Vol. 9 No. 4 Fall 2021

The FCCBC CONNECTION

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



We Are Family













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22-23

Photos courtesy of Trustee Henry Smith, Sister Sofie Tucker, and Brother Roscoe Johnson, III

Message From Our Pastor/Church Directory

Notices, Calendar, Sick & Prayer Lists

Congratulations to Pastor and Lady Tucker on celebrating their twelfth Pastoral anniversary. Story on page 3

Service Times

Sunday School Sun. 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Service Sun. 11:00 a.m.
Mid-Day Bible Study Tues. 1:00 p.m.

(resumes 1/4/22)

Prayer & Praise Service Wed. 6:00 p.m. (first Wednesday of each month)

Bible Study (resumes 1/5/22) Wed. 7:00 p.m.

Pastoral Anniversary Ministry Updates 4-16, Member Spotlights 11 Member Poem 14, 16, 20 Member Contact Update Form Passages/Acknowledgments Potpourri/Notices 19-21, 24-25, Back cover

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Message From Our Pastor

to love mercy."

"He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and We should seek to please God in our service to what doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God." (Micah 6:8 KJV)



be the servant of Christ."

People have tried all kinds of ways to please In the Old Testament, it tells of how the people of God would try to appease God by offering him different kinds of sacrifices. Church Age, many are doing the same by with their sacrifices and other religious rituals. However, God has made it clear as to what it is that pleases Him.

I am so thankful to God to be a part of a Church who puts this requirement of God into practice. You, FCCBC, have shown the world, through your giving, your service, and your love for one

another, how to "walk humbly with thy God."

Him, in our offerings to Him, and in our service

and treatment of others. This is exactly what Micah 6:8 (KJV), teaches us..... "to do justly, and

During times of this We are "walking humbly with Our God" as we are eyewitnesses of the Great work He has used us to do with the building of our Outreach/Resource trying to appease God Center. I, like many of you, are very excited to see the blessings of God as the building goes up. I personally want to thank all of you for your continual gifts of love towards this major undertaking. We can all agree that "God is at work!"

Our main agenda in life should be, "how can I please the Lord." We should always be seeking ways to bring Glory to His name. So often the problem comes when we spend more time trying to please people rather than God.

There is nothing wrong with helping people, or being a blessing to people, but our goal should always be to please God. In Galatians 1:10 (ESV), it

tells us that for "if I seek to please men, I should not

Please continue to support this mission of the Church. God has showed us what is good, and we have chosen to do this good work in His name; and it is through this work of God that has drawn us closer to Him and have given us another opportunity to do what pleases Him.

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 (Returning to service 10/3/21)

Courtesy Phone—Lower Auditorium 410-367-9776

Conference Call Dial-In Number (as directed) 412-924-7173, Enter Access Code: 872722#

Pastor and Lady Tucker Celebrate 12th Pastoral Anniversary

To Our Pastor, a Man of:

"Spiritual Leadership"

Deaconess Eileen McCloud

"Wit and Wisdom"

Deaconess Mary Murphy

"Reverential Fear of God"

Deaconess Hallie Allen

"Humility and Encouragement"

Deaconess Vurely Johnson

"And I will give you pastors according to mine heart, which shall feed you with knowledge and understanding (Jeremiah 3:15 KJV)

Twelve years our pastor. Twelve years of challenges. Twelve years of praying for us. Twelve years of planning sermons. Twelve years of making lesson plans for our Bible class. Twelve years of counseling hurting people. Twelve years of sharing in our joy and our pain. Twelve years of planning for the future direction of the church. Twelve years of being entrusted to bring the Word of God, teaching and preaching sound doctrine. This is not an all-inclusive list of the things that our pastor, the Reverend Dr. Alphonso Tucker, does for us. He encourages us and yes, he reproves us when needed. We have been truly blessed that he answered the call to pastor this church, First Christian Community Baptist Church. It is with heartfelt gratitude that we celebrate his being at the helm of this ship of Zion for twelve years.

Not everyone can be a pastor. Not everyone is called. Not only should the person be of exceptional character, but should be able to execute a wide range of duties. Thus, only the most dedicated person can lead a congregation and become pastor; we have that in our pastor. We thank God for his anointing, his love, and his guidance. Our pastor loves and cares for each member of his congregation. He is dedicated to his people and invested in their lives. He truly exemplifies what a pastor is supposed to be.

