



We Are Family

# The FCCBC Connection

A Publication of First Christian Community Baptist Church, 4116 Groveland Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21215



“Grace, mercy and peace, from God our Father and Jesus Christ our Lord...”

(I Timothy 1:2)

Jesus is the reason for the season! As we end 2011 and begin a New Year, it's easy to focus on all that is happening around us instead of focusing on what is important. Too many people get caught up in the part of Christmas that involves shopping, spending and buying, but that's not what Christmas is all about. Jesus is the reason for the season!

Christmas is about our Savior being born. It's about the Greatest Gift known to the world. Christmas is about Christ! It is my prayer that we never take Christ out of Christmas.

The year, 2011 has been a year full of blessings, but we also have our share of sadness and heartbreaks, especially with the passing of our beloved Pastor, Rev. Dr. Humphrey. Pastor Humphrey, in my opinion, was the closest to Moses we will ever encounter. He was our Moses and will be missed by so many. We are confident however, that he is with the Lord; for the scripture teaches in II Corinthian 5:8 “we are confident, yes, well pleased rather to be absent from the body and to be present with the Lord” ... (NKJV). Also, we are told in

Joshua 1:5 “... as I was with Moses, so I will be with you. I will not leave you nor forsake you.” ... (NKJV).

I am blessed to have served with and under Pastor Humphrey for (30) thirty years and I have learned so much from him, but my greatest blessing is from our God, for He assures me every day that “as I was with Dr. Humphrey, so I will be with you.”

God bless you family!

Lady Bridgett, Sofie and I wish you all a Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

Love, Pastor Tucker

## FCCBC Mourns the Loss of Rev. Dr. Ernest Humphrey

Our beloved Father in the Lord, Pastor Emeritus Rev. Dr. Ernest Humphrey, was called from earthly labor to reward on October 24, 2011.

He was 97 years old and served as our Pastor for over fifty years.

Pastor Humphrey was an inspiring pastor and a very kind soul who led many to a closer walk with God. He

was a true man of God who devoted his life to helping God's people and preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ. He was well respected for his humbleness and wisdom which he shared with many people and ministries throughout the years.

His legacy will live on through the many souls saved and ministers ordained.

We were truly blessed to have had him as our Pastor and we thank God for the time He allowed him to minister to us.

Let's all be sure to keep his family members and the entire FCCBC church family lifted in prayer.

We will be preparing a tribute celebrating Dr. Humphrey's life in early 2012.

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### Church Directory

Pastor Tucker	410-466-5776 (h)	410-664-7443 (s)
Chairman. Dea. Bd	Frankie Sims	410-258-0400
Church Clerk	Marilyn Dorsey	410-298-4892 / 443-676-6261
Asst. Clerk	Kitty Owens	410-255-7713
Bus Drivers	Orlando Scott, Sr.	410-523-1835
	Everett Cash	443-850-5494
Public Phone	Lower Aud.	410-367-9776

## Food Drive

In an effort to provide holiday meals to the needy, the Senior Ushers once again collected non-perishable food items and monetary donations for their Thanksgiving Food Drive.

Thanks to the generosity of FCCBC, we are pleased to announce that twenty-three baskets were distributed.

Donations are being accepted now for the Christmas Food Drive.



## Jesus is the Reason



Jumpstart your Christmas Day by attending our Sunday School's Annual Christmas Program on Sunday, December 25th at 9:30 a.m. You will be privileged to see a reenactment of the "Birth of Christ" directed by Sis. Marilyn Brunt starring our youth, young and mature adults.

We prayerfully hope that you will come out and be joyfully uplifted by the retelling of our Savior's birth. We truly welcome your support of our Sunday School and Drama Ministry. Have a happy and joyous Christmas!

## Women's Ministry

The women of FCCBC are off to a great start. They have selected a theme for 2012: Godly Women Fully Committed, Standing Firm, and Always Abounding In the Work of the Lord!

Several activities were approved (dates to be determined). During 2012, the women will hold a Crab Feast (Shopping Trip), a Women's Prayer Breakfast, a fellowship, "I am my Sister's Keeper," and Gospel Karaoke featuring women of gospel music. The Women In Red service has been scheduled for February 24, 2012 and a planning committee was formed.

Speakers from the medical community will share information of interest at monthly women's meetings. The next meeting is scheduled for January 14, 2012.

## Building and Beautifying FCCBC

FCCBC has taken on the major project of replacing upper sanctuary windows with stained glass windows.

Our goal is to have the first two windows installed in March 2012 and the remaining thirteen windows installed by May 13, 2012. We will need a great deal of support from our church in order to achieve our goals.

J. D. Doss Stained Window Company has been selected to design, paint, assemble, and install the windows. Specific themes and the style of the scenes have been selected. A prototype will be available for viewing in the near future.

