeded the project budgeted amounts. As of this article, the Planning Committee is reviewing the architect's design to determine if there are some adjustments that could be made to the overall project keeping the planned concept uses but decreasing the renovation construction cost. Pastor Tucker noted that the committee will take it's time to find a general contractor that is willing to work within the budget that FCCBC has established for the building renovations.

Other pre-development building renovation activities continue to move forward as the project construction plans move forward in the Baltimore City's departments for construction permit review. The FCCBC Outreach Center's storm water management plan has been submitted to the Baltimore City Department of Public Works for approval.

The Planning Committee Ministry would like to thank FCCBC members and friends of the church for continued faithfulness in honoring the building fund pledges.

Submitted by: Trustee Robert White, Chairman Planning Committee Ministry

Men's Ministry FCCBC Youth Fellowship (continued)

The Men's Ministry would also like to recognize Trustee Robert White for driving the church bus that transported FCCBC members and supplies for the cookout. Trustee White also shuttled attendees around the base to the Recreation Center to go swimming. It should be noted that Deacon Lawrence Waller and Bro. Keefe Flanigan won the horseshoe competition. God provided a truly beautiful day that all were able to enjoy. Everyone looks forward to next year's youth fellowship outing.

Submitted by: Bro. Roscoe Johnson, III Men's Ministry Co-Chair

Photos courtesy of Pastor Alphonso Tucker, Bro. Tyrone Moore, Bro. Roscoe Johnson, III, and Sis. Sharon Johnson



Member Spotlights

Congratulations to Samara Jones!

Samara Jones competed in the International Youth Track & Field Championships in Largo, MD and received 7th place in the triple jump. She also qualified and participated in the AAU Junior Olympics in Greensboro, NC for long jump and triple jump. Way to go Samara!!



Photo courtesy of Trustee Steven Jones

Member Spotlight - Mother Lillie Mae Campbell



To God be the glory, he has blessed us with a woman of virtue who loves the Lord and who has been the Mother of First Christian Community Baptist Church (FCCBC) since January 28, 2008.

I sat down and had a talk with Mother Campbell to write this article. Of course I was greeted with her favorite saying “hello darling.” At 90 years old, her recollection of events is amazing. She is the matriarch of her huge family. She has mothered 10 children (there are 5 living). Mother Campbell has 4 granddaughters, 6 grandsons, over 20 great-grands, 1 great-great grand and 1 on the way.

Mother Campbell was born May 20, 1929 and grew up in Darlington, South Carolina with her 3 sisters who are now deceased. She recalled the years of working in tobacco and cotton and other jobs that go along with farming. Her husband, Mr. Arthur, and 4 children migrated to Baltimore in 1952. Her other 6 children were born in Baltimore. She joined the FCCBC family in 1965 under the leadership of Rev. Ernest Humphrey (Winchester Street).

Mother Campbell worked as manager of Arundel Ice Cream stores all over Baltimore city for 21 years. She also worked at the Social Security Administration for 5 years in the housekeeping department.

Later, Mother Campbell married Richard Campbell in 1978 and moved to Mississippi, returning to Baltimore in 1991 and rejoined FCCBC family.

Mother Campbell loves to sing, “I Know It Was the Blood.” Psalm 27 is her favorite bible verse and her favorite color is blue. Mother Campbell dresses in the style of churchgoers of yesteryear...beautiful dresses, suits, and hats. She told me, “going to church without a hat and stockings is like being undressed.”

Mother Campbell is loved, respected and cherished by her children and others. Mother Campbell does her own missionary outreach by calling on members and family to find out how they’re doing. She is a blessing to all who know her.

Compiled by: Sis. Leslie Hyman

Getting to Know You

What’s Trending with the Senior Usher Ministry

WE NEED YOU! we are recruiting members who would like to be a part of the Usher’s Ministry, doing the work of the Lord. If you are interested, please see Vice President Sister Shirley Carter.

Our annual trip to Dutch Country in Lancaster, PA is on October 19, 2019. The cost is \$58.00. You will enjoy a beautiful Fall day of good fellowship, good food, and good fun! Lunch at Shady Maples Smorgasbord and shop until you drop at Tanger’s Outlets.

Preparations for the annual Thanksgiving and Christmas food baskets outreach will begin in late October. Additional details to be announced.

The combined anniversary of the Junior and Senior Ushers Ministry is November 10, 2019 at 3:30 p.m. Please be in attendance to witness a blessed fellowship in Christ Jesus as we march up the King’s Highway, praising, and thanking God for all He does for us continuously.