Of course, we would be remiss if we did not acknowledge the contributions of the First Family. Lady Tucker has been an invaluable asset to our church family, quietly working behind the scene, the epitome of strength and support. We acknowledge and are grateful for the support of his entire family.

Pastor Tucker, you have truly been a blessing to us. We love and appreciate the work you are doing for us and the Kingdom. We also appreciate and love your phenomenal wife and the entire family. You are truly worthy of double honor. May the grace of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ be yours now and for all times.

HAPPY TWELFTH PASTORAL ANNIVERSARY!

Submitted by: Deaconess Mary Murphy







Photos courtesy of Sis. Sofie Tucker, Sis. Sharon Johnson, and Trustee Henry Smith

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)

To God be the Glory for all the things He has done and will continue to do in our lives. I greet you in the mighty name of Jesus, who is the author and finisher, the beginning and the end of our lives. If there ever was a time for true worshipers to worship the Father in spirit and truth for they/we are the kind of worshippers that please the Lord. We have come a long way and God is pleased with our work during this pandemic. We worship and adore God because of who He is and what He has done and is doing for us and in us. I am so grateful to God because He has allowed us to continue to worship with one another in the building; still under that Baltimore City CDC guidelines. The Diaconate Ministry has been praying for the time when physical in-person visitation can resume. God heard and answered our prayers. The Deacons visited Deacon Emeritus Walter Adams, Mother Lillie Mae Campbell & Sis. Pam Chapman. Everyone was so full of JOY & happy to see us. Mother Campbell's spirit was a blessing to us, singing and rejoicing about our Savior. We also had prayer with Bro. and Sis. Willie & Sis. Willie Webb, Sis. Nancy Pope, Bro. & Sis. Arthur, Sis. Rosetta Quarles, Sis. Annie Smith, Sis Annie Norris, Sis. Amy Arthur, & Sis. Winifred Berry. Each of them were in good spirits and asking for continued prayers. I urge you brothers and sisters "To offer your bodies a living sacrifice holy and acceptable to God which is your reasonable service" Romans 12:1.

Sadly, Sis. Evelyn Bright went home to Glory on November 21, 2021. The Deacons and Pastor were able to meet with her to give her communion and prayer before she transitioned. She was so inspiring talking about her heavenly Father and giving Him praise despite her condition. She endured until the end. Please continue to keep the Bright family as well as all of our sick and shut-in in your thoughts and prayers. A phone call/text can go a long way. If I missed a anyone, please charge it to my head and not my heart.

We do thank God again for the man of God, Pastor Tucker for his leadership and his support of the various ministries at FCCBC.

Family and readers, thank you for your participation in our Tuesday 1:00 p.m. Bible Class and our Wednesday 7:00 p.m. Bible class where we can "study to show ourselves approved unto God, a workman that needed not to be ashamed rightly divided the word of truth" (2 Timothy 2:15). The classes were very refreshing and good spiritual food for the soul. Dr. Murphy's class was drawn from [Proverbs and Rev. Tucker's class was drawn from 2 Thessalonians. Proverbs teaches us how to live and treat others. In 2 Thessalonians, we learned how to endure afflictions. We will resume Bible classes Tuesday, January 4, 2022 with Deaconess Murphy and Wednesday, January 5, 2022 with Rev. Tucker. We pray that all that can will dial in (see below for instructions).

How many of you enjoyed all that turkey, ham, collard greens, macaroni and cheese, stuffing, cranberry sauce, sweet potato pie, pecan pie, and chocolate cake? I know I did (BIG SMILE) and I pray you did as well. Now it's time to do it all over again for Christ's Big Birthday Celebration on December 25th. I pray that everyone has a very Merry **Christ**mas and a safe and happy New Year. Continue to be vigilant to your surroundings and look out for others. Check on the elderly and those that are less fortunate, you never know what small gift you can be to someone in need.

