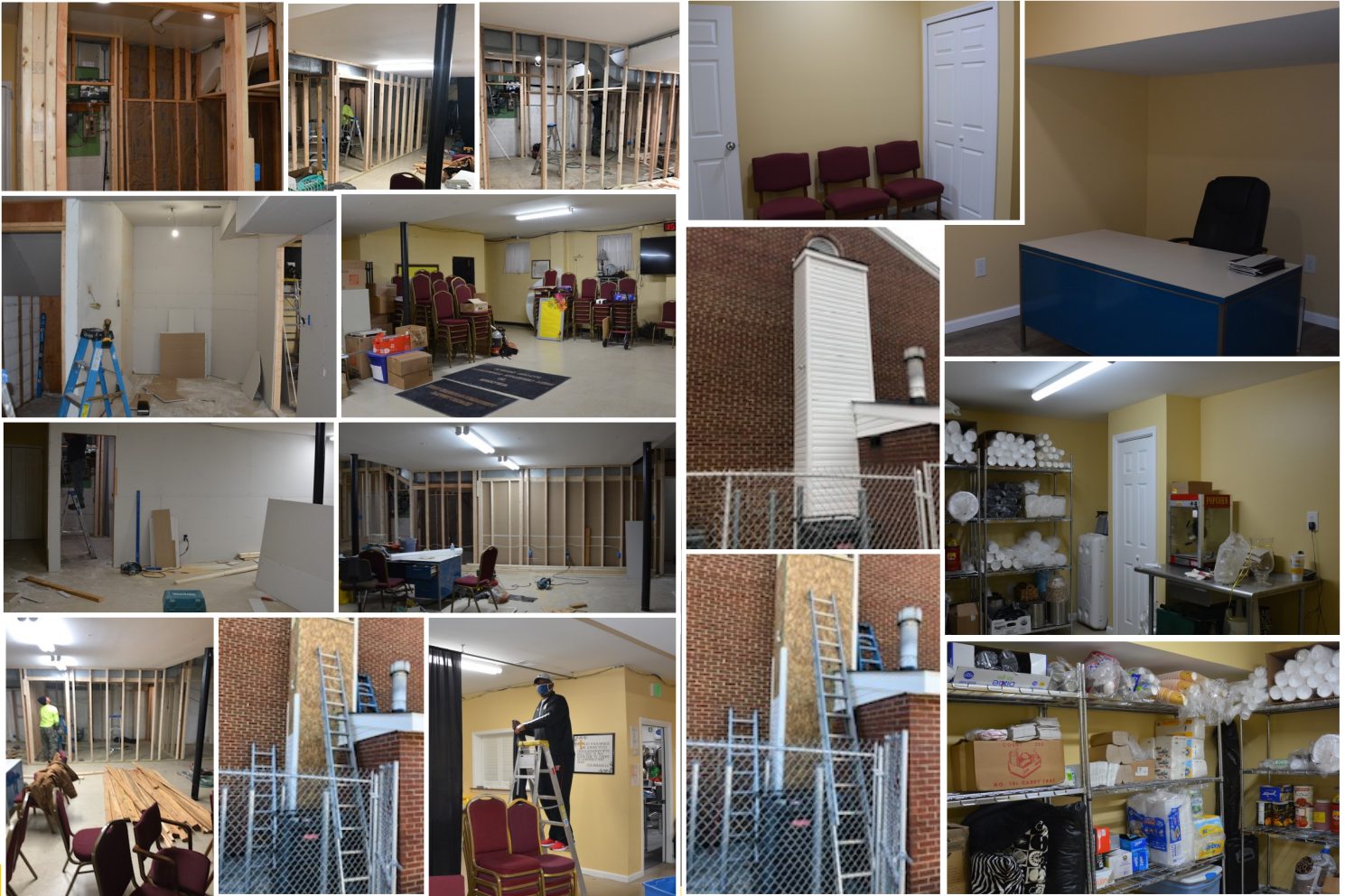


# The FCCBC CONNECTION

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



**We Are Family**



**Renovations were recently completed in the church sanctuary, fellowship hall, and rear furnace building and chimney stack. Story and update on page 7.**

Photos courtesy of Trustee Henry Smith and Bro. Roscoe Johnson, III

## Service Times

<i>Sunday School</i>	<i>Sun. 10:00 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 &amp; 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>

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## Message From Our Pastor

**“ You therefore, beloved, since you know this beforehand. Beware lest you also fall from your own steadfastness, being led away with the error of the wicked: but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. ” (2 Pet.3:17-18) (NKJV)**



We are living in times that challenge our faith, our walk, and yes even our soul. We are living in a day and time when it is as urgent as ever before that we hold on to what we believe. However, times are so crucial that it's not only important to hold on to what we believe, but we must continue to grow in

what we believe. This is what we must ask ourselves each and every day.....” am I still growing in the Lord?”

In spite of what's going on around us in this world; we must never lose sight of the fact that Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ is coming back again. As we all know, He's not coming back to earth this time as a ,” babe wrapped in swaddling clothes.” His second coming is one of vengeance and power. The 24th and 25th chapters of Matthew clearly teaches us that when Jesus comes back again that He's coming back to earth for His Church. He will, with His Church, establish the kingdom of God On earth, and Jesus will rule and reign over the earth and Satan will be bound. These are the events that we should be looking towards. This earth is going to pass away and all that have not accepted Jesus Christ as their personal Savior will pass away with it.

In (2Pet. 3:17- 18), Peter wanted to make sure that the Church was focused on what Jesus Christ said in His word and not distracted by the things that were going on around them. As we consider all that is going on around us, it's easy to be distracted and get off course. Even though many persons are now receiving the vaccinations for the COVID-19 virus ; the pandemic is still amongst us. Families are still losing their homes, and many have lost their jobs. Many are still getting sick and dying, and our government is still in disarray. Nevertheless, we must not allow these types of things, as serious as they are, to hinder us from growing in The Lord. We must remain focused on the main thing..... be ready for Christ's return!

Just like the Apostle Peter told the Church in his day; I'm telling you ,”that I know you are aware of the wicked one and his devices.” How he will try to twist the Word of God to suit his own purpose. That's why we must be diligent and steadfast in our faith and study of the Word of God. I understand that because of this pandemic it's much more challenging, as I mentioned, but we must “ Keep Growing In The Lord.” We must continue to dial in during our conference call teachings, watch the sermons on our social media platforms, and study the Word of God, “ so that we may grow thereby.” May God's rich blessings be upon you all. Keep growing in God's love. Keep growing in God's Word. Keep growing in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

“Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour, is not in vain in the Lord.”

In His Service,  
Pastor Alphonso Tucker, Servant

### 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	Trus. Marilyn Dorsey	410-298-4892 /443-676-6261
Asst. Church Clerk	Sis. Kitty Owens	410-255-7713
Bus Driver	Trus. Everett Cash	443-850-5494 <b>(NOTE: BUS NOT IN SERVICE)</b>
Courtesy Phone—Lower Auditorium		410-367-9776

## ***Black History Month***

**For many years, our church has been graced with the recognition and celebrations of Black History Month, spearheaded by the late Sis. Carolyn Smith, the late Sis. Chrystal Nichols, Theresa Crusoe and our resident playwright Sis. Marilyn Brunt. It is unfortunate that we are still unable to celebrate in our usual manner due to the pandemic and the COVID-19 rules and regulations. However, let's take a few moments to revisit the importance of what Black History is about and why we should always reflect on it.**

February is set aside as African American History Month. It is about paying tribute to the generations of African Americans who struggled with adversity to achieve full citizenship. To commemorate and celebrate the contributions to our nation made by people of African descent, American historian Carter G. Woodson established Black History Week. A Harvard-educated historian, Mr. Woodson is credited with the creation of Black History Month. It was said by a history professor at Howard University, Daryl Michael Scott that Woodson got the idea in 1915 after attending a celebration in Illinois for the 50th anniversary of the 13th Amendment, which under Abraham Lincoln's presidency, abolished slavery in 1863 in the Confederate states that seceded (go apart) from the United States. Those states were Mississippi, Florida, South Carolina, Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana, Arkansas, Texas, Virginia, North Carolina, and Tennessee. It wasn't until two years later on June 19, 1865 that all people held as property in the United States were officially free (which is why we celebrate Juneteenth).

