

The FCCBC CONNECTION

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



We Are Family



Powerful testimonies about the crucifixion and the Resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus the Christ, were shared during our Annual Easter Program. Story on page 7.

Photos courtesy of Trustee Henry Smith

Service Times

Sunday School Sun. 10:00 a. m.
Sunday Service Sun. 11:00 a. m.
Mid-Day Bible Study Tues. 1:00 p. m.
Prayer & Praise Service Wed. 6:00 p.m.
 (first Wednesday of each month)
Bible Study Wed. 7:00 p. m.

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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)

"O Lord our God as for all this abundance that we have provided...it comes from your hand, and all of it belongs to you." I Chronicles 29:16

We have been abundantly blessed by the hands of our Heavenly Father. Our God never withholds any good thing from His children. The God whom we serve favors us with His " loving kindness and tender mercies." He always supplies our every need. However, there are many Christians who don't realize just how blessed they are. Many believers complain about what they don't have , and even sometimes compare what they don't have to what someone else may have.

As children of the Most High God, we are "abundantly blessed." The Bible teaches us in Philippians 4:19 "But my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus." This scripture assures us that whatever we may need all we have to do is ask of it by the Lord and He will take care of that need. We should always be mindful of the fact that we belong to God, and God takes care of His own.

Because of this benefit that we have as children of God it is imperative upon us that we be good stewards in what God has entrusted us with. Whenever we have the opportunity to give, we should do so cheerfully and not grudgingly. At the same time, we must be wise in our giving as not to waste what God has put in our hands.

I want to encourage the saints of God not to worry about anything because your God will take care of you. One of my favorite scriptures tells us to " take no thought ,saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed?for your Heavenly Father knoweth that you have need of all these things. But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." Matthew 6:31-33 KJV



Humbly Submitted by
Pastor Alphonso Tucker
In His Service

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 (NOTE: BUS NOT IN SERVICE)
Courtesy Phone—Lower Auditorium		410-367-9776

Recognition of Graduates and Award Recipients

On Sunday, June 13, 2021, FCCBC recognized academic achievements of the FCCBC extended family. We applaud each person's perseverance and commitment to excellence. May God give you the strength, confidence, and determination to reach your goals and pursue your dreams!

KINDERGARTEN TO FIRST GRADE

Kyle Samuel Fowlkes

Son of Bro. Kermit & Sis. Yvette Fowlkes.
Grandson of Rev. and Evangelist Samuels
Featherbed Lane Elementary School



Kassidy Stanley

Granddaughter of Trustee Robert White
Great-granddaughter of
Trustee Marilyn Dorsey
Church Lane Elementary



MIDDLE SCHOOL

Steven A. Jones

Son of Trustee Steven Jones
Grandson of Sis. Mary Jones
From Deer Park Middle Magnet School to
Western School of Technology



HIGH SCHOOL

Maya L. Jones

Daughter of Trustee Steven Jones
Grand-daughter of Sis. Mary Jones
From New Town High School to pursue
bachelors degree at Howard University
Top 10% of class, National Junior Honor
Society



HIGH SCHOOL (continued)

Anne-Marie O. Martin

Granddaughter of Bro. Roscoe and
Trustee Sharon Johnson
From Springside Chestnut Hill Academy to
Smith College, Northampton, MA



Sydney D. Stokes

Granddaughter of Sis. Phyllis H. Stokes
From Western School of Technology to
pursue bachelors degree at Howard University
Graduated with Honors



COLLEGE

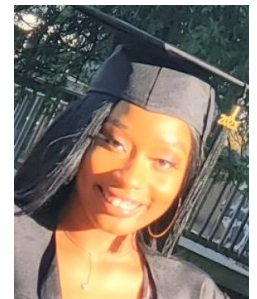
Jonathan Johnson

Grandson of Trustee Gwen Franklin
Earned BS in Construction Management and
minor in Business Administration from East
Carolina University. To pursue graduate
studies. Continue education and play one
more year of football before entering NFL
draft. Football scholarship,



Amaya D. Arthur

Granddaughter of Rev. Harvey and
Sis. Annette Moore. Great grand-daughter of
Mother Lillie Mae Campbell
Earned AAS degree in Human Service Coun-
seling & Behavioral Health from CCBC
Catonsville. Also certificates for Behavioral
Health Counselor and Human Service
Generalist



AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

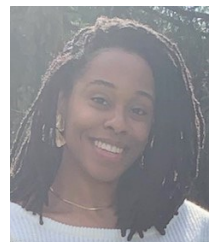
Devaughn Banks

Son of Bro. Duran and Sis. Alexis Banks
National Junior Honor Society/Honors
Woodlawn Middle School



Adanna Johnson

Daughter of Bro. Roscoe &
Trustee Sharon Johnson
Deans List Fall 2020/Spring 2021
Towson State University



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

Deacon's Corner

“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)

Because he hath appointed a day, in the which He will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom He hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that He have raised him from the dead. (Acts 17:31 KJV)

To God be the Glory. Grace be unto you and peace from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ. I thank God always for another opportunity to share the good news to you all concerning Jesus, the lily of the valley. My prayer is that you all are well and have been vaccinated against COVID-19. In the effort of moving forward, we are a lot better than before. We have come this far by faith. 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 cleaneth us from all sin (1 John 1:6-7 KJV).

FCCBC resumed in-person worship services on March 28th (Palm Sunday). I am so happy and excited that the Lord allowed us back into the Church House. The message was from Matthew 21:7-11 (Excitement in the City). I thank God for the technology of Facebook, Zoom, and texting to have been able to continue with God's words during this pandemic. While the church is back open, we still have several members that we miss. Our prayer is to see YOUR FACE SOON AND VERY SOON :)

We are praying for those members who have not seen their loved ones in some time due to the restrictions in place at hospitals and nursing homes. Prayerfully, things will open up enough to allow your first hug soon. I was able to visit with Dea. Walter Adams while he was in Northwest Hospital. That was one of the best visits. The light in his eyes and the smile on his face made my year. The Deacon's Ministry was able to serve him communion and have prayer with him. All in all, he made us all very happy. He is now back home receiving physical therapy. Prayer changes things!!!

We had our last Tuesday Mid-Day Bible Class with Dr. Murphy on May 25th and the last Wednesday Bible class with Pastor Tucker on May 26th. All of the classes were very educational and informational. Pastor was very pleased with the attendance. Don't let your mind become idle over the break, continue with your "Summer Readings."

It is each and every member's responsibility to stay in touch with one another. How good it can make someone feel to hear your voice. Make it your business to call someone new this week. A phone call, text, or personal visit can make the difference in someone's life. Be that Difference!! Continue to Pray without ceasing for all of our bereaved families: the Bright Family, Sis. Betty Jackson, the Arthur & Pledger families on their recent losses. I apologize if there is anyone that I may have missed. You are certainly in our prayers.