Submitted by: Trustee Shirley Carter

Member Spotlights

FCCBC NEWLYWEDS

CONGRATULATIONS TO BRO. DURAN AND SIS. ALEXIS BANKS WHO WERE MARRIED ON JUNE 22, 2019 AT FCCBC. FOR THEIR HONEYMOON, THEY CRUISED ON THE ROYAL CARIBBEAN SYMPHONY OF THE SEAS SHIP TO LABADEE, HAITI, SAN JUAN, PUERTO RICO, AND ST. MAARTEN.



THE FCCBC FAMILY WISHES YOU GOD'S BLESSINGS AND ALL THE BEST AS YOU BEGIN YOUR NEW LIVES TOGETHER!

Photos courtesy of Sis. Alexis Banks and Sis. Nina Hooks



Sis. Mae Williams shares on her recent retirement.

Enjoy the blessings of retirement!!

Psalm 33:21 In him our hearts rejoice for we are trusting in his Holy Name. I recognized that God is trustworthy and I trust Him above all else. It was clear to me that after 42 years of working in the educational field and a year out on sick leave that all of my trust had to be in God and God alone. It was my time to retire. I was very Blessed to enter the educational field right out of college. I started working in the private school sector for the Archdiocese of Baltimore. I taught for ten years there before leaving for the Baltimore Public School System. I remained with the BCPS until I became sick. I am so grateful that God allowed me to work until I became retirement age. My focus now is on trusting God, taking care of myself, and looking after my Mother.

Potpourri

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.

Fall newsletter photos, announcements, and articles will be due on 12/1/19.

Blessings and Birthday Wishes To:

We inadvertently misspelled Sis. Bridgete Tucker's name in the last issue. We apologize for the oversight.

October 2019

Sis. Alma Baker
Miss Brac'lyn Barnes
Miss Rickia Briggs
Sis. Donna Bright
Rickyah Brooks
Miss Kirsten Cole
Miss Dontia Cummings
Trustee Gwen Franklin
Sis. Lorraine Hale
Sis. Audrey Highsmith
Sis. Leslie Hyman
Bro. James Johnson
Bro. Phillip Johnson
Sis. Zenobia McLaughlin
Sis. LaNecia Owens
Sis. Aleea Powell
Bro. Jonathan Powell
Dr. Robert Sanders
Bro. Orlando Scott, Sr.
Sis. Annie Smith
Sis. Esther Steptoe
Sis. Brenda Taylor
Sis. Jackie Ward

November 2019

Dea. Walter Adams
Sis. Alexis Banks
Trustee Rudolph Cole
Sis. Deborah Cooper
Min. Debbie Ervin
Sis. Cheryl Farrare
Joseph Foote
Sis. Marquette Heaggins
Bro. Precious Hale, Jr.
Sis. Betty Jackson
Sis. Sharon Johnson
Trustee Steven Jones
Sis. Zenobia McLaughlin
Miss C'ynai Moore
Bro. Keith Owens, Jr.
Sis. Megan Roundtree
Bro. Quennell Sowers
Sis. Ella Smith
Sis. Annie Taylor
Master Javier Troy
Master Journi Troy

December 2019

Special Honoree: Pastor Tucker

Dea. James Bostick
Bro. Charles 'Petey' Bright
Sis. Kim Carter
Sis. Pamela Chapman
Sis. Barbara Cole
Jasmine Conway
Miss Kayla Davis
Bro. Lewis Ervin
Sis. Delana Jordan
Sis. Kayla Johnson
Sis. Monique Malone
Bro. Darrell McCoy
Min. Harvey Moore
Bro. Tyrone Moore
Dea. Keith Owens, Sr.
Sis. Kimberly Randall
Sis. Patricia Rhinehart
Sis. Remira Robinson
Sis. Vera Robinson
Sis. Kayla Sanders

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

FCCBC Wishes Comfort and Peace

Please continue to pray for:

The Davis family on the transition of Sis. Alma Davis

The McCloud and Flanigan families on the passing of Marcia Rice

Sis. Jackie Ward on the loss of her mother-in-law Mrs. Clara Ward and her best friend Keisha Perrin's grandson Keshon Nowlin (our condolences to the Perrin family)

Sis. Paula Foote on the passing of her god-brother Kenneth Bonaparte and her friend's child

Sis. Christene Holmes, Trustee Henry Smith, and Sis. Chrystal Nichols on the passing of Mary Hutcheson

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.