When first established, Black History Month resulted in some controversy. Those who believed that Black History Month was limited to educational institutions questioned whether it was appropriate to confine the celebration of Black history to one month, as opposed to integration of black history into the mainstream of education the rest of the year. Another concern was that contrary to the original inspiration for Black History Month, which was a desire to redress the manner in which American schools failed to represent Black historical figures as anything other than slaves or colonial subjects. Black History Month could reduce complex historical figures to overly simplified objects of 'worshipping heroes'. Some critics refer to the celebration as a form of racism. Since its inception, Black History Month has expanded beyond its initial acceptance in educational establishments. By 2020, Black History Month had become a focus way beyond schools. The *Wall Street Journal* describes it as "a time when the culture and contributions of African Americans take centerstage" in a variety of cultural institutions including theaters, libraries, and museums. It has also garnered attention from the U.S. business community. In February 2020, Forbes noted that "much of corporate America is commemorating" Black History Month including The Coca-Cola Company, Google, Target Corporation, Macy's, United Parcel Service, and Under Armour.

It is very clear that Black History Month has gained recognition that far surpasses basic remembering a few contributions of African Americans. It has a vast observance which extends much farther than the classrooms for one month of recognition. The observance has taken place in many different countries as well as a variety of platforms. It was best said by actor, Morgan Freeman "Black history is American History."

Submitted by: Mae Williams



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## *Deacon's Corner*

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**“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 KJV)**

**“Therefore, seeing we have this ministry, as we have received mercy, we faint not; But we have renounced the hidden things of dishonesty, not walking in craftiness, nor handling the word of God deceitfully; but by the manifestation of the truth commending ourselves to every man’s conscience in the sight of God.” (2 Corinthians 4:1-2 KJV)**

To God Be The Glory. I greet you once again in the name of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Yet another season is upon us. And I pray that you remain safe. Continue to social distance (stay in your bubble). The COVID-19 pandemic is still active and present, we the believers and those of us that represent God and the household of faith will not give up because “God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of sound mind” (2 Timothy 1:7 KJV) while we are under the COVID guidelines.

Since the last edition of the newsletter, the Church building is still closed (Nov 22, 2020). Thank God for the technology of Zoom, conference calls, texts, robocalls, and all other forms of communication that have allowed us to remain in touch and allow us to continue to spread the word of God. We are able to attend our Bible Classes, Men's Meetings, and Sunday School via multiple forms of technology. We are all excited and waiting on the Lord to once again be able to worship together.

Normally we would be in fellowship during Lent Season, however with the Pandemic still in full effect, I pray that you are all making individual sacrifices (fasting and praying) to strengthen your relationship with the Lord. COVID-19 has been a dark and wilderness place in our lives. But we as believers don't have to dwell in this place forever. Joy comes in the morning “and the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehend it not” (John 1:5 KJV).

We are also not able to visit the sick and shut-in like I love to, but the Deacon's Ministry is still reaching out to everyone as needed. As always, they are excited to hear from us. Pastor Tucker and myself were able to visit with Bro. Calvin Taylor through the window at his nursing home. He was soooooo excited to see us. Even though we could not hug him physically, I am sure he felt our love.

The Diaconate ministry remains humble and connected during this process. Deacon Owens has accepted the position of Co-Chairman of the Deacons Ministry. I'm excited and glad that he will be working more closely with me. “Praising God, and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved (Act 2:47 KJV).

Special CONGRATULATIONS to Deacon Carter for his 32 years of Service with the United States Postal Service. He has officially retired (Feb 27, 2021) !!!! More info can be found on page 20.

Continue praying for the bereaved and sick and shut-in members. Make sure to make it a part of your week to reach out to someone and let him/her know you are there for them. We encourage you to dial into Sunday School and all church meetings regularly. This is a humbling and sometimes difficult process we have been going through. A new way of life; It's been a learning experience as well as a huge change in my life.

Below I want you to have a lil fun. Challenge your COVID-19 vocabulary. Who will be the first one to call/text 410-984-5268 or Zoom with me once you have found all of your words. Maybe you'll get a prize for your hard work!!

\*\*\*\*\*CYBER HUGS\*\*\*\*\*

Humbly Submitted,

Chairman Deacon Lawrence Waller



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## *Deacon's Corner (continued)*

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### WORD SEARCH PUZZLE

FIND AND MARK ALL THE LISTED WORDS HIDDEN INSIDE THE BOX.

ALONE	SOCIAL
DISEASE	TOGETHER
FAMILY	COVID
LYSOL	FACEMASK
QUARANTINE	INFECTION
SYNDROME	PPE
CORONAVIRUS	STRAIN
DISTANCE	VACCINE
HANDWASH	RESPIRATORY
PANDEMIC	

U	E	L	M	L	E	V	H	S	S	C	E	S	Q	G
E	N	L	O	P	Y	A	U	O	H	S	M	U	U	H
Q	O	D	P	S	N	W	C	E	E	E	O	R	A	R
D	L	Z	I	D	Y	I	W	D	S	E	R	I	R	E
H	A	U	W	Q	A	L	I	A	U	G	D	V	A	S
M	W	A	S	L	N	V	E	V	P	E	N	A	N	P
U	S	P	G	F	O	S	X	A	G	C	Y	N	T	I
H	J	F	Y	C	I	U	N	C	W	I	S	O	I	R
V	O	Z	A	D	W	N	J	C	F	M	H	R	N	A
N	O	I	T	C	E	F	N	I	A	E	X	O	E	T
D	K	A	S	Q	E	K	E	N	M	D	Y	C	O	O
N	I	A	R	T	S	M	E	E	I	N	H	E	V	R
P	V	W	L	C	W	J	A	A	L	A	C	N	I	Y
D	I	S	T	A	N	C	E	S	Y	P	Y	M	L	X
T	O	G	E	T	H	E	R	U	K	X	S	C	J	B

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## *Deaconess Corner*

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As the position of President of the Deaconess Ministry was conferred upon me, Deaconess Mary Murphy, I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge the long tenure of Deaconess Hallie Allen as the former president. For decades she has labored in the vineyard as a stalwart leader of the Deaconess Ministry. She exemplified all the qualities that are inherent in a good Christian leader. She exhibited faithfulness, integrity, loyalty, and decisiveness as she performed her duties with a quiet dignity and resolve. Her shoes will be hard to fill, given her expertise and longevity in the position, but I intend to rely heavily on her until I get my sea legs. Also, I will have support from our newly appointed Vice President, Deaconess Vurely Johnson.

Due to COVID-19, we can no longer serve our former clientele directly. We will miss that human element that allowed us to interact with them and to see the smiles and the gratitude mirrored on their faces. We will also miss the comradery, fellowship, and helping hands of all who traveled with us. However, our mission is to continue to give monetary donations to charities that actively minister to the needy. We encourage all who are able to contribute to these charities also – a list was provided in the Fall issue of our 2020 newsletter. We value your support that you have given to us to serve the underserved in the past, i.e., food, clothing, toiletries, and monetary donations. We implore all to keep up the good work.

Jesus said that the poor would always be with us. He also said that those who show mercy to the poor, the sick, and the needy are in effect ministering to Him personally (Matt. 25:35-40) and will be rewarded accordingly. So, let us continue to do those things that are pleasing to our Lord and Savior, Jesus the Christ.

Submitted by Deaconess Mary H. Murphy

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## *Deaconess Hallie Allen*

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Deaconess Hallie Allen will be continuing to serve as Deaconess rather than as Deaconess Emeritus as was previously announced. We look forward to her continued service in support of the Deaconess ministry. Please see page 6 for a chronology of Sis. Allen's service and FCCBC's growth through the years.

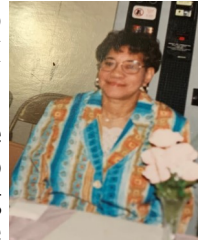
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## Getting To Know You—Deaconess Hallie Allen

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**But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness and all these things shall be added unto you. (Matthew 6:33 KJV)**

My earliest memory of God was when I heard my grandmother praying. I did not know who God was and why she was praying but I soon learned. When my sisters and brother and I became older, she would tell us to get on our knees and pray.



A group of parents and community leaders organized the church under the leadership of the late Rev. George Crawley in the recreation center because we did not have a church to worship in. Rev. Ernest Humphrey became the pastor. After joining the church and being baptized, I was able to sing on the Junior Choir. I was selected to be the secretary for the Junior Ushers under leadership of Deacon Horace Johnson, who became the first superintendent of Sunday School. I was proud to be a Junior Usher because we made bags of apples, oranges, and candy for Christmas and at Easter we would dye eggs and give out candy to the children in Sunday School.