This year, due to the pandemic and social distancing guidelines, Vacation Bible School has been amended to three days beginning Monday, June 28th, Wednesday, June 30th & Friday, July 2nd. This was a commitment based outreach for registration. Please ensure that if you are registered, you attend each night. Provisions have been set in place for you!

As restrictions are being lifted, you may want to start traveling, having family activities and spending more time doing those things that you enjoyed most before the world shut down. I pray that you continue to be safe and take the precautions necessary as you move about. If you haven't already, please consider getting vaccinated. It could save your life and the lives of those around you. Have fun for me as I will have fun for you :)

I encourage you to attend Sunday School, Prayer Meetings, Bible Study (even if it's with other entities), conference calls & Zoom meetings to show thyself approved unto God and continue practicing the Social Distancing rules. Continue to pray for the diaconate ministry that we may

Deacon's Corner (continued)

remain strong while doing the Lord's work.

I can do ALL THINGS through Christ who strengthens me Philippians 4:13 KJV

In my last newsletter update, there was a COVID-19 Word Search puzzle....And the Winner was Evangelist Juliette Samuels. She was the first person to solve the entire puzzle correctly. CONGRATULATIONS Evangelist Samuels!!! Be sure to ask her if she enjoyed her Prize!! So since that was so much fun, let's do it again (This quarter's puzzle is on page 20). Be the first to call or text me at (410) 984-5268 or contact me via Zoom with your answers!! Evangelist Samuels, now it's time for you to help someone else WIN WIN WIN!!!

*****CYBER HUGS *****

Humbly Submitted,

Chairman Deacon Lawrence Waller

Deaconess Corner

An abbreviated Deaconess service was held on May 16, 2021 during the a.m. service due to the pandemic. Deaconess Hallie Allen was honored for her decades of service to the Deaconess ministry by Reverend Dr. Alphonso Tucker (*You can read an autobiographic sketch of her journey in the Fall 2021 newsletter*). She was given a plaque chosen by our chairman of the Deacon Board, Deacon Lawrence Waller, for her exemplary service and tokens of our appreciation from the deaconesses and the church. We, of the household of faith, applaud her diligence and devotion to this ministry as she continues to serve after relinquishing her position as president of the Deaconess Ministry. We treasure her invaluable experience, knowledge, and wisdom. Her modus operandi reflects 1 Samuel 12:24 (KIJV) which says, *"Only fear the Lord, and serve Him in truth with all your heart; for consider what great things He has done for you."* May God continue to bless her abundantly.



Because of the pandemic, we had to rid ourselves of our food items before they expired by giving them to other organizations. We plan to continue to take food and other items to the needy as soon as it is safe to do so. Therefore, we are asking you to please help us replenish our food pantry by making a monetary contribution to aid the underserved. You can give your donation to any deaconess or make out a check to FCCBC and write "Deaconess" in the memo section. We thank you in advance for your generosity.

"Whoever has a bountiful eye will be blessed, for he shares his bread with the poor." Proverbs 22:9 (ESV)

Submitted by Deaconess Mary H. Murphy, President

Photos courtesy of Trustee Henry Smith

The Lenten Season

“Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.” (Romans 12:12 NIV)

The Lenten season began on Ash Wednesday, February 17, 2021. During the Wednesday night Bible class, we were reminded by our pastor and teacher, Rev. Alphonso Tucker, about the true meaning of Ash Wednesday which begins a 40-day period until Easter. We were made aware that the ashes remind us of the need to repent. It is a period of reflection and renewal. The ultimate goal is to be like Jesus, to be more in tune with God.

Sunday, March 28th was Palm Sunday. We were privy to a powerful sermon by our pastor about Jesus’ triumphant entry into Jerusalem, where for the first time He declared Himself as King. The topic of the sermon was *“Excitement in the City.”* Corresponding Scriptures were Matthew 21:6-11. We received palms during the recessional that had been blessed by the pastor. Palms were also made available for drive-by pickup.

We began a 3-day corporate fast on the Wednesday preceding Easter from 6am-6pm. The pastor taught a lesson on the principles of fasting in his Wednesday night Bible class. “Fasting,” he said, “glorifies God in our bodies and make us more sensitive to God and the Holy Spirit.” One of the aims of fasting espoused was to prepare us for a new level of ministry in the proposed new building, which will serve and help more people in the community. Pastor Tucker also emphasized the fact that prayer is an essential part of fasting. We were encouraged to read Joel 2:5, 2 Chronicles 20:3, and Isaiah 58 for further illumination.

Each year on Good Friday, Christians take time to meditate on the depths of Jesus’ sacrifice for us in suffering a humiliating, bloody, and excruciating death by crucifixion. On Good Friday at First Christian Community Baptist Church (FCCBC), the following ministers gave a vivid and moving account of Jesus’ dying words from the cross, popularly known as the Seven Last Words of Jesus Christ.

THE SEVEN LAST WORDS/SAYINGS OF CHRIST

Saying #	Saying	Scripture	Preacher
1	“Father, forgive them for they know not what they do.”	Luke 23:34	Rev. Freddie Samuels
2	“Verily I say unto thee, today shalt thou be with me in paradise.”	Luke 23:43	Minister Harvey Moore
3	“Woman, behold thy Son...Behold thy mother.”	John 19:26-27	Rev. Delvon Houser
4	“My God, My God, why have you forsaken me?”	Matthew 27:46	Minister Harvey Moore
5	“I thirst.”	John 19:28	Evangelist Gwendolyn McKeever
6	“It is finished!”	John 19:30	Pastor Alphonso Tucker
7	“Father, into your hands I commit My spirit.”	Luke 23:46	Pastor Alphonso Tucker

On Easter Sunday, the Sunday School gave a presentation called, *“We Were There”* (See Sunday School article on page 7.)

Our Easter message was preached by our pastor at FCCBC and livestreamed on Facebook. What a wonderful, inspiring, and uplifting Resurrection Day message that he preached! With the backdrop of the banner that read, “HE LIVES,” he preached from the topic, *“Joy in the Morning,”* with supporting Scriptures from Matthew 28:5-8. And we know that, when this old life is over for those of us that believe on Him, we will be resurrected and have that eternal, unspeakable joy that transcends any tragedy, inequality, hurt, harm or danger. Our hope lies in the resurrected Christ. For we know that, HE LIVES!

Joyfully Submitted by: Deaconess Mary H. Murphy

From the Sunday School

“He is not here, but is risen!” (Luke 24:6)

In lieu of our regular Sunday school lesson, six brave souls gave powerful testimonies about the crucifixion and the Resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus the Christ. In “*We were There*,” they profiled Jesus’ disciples who witnessed His greatest moments of glory and His darkest trials. In their own words, they gave vent to their thoughts and deepest emotions; one could feel the agony and pain of those who witnessed the crucifixion or those that deserted Him. But one could also feel the joy emanating from one of His disciples upon realizing that Jesus had risen!