Our Trustees have decided the best way to fund our project is through memorial and dedication contributions. This will make it possible for members to create a lasting tribute to celebrate the life of a loved one who has passed away or to honor a friend or loved one. Memorials and dedications will be inscribed.

Each window can be 'purchased. If you would like to 'purchase' or 'co-purchase' a window, please obtain a Letter of Commitment from the Trustees and submit a deposit to secure your commitment. Members may also support the project by making contributions to the Building Fund.

Many other projects have been discussed for future implementation: extend offices, retile sanctuary floors, recarpet sanctuary, repair pews, paint mural, update lighting, purchase shuttle bus, etc.... We intend to undertake one major project at a time.

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Congratulations to our Chairman, Deacon Frankie Sims, on his engagement to Sis. Carolyn Allen. He has relocated to Charlotte, NC. We commend Deacon Sims for his many years of dedicated service to Pastor Humphrey, Pastor Tucker, and to FCCBC. He will be greatly missed!

Deacon James Kelly has been selected as FCCBC's new Chairman and Deacon James Bostick will serve as Vice-Chair beginning in 2012.

Two new Deacons Elect were named — Trustee Keith Owens, Sr., and Trustee Garry Carter.



We congratulate all of our officers for the fine jobs that they are doing in the name of the Lord.

~o~

Bro. John Spencer has retired from driving the church bus. We thank him for his many years of dedicated service.

Bro. Everett Cash joins Trustee Orlando Scott, Sr. as bus driver. Bro. Cash can be reached at 443-850-5494.

~o~

The Pastor's Aide sponsored a shopping trip to Reading, PA on November 19, 2011. The trip was a huge success! Sis. Eileen McCloud thanks everyone who participated for their support.

~o~

Welcome to Journi Troy, great-grandson of Mother Campbell and grandson of Sis. Mae Williams. Journi was born on November 27th, weighing in at 3 pounds! He remains at St. Joseph's Hospital and is coming along nicely. Please continue to pray for him.

## Birthday Wishes To:

### November

Deacon Walter Adams  
Trustee Rudolph Cole  
Sis. Elaine Dunston  
Minister Debbie Ervin  
Sis. Cheryl Farrare  
Sis. Thora Godfrey  
Sis. Bernice Hackley  
Deaconess Hermene Hale  
Sis. Marquette Heaggins  
Sis. Betty Jackson  
Sis. Sharon Johnson  
Deacon Jimmy Kelly  
Taylor McCourtesy  
Bro. Keith Owens, Jr.  
Sis. Ella Smith  
Sis. Annie Taylor  
Sis. Alexis Tucker

### December

**Special Birthday Honoree:**  
Pastor Alphonso Tucker  
  
Dea. James Bostick  
Bro. Charles "Petey" Bright  
Sis. Kim Carter

Sis. Pamela Chapman  
Sis. Barbara Cole  
Sis. Tammy Gardner  
Trustee Keith Owens, Sr.  
Sis. Claudia Ray  
Sis. Remira Robinson  
Sis. Kayla Sanders  
Sis. Kiyonna Scott  
Sis. Carolyn Smith

### January

Sis. Danielle Booker  
Sis. Tara Booker  
Bro. Everett Cash  
Sis. Latisha Coates  
Bro. Thomas Davis, Sr.  
Bro. Isaiah Ervin  
Trus. Roland Gardner  
Sis. Lauren Highsmith  
Sis. Joyce Jackson  
Bro. Rupert Jackson  
Sis. Mary Jones  
Sis. Princess Lane  
Sis. Nancy Pope  
Bro. Renaldo Robinson, Jr.  
Bro. John C. Sanders

Sis. Kaitlyn Sanders  
Trustee Robert White  
Bro. Kendrick Winters

### February

Sis. Dorothy Arthur  
Trustee Shirley Carter  
Bro. Ronnie Cole, Jr.  
Trustee Marilyn Dorsey  
Sis. Nora Gardner  
Sis. Mary Johnson  
Sis. Dorothy Pressley  
Bro. Gordon Quarles  
Sis. Angela Ray  
Bro. Jonathan Sanders  
Deacon Frankie Sims  
Bro. Robert Youngblood  
Sis. Michelle Williams

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**Please advise Sis. Evelyn Bright of birthday updates.**

Correction : September — Bro. Michael Montoute's name was misspelled in the Summer Newsletter. We regret the error.