In 1954, the church had to move because the war time projects would be demolished. We finally found a church on Winchester Street and changed the name to First Christian Community Baptist Church. I had joined the Young Adult Choir which later became the Gospel Choir and we began singing at other churches. One of the greatest experiences was when the choir was asked to sing at The Arena Players in the play "Tambourines of Glory." We did such a good job, we were asked to sing at other churches. It was great! Laura Jones, who worked at the Women's Correctional Center in Jessup, invited the choir to give a concert. It was hard seeing young black and white women locked up, but they were incredibly happy to see and hear us.

On Winchester Street, our church grew and became too small for the congregation. Rev. Humphrey, the Deacons, and the Board of Trustees decided to build a new church. A program committee was formed to find ways to raise money for the new church. One of the ways was giving trips. One trip was to Walt Disney in Florida. It was my first time on a plane and I enjoyed it. We continue to travel with the church to Myrtle Beach, Canada, and Pennsylvania.



In 1960, I graduated from Coppin State University and began teaching in the Baltimore City School System where I taught for 30 years. I also taught Vacation Bible School during the summer. While at the church, I met and married my husband Pearl Allen, Jr. We were married for 34 years. We had two children, Audrey and Carlton. Later, we had two grandchildren, Louis and Lauren.

Having raised enough money to make a down payment, we started building our church at 4116 Groveland Avenue. On May 11, 1975, a caravan of cars with our lights on and horns blowing left Winchester Street to go to our new church on Groveland Avenue. Our church was packed with members and friends we had a memorable day, thank the Lord. In 1979, my husband Pearl Allen, Jr. became a Deacon and I became a Deaconess. We both attended Sunday School and Bible Study and Prayer meeting. We would go out together to visit the sick and shut-in and give communion.



I have been a member for 76 years and I have held many positions in the church. I was a choir member, Chairperson of Women's Day, Missionary, Educational, Culinary, and serve as Deaconess. I am grateful to God, my grandparents, Rev. Ernest Humphrey, and all the people who helped me down through the years. There are too many to name.

My prayer is let us resolve to build a stronger church with love, kindness, peace and faith, then the final victory will be ours and glory will be God's forever. Let us not forget the mighty spirits of our family who have departed this life to be with the Lord. Because of their contributions, our church has a history of memorable significance. Truly they tried to make this world a better place to live in. May our Lord grant each one of us wisdom and courage to carry on the work they left us.

Deaconess Hallie Allen

*Getting to Know You*

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# *FCCBC Planning Committee Ministry*

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## **Development Activities Update**

The FCCBC Planning Committee is pleased to report that during the winter months, one phase of the FCCBC building expansion plans has been completed with the construction renovations to our main church building. The trials created by the pandemic has not prevented the FCCBC FAMILY from carrying forth the project to make improvements to the church and planning for the development of the FCCBC Outreach and Community Resource Center.

The completed construction and property improvements to 4116 Groveland Avenue include the following:

- Remodeled the lower sanctuary by removing four existing offices and two storage spaces.
- Built a large food pantry with separate maintenance supplies closet within the space. Cabinets from the fellowship hall were relocated to the food pantry space creating additional useable space.
- A new office space was built to be used as needed by church ministries.
- Because of wear and tear over the years, repairs were made to the furnace building and chimney stack. A new furnace building roof was installed and the church rear exterior walls were sealed to prevent leaks.
- The church foyer was updated by removing the old wood frame inside and from exterior front doors. A stronger PVC was installed around the front door. The foyer received a new coat of paint to make it more inviting and brighter.
- In the main Sanctuary, three monitors were installed so that announcements, hymns, and the sermon can be digitally displayed. This will help church members to remain contact free during the pandemic period.
- The generous giving of church members and friends enabled FCCBC to fund the renovations totaling \$22,000 for labor and materials.

The FCCBC Planning Committee wants to acknowledge the hard work of our chairman, Trustee Robert White, for his commitment to coordinating the main church renovations to completion. The committee continues to work on the pre-development activities related to the FCCBC Outreach and Community Resource Center. The committee has resubmitted the required bank loan application and the lender's underwriting department is currently reviewing the FCCBC's \$600,000 loan request.

The FCCBC Planning Committee leadership team met with the M & T Bank Loan Officer on Thursday March 4<sup>th</sup> at FCCBC. The meeting included a review of the project scope, budget, and timeline. The M & T Bank representative noted that the bank underwriting department is very busy with pandemic paycheck protection program applications but expects FCCBC's request to be completed by the end of March 2021.

The Planning Committee Ministry would like to thank **FCCBC Members and Friends of the Church** for their continued faithfulness and support in honoring the **Building Fund** pledges.

Submitted by: FCCBC Planning Committee Ministry

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## ***Missionary Ministry***

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The pandemic has put a real damper on our outreach, but it has not stopped it. We always let our light shine. Whether we are shopping, visiting the doctor, or greeting people from six feet away, we greet them with a smile.

If the opportunity presents itself, we tell them about our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and what He has done for us. We let them know that the Lord can make life better. Maybe not their way, but according to His plan. We let them know that the earth is not our home and God has prepared a place for us. We must confess our sins and accept Jesus as our Lord and Savior. He will give us strength to handle the ups and downs in life.

We pray each day for our families, our church, our community and the whole world. We are looking forward to a fresh start and a new agenda to help us serve all of God's people.

“And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.” (Mark 16:15 KJV)

Carolyn Laster, Missionary Ministry President

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## ***Message from the Sunday School***

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**“Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth” (2 Timothy 2:15 KJV)**

A profound change has come to churches and to the world at large in the wake of the Coronavirus. We might have changed our way of studying the word but the word never changes. Even though it does not change, it changes lives; it can change one's eternal destiny. Romans 15:4 (NKJV) tells us that, *“For whatever things were written before were written for our learning, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scripture might have hope.”*

We are hoping that the virus abates so that we can get back to our former way of worshipping. Everyone can do his or her part by practicing the safety guidelines set before us. Many of our seniors have begun to take the vaccine against this deadly virus. If you have reservations about the vaccine, do the research. Misinformation and medical experimentation's racist past can color your perception of the vaccine as being harmful. Consult your doctor, search the available literature, ask for divine guidance, and then make an informed decision.

Hopefully, we will be able to have our Annual Easter Program on April 4, 2021. The resurrection of Christ is the most important event in the history of man. We always look forward to this celebration with testimony and song. This event separates us from all the other religions because we have a living Savior. Not only was He resurrected but He was resurrected in all of us who believe and depend on Him.

Although the Coronavirus has disrupted our ability to convene and fellowship in the sanctuary, there is an upside to this dilemma. More people have begun to call in and some do so even when out of town. Our former chairman of the Deacon Board, Deacon Frankie Sims, who lives out-of-state, regularly calls in to Sunday School and Wednesday night Bible class. Because of teleconferencing, one does not have to be concerned about inclement weather, about what to wear, or about traffic and most importantly, the Word continues to go out. We are immensely blessed to have this means of communication.



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## *Message from the Sunday School (continued)*

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We now have two new additions to our Sunday School staff, Deacon Lawrence Waller and Evangelist Dr. Gwendolyn McKeever. Our new superintendent, Deacon Waller, has enthusiastically embraced his leadership role of the Sunday School. He is constantly encouraging members to attend both Sunday School and Bible Study classes. Evangelist McKeever, our new teacher, is passionate about her love for God as evidenced by her love for teaching and preaching the word, not only to the saints but to anyone who will listen, anywhere or anytime. We are indeed blessed to have both of them as well as our other dedicated teachers. We are also blessed to have our pastor in attendance along with other faithful attendees. We pray that others will soon join us. For we know that we receive strength, encouragement, and hope from the Word while staying in contact with other believers, especially in trying times like these.

Stay safe, continue to pray for each other, and remain diligent in the study of His word.

Submitted by Deaconess Mary H. Murphy, Assistant Superintendent of Sunday School

**Due to the COVID pandemic, Sunday School is currently being held by conference call. We invite you to join us. Devotions begin at 9:55 a.m., followed by Sunday School at 10:00 a.m. Please call 1-712-451-0737. At the prompt, enter access code 872722# (no host code is needed). It is strongly recommended that everyone call in at least ten minutes before the start time. To limit background noise, please make sure your mute button is on when you're not speaking. To avoid an echo, participants in the same room are asked to either use one phone or move away from one another.**

Virtual Youth Sunday school meetings have been moved to FaceTime. The faithful members who attend the meetings every Sunday are Sister Samara Jones, Sister Sofie Tucker, Brother Steven Jones, Sister Jackie Ward (Teacher), and Sister Angela Ray (Teacher).