The cast members did an excellent job in their portrayals: Minister Harvey Moore as James; Bro. Bruce Flanigan as Peter; Bro. Keith Owens, Jr. as John; Evangelist Gwendolyn McKeever as Mary, the Mother of Jesus; Sis. Mary Magdalene Jones as Mary Magdalene and Sis. Leslie Hyman as Mary, the Mother of James. All were dressed in period costumes. Also, Sister Shirl Farrare did an excellent job as Mistress of Ceremony and Narrator.

In addition to the cast, we would like to thank the music ministry for its assistance as we sang songs of jubilation. We owe a debt of gratitude to Sis. Sofie Tucker for her electronic assistance. Along with providing us with the words to our songs, she also enhanced the telling of the story with biblical scenery ranging from the cross to the empty tomb.

Presently, we are back in the church for Sunday School **and the schedule has returned to 9:30 – 10:30 a.m.** If you are not ready to come back, you can still tune in via teleconference.

To call in by teleconference, please call 1–712-451-0737 (Note: Long distance charges may apply. Please check with your carrier). At the prompt, enter access code 872722# (no host code is needed).

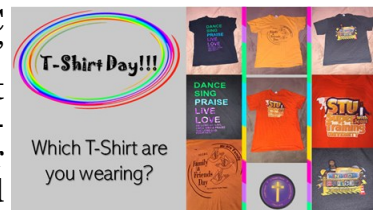
Vacation Bible School

There will be Vacation Bible School (VBS) this year with marked changes due to the pandemic. It will be held on Monday, June 28th, Wednesday, June 30th and Friday, July 2, 2021. Registration was closed on 5/16/21 and only those who submitted registration forms by this date will be attending. Attendance has been finalized; the number of attendees was limited to 50 persons. The number of days will be decreased to three to allow for sanitizing between sessions and the time for each session will be decreased to two hours. There will be three classes, down from six. We have six dedicated teachers who are eager to begin their classes. They are: Sis. Tequilla Haynes and Sis. Diane Habeebullah for the Primary classes; Bro. Keith Owens and Rev. Devon Houser for the Teen class; and Minister Harvey Moore and Evangelist Gwendolyn McKeever for the Adult class. Also, there will be no communal dining this year; each participant will get a prepackaged meal to go.

You can support our efforts by making a monetary donation and/or buying a T-shirt with the church’s logo for a small fee to purchase supplies and food.



On May 30th, FCCBC celebrated “T-Shirt Day” for the commencement of VBS. The congregation was filled with our amazing t-shirts and many came with a spirit of joy. All are asked to wear their tees during VBS.



Please pray for the success of our Vacation Bible School, our students, teachers and staff.

The VBS theme will be “*I’ve Got This! With Jesus.*” The VBS Scripture is, “*For I can do everything through Christ, who gives me strength*” (Philippians 4:13, NLT).

Submitted by: Deaconess Mary H. Murphy and Sis. Sofie Tucker Photos courtesy of Sis. Sofie Tucker and Deacon Lawrence Waller

Missionary Ministry

This season has been very challenging for the Missionaries of First Christian. Along with the COVID19 pandemic, we have also had death and sickness in our midst. Sister Theresa Boyd was a member of the missionaries and her friendly smile will be missed. The restrictions on us have prevented us from visiting our regular Future Care Facility. We are making plans to start some new programs as soon as all restrictions are lifted. We all have gotten our COVID shots and are eager to get to work.

God has blessed us with health and strength and we will continue to serve his people. Any suggestions for future service to God's people can be given to any Missionary. Any member wishing to serve as a Missionary, please contact me at mscarolynv@gmail.com.

Carolyn Laster
Missionary Ministry President

Save the Date—It's Time to Build!

FCCBC members and friends, have by FAITH reached a key moment in the development process. God has removed initial project roadblocks and the coronavirus pandemic. We believe it's no accident that the pandemic is easing and FCCBC is ready to move into the construction phase.

We give our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ the praise and glory. The Planning Committee is honored to announce that all are invited to attend a ground-breaking ceremony for the FCCBC Community Outreach and Resource Center at 4201 Groveland Avenue, Baltimore MD, on Sunday, July 25, 2021. The planning for this special occasion has begun and more details will be forthcoming via the FCCBC website, Facebook page, and general church announcements over the next month.

The FCCBC Planning Committee would like to give a heartfelt thank you to church members and friends of the church for financially supporting the pre-development phase of the project that has been completed. Trustee Robert White, Planning Committee Chairman, states "continued financial support of pledges from FCCBC Church Members and Friends are needed during the construction phase of the project to achieve the total development cost of \$941,498."

Thanks also to our financial partner M & T Bank, represented by Mr. David M. Miller, Vice President Relationship Manager, for approving the project construction loan of \$600,000. The project development team includes key FCCBC leaders, KCW Engineering, Skorpa Design Studio, Sigma Development LLC, J & J Concrete, and Malill, LLC.

The FCCBC Community Outreach and Resource Center building will enable the congregation to continue expansion of theological education components like bible study, Sunday School activities and summer Vacation Bible School with the building of meeting space areas. The additional space will also provide needed office space for FCCBC administrative staff, community green space, a church garden, and off-street parking.

The Planning Committee previously reported the completion of phase one of the FCCBC church expansion with renovations at 4116 Groveland Avenue main church building. The renovations included additional space for a larger Culinary Ministry food pantry, creation of re-designed office space for other church activities, capital improvements to the church furnace building and chimney stack, and updates to the church foyer (removal of old wood frame inside and exterior front doors, and fresh coats of paint). **It's Time to Build and continue God's work.**

Submitted by: FCCBC Planning Committee Ministry

Getting To Know You— Deacon Keith Owens



I am Keith Byron Owens. I was born December 30, 1954 to James and Myrtle Owens. My mother named me after two British poets—Lord Byron and John Keats. I'm glad she didn't go with Keats for my first name as I think I would have been teased a lot. I guess she chose Keith because it sounds like Keats. I am the middle child. I have two older brothers and two younger sisters. We grew up in Southwest Baltimore on Leeds Street. I went to Irvington Elementary, Gwynns Falls Park Junior High, and Baltimore Polytechnic Institute. I am a graduate of Morgan State University.

At the age of 12, I was baptized at Charity Community Church of God. I remained a full time member there until I entered the military. While at Morgan, I joined the Reserved Officer's Training Corps and in December 1976 I was commissioned a 2nd lieutenant in the United States Army. I spent twelve years in the military serving in many capacities. My assignments found me at Ft. Dix, NJ, Ft. Eustis VA, Ft. Leonardwood, MO, Rotterdam The Netherlands and Ft. Meade, MD.

After I left the military, I found employment with Maryland Occupational Safety and Health where I worked for thirty-one years. I retired in January 2021 as an Assistant Chief. I was the first African American to attain that position in the history of the agency.