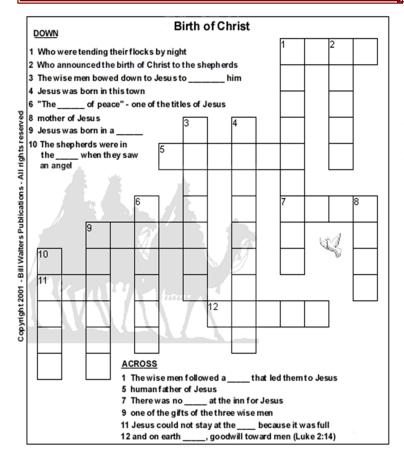
Finally Brethren, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may have free course and be glorified, even as it is with you.

2 Thessalonians 3:1 (KJV)

Humbly Submitted Chairman Dea. Waller To call in by teleconference, please dial (412) 924-7173 (NOTE: Long distance charges apply. Please check with your carrier). At the prompt, enter Access Code: 872722

Deacon's Corner

Deaconess Corner



Outreach

What does it profit, my brethren, if someone says he has faith but not have works? Can faith save him? If a brother or sister is naked and destitute of daily food, and one of you says to them, "Depart in peace, be warmed and filled," but you do not give them these things which are needed for the body, what does it profit? Thus, also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead. (James 2:14-17 NKJV)

This year we will be partnering with Sis. Nikki Waller and Officer Lolando Hamilton, Sr. (BCPD retired) in reaching the needy. In addition to their distribution of food and other items, we will be contributing hats, gloves, socks, and scarves to this cause. We accept monetary donations and/or any of these gently used items. The targeted date for distribution is December 18th. Because this is an ongoing issue, we appreciate any donations that you may give now and throughout the year. Thank you in advance for your generosity and for your past support.

Submitted by: Deaconess Mary Murphy, President

Photo courtesy of Bro. Roscoe Johnson, III

Deaconess Corner (continued)

Veterans Day

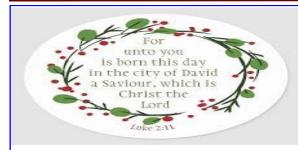
On November 7, 2021, we honored all of our veterans during the morning service. It provided us an opportunity to recognize and thank the loyal, dedicated, brave, and courageous young men and women who have performed such an invaluable service for our country and for the freedom that we enjoy today. We also thank our honored guest, The Retired Enlisted Association and Auxiliary, Chapter Nine, for their faithful attendance each year. A small token of our appreciation was given to each veteran after the morning service. Again, thank you veterans for your service.

"How important it is for us to recognize and celebrate our heroes and she-roes." Maya Angelou

Submitted by: Deaconess Mary H. Murphy, President



Sunday School



One of the most momentous and important events in the history of the world will be celebrated December 19, 2021 at 9:30 AM here at First Christian Community Baptist Church. What is it? That event is the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus the Christ. For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life (John 3:16).

We all owe a tremendous debt of gratitude for this most precious gift – the baby Jesus. We should marvel at the sacrifice Christ made to come to earth and become our sacrificial Lamb – the One who rescued us from death. So, come out to our Christmas Program and let us remember that sacrifice and joyfully praise and thank Him for this indescribable gift of salvation.

"For whatever things were written before were written for our learning, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope." (Romans 15:4)

Sunday School continues to be available via telephone each Sunday if you are not able to physically attend. If you are studying with us regularly, you understand how vitally important the Word is and how fellowshipping with our brothers and sisters in Christ encourages and strengthens us. Bible study helps us to gain a better understanding of who God is and His role in our lives; we gain a closer relationship with Him. We live in perilous times; therefore, we need to stay prayed up and armored with the WORD OF GOD. It is a defense against the enemy and resistance to temptation. It will help us persevere in times of trials and tribulations.

Peace and blessings to each of you and have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Submitted by: Deaconess Mary Murphy, Assistant Superintendent of Sunday School

Education Ministry Update

Congratulations to all students on persevering through the Fall semester. Enjoy your Winter break. Best wishes for the holiday season and for a safe and healthy Spring semester.

Thank you to the FCCBC community for your continued plate offerings each third Sunday. Your donation, no matter the size, contributes to the continued growth of our scholarship fund.

Submitted by: Sis. Sharon Johnson, Secretary



Youth Sunday School

Our Sunday School students are continuing to grow in the Word of God, and they are doing it in leaps and bounds. We are still conducting Sunday School via Facetime and in person.