Submitted by: Sis. Sofie Tucker

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## *Official Board Changes*

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Effective January 17, 2021, Deacon Keith Owens, Sr. was elevated to Vice Chair of the Diaconate Ministry, Deaconess Mary Murphy was elevated to President of the Deaconess Ministry, Deaconess Vurely Johnson was elevated to Vice-President of the Deaconess Ministry, and Sis. Sharon Johnson graduated to her permanent position as trustee. An installation service for all officeholders will take place once the FCCBC sanctuary is back in full service.



Deacon Owens



Deaconess. Murphy



Deaconess Johnson



Trustee .Johnson

Please pray for all as they take on their new roles and responsibilities in this branch of Zion.

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## *New FCCBC Media Ministry*

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First Christian has established a media ministry to identify and implement new ways for the FCCBC family to stay in touch and keep abreast of changes, updates, announcements, sermons, etc. The ministry administrators are Sister Sofie Tucker, Sister Sierra Gather, and Brother Keith Owens Jr. Trustee Dorsey serves as the ministry advisor.



The media ministry has created a Facebook page which can be accessed at [facebook.com/firstchristiancommunitybaptistchurch](https://facebook.com/firstchristiancommunitybaptistchurch) or **@FirstChristianCommunityBaptistChurch**. Live sermons can be accessed via the Facebook page, currently at 12:30 p.m. each Sunday. Previously recorded sermons are posted on the page. Feel free to visit, like, and follow the new page.



HD monitors have been installed within the sanctuary for future presentations such as lyrics to selections, scripture, announcements, etc. As of right now, the software, "PowerPoint Presentation," will continue to be in use until the ministry invests in the updated software, "Easy Worship."

Big thanks to media ministry administrators and those who have been a part of the team so far. They've worked really hard and are excited to expand the ministry.

Sis. Sofie Tucker

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## *Service Updates*

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On December 11, 2020, new COVID-19 Phase I restrictions went into effect in Baltimore City. Due to recent trends and with the virus mutating, February and March Executive Orders have expanded gatherings at religious facilities to 50% of maximum occupancy effective March 26, 2021. Mayor Scott has indicated that current measures will be reconsidered every two weeks. As of the date of this newsletter, our one-hour in-person morning worship services at 25% of maximum capacity remain suspended. Adult Sunday School devotions begin at 9:55 a.m. followed by Sunday School from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m. via audio conference call (access instructions on page 9). Youth Sunday School is being held via FaceTime (please reach out to Sis. Sofie Tucker to join in). Mid-day and Wednesday bible studies are held via audio conference call as well (access instructions on page 9). Sunday morning sermons are being streamed live via Facebook, can be viewed at your leisure via Facebook (see above for access instructions), or on our website at [www.myfccbc.org](http://www.myfccbc.org).

Ministries are encouraged to regularly stay in touch with their members via audio conference call. Presidents must contact Trustee Dorsey to check availability and schedule use. Please refer to see page 9 for dial-in instructions.

Thank you to all members for adhering to public health guidelines and doing their part to slow the spread of COVID-19 in Baltimore.

We look forward to resuming in-person worship and fellowships. Please stay tuned for changes as conditions warrant. Trustee Dorsey will announce further updates via the 'robocall' messaging service. Please complete the Adult Member Information Sheet on page 17 to be added to the robocall roster.

Sis. Sofie Tucker and Sister Sharon Johnson

# Educational Ministry Update

FCCBC's Educational Ministry is making plans for 2021.

No scholarships were awarded for the 2020-2021 academic year. The ministry continued to fundraise for future scholarships. Applications are currently available for the FCCBC (high school graduates ) and the Deotha Humphrey Memorial Book (students aged 26 and under enrolled in college or a post-secondary program) scholarships for the 2021-2022 academic year. Paper copies are available in the exterior box at the bottom of the stairs or may be downloaded from [www.myfccbc.org](http://www.myfccbc.org). The application deadline is April 18, 2021.

First Christian will be recognizing 2021 member and non-member graduates and award recipients of all ages in our Spring newsletter. The Educational Ministry will be collecting award recipient, graduation information, and headshot photos. You may 1) Members with Google logins can use our [Google Form](https://forms.gle/RESvwhjkcUY4qTS6) at <https://forms.gle/RESvwhjkcUY4qTS6> to submit their responses and upload their photo online. 2) Complete the paper **form** and email your form and photo to [newsletter@myfccbc.org](mailto:newsletter@myfccbc.org) (Subject: GRADUATE/AWARD), 3) Provide your information in an email/attach your photo and email to [newsletter@myfccbc.org](mailto:newsletter@myfccbc.org) (Subject: GRADUATE/AWARD), 4) Complete the form below and mail your information/form and photo to FCCBC, P.O. Box 64707, Baltimore, MD 21215 (please include student name on reverse. Photos will be scanned and returned). **All inputs are due by May 21, 2021.** Please visit [www.myfccbc.org](http://www.myfccbc.org) for more information.

Members graduating from high school will receive special recognition. A School Supply Giveaway will be held in late Summer to provide school supplies for members, extended family, friends, and the community. Free backpacks and school supplies will be distributed to pre-K through college level students (advance registration required).

Be on the lookout for upcoming fundraisers. We thank everyone for their continued financial support.

Submitted by: Sis. Sharon Johnson, Secretary

**Recognition of 2021 Graduates and Award Recipients  
(please turn in to Sis. Sharon Johnson by 5/21/21)**

First Christian will be recognizing 2021 graduates and award recipients of all ages in June. Please share your information with us so that we can recognize your accomplishments! We are also requesting a graduation headshot photo for The FCCBC Connection. Please email to [newsletter@myfccbc.org](mailto:newsletter@myfccbc.org), mail to FCCBC at P.O. Box 67407, Baltimore, MD 21215 (place the graduate's name on the back of the photo. It will be scanned and returned to you), or complete the form at [myfccbc.org](http://myfccbc.org). Those with Google logins can use our [Google Form](https://forms.gle/RESvwhjkcUY4qTS6) at <https://forms.gle/RESvwhjkcUY4qTS6> to submit their responses and upload their photo online.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Member  Yes  No

\_\_\_\_ Adult \_\_\_\_ Daughter \_\_\_\_ Son \_\_\_\_ Granddaughter \_\_\_\_ Grandson of \_\_\_\_\_

Graduating from:  Pre-School  Kindergarten  Elementary  
 Middle School  High School  College  Other

Name of School: \_\_\_\_\_

Degree: \_\_\_\_\_ Major: \_\_\_\_\_

Plans after graduation: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \*\*\*\*\*

**Awards/Scholarships/Fellowships Received:**  
 Honors  Cum Laude  Magna Cum Laude  Summa Cum Laude

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*\*\*  
 May God give you the strength, confidence and determination to reach your goals and pursue your dreams.  
 Best Wishes as You Graduate!  
 \*\*\*\*\*  
*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*

# *An Inauguration of a Different Kind*

We haven't had a great inauguration since the Obamas' #44.  
It was so grand and magnificent, it left many of us wanting more.  
The Inauguration of President Biden and Vice-President Harris was one of a very different kind.  
The Capitol that just 2 weeks earlier was badly destroyed, was renovated and looked nice with a new design.  
It was like no other because of the change of plans due to security and safety; measures that had to be put in place.  
They had to be ready for any other actions, just in case.  
The Inauguration was so grand and went off without a hitch,  
In spite of the drama, the changing of the guards was about to switch.  
The induction of our 46th President and Vice-President was a grand affair.  
Many participants on the program were obliged to be there.  
There were three former Presidents who supported our new President.  
Their presence helped to insure that the inauguration was quite an event.  
Amanda Gorman, the first youth poet laureate recited a stunning poem,  
Which reign so timely and true, it couldn't have been presented in a better form.  
Star musical performances were rendered and certainly enjoyed by all.  
They were such historical moments to see both President Biden and Vice President Harris be installed.  
It is even more fulfilling that they each answered the political calls.  
Everything went very well and it will go down in history.  
That the inauguration of the 46th President was indeed a victory.

Mae Williams



*HOLY WEEK*, THE WEEK BETWEEN PALM SUNDAY AND RESURRECTION SUNDAY COMMEMORATES JESUS' LAST WEEK ON EARTH AND THE EVENTS LEADING UP TO HIS RESURRECTION ON RESURRECTION SUNDAY.