I have so many things for which I am thankful to God. I am married to the best person I have ever known—my wife Kitty. I have two sons (Karl and Keith Owens) who have never given me a bit of trouble. Two wonderful grandchildren and a great daughter-in-law.

I am honored to serve on the Diaconate ministry at First Christian Community Baptist Church under the leadership of Deacon Lawrence Waller.

In March of 2020, I was diagnosed with cancer. I had an operation to remove part of my colon and I spent two weeks in the hospital. The most important blessing that came out of my experience is that God did not let the spirit of fear enter my body. I'm so thankful for that. I am also thankful for the support of my family especially my wife, Pastor Tucker, and my church family. I am so glad to be back to give God the praise in corporate fellowship. May God continue to bless our church family where "We are family" for real.

Deacon Keith Owens

Coordinated by Sis. Leslie Hyman

Getting to Know You

Installation Service

Effective January 17, 2021, Deacon Keith Owens, Sr. was elevated to Vice Chair of the Diaconate Ministry and Sis. Sharon Johnson graduated to her permanent position as trustee. Please continue to pray for our new officeholders as they take on their new roles and responsibilities.

Both were formally installed during morning worship service on May 16, 2021.

Trustee Johnson was unable to attend. She was acknowledged and will receive her certificate when she returns to in-person service.



Photo courtesy of Trustee Henry Smith

Things Look Promising

There are many changes taking place and things seem brighter.
 We are nearing the end and can now see some things lighter.
 For nearly a year and a half we have experienced so much out of the norm.
 There were so many new and unexpected realities taking form.
 The good thing is that God knew our struggles and He was aware.
 He never left us alone and was always right there.
 The pandemic showed us that life is full of ups and downs.
 But it also showed us that God is always around.
 We also realized how complicated our lives could really be.
 What took place during the pandemic made all of us really see.
 Things happened that caused many of us to struggle and stress.
 But, through it all, the God we serve always knew best!
 Just like in His Word, He will bring us all out.
 He knew from beginning to end just what the pandemic was all about.
 As Christians, we must always try to show faith over fear.
 No matter what, God is Always there.
 He promised to be there right by our side.
 We must believe and let our Faith be our guide.
 Then we can see all of the Promises that God has and will provide.

Submitted by Mae Williams

Juneteenth

For too long, portions of African American history have been forgotten, swept under the rug, and relegated to the dust bins of antiquity. Slavery has always been the elephant in the room. Civil rights advocates have been battling for recognition for decades to no avail but that persistence paid off when the bill for *Juneteenth* was passed. *Juneteenth* was unanimously voted a federal holiday by the senate on 6/15/21 and signed into law by President Joe Biden on 6/17/21. This bill commemorates the end of slavery and celebrates Black and African American history. It was a much-needed step - long overdue- in recognizing this country's pervasive racial inequalities. During the signing, the president said, "*It's not enough to commemorate the holiday, but to use it as a day of reflection and action.*" I think most of us would heartily agree. We must never forget our past struggles and rich history and view this as a call to action. To that end, we must continue to always fight for equality which is our just due.

Submitted by Deaconess Mary Murphy

Service Updates

Due to significant declines in new cases and hospitalizations, Governor Hogan announced that Maryland's state of Emergency will end on July 1st. Baltimore City will lift its COVID-19 state of emergency and all mandates on July 1st in accordance with the governor's recent announcement.

On Palm Sunday, our one-hour 11:00 a.m. in-person morning worship with reduced capacity was reinstated. Sermons continue to be streamed live via Facebook Live (<https://www.facebook.com/FirstChristianCommunityBaptistChurch/>) beginning at 11:30 a.m. Services can be viewed at your leisure via Facebook or accessed via our website (<https://myfccbc.org/>). On July 1, our services will be extended to 90 minutes and all Baltimore City COVID mandates lifted.

Adult Sunday School devotions now begin at 9:15 a.m. followed by Sunday School from 9:30—10:30 a.m. with continued access via audio conference call. 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. Audio conference call access instructions are on page 7.

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. 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 full 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. Thank you!

Education Ministry Update

A single application was received for the Deotha Humphrey Memorial Book scholarship for the 2021-2022 academic year. Students aged 26 and under enrolled in college or a post-secondary program were eligible to apply by April 18, 2021. No applications were received for the FCCBC general scholarship.

Sis. Maya Jones, the daughter of Trustee Steven Jones and granddaughter of Sis. Mary Jones, was selected as our inaugural recipient and was recognized during Youth and Young Adult service on Sunday, June 13, 2021. Congratulations Sis. Jones! We are proud of your accomplishments.



Photo courtesy of Trustee Henry Smith

Vice President Cheryl McCottry recognized 2021 member and non-member graduates and award recipients of all ages during this service. Please see articles on pages 3 and 13 for more information.

A School Supply Giveaway will be held in late Summer to provide free backpacks and school supplies to members, extended family, friends, and the community in pre-K through college. Advance registration will be required. Stay tuned for more information.

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR POPCORN FUNDRAISER SCHOLARSHIP DRIVE AUGUST 1st (5:00 p.m. EDT) - AUGUST 5th (5:00 p.m.)



The Education Ministry will be sponsoring a virtual ultra-premium popcorn fundraiser through the Double Good Social Fundraising platform. Fifty percent of sales will be returned to FCCBC to support our scholarship drive. Our goal is to raise \$5,000.

Please support scholarships for our youth and young adults by placing an order for yourself or as a gift. Orders can be placed through a simple online shopping experience at <https://popup.doublegood.com/s/t480c59u> from August 1st to August 5th only. Announcements and reminders will be forthcoming.

Featured On:



Reminders with the order link will be placed on the church's webpage (<https://myfccbc.org/>) and Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/FirstChristianCommunityBaptistChurch/>).

Please also text, mail, or post our unique Pop-Up store link (above) to members, friends, family, co-workers, neighbors, and share via social media.

Delicious and fresh gourmet popcorn will be shipped directly to supporter's doorsteps.

To learn more about this virtual fundraiser, please visit <https://www.doublegood.com/popup/>.

We thank everyone for their continued financial support.

Submitted by: Sis. Sharon Johnson, Secretary

Getting Back to the Norm

There are some things we used to consider normal that may never be again.

Many things we never did before, we had to begin.

There were events happening in our lives that took us out of the normal reality.

The world took on changes that were becoming the norm and always to be.

Things are increasingly getting better and not quite as bad.

We now have vaccines that we once never had.

Churches, schools, jobs, and restaurants are opening again.

It now seems that the pandemic is moving towards the end.

We will never go back to what the old normal used to be.

It is very important for us to continue to maintain our safety.

We may always have to follow some of the covid guidelines,

The ones that are in place are definitely signs of the times.

We are slowly getting back to our normal ways.

We hope to never have to relive the unsafety of pandemic days.