## Happy Anniversary To:



### November

6th — Bro. Frank & Trustee Gwen Franklin (46 years)

### December

16th — Trustee Roland & Sis. Nora Gardner (58 years)  
23rd — Deacon James & Deaconess Ada Bostick (44 years)

### January

16th — Dea. Jimmy & Deaconess Ollie Kelly (41 years)

### February

12th — Bro. John & Sis. Dorothy Arthur (53 years)  
12th — Bro. Roscoe & Sis. Sharon Johnson (21 years)  
Trustee John & Sis. Karen Sanders (21 years)

## The FCCBC Family Wishes Comfort and Peace

## Men's Ministry

## Helpful Hints

Please continue to pray for the families of:

Pastor Emeritus Ernest Humphrey

Sis. Agatha Campbell (Bolling)

Sis. Icelon Cole

Sis. Laura "Jackie" Jones

Bro. James McCleod

Gordon Quarles

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



Congratulations to Chairperson (Trus. Orlando Scott, Sr.), Co-Chairperson (Trus. Keith B. Owens, Sr.), and the men of First Christian on an outstanding year of fellowships, programs, services, and fundraisers. This year's theme was "Men On a Journey For God."

The year wrapped up with dynamic speakers on Men's Day—November 6, 2011. We pray that you received an overflow of blessings as you heard God speak to you through the messages from our Pastor during the morning service and from our guest speaker, Rev. Merrill R. Griffin, Founder and Pastor of Soul Harvest Church and Ministries, in the afternoon.

Always carry a safety pin on your key ring.

You may need it in case of an emergency.

Contributed by  
Sis. Sheila Fenwick

# Information of Interest

## School Lunch and Childhood Obesity

By: Sis. Chrystal Smith

The Youth and Young Adults of FCCBC are dedicated to the enhancement of not only our members but those of the community. We would like to share some interesting facts about Childhood Obesity and ways to avoid it. We would like to educate parents and caregivers alike concerning methods of involvement to keep our youth healthy.

Michelle Obama and Congress are preparing to tackle a new Child Nutrition Act.

Indeed, behind the cafeteria gripes are stark statistics: Almost a third of all kids in the United States are overweight, and rates of childhood obesity have nearly tripled over the last thirty years. More than 55 million children receive lunch (and sometimes breakfast, too) via public school programs every day, but the vast majority of meals offered include things like French fries, chicken nuggets, pizza, bagged chips, chocolate milk-foods that are high in fat, sodium and high fructose corn syrup, heavily processed, frozen, and wastefully pre-packaged.

Over the past few years, there has been an increase in awareness. However, the challenges schools face are still considerable: the U.S. Department of Agriculture allots only \$2.68 in funding per day for each student meal, and reform seems painfully slow in coming. This year's re-budgeting of the Childhood Nutrition Act-the bill which covers all school food as well as other nutrition benefits for low-income kids-is a powerful opportunity to introduce change from the highest levels of government.

Here's how you can help:

**Get involved:** Recently, many new organizations have sprung up across the country aimed at bringing fresh, healthy food, teaching gardens, and cooking skills into nutritionally challenged schools.

**Bring it home:** Ensure that your child is eating healthy at home, including both treats and all meals.

**Educate yourself:** You do not have to be a nutritionist to recognize that there's something wrong with feeding kids a steady diet of tater tots and chicken tenders.

This article only offers a very small amount of information concerning childhood obesity. There are many sources available including your doctor, pediatrician, local library, and the internet if you have any questions. We hope that you understand the importance of your child's health, and how it will affect them for the rest of their lives.

**Please get involved !!!!**

Source: [www.babble.com](http://www.babble.com)



## The ICC & Me By: Brother Keith B. Owens, Jr

Those of you who have a radio or television may have heard that a new highway opened in the state of Maryland. Maryland 200 (MD 200), Inter-county Connector (ICC), or whatever you may want to call it is now open to motorists.

It is an east/west toll road that takes you from I-370 in Montgomery County, to I-95 in Prince Georges County. It is hailed as the first all electronic toll road in the state. Its geographic location takes it through towns like: Redland, Olney, Fairland, and South Laurel. The MD 200/I-95 Interchange lies between MD 198 and MD 212.

What you might not know is that I worked on this project. As an engineer with Sabra, Wang & Associates, Inc. , I was given the opportunity to work on one of the most environmentally sensitive projects in the recent years.

This project was my first major project out of college. It consumed a good portion of the first two years with the company. My task was to design the roadway and sign lighting from I-370 to MD 97 (Georgia Avenue), and US-29 to I-95. The MD 200/I-95 Interchange lies between MD 198 and MD 212. The final design for the ICC is to take motorist to US-1 and add managed toll lanes along I-95 from MD 198 to Capital Beltway (I-495); all of which are future additions.

There was a period from November 22, 2011 to December 4, 2011 where toll rates were waived to give the public a chance to get familiar with the road. If you were to travel the roadway without an EZPass, you would get a bill in the mail for the toll rate (at the time of travel) plus a penalty fee.