PALM SUNDAY - MARCH 28, 2021

MAUNDY THURSDAY - APRIL 1, 2021

GOOD FRIDAY - APRIL 2, 2021

RESURRECTION SUNDAY - APRIL 4, 2021

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## Youth Spotlight

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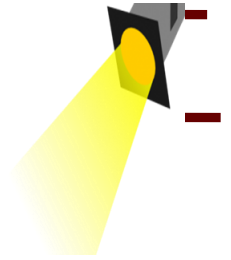
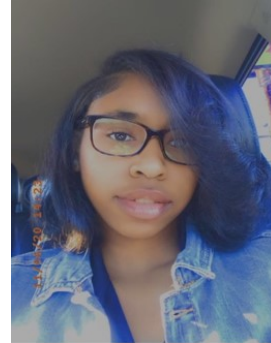
This Youth Spotlight is a dedicated member here at FCCBC. Her positive energy and bubbly personality lights up a room.

She is a part of the Anointed Vessels of Praise Dance Ministry and attends Sunday School faithfully. She is a Senior at New Town High School. She recently turned eighteen years old.

Her dream career is being a Pediatric Nurse. She has not decided on which college to attend but does plan on going to a historically black college or university (HBCU).

This month's Youth Spotlight is Sister Maya Jones.

Submitted by Sis. Sofie Tucker



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## Giving Your Tithes and Offerings

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**Greetings in the Name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!**

**“Please Continue to Give Your Tithes/Offerings & Support the Building Fund Pledges”**

As was stated in the Planning Committee Ministry's "development activities update summary/article," we have resubmitted to the bank, our construction loan application, requesting a loan in the amount of \$600,000. Therefore, for the review of the lender's underwriting department and moving forward, it is most important to show generous consisted giving of our pledges and offerings to the Building Fund Account.

I would like to reiterate the following ways to give your tithes and offerings:

- If you are using US Postal Service, please mail your check or money order (no cash) to **FCCBC, P.O. Box 67407, Baltimore, MD 21215.**
- To give online via Givelify, you may visit [discover.givelify.com](https://discover.givelify.com) and enter FCCBC or download the mobile giving app from your App store. If you are using "GIVELIFY," please always remember to show your name and the amount you are giving. For the Building Fund, please use the column that says "other" and annotate **building fund and the amount you are giving.** This will ensure that the money is allocated to the correct account.
- Every Sunday, during the hour of 12 noon & 1 p.m. a trustee will be outside at the church so that you can drop off your tithes and offerings. Cash is acceptable for this platform.
- If you need tithes/offering envelopes please let a trustee know and some will be provided to you.
- Lastly, thank you for your continued Christian love & support through the giving of your tithes and offerings, for the building & uplifting of God's branch of Zion called **"First Christian Community Baptist Church."**

Submitted by: Finance Ministry



Greetings First Christian Family,

We pray all is well with you and your family. We are living in the midst of an uncertainty of where God is taking us, but we are firm believers that God shall reveal His plans in due time. As we begin the 2021 year, the men are moving forward with new leadership in the persons of our Chairman: Brother Keefe Flanigan & Co-Chairman: Minister Harvey Moore. We maintain our secretary: Brother Keith Owens, Jr. and Treasurer: Deacon Lawrence Waller who both do an outstanding job.

We have adopted our theme as "Men Coming Together To Fellowship With Christ" which is supported by scripture from I John 1: 6-7 (KJV) "If we say that we have fellowship with Him and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth: But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanseth us from all sin."

Our plans thus far for this year include:

- Men's Prayer Fellowship: Saturday, March 20th @ 11 a.m. to be held in the sanctuary
- Two Car Washes: Saturday, June 19th & July 24th
- Youth Day Activity: Saturday, July 10th
- Men In Black Concert: Friday, August 6th
- Crab Feast: Saturday, August 21st
- Men's Day Celebration: Sunday, November 7th

However, please be aware with the ongoing guidelines of the pandemic we may not be able to have all our activities as scheduled.

We ask for your prayers and support as we journey through this very trying year but, the one thing we do know is we serve a mighty good God and He's worthy to be praised at all times.

Respectfully submitted,

Brother Keefe Flanigan, Chairman

Minister Harvey Moore, Co-Chairman



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# Women's Day Corner: The Women's Ministry

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First Christian Community Baptist Church  
4116 Groveland Avenue

*Women's Day 2021*

*June 27, 2021*

*Chairlady -- Deaconess Vurely Johnson*

*Co-Chair -- Sister Carolyn Laster*

*Theme:*

**Women Striving To Do God's Will**

*Scripture Colossians 3:23 (KJV)*

*"And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men;"*

*Women in Unity by Fasting Together*

*If your health routine allows, please pray and fast with us*

*Times 6 am until 12 pm or 12 pm until 6 pm*

*On these dates:*

*March 13*

*April 10*

*May 8*

*June 12*

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## ***The Dark Day of January 6, 2021***

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**This day will forever be one of the saddest in the history of the USA.**

**The events were horrific from the beginning to the end of the day.**

**As we watched the television we couldn't believe our eyes.**

**There were rioters, protestors, and uncontrolled mobs on the rise.**

**They were storming the Capitol of the United States,**

**Barriers were broken and they knocked down all security gates.**

**The way the people were scaling the walls were so unreal.**

**The looks on their faces portrayed that they were just thrilled.**

**It was as if there was no security strong enough to hold them back.**

**It was very clear that Congress was definitely under attack.**

**This was all unfolding on world-wide tv, all of the chaos was open for the entire world to see.**

**The crowds and mobs were incited by the sitting president to fight.**

**He assured them that they were within the law and their rights.**

**How dare the President incite an invasion on Congress as he did.**

**This was something that he definitely should have forbidden.**

**He was gloating and encouraging them to do what they did.**

**He and his family stayed in the White House and hid.**

**This was the most cowardly act of a so-called leader ever displayed.**

**The good thing was that he had only a few more days.**

**People think that to impeach him will do no good and be a waste.**

**He needs to get the next impeachment because to the United States, he is a disgrace.**

**Though we will never forget the darkness of January 6, 2021.**

**They may have stormed our capitol and tried to destroy Congress,**

**The bottom line is, in spite of it all, they still haven't Won!!!!**

Submitted by Sis. Mae Williams

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### **SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES**

**Please visit the FCCBC website for information on two scholarship opportunities for city residents graduating from high school in Spring 2021 - the [Ivy & Pearls of Excellence, Inc. /GEICO Historically Black Colleges and Universities Scholarship Application](#) and the [Shirley T. Hill Memorial Scholarship Application](#).**

**Applications are due by April 5, 2021.**

**High school seniors meeting the eligibility criteria are encouraged to apply.**



# Contact/Information Updates

Are you receiving our One Call Now robocall messages? FCCBC is using this method to reach out to members about services, weather and closing notices, reminders, schedule changes, bereavement announcements, and other important notifications. This is especially relevant during the COVID-19 pandemic as many are unable to venture out due to age or underlying medical conditions.

IS YOUR  
CONTACT  
INFORMATION  
UP-TO-DATE?



Please help us to make sure we have accurate contact and personal information for you.

If you have not already done so or if your information has changed, please complete and mail an Adult Member Information Sheet (below) to FCCBC, P.O. Box 67407, Baltimore, MD 21215. Adult members with Google logins can use our Adult [Contact Update Google Form](https://forms.gle/jvC4HetuYpksQoGp8) at <https://forms.gle/jvC4HetuYpksQoGp8> to submit their information electronically.

Youth information (pre-K through age 18) is being collected to help church youth ministries plan for scholarships, activities, and events. Youth information can be entered using our FCCBC Youth Contact Information form at <https://forms.gle/2kLFY56YYCScvvE99>. Please contact Trustee Marilyn if you prefer to mail in a paper form. Thank you for helping us to keep in touch.