Submitted by Mae Williams

Giving Your Tithes and Offerings

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

Thank you for your continued Christian love and 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**."

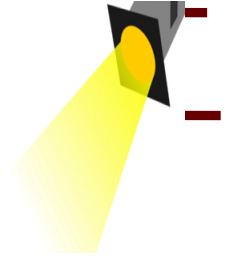
There are several ways to give your tithes and offerings:

- 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 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.

Submitted by: Finance Ministry

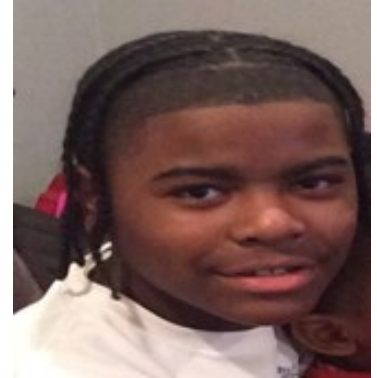
Youth Spotlight



With only being in the seventh grade (eighth grade Fall 2021), this quarter's Youth Spotlight has earned his way into the National Honor Society, achieving honor roll throughout the years of 2020 to 2021. This bright 13-year-old attends Woodlawn Middle School and is a member of the "Gentlemen Eagles" After School program.

He volunteered at Sarah's House Shelter, will be attending this year's Vacation Bible School's teen class, and was recently interviewed on the "Baltimore Flava Gospel Show" discussing his life during the pandemic and how he managed his academics during the quarantine (this can be found at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CnXRZIHsESM>).

This teen is the grandson of Pastor and Lady Tucker and son of Bro. Duran and Sis. Alexis Banks. We are proud to acknowledge **Devaughn Banks** as this month's Youth Spotlight.



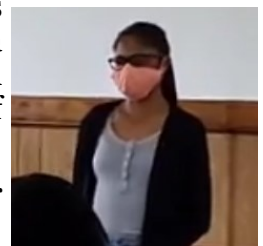
Submitted by: Sis. Sofie Tucker



On June 13th, 2021, the congregation and FCCBC youth and young adults celebrated "Youth and Young Adult Day." This year's worship leader was Sis. Kimberly Pelzer. Bro. Keith Owens Jr. graced the congregation with a prayer. Sis. Sofie Tucker read the responsive reading. Pastor Reverend Alphonso Tucker preached on the theme of "We're Coming Out Better" drawn from Daniel 3:26-27.



The Education Ministry acknowledged all of the 2021 graduates and award recipients. Anointed Voices of Praise member Maya Jones was awarded with the FCCBC Book Scholarship. Maya will be attending Howard University in the Fall. We are so proud of our youth and young adults.



Recipients were asked to meet Sis. McCottry to pick up their certificates and to take photos after service.



Submitted by: Sis. Sofie Tucker

Photo courtesy of Sis. Sofie Tucker

Greetings First Christian Family,

The Men's Ministry has been blessed by the many efforts put forth by the men as Chair & Co-Chair. We appreciate all that you do in helping the ministry move forward during this time of COVID restrictions. We also would like to thank the First Christian family for your support and encouragement. Please continue to be safe as we move into the summer months. We want to remind everyone of our upcoming events as well.

By the time this article prints, we will have done our first car wash on June 19th. Again, we thank you for your support. There will be another car wash on July 24th. Prayerfully, we will be able to present the Men in Black concert on Friday, August 6th. Our Crab Feast is scheduled for Saturday, August 21st (see flyer on page 15). We ask God's Blessing upon everyone. As always, we thank our Pastor for all that he does and we pray for the First Family in a special way.

Stay Blessed Everyone!

Bro. Keefe Flanigan, Chairman

Minister Harvey Moore, Co-Chairman



Women's Day Corner: The Women's Ministry

The women of the church participated in a series of fasting and praying. This took place on four Saturdays. We were scheduled to fast and pray from 6:00 a.m. to noon or noon to 6:00 p.m. and to concentrate on several themes: forgiveness, healing, strength and love. Scriptures were assigned to each theme to help us concentrate and get in touch with the Spirit. We will meet to discuss the assignment and the way these sessions impacted you. Did you participate? How did you feel after the fasting and praying? Is Saturday a good day for this exercise? Did you come away feeling more in touch with the Spirit? Did you feel better after participating? Do you have suggestions for this type of activity in the future?

Women's Day is scheduled for Sunday, June 27, 2021

Theme: Women Striving To Do God's Will

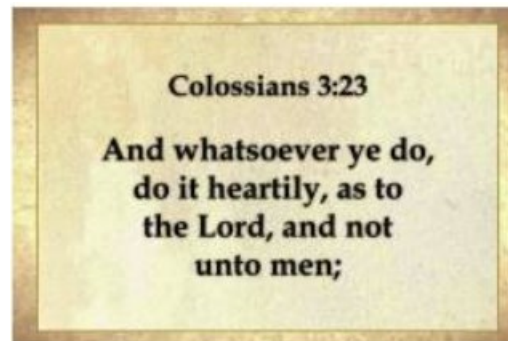
Scripture: Colossians 3:23 (KJV)

“And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men”

The assessment is \$175.00 for each woman member. We understand that this has been a tough year and you should give whatever The Lord has placed on your heart to give.

Trustee Vurely Johnson, Chair

Sister Carolyn Laster, Co-Chair



Upcoming Men's Ministry Event



CRAB FEAST

Sponsored by the Men's Ministry of F.C.C.B.C.

Saturday, August 21, 2021 3:00 – 6:00 p.m.

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

Outdoor Seating only will be available

Donation: \$60.00

THE MENU:

Crabs ♦ Hamburgers ♦ Hot Dogs ♦ Crab Soup
Macaroni Salad ♦ Corn on the Cob ♦ Baked Beans
Soda or Bottled Water

To purchase tickets, please contact
Bro. Keefe Flanigan @ (443) 255-1791
Minister Harvey Moore @ (443) 695-0281
Any member of the Men's Ministry

Reverend Dr. Alphonso Tucker, Pastor

Deacon's Corner Word Search

Find and mark all the listed words inside the box. Be the first to complete the word search and reach out to Deacon Waller. See page 4 for more information.

PANDEMIC WORD SEARCH

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

ZOOM
LOCKDOWN
GLOVES
UNPRECEDENTED
CURBSIDE PICKUP
SIX FEET
LYSOL
POD
CONTACT TRACING
CDC

TOILETPAPER
NETFLIX
HAND SANITIZER
COVID
DOORDASH
FACE TIME
OUTDOOR GATHERING
PANDEMIC
ASYMPTOMATIC

QUARANTINE
MASKS
GERMS
CLOROX WIPES
SOCIAL DISTANCE
EXPOSURE
REMOTE LEARNING
EXPONENTIAL SPREAD
VACCINE



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: _____

FCCBC Wishes Comfort and Peace

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:

Evangelist Samuels, Rev. Samuels, and Sis. Yvette Fowlkes on the passing of Ernestine Marcus

Sis. Mary Jones and Trustee Steven Jones on the transition of Beverly Leonard

Trustee Marilyn Dorsey, Trustee Robert White, and Sis. Evette Townes on the loss of Charlie James Troy, Jr.