I am truly thankful to God for what he has done for me. I thank God for affording me the opportunity of a lifetime.



## Regularly Scheduled Ministries

Sunday School	9:15 a.m.	Sundays
Bible Study	7:00 p.m.	Wednesdays
HCE Rehearsals	7:30 p.m.	2nd & 3rd Tuesdays, monthly
Prayer Service	7:30 p.m.	Tuesdays
Unified Voices	7:30 p.m.	Thursdays
Youth/Young Adult Choir Rehearsal		To be announced
New Members Ministry	9:30 a.m.	1st & 2nd Sundays

## Church Calendar

### December

10 Annual Church Meeting	10:00 a.m.
16 Baptismal Service	7:00 p.m.
25 Christmas Program	9:30 a.m.
31 Watch Night Service	10:00 p.m.—midnight

### January

13 Baptismal Service	7:00 p.m.
14 Women's meeting	
15 Installation Service	

### February

12 Worship with Greater St. John	4:00 p.m.
17 Baptismal Service	7:00 p.m.
24 Annual Women In Red	7:30 p.m.
26 Black History Month Program	3:30 p.m.

Please refer to weekly bulletin for updates



## Known Sick & Shut-In

- Sis. Pam Chapman—Future Care, 4800 Seton Dr., 21215
- Sis. Elaine Dunton—3915 Callaway Ave., Apt. 713, 21215
- Sis. Nora Gardner — 6725 Glenkirk Rd., 21239
- Sis. Mary Guthrie—Keswick Multi-Care Ctr., 700 W. 40th St., 21211
- Sis. Mary Johnson—Future Care, 4800 Seton Drive, 21215
- Sis. Florine Mincy, 2577 Cecil Avenue, 21218

## Prayer List

- Bro. John Arthur—8901 Meadow Heights Rd., 21133
- Bro. Rudolph Cole—10 N. Mt. Olivet Lane, 21229
- Sis. Theresa Crusoe, 10006 Antium Way, 21117
- Sis. Delores Hines—6532 Woodgreen Circle, 21207
- Bro. James Neails—3020 Grantley Ave., 21215
- Sis. Nancy Pope—6003 Ivydene Ter., 21209
- Bro. Gordon Quarles—3407 Yataruba Rd., 21207
- Sis. Karen Sanders—7401 Inwood Ave., 21228
- Sis. Annie Smith—1102 Wildwood Parkway, 21229
- Sis. Ann Taylor—5352 Gist Avenue, 21215
- Bro. Calvin Taylor—3801 Schnaper Dr. #120, 21133

REMEMBER THE SICK AND SHUT-IN EVERYWHERE IN YOUR PRAYERS. A PHONE CALL, A CARD, AND/OR VISIT CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE.



Please help Kennedee Pelzer continue her courageous fight and help the family support her ongoing care by purchasing an awareness bracelet or by making a contribution via the web at <[www.giveplanet.com/kennedeeskare](http://www.giveplanet.com/kennedeeskare)>.

## 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

## Welcome to our New/ Reinstated Members

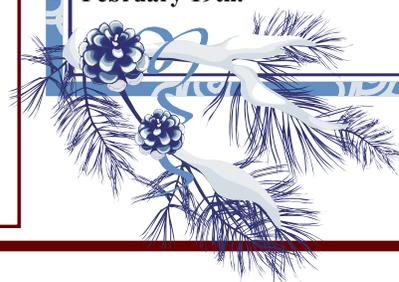


You are now members of the  
FCCBC Family

## Newsletter Due Dates

Please help the newsletter ministry keep our FCCBC family informed of church news.

Submit Winter 2011 articles and suggestions to Sis. Sharon Johnson or Sis. Leslie Hyman by February 19th.



# Honoring All Veterans



*Sunday, November 13, 2011*

## *Deaconess Ministry Celebrated Veterans Day*

*On this day, we remembered those who have lost their lives, and recognized with thanks those who have returned home. We especially thank our guests, the Retired Enlisted Association Auxiliary Chapter 9 for coming to be a part of this great honor. Together they represented decades of service and sacrifice. We deeply appreciate the commitment and outstanding service they have made to keep our country safe.*

*With gratitude,*

*Deaconess Diane Waller*

**COURAGE    DEVOTION    PATRIOTISM    SACRIFICE**

The man who does the will of God lives forever. 1 John 2:17 (NIV)

## **Upcoming Services, Programs, and Fellowships**

### **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 7 p.m.**

**Dec. 26th • Jan. 23rd • Feb. 27th**



### **Watch Night Service**

**Sat., 12/31/11**

**10 p.m.— midnight**

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