## First Christian Community Baptist Church Adult Member Information Sheet 2020

Please complete the Member Information Sheet to help us make sure we have accurate contact and personal information for you (please print). Please contact Sis. [Marilyn Dorsey](#) or Sis. [Kitty Owens](#) with any changes.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Gender: Male/Female  
Title First Name Middle Name Last Name Nickname

Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_ Wedding Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title First Name Middle Name Last Name Nickname Month Date Year

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Apartment \_\_\_\_\_

City State Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_ @ \_\_\_\_\_ Birthday: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_  
Month Day

Ministries I currently serve: \_\_\_\_\_

What are your hobbies?: \_\_\_\_\_

What is your occupation or vocation (trade, profession, business)?: \_\_\_\_\_

If student, name, city, state of school: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade/year: \_\_\_\_\_ Major: \_\_\_\_\_ Expected Degree \_\_\_\_\_ Graduation Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### OFFICE USE ONLY

Member Status: \_\_\_\_\_ Method of Joining: \_\_\_\_\_ Membership Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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## ***Remembering Deaconess Emma Hale***

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We were sorry to hear about the passing of Deaconess Emma Jean Pleasant Hale. In 1979, Deaconess Hale and I became Deaconesses. Deaconess Hale was a quiet and humble person. She was known for her love of God, her lovely smile, and beautiful hats.

Deaconess Hale and her family played a significant part in the growth of First Christian Community Baptist Church when we moved to Groveland Avenue. Deacon Precious Hale, Sr. and my husband Pearl Allen, Jr. became Deacons the same year. Deaconess Hale's sister-in-law, Hermene Hale, was also a Deaconess in the church. Deaconess Emma Hale's son, Rev. Chris Hale, was on the ministerial staff for many years under the leadership of the late Rev. Ernest Humphrey.

Deaconess Hale's children had beautiful voices and sang with the Humphrey Choral Ensemble for many years. Her daughter-in-law, Lorraine Hale, still sings on the choir. Even though Deaconess Hale was ill, she would sometimes visit the church. The First Christian Community Baptist Church sends their condolences to the family. Deaconess Emma Hale will be greatly missed by those who knew her. May God continue to be with the family in their sorrows.

Submitted by: Deaconess Hallie Allen

This article was sent to Deaconess Emma Hale's daughter Vera Hale Robinson.

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## ***FCCBC Wishes Comfort and Peace***

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### **Mourning Doves Bereavement Ministry of First Christian Community Baptist**

Humbly, the Mourning Doves and the entire FCCBC family mourns the transition of your loved one. Words fail to express the deep sorrow we feel for your loss. We share

*Isaiah 54:10 NIV*

*"Though the mountains be shaken and the hills be removed, yet my unfailing love for you will not be shaken nor my covenant of peace be removed," says the LORD, who has compassion on you."*

*Please continue to pray for:*

*Trustee Shirley Carter and Sister Mary Webb on the passing of their aunt Helen Richburg-Wimbish and their uncle Nathaniel Evans*

*Sis. Vera Robinson, Brother Precious Hale, Jr., and Sister Lorraine Hale on the transition of their mother and mother-in-law Deaconess Emma Hale*

*Sister LaNecia Owens on the loss of her cousin Mary Ruth Patterson*

*Sister Carolyn Laster on the transition of her sister Sister Theresa Boyd*

*Brother Tyrone Moore on the loss of his sister Sharon Moore*

*Sis. Alexis Banks on the passing of her grandmother Irene B. Shelton*

*Submitted by: Sis. Marilyn Brunt and Sis. Kitty Owens*

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## *FCCBC Wishes Comfort and Peace (continued)*

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*If I Could*  
*by G W (Bill) Marshall / Dec 08, 2012*

*If I could but see, again your face,  
Oh how much my heart would race,  
And nothing could ever efface,  
The mem'ry of our last embrace.*

*If I could climb to Heaven's gate  
And just look in to watch awhile,  
Then I know I could joyfully wait,  
If I could see your happy smile.*

*If I could hear the song you sing  
And your laughter bless my ears,  
Then grief would lose its sting  
And a smile would dry my tears.*

*But faith would lose its esteem,  
And Heaven'd lose its stealth,  
So we must be denied this dream,  
If Heaven is to keep its wealth.*

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## *Thank You Cards and Acknowledgments*

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Thank You from the Family of  
Theresa Boyd

*I don't have the words to convey the gratitude that our family has for Pastor Tucker, Marilyn Dorsey, and the entire FCCBC family for the dedication, care and concern shown to us during this very difficult time. They were all appreciated and helped us make it through a very challenging period. God showed up and He showed out to guide us through a beautiful homegoing service for my sister Terry.*

*Thank you for all the cards, monetary gifts, phone calls, special memorabilia and prayers.*

*God Bless You*

*Carolyn Laster*

Thank You from the Family of  
Deaconess Emma Hale

The family expresses their gratitude for all the many prayers, phone calls, visits, and all other acts of kindness extended by the FCCBC family during our period of bereavement



## Member Spotlights— Retirement Congratulations!



On January 1, 2021, God blessed me and I was able to retire from State service after 31 years and 3 months. I worked for Maryland Occupational Safety and Health (MOSH) the entire time. MOSH is the state agency with the mission to ensure as far as possible every working man and woman in the state of Maryland has a place of employment that is free from recognized hazards that may or are causing serious physical harm or death. This is accomplished by inspecting workplaces to identify hazards and require corrective action through the issuance of citations and notifications of penalty. Training and consultative services are also provided to employers. I started out as an Inspector 1 which is the lowest position in the inspector classification. By the grace of God, He afforded me the opportunity to rise within the agency when in 1998 I became a Regional Supervisor in the Waldorf, MD office. After that office closed in 2000, I was assigned to the headquarters office as the Operations officer and in July of 2010 I was promoted to Assistant Chief of Administration. I was the first African American appointed to this position. In this position, I was able to mentor many new inspectors and office staff to make them better. I maintained this position until my retirement. I look forward to retired life spending more time working for the Lord and with Kitty and my family. To God be the Glory for this great thing that he has done in my life. I am forever grateful and thankful.

**Deacon Keith Owens, Sr.**



After 32 years of service with the U.S. Postal Service, **Deacon Garry Carter** retired on February 27, 2021. He has been much more than a mail carrier and made a huge impact on the community. The same servant's heart that FCCBC sees was shared year after year with the families on his route. After delivering mail to the St. Paul Church and School for seventeen years, he was interviewed during their Worship Wednesday on February 24th. On his last day, an all day celebration started at the Catonsville post office and ended with neighbors on his route showing their love and respect by decorating their mailboxes and exteriors and greeting him on his last day of service. He was acknowledged for his conscientiousness, work ethic, thoughtfulness, empathy, and his caring. Job well done Deacon Carter!

Now take a moment to rest and relax!



*We want to feature your good news! Please email [newsletter@myfccbc.org](mailto:newsletter@myfccbc.org).*

## Potpourri

On Wednesday afternoon, December 23, 2020, the 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organization 100-4-100 set out to deliver Christmas gifts to eleven families, including 25 kids within those families. They were able to raise funds and get donations through certain groups, like Prince Hall Masonic Group EWS Peck #82, Colin's Seafood & Grill, and other individual donations. 100-4-100 went on a shopping spree spending \$3,000 for gifts. They traveled from Baltimore County to Baltimore City to Anne Arundel County. They were able to do so much because they had been shut down due to COVID-19. They made a promise to themselves that they weren't going to miss Christmas. Because of the donations received, 100-4-100 was able to bless these families. Thanks to Trustee Marilyn Dorsey, Sis. Alexis Banks, and FCCBC for helping 100-4-100 identify worthy families.

#100-4-100

#KC29

#payingitforwardtoservethegreatercommunity



### 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 (thank you notes/cards, prayer requests, testimonies, birthdays, awards, retirements, anniversaries, engagements, weddings, births, etc....).

Our goal is to distribute newsletters before each season ends (Spring by 6/20, Summer by 9/21), Fall by 12/20, and Winter by 3/21). **The DEAD-LINE to submit articles, photos, and announcements will be 6/6/21, 9/5/21, 12/6/21, and 3/1/22.**

Ministry representatives and members are asked to email photos, articles, announcements, information and suggestions to newsletter @myfccbc.org or submit to Sis. Sharon Johnson or Sis. Sofie Tucker. Thanks to all for supporting our newsletter ministry!

**Spring newsletter photos, announcements, and articles will be due on 6/6/21.**

### Helpful Hints

The many uses for baking soda:

- Make a paste with baking soda and water, and apply it to a burn or an insect bite for relief.
- To remove pesticides, dirt, and wax from fresh fruit and vegetables, wash them in a large bowl of cool water, add 2 to 3 table-spoons of baking soda.
- Sprinkling baking soda on your front steps will provide traction and melt the ice. Unlike rock salt, kitty litter, or sand, it will not damage outdoor or indoor surfaces or your shoes.
- A paste of baking soda (made with water & baking soda) will remove red sauce stains from plastic.
- Soak your toothbrush in baking soda and warm water overnight to clean the bristles. You can also use baking soda to brush and refresh your mouth.