Sis. Marilyn Brunt, James Brunt, and Ynika Brunt on the passing of Yolanda Foreman

The Bright family on the transition of Vanetta Arlene "Netta" Bright

The Pledger, Arthur, and Haynes family on the passing of Terry Pledger

Sis. Betty Jackson on the transition of her husband Bro. Robert Jackson

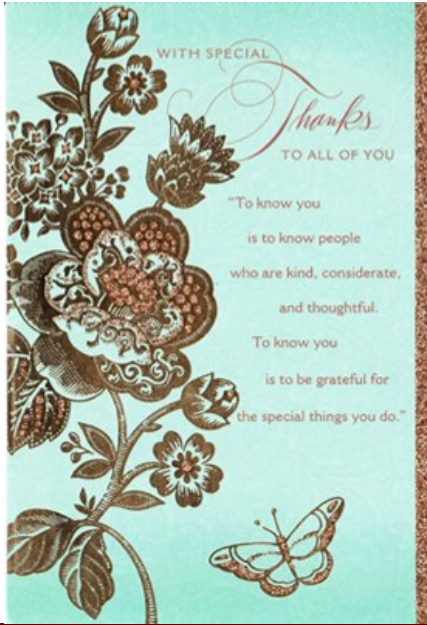
Deaconess Eileen McCloud on the loss of her nephew Dennis "Coach D" Cook

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

Thank You Cards and Acknowledgments



Thank You Cards and Acknowledgments (con't)



Holiday Greetings



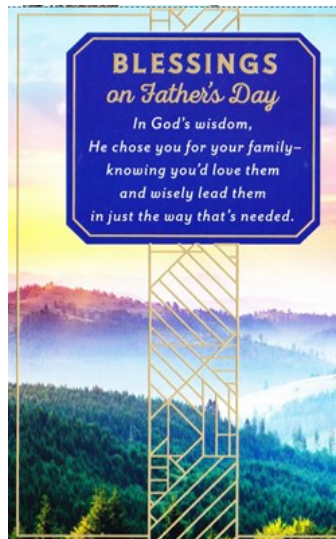
To All of the Mothers
of Jesus Christ

May all the good things
that come from Him
fill you with His love and joy
on this special day & always.

Happy Mother's Day

The Lord is good,
His unfailing love continues forever,
and His faithfulness continues
to each generation.
PSALM 100:5 NLT

*Love &
Blessings
Mother
Lillie Mae
Campbell*



To All The Fathers
of F.C.C.B. Church,
MAY GOD BLESS AND
KEEP YOU ALL,

Love,
Mother Lillie Mae
Campbell

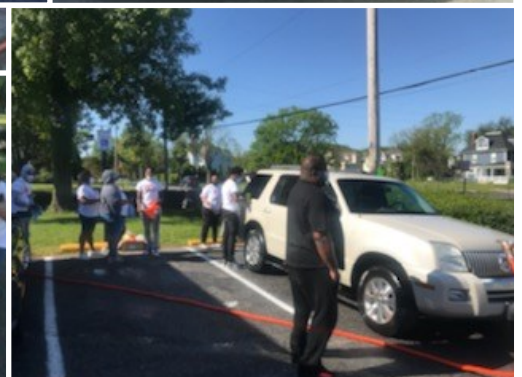
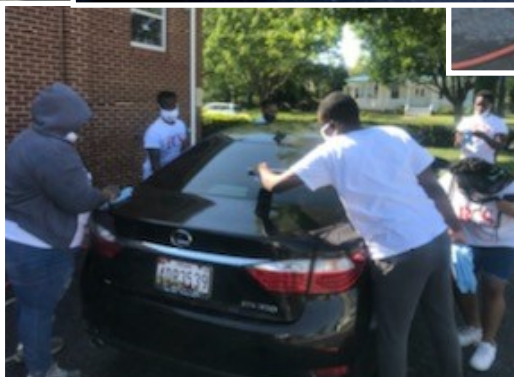
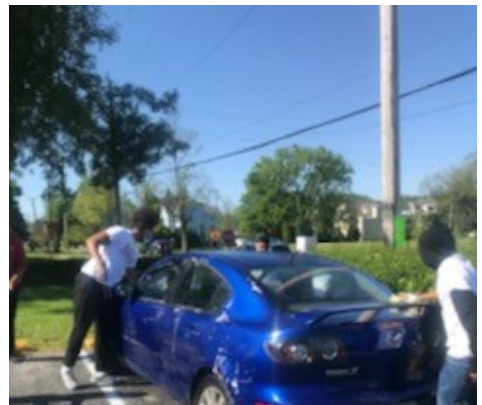
Hope you feel the love
return to you
in a special way
this Father's Day.

A faithful man
shall abound
with blessings.
PROVERBS 28:20 KJV

Potpourri

The West Arlington Improvement Association of Baltimore City, Inc. held its Baltimore Clean Streets Car Wash Fundraiser at FCCBC on Saturday, May 15, 9:00 am - 12:00 pm. The goal of Baltimore Clean Streets is to clean up the community of West Arlington and other Northwest neighboring communities within the Liberty-Wabash corridor while also offering youth an opportunity to earn some cash and take pride in their neighborhoods.

This initiative is financed by donations from several dedicated and committed individuals of Baltimore City. For more information, visit <https://www.westarlington.org/> or <https://www.westarlington.org/baltimorecleanstreets>.



Photos courtesy of Deacon Lawrence Waller

Potpourri (continued)



Retirement Congratulations

Sister Delores Hines' oldest son, Vincent Montoute, was honored with a surprise retirement party on June 12, 2021 after serving twenty-two years in the United States Navy. The party was well attended by family and friends. Vincent is also the godson of Trustee Marilyn Dorsey. Everyone is extremely proud of Vincent.

We want to feature your news! Please email newsletter@myfccbc.org.

Hamilton City Village Outreach

Hamilton City Village Continues Homeless Outreach in Downtown Baltimore City



Officer Hamilton and myself are so thankful for the donations from the community, friends, and family that allow us to be a blessing to others. Officer Hamilton has built up such a great rapport with the homeless on his beat downtown at the Inner Harbor. He often provides them with various items like clothes, food (his lunch in many cases), blankets, toiletries and anything else within his means. He has assisted some of them to find shelter out of the cold and help with programs to get them the help they need.

The Outreach has since changed with the change in season and now we provide on demand. This means when Officer Hamilton comes home with a list, I fill that list. That could include clothing, shoes, underclothes, personal hygiene items, reading material, and/or meals. His folks know him by name and feel comfortable with his assistance.