Wedding Anniversary Wishes

October

9th - Bro. Precious & Sis. Lorraine Hale (8 years)
12th - Bro. Ruppert & Sis. Joyce Jackson (20 years)
14th - Rev. Dr. Alphonso & Lady Bridgett Tucker (19 yrs.)

December

23rd— Dea. James & Dea. Ada Bostick (52 years)
18th—Bro. Theodore & Sis. Delores Hines (22 years)
31st—Trus. Everett & Trus. Yolanda Cash (31 years)



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
Prayer Service	6:00 –6:45 p.m.	First Wednesday each month
Bible Study	7:00 p.m.	Wednesdays
Baptismal Service	9:30 a.m.	Third Sunday
Humphrey Choral Ensemble, 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)
Bro. Oliver Hill (Home)
Bro. Gordon Quarles (Home)
Trus. John Spencer (Home)
Sis. Ann Taylor (Home, VA)
Bro. Calvin Taylor (Future Care,
12020 Reisterstown Rd., 21136)

Church Calendar

October 2019

2	Sweet Hope Freewill Baptist Church worships w/us	7:00 p.m.
5	Pastor's 10th Anniversary Gathering	Noon—4:00 p.m.
6	Pastoral Anniversary Celebration	11:00 a.m. & 3:30 p.m.
19	Senior Usher's trip to Dutch Country	
20	Baptismal Service (if candidates)	9:30 a.m.
26	Autumn Breeze	To be announced
28	Men's Fellowship meeting	6:00 p.m.

November 2019

3	Men's Day	11:00 a.m.
10	Usher's Anniversary	3:30 p.m.
17	Baptismal Service (if candidates)	9:30 a.m.
17	Unified Voices Anniversary	Morning Worship Service
25	Men's Fellowship meeting	6:00 p.m.
28	Thanksgiving Day Service	11:00 a.m. - noon

December 2019

5	Quarterly Official Board meeting	7:00 p.m.
14	Annual Church Meeting	10:00 a.m. - noon
15	Baptismal Service (if candidates)	9:30 a.m.
22	Annual Christmas program	9:30 a.m.
23	Men's Fellowship meeting	6:00 p.m.
28	Culinary Ministry outreach	
31	Watch Night service	10:00 p.m. - midnight

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
Trus. Rudolph Cole	Bro. Walter Jones, Jr.
Sis. La-Kia Kommeren	Sis. Flore Mincey
Sis. Annie Norris	Sis. Rosetta Quarles
Sis. Karen Cole Sanders	Sis. Annie Smith
Sis. Mae Williams	

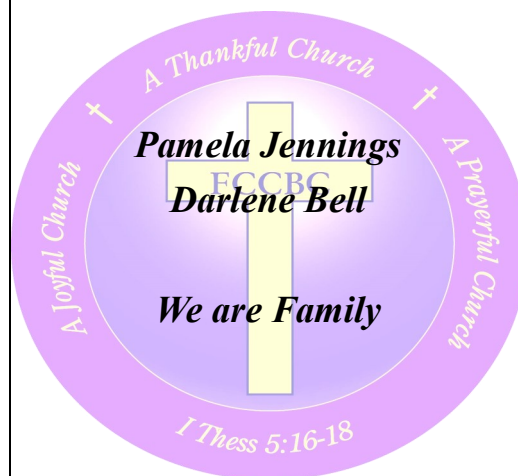
REMEMBER THE SICK AND SHUT-IN
EVERYWHERE IN YOUR PRAYERS. ANY
ACT OF KINDNESS CAN MAKE A BIG
DIFFERENCE IN THEIR LIVES

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

PASTOR'S ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

COME JOIN US ONE AND ALL



**Pre-Anniversary Service
October 2nd at 7:00 p.m.**

**Pastor's 10th Anniversary gathering
October 5th from noon - 4:00 p.m.**

**Anniversary Services
October 6th 11:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m.**

**Additional information can be found
on page 2**

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.

October 28th • November 25th • December 23rd

**JOIN THE SENIOR USHERS ON THEIR
ANNUAL DUTCH COUNTRY TRIP
TO LANCASTER, PA**

**Lunch at Shady Maples Smorgasbord and
shop til you drop at Tanger Outlets**

OCTOBER 19, 2019

Donation: \$58 per person

**For tickets, please see any member of the
Senior Usher Ministry**

**Sis. Rosetta Quarles, President
Sis. Sheila Shelton, Business Manager
Rev. Dr. Alphonso Tucker, Pastor**



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