*Submitted by: Sis. Jackie Ward*

# Public Service/Church Notices

## From the Centers for Disease Control

Practice social distancing by putting space between yourself and others. Continue to practice healthy habits to help slow the spread of COVID-19.

- Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds
- Clean and then disinfect frequently used surfaces
- Stay home if you're sick
- Avoid touching your face

Learn more about staying safe and healthy at [cdc.gov/covid19](https://www.cdc.gov/covid19)

Your cloth face covering should:

- ✓ Reach above the nose, below the chin, and completely cover the mouth and nostrils
- ✓ Fit snugly against the sides of the face
- ✓ Be made of multiple layers of fabric that you can still breathe through
- ✓ Be able to be laundered and machine dried without damaging the material or shape

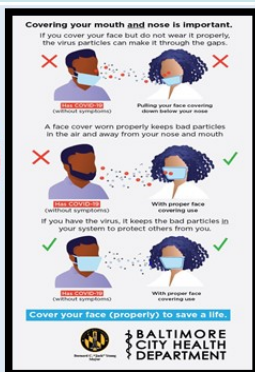
Do not buy surgical masks to use as a face covering. Those are intended for healthcare workers and first responders. Many items you may already have in your home can be used to create face coverings.

Try creating a cloth face covering using bandanas, ski masks, washable napkins, or dish towels.

Learn more at <https://bit.ly/2Ravt42>



**COVID-19**



**DO's & DON'Ts**



Do's and Don'ts Submitted by Sis. Sofie Tucker

**Stay current on the latest about COVID-19**

- <https://www.cdc.gov/>
- <https://coronavirus.maryland.gov/>
- <https://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/News/COVID19/>
- <https://coronavirus.baltimorecity.gov/>

## Protecting FCCBC

First Christian Community Baptist Church

**Until Further Notice - Upon Entering**

- ✓ Face mask Must be worn throughout the church ...
- ✓ Temperature must be taken ...



CDC guidelines (100.4° / 38° c) or above **NO ENTRY**



- ✓ Adhere to social distancing (6 feet)
- ✓ Wash or sanitize hands frequently

**Front Entrance to be used only ...**

**Please do your part to keep our FCCBC church family safe**

COVID-19 vaccines have been approved. Learn more about vaccine development and the benefits of getting a COVID-19 vaccination at [www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/index.html](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/index.html)

**END COVID**  
**IT STARTS WITH YOU.**

Baltimore County has published an updated Baltimore County COVID-19 Resource Guide and Food Pantries Listing. Please share these resources with anyone who could benefit from the programs highlighted in the Guide:

[CAN Saturday Food Distribution](#)

[Baltimore County Resource Guide 3-4-21](#)

[Food Pantries List 3-3-21](#)

**CONTINUED ON PAGES 26-27**

# COVID-19

## REFLECTIONS

### HAMILTON CITY VILLAGE OUTREACH

Hamilton City Village continues the Homeless Outreach in the downtown Baltimore City area. Officer Lolando Hamilton and myself are so thankful for the donations from FCCBC and the community as a whole. When we started this outreach in November 2020, we had no idea how many lives we would touch. It's a blessing to bless others (Proverbs 11:25 MSG). Our last Outreach was on January 29, 2021 where we gave out thirty hot meals consisting of spaghetti and meatballs, warm dinner rolls, bottled water, and cake for dessert. Along with each meal, we offered toiletry bags, snack packs, and gently used coats, winter clothes to include socks, blankets and sanitary items for the females.

Last month, Rev. Tucker allowed us to use all of the food items from the church pantry to feed the homeless. I prepared all thirty spaghetti meals using that food and we have other meals planned for our next outreach with what we have left. I think I'll be cooking beef stew over rice!!

Anything we receive, we give out to the homeless. We accepted donations of gently used (clean) items as well as monetary donations to cover some of the things that the homeless often ask us for during our outreach. We also used monetary donations to purchase meal containers as well as the side items like dinner rolls and bottled water. All of the snack packs and toiletry items have been donated by our FCCBC family and have been a great asset to the Outreach.

Our next Homeless Outreach will be on March 6, 2021. Continue to pray for us as we go out into the Baltimore City community and do what is put on our hearts. Thank you for your support and donations. I can be reached at 443-562-5827 if you have any questions.

“Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over... (Luke 6:38 KJV)



## Blessings and Birthday Wishes To:

### April 2021

Bro. Lamont Aldridge  
Bro. Duran Banks  
Sis. Kiara Brown  
Sis. Marilyn Brunt  
Trus. Everett Cash  
Sis. Lysa Davis  
Bro. Thomas Day  
Bro. Ronnie Cole  
Sis. Theresa Crusoe  
Bro. Matheus (Marty) Kommeren  
Sis. Laura (Mae) Maxwell  
Master Kavon Owens  
Sis. Icelon (Kitty) Owens  
Miss Sanaa Stanley  
Sis. Phyllis Stokes  
Sis. Nikki Waller

### May 2021

**Special Honoree:**  
**Sis. Lillie Mae Campbell**  
**Deaconess Mary Murphy**

Sis. Chymira Carter  
Trustee Yolanda Cash  
Bro. Tyrell Dickens

Sis. Zierra Flanigan  
Bro. Jerrod Gault  
Sis. Annette Moore  
Miss Karlyece Owens  
Sis. Kimberlee Pelzer  
Sis. Nina Roots  
Sis. Kenyatta Taylor  
Sis. Mary Webb

### June 2021

**Special Honoree:**  
**Lady Bridgett Tucker**  
**Deaconess Eileen McCloud**

Bro. John Arthur  
Sis. Carolyn Booker  
Sis. Cierra Bright  
Quinton Brown  
Taylor Brown  
Bro. James Clark  
Sis. Dené Cole  
Sis. Perlizer Davis

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

### June 2021 (continued)

Sis. LaKisha Edwards  
Miss Kinsley Fowlkes  
Sis. Christene Holmes  
Sis. Ellen Johnson  
Sis. La-Kia Kommeren  
Sis. Bessie Kittrell  
Sis. Carolyn Laster  
Shai Mackey  
Bro. Tyrone Moore, Jr.  
Bro. Karl Owens  
Patrick Parents III  
Sis. Arnetta Pinkney  
Sis. Arline Pledger  
Sis. Sharon Robinson  
Rev. Freddie Samuels  
Sis. Karen Sanders  
Sis. Thelma Stewart  
Sis. Gwen Taylor  
Bro. Anthony Williams

Member and visitor birthday honorees—

Birthday Sundae Sundays have been temporarily suspended due to the COVID-19 pandemic

## Wedding Anniversary Wishes

The following anniversary years were incorrectly cited in the Fall 2020 newsletter. We regret the oversight.

Trustee John and Sis. Karen Sanders celebrated their **30** year anniversary on February 24, 2021



2/12 - Bro John & Sis. Dorothy Arthur (62 years)  
2/16 - Bro. Roscoe & Sis. Sharon Johnson (30 yrs.)  
2/25 - Bro. James & Deac. Vurely Johnson (27 yrs.)  
3/1 - Bro. Devin & Sis. Ashley Givens (7 years)

### April

2nd—Rev. Freddie & Evan. Juliette Samuels (50 years)

11th—Bro. Wesley & Sis. Cheryl McCottry (29 yrs)

### May

2nd- Bro. Willie & Sis. Mary Webb (53 years)

11th - Dea. Garry & Sis. Kim Carter (30 years)

27th—Trus. Rudolph & Sis. Barbara Cole (32 yrs)

### June

1st - Bro. Walter & Sybil Adams (64 years)

23rd— Bro. Carl & Sis. Amy Arthur (37 years)

25th—Bro. Valanti & Sis. Kimberlee Pelzer (12 yrs.)

So that we might acknowledge your anniversary, please notify Trustee Marilyn Dorsey or email [newsletter@myfccbc.org](mailto:newsletter@myfccbc.org).