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 in advance. If you have a donation, we will pick it up from you at your convenience. I can be reached at (443) 562-5827 if you have any questions. Please make sure all items are clean. Socks and underclothes must be new/store bought.

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

Officer Lolando Hamilton Sr. (BCPD)

&

Sis. Nikki Waller



Potpourri (continued)

Asking for Prayers and Traveling Mercies

Psalm 27:1, KJV: "(A Psalm of David.) The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? the LORD is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?"

Jayne' Troy



Message from Jayme'

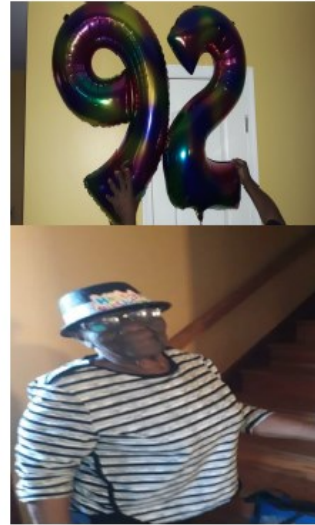
Thank you church family for all of the prayers, love and affection that you have given me and my family over the years. I ask that you continue to keep us in your hearts and in your prayers as I embark on this new journey. I love you all and will always remember that WE ARE FAMILY!!

Jayne' has completed the Baseball Academy in Bradenton, Florida. He will be attending the Puerto Rico Independent Professional Baseball League in Aguada, Puerto, Rico. He leaves June 15, 2021.

We don't know what lies ahead, only God knows and we must have Faith and Trust in Him.

"Trust in the Lord with all thine heart and lean not unto thine own understanding" Prov 3:5

Submitted by Mae Williams



Thanking God for Yet Another Year

Celebrating another birthday this year at 92,
Was a wonderful Blessing that God allowed her to do.
We continue to thank God for his Mercy and Grace.
Especially for the privilege to continue seeing our Mother's face.
We are Grateful and Blessed and know without a doubt,
That only our God is the One who keeps bringing her out!!
Thank you God for keeping on Blessing us, too.
By allowing us to still have a Mother at the age of 92.

Humbly Submitted,
Mae Williams

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 (Summer by 9/21), Fall by 12/20, Winter by 3/21, and Spring by 6/20). **The DEADLINE to submit articles, photos, and announcements will be 9/5/21, 12/6/21, 3/1/22, and 6/6/22.**

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!

Summer newsletter photos, announcements, and articles will be due on 9/5/21.

Helpful Hints

Summer is on the way and so are the mosquitoes and bugs. Male mosquitoes drink only nectar, but female mosquitoes like protein rich blood, which they used to nourish their eggs. The female mosquitoes prefer to bite ankles and wrist, because the blood vessels are closer to the skin surface.

How mosquitoes bites are treated:

1. Do not scratch the bite
2. Rub apple cider vinegar on your skin to repel the insect
3. Lemon eucalyptus oil
4. Rub garlic juice directly on the skin
5. If using a DEET repellent – do not use one with more than 25% DEET
6. Put ice on the area to reduce swelling
7. If you are going to use a topical cream – stay away from caladryl and calamine lotion.
8. A paste of baking soda and water can provide relief from bug bites.
9. Oatmeal can also help provide itch relief for bug bites and dry skin.

Hope these natural repellents will help you beat the bugs this season.

Source: Old Farmer's Summer Almanac
Submitted by: Sister Beverly 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>

DO's & DON'Ts

COVID-19

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



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](#)

Blessings and Birthday Wishes To:

July 2021

Special Honoree:
Deacon Lawrence Waller
Deacon Garry Carter

Bro. Darrell Aldridge
Sis. Amy Arthur
Sis. Kimberly Brice
Sis. Evelyn Bright
Sis. Gwendolyn Edwards
Sis. Angela Grier
Sis. Audrey Gregg
Sis. Darlene Harrell
Master Arion Heaggans
Sis. Delores Hines
Deayva Johnson
Miss Samara Jones
Bro. Leroy McAllister
Sis. Evette Townes
Sis. Destinee Robinson
Trustee Henry Smith
Master Jordan Troy
Teyonna Wright

August 2021

Bro. Troy Brooks
Sis. Jeliza Dickenson

August 2021 (continued)

Bro. Earl Edwards
Bro. Bruce Flanigan
Sis. Yvette Fowlkes
Sis. Tequilla Haynes
Bro. Roscoe Johnson III
Sis. Flore Mincey
Sis. Brenda Pledger
Bro. Frank Speller
Bro. Calvin Taylor
Master Jayme' Troy
Bro. Tyler White
Sis. Tamiah Williams

September 2021

Special Honoree:
Evangelist Juliette Samuels
Deaconess Hallie Allen

Sis. Darlene Bell
Sis. Winifred Berry
Miss Rickia Briggs

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

Sis. Michelle Bright
Sis. Paula Foote
Tyshawn Gaines
Sis. Sierra Gaither
Sis. Ashley Givens
Sis. Diane Habeebullah
Sis. Amanda Hall
Makiyah Hornes
Trus. Steven Jones
Bro. Walter Jones
Bro. Michael Montoute
Sis. Annie Norris
Miss Kennedee Pelzer
Sis. Alana Powell
Sis. Amira Powell
Sis. Carolyn Phillips
Miss Shilo Randall-Bryant
Miss Sydney Smith
Min. Darlene Taylor
Sis. Bridgete "Sofie" Tucker

Member and visitor birthday honorees—

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

Wedding Anniversary Wishes



Bro. Lawrence and Deaconess Eileen McCloud will be celebrating their 41st wedding anniversary on August 30th! Congratulations!



July

30th -Deacon Keith & Sis. Kitty Owens (44 years)

August

2nd -Rev. Harvey & Sis. Annette Moore (41 yrs)
30th -Bro. Lawrence & Deaconess Eileen McCloud (41 years)

September

1st -Bro. Karl & Sis. LaNecia Owens (16 years)
7th -Bro. Kermit & Sis. Yvette Fowlkes (8 years)



So that we might acknowledge your anniversary, please notify Trustee Marilyn Dorsey or email newsletter@myfcbc.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 (Home)
 Sis. Pam Chapman (Home)
 Sis. Nancy Pope (Home)
 Trus. John Spencer (Home)
 Bro. Calvin Taylor (Future Care,
 12020 Reisterstown Rd., 21136)

Church Calendar

July 2021

1-2 Vacation Bible School	
10 Men's Day Youth activity	
11 Baptismal Service (if candidates and reopening)	9:30 a.m.
13 We worship with North Star	7:00 p.m.
18 Family and Friends Day	
25 Missionary Ministry	
25 CORC Groundbreaking	
26 Men's Fellowship meeting	6:00 p.m.