## Regularly Scheduled Ministries

## Our Known Sick & Shut-In

Sunday School	9:30 a.m.	Sundays
New Members Ministry	9:30 a.m.	1st & 2nd Sundays
Mid-Day Bible Study	1:00 p.m.	Tuesdays
Prayer Service (suspended)	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 Ens., Male Chorus, Unified Voices, and Voices of Praise		
Rehearsals	7:00 p.m.	Refer to monthly schedule
Men's Fellowship meeting	6:00 p.m.	Every 4th Monday

Dea. Walter Adams (Home)  
 Mother Lillie Mae Campbell  
 Sis. Pam Chapman (Home)  
 Sis. Nancy Pope (Home)  
 Trus. John Spencer (Home)  
 Bro. Calvin Taylor (Future Care,  
 12020 Reisterstown Rd., 21136)

## Church Calendar

### April 2021

2	Seven Last Words	
4	Annual Easter program	9:30 a.m.
11	Worship with Greater New Hope Baptist	3:30 p.m.
14	Worship with Canaan Miss	7:00 p.m.
18	Baptismal Service (if candidates and reopening)	9:30 a.m.
24	Women's activity	
26	Men's Fellowship meeting	6:00 p.m.

### May 2021

7	Men's Day activity	
9	Baptismal Service (if candidates and reopening)	9:30 a.m.
13	Northwestern Bible College graduation	
16	Deaconess Program	3:30 p.m.
24	Men's Fellowship meeting	6:00 p.m.

### June 2021

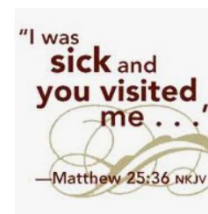
3	Quarterly Official Board meeting	7:00 p.m.
6	We worship with Unity Baptist Church	3:30 p.m.
12	Semi-Annual Church meeting	10:00 a.m.—noon
13	Youth and Young Adult day	
19	Men's Car Wash	
20	Baptismal Service (if candidates and reopening)	9:30 a.m.
27	Women's Day	Morning Worship Service
28-30	Vacation Bible School	6:00 p.m.

**Due to the pandemic, dates, times, location, and mode of delivery subject to change. Please check before leaving home.**

**Trustee Dorsey will keep you abreast of any changes in the schedule. Please make sure we have your information for One Call Now robocalls.**

**Remember the Sick and Shut-In everywhere in your prayers.**

**Any act of kindness can make a big difference in their lives.**



## Prayer List

Bro. John Arthur	Sis. Donna Bright
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. Mae Williams

## In God's House...

## Welcome to our New/Reinstated Members

**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



## News You Can Use

### COVID Vaccine Scheduling and Cancellation Tips and Tricks

In trying to schedule and cancel COVID vaccine appointments for ourselves and our families, we came across a great deal of information that might be helpful to you in scheduling an appointment.

The State of Maryland is currently in Phase 1C of vaccine distribution, however, there is an extensive list of [essential workers](#) who can currently receive vaccines, including clergy and other essential support staff for houses of worship. Maryland is opening eligibility as follows:

<b>2A</b>	WHO: Marylanders age 60 and older WHEN: March 23
<b>2B</b>	WHO: Marylanders age 16 and older with underlying medical conditions that increase the risk for severe COVID-19 illness WHEN: March 30
<b>2C</b>	WHO: Marylanders age 55 and older, as well as essential workers in critical industries WHEN: April 13
<b>3</b>	WHO: All Marylanders age 16 and older WHEN: April 27

Twitter Mike Hellgren  
[@hellgrenWJZ](#)

[Mar 18](#)

Check with your health department to confirm you can get a vaccine. Beware of scam vaccine sites.

The state has launched a new pre-registration platform for the state's mass vaccination sites, Eligible Marylanders or loved ones registering on their behalf can pre-register by calling 1-855-MD-GOVAX or visit [covidvax.maryland.gov](https://covidvax.maryland.gov).

You can send a text to 898211 to receive alerts, tips, resources from MDReady related to COVID-19, Visit [www.health.maryland.gov/coronavirus](https://www.health.maryland.gov/coronavirus) for more Maryland specific information.

#### **Scheduling Vaccine Appointments:**

Appointments are generally needed, however, some organizations allow walk-ins. Pre-register at as many sites as you can for which you are eligible - you can always cancel if you get your vaccine elsewhere. Don't cancel until you've confirmed with another vendor.

It may take some time to schedule an appointment. Be patient. Due to a high volume of requests and very limited supply, wait times between submitting a request form and receiving an invitation to schedule could be significant.

You can log on to [vaccinefinder.org/search/](https://vaccinefinder.org/search/) to search for vaccines by zip code. You can choose your preferred vaccine, view locations, and available inventory.

There are usually lengthy lines at the M&T Bank Stadium and Convention Center. If you or the person you'll be taking have mobility issues, you may want to find an alternative site with easier access. Beware—the wait could be 1-2 hours. Parking is free at M&T Bank Stadium.

Vaccines are available at Mondawmin Mall for people living in zip codes 21215, 21216, 21217 who are 65 or older. Call 443-462-5864 or 443-462-5865 to make an appointment. Onsite scheduling is also available. FCCBC member Vera Hale Robinson was instrumental in advocating for vaccines at this site.

## *News You Can Use (continued)*

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The city's hot line to help those without internet access is 410-396-2273. Visit <https://coronavirus.baltimorecity.gov/where-get-tested-covid-19-baltimore-city> for information on where to get tested in Baltimore City. You can call 855-634-6829 to make an appointment at one of the mass vaccination locations.

The Baltimore County hotline number is 410-887-3816. Visit The Vaccine Hub at [www.baltimorecountymd.gov/covid-19/vaccines](http://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/covid-19/vaccines) for information on county virus distribution statistics, vaccine specifics, getting vaccinated, and answers to Frequently Asked Questions.

The Baltimore County Department of Health and the Fire Department will work together to deploy mobile units to administer vaccines directly to Baltimore County residents who are unable to leave their homes. Residents who have been certified homebound by their physician should complete Baltimore County's vaccine registration indicating they are homebound. They will be contacted by the County to schedule a time to receive their vaccine.

### **Retail (selected locations)**

**CVS** - If you want a particular type of vaccine, CVS identifies the type of available vaccines by location at the time of scheduling. You can sign up via their link at <https://www.cvs.com/vaccinations/covid-19-vaccine>, through the CVS app, or call them at 1-800-679-9691 or 833-738-0920. If you see any availability at all on the app or online, continue to the next stage. You will be able to enter your zip code and make selections close to your home or work. CVS opens new appointments every Thursday morning.

**Giant**—visit [giantfoodsched.rxtouch.com](http://giantfoodsched.rxtouch.com) to search for appointments. This site only schedules first doses of COVID vaccine. Click 'Login' to modify or cancel an existing appointment

**Walgreens** should be having another walk-up clinic at the Prince Hall Lodge on Eutaw Street in early April. You can call Walgreens at (844)268-8264 to reach a person to assist you with scheduling at all Walgreens locations.

### **Hospitals (selected locations)**

**University of Maryland Rehabilitation & Orthopaedic Institute (formerly Kernan )** - call 410-448-6620 to schedule an appointment. If you receive a UMMS email to schedule your appointment, but you've receive your vaccination elsewhere, click on the "Withdraw my Registration" link in the email and press submit. If you have already been vaccinated or cannot make it to your appointment, you do not need to call or email to cancel.

Lifebridge has consolidated all of their appointments into a single location—**Northwest Hospital** . You can reach sign up on the Lifebridge website under hospital registrations.

You can call **Union Memorial Hospital** at 410-554-4307 (Jennifer) to schedule an appointment

### **Transportation**

Baltimore County residents who have made a vaccine appointment but are homebound and do not have access to other transportation options can call 311 to be connected to CountyRide staff. They will schedule an Uber rides for them. After receiving their vaccine, staff at the vaccine clinic will help schedule rides home.

Compiled by Sis. Sharon Johnson, Sis. Leslie Hyman, and Trustee Marilyn Dorsey

## *Information of Interest*

If you are in need of a Word, recent sermons can be viewed on our web page at <https://myfccbc.org/> (SPECIAL EVENTS tab) or our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/pg/FirstChristianCommunityBaptistChurch/videos/>.



Following are several recent sermons:

- \* [February 7th, 2021- \(Exodus 3:7-10\) “The God of Deliverance”](#)
- \* [February 14th, 2021- \(Ephesians 5:1-2\) “Walk In Love”](#)
- \* [February 21st, 2021- \(Luke 4:1-13\) “Overcoming Temptations”](#)
- \* [February 28th, 2021- \(1 Peter 2:9\) “God’s Peculiar People”](#)
- \* [March 7, 2021 - \(Matthew 16:24\) “The Discipline of True Discipleship”](#)
- \* [March 14, 2021 - \(Matthew 6:14-15\) "The Power of Forgiveness"](#)

**Submitted by: Sis. Sofie Tucker**



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