August 2021

1 Unity Baptist worships w/us	3:30 p.m.
6 24th Annual Men In Black concert	7:00 p.m.
7 Women's activity	
15 Baptismal Service (if candidates and reopening)	9:30 a.m.
21 Men's Day activity	
23 Men's Fellowship meeting	6:00 p.m.

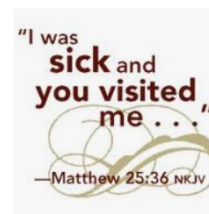
September 2021

2 Quarterly Official Board meeting	7:00 p.m.
5 Male Chorus Anniversary	
15 Greater New Hope Worships with us (Pastor's Ann.)	7:00 p.m.
20 Baptismal Service (if candidates and reopening)	9:30 a.m.
22 Isaiah Baptist worships with us (Pastor's Ann.)	7:00 p.m.
26 Humphrey Choral Ensemble Anniversary	
27 Men's Fellowship meeting	6:00 p.m.
29 Sweet Hope Baptist worships with us	7:00 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. Please make sure we have your information for One Call Now

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

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



Prayer List

Sis. Amy Arthur	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



IRS sending letters to more than 36 million families who may qualify for monthly Child Tax Credits; payments start July 15

WASHINGTON — The Internal Revenue Service has started sending letters to more than 36 million American families who, based on tax returns filed with the agency, may be eligible to receive monthly Child Tax Credit payments starting in July.

The expanded and newly-advanceable Child Tax Credit was authorized by the American Rescue Plan Act, enacted in March. The letters are going to families who may be eligible based on information they included in either their 2019 or 2020 federal income tax return or who used the Non-Filers tool on IRS.gov last year to register for an Economic Impact Payment.

Families who are eligible for advance Child Tax Credit payments will receive a second, personalized letter listing an estimate of their monthly payment, which begins July 15.

Most families do not need to take any action to get their payment. Normally, the IRS will calculate the payment amount based on the 2020 tax return. If that return is not available, either because it has not yet been filed or it has not yet been processed, the IRS will instead determine the payment amount using the 2019 return.

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Mar 18

Eligible families will begin receiving advance payments, either by direct deposit or check. The payment will be up to \$300 per month for each qualifying child under age 6 and up to \$250 per month for each qualifying child ages 6 to 17. The IRS will issue advance Child Tax Credit payments on July 15, Aug. 13, Sept. 15, Oct. 15, Nov. 15 and Dec. 15.

Eligible families should file tax returns soon

The IRS urges individuals and families who haven't yet filed their 2020 return – or 2019 return – to do so as soon as possible so they can receive any advance payment they're eligible for.

Filing soon will also ensure that the IRS has their most current banking information, as well as key details about qualifying children. This includes people who don't normally file a tax return, such as families experiencing homelessness, the rural poor, and other underserved groups.

For most people, the fastest and easiest way to file a return is by using the Free File system, available only on IRS.gov.

Throughout the summer, the IRS will be adding additional tools and online resources to help with the advance Child Tax Credit. One of these tools will enable families to unenroll from receiving these advance payments and instead receive the full amount of the credit when they file their 2021 return next year.

Additionally, later this year, individuals and families will also be able to go to IRS.gov and use a Child Tax Credit Update Portal to notify IRS of changes in their income, filing status, or number of qualifying children; update their direct deposit information; and make other changes to ensure they are receiving the right amount as quickly as possible.

Other tools coming soon

The IRS has created a special Advance Child Tax Credit 2021 page at [IRS.gov/childtaxcredit2021](https://www.irs.gov/childtaxcredit2021), designed to provide the most up-to-date information about the credit and the advance payments.

In the next few weeks, the page will also feature other useful new online tools, including:

- An interactive Child Tax Credit eligibility tool to help families determine whether they qualify for the Advance Child Tax Credit payments.
- Another tool, the Child Tax Credit Update Portal, will initially enable anyone who has been determined to be eligible for advance payments unenroll/ to opt out of the advance payment program.

Later this year, it will allow people to check on the status of their payments, make updates to their information, and be available in Spanish. More details will be available soon about the online Child Tax Credit Update Portal.

Child Tax Credit Changes

The American Rescue Plan raised the maximum Child Tax Credit in 2021 to \$3,600 for qualifying children under the age of 6 and to \$3,000 per child for qualifying children between ages 6 and 17. Before 2021, the credit was worth up to \$2,000 per eligible child, and 17 year-olds were not considered as qualifying children for the credit.

The new maximum credit is available to taxpayers with a modified adjusted gross income (AGI) of:

- \$75,000 or less for singles,
- \$112,500 or less for heads of household, and
- \$150,000 or less for married couples filing a joint return and qualified widows and widowers.

For most people, modified AGI is the amount shown on Line 11 of their 2020 Form 1040 or 1040-SR. Above these income thresholds, the extra amount above the original \$2,000 credit — either \$1,000 or \$1,600 per child — is reduced by \$50 for every extra \$1,000 in modified AGI.

In addition, the entire credit is fully refundable for 2021. This means that eligible families can get it, even if they owe no federal income tax. Before this year, the refundable portion was limited to \$1,400 per child.

The IRS urges community groups, non-profits, associations, education organizations, and others with connections to people with children to share this critical information about the Child Tax Credit as well as other important benefits. The IRS will be providing in the near future additional materials and information that can be easily shared by social media, email and other methods.

For the most up-to-date information on the Child Tax Credit and advance payments, visit [Advance Child Tax Credit Payments in 2021](#).

Issue Number: Here's Who Will Get Advance Payments of the Child Tax Inside This Issue

Here is a video tax tip from the IRS:

Here's Who Will Get Advance Payments of the Child Tax Credit [English](#) | [Spanish](#)

Subscribe today: The IRS YouTube channels provide short, informative videos on various tax related topics in English, Spanish and ASL.

www.youtube.com/irsvideos

www.youtube.com/irsvideomultilingua

www.youtube.com/irsvideosASL

Contributed by Trustee Henry Smith

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:

Associate Minister's Month

[May 2nd, 2021 - Rev. Freddie Samuels](#)

[May 9th, 2021 - Rev. Debbie Ervin](#)

[May 16th, 2021 - Min. Harvey Moore](#)

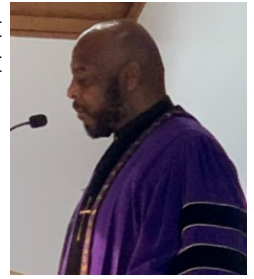
[May 23rd, 2021 - Rev. Delvon Houser](#)

[May 30th, 2021 - Evg. Gwendolyn McKeever](#)

[June 6 - Stronger Together \(1st Corinthians 1:10\)](#)

[June 13, 2021 \(Youth and Young Adult Day\) - "We're Coming Out Better" \(Daniel 3:26-27\)](#)

[June 20, 2021 \(Father's Day\) - "A Father's Place" \(Ephesians 6:1-4\)](#)



Submitted by: Sis. Sofie Tucker



June 2021

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