Each Sunday, one of our students is called upon to open class with prayer, and at the end of class, to close out in prayer. Without hesitation, we are blessed with a beautiful prayer that comes from their heart.

"Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it." Proverbs 22:6 (KJV)

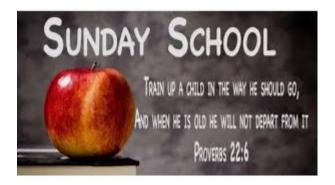
The Sunday school topic for this quarter was "Visions of Praise." John shares (Chapter 7, 11 and 19) visions of celebration for God's victory over Satan, evil, and sin. Our Sunday school lessons for three Sundays in November 2021 introduced our students to the Book of Revelations for the first time. Sister Ray did an excellent job in teaching these lessons. Our Sunday school students were blessed and acknowledged how much they enjoyed the lessons.

Many people view the Book of Revelations as a heavy, scary and fearful book, because of the blood-shed, strange creatures, and destruction. We must remember that God does not give us the spirit of fear. The true message of Revelations is to encourage the believers to remain faithful to Jesus.

In the end God will defeat ALL evil and those who promote it. On Jesus' return, all will be welcome who trusted HIM as their Savior. We will be co-heirs with Jesus in the new heaven and the new earth.

"Blessed is the one who reads aloud the Words of this prophesy, and blessed are those who hear it and take heart what is written." Revelations 1:3 (NIV)

Prayerfully submitted by: Sister Beverly Ward and Sister Angela Ray



Missionary Ministry

The Missionaries met in November 2021 to discuss what we would do for our holiday contribution to the Future Care facility. We normally have a holiday service and distribute gifts to the residents. The facility is not admitting visitors at this time and we decided that each missionary would get gift bags and fill them with toiletries for the residents. They may include toothpaste, toothbrushes, soap, socks, lotion, hand sanitizer, etc. Also, word find, crossword puzzles, crayons, pens, and pencils may be included. The Missionaries will meet at the church on Saturday December 18th. The gift bags will be delivered to Future Care.

Sis. Carolyn Laster Clark, President

Sis. Sheryl Farrare, Vice President

Resource Center Construction Progress Report

FCCBC's expansion project to create a Community Outreach and Resource center at 4201 Groveland Avenue is moving forward.

Construction started on September 20, 2021. Since that date, the project general contractor Sigma Development, LLC has made progress. The construction work underway includes site work for water/sewer lines, storm water management environmental pools, the building foundation, waterproofing of foundation and installation of footers for wall panels. During this time, wood frames for the two office spaces, conference rooms and restrooms have been installed on the building foundation slab.

We thank everyone for their continued financial support. Please consider completing an Outreach Center Financial Pledge form and return it to Trustee Carter, Trustee Dorsey, or Trustee Johnson.



Submitted by: FCCBC Planning Committee Ministry

Resource Center Construction Updates (continued)



Thanksgiving Day

In everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you "

[1 Thessalonians 5:18].

Thanksgiving Day is about giving thanks. It is also about prayer, feasting, spending time with family, football games, and parades. Each year on Thanksgiving Day, we come together to offer thanks for all the rich ways God has blessed us. For one hour we praised Him through song, prayer, and heartfelt testimonies about His goodness.



Rev. Delvon Houser preached a powerful sermon that served to remind us about the need to give thanks. The sermon about the ten lepers, referenced in Luke 17, was a vivid illustration of the gross ingratitude of nine lepers who had been healed by Jesus and neglected to give thanks. Conversely, only one lone leper was so grateful that he immediately returned and gave thanks for the healing of his leprosy.

With this story in mind and with all that we have been given in Christ, gratitude should be at the forefront of our consciousness each and every day. May we respond to God's gracious gifts by expressing our eternal gratitude to Him. "Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful." [Colossians 4:2]

With Gratitude: Deaconess Mary H. Murphy

WE ARE FAMILY Page 9

Service Updates

Thank you to all members for adhering to public health guidelines and doing their part to slow the spread of COVID-19. Please check U.S. Centers for Disease Control, the Maryland Department of Health, and local sources for the most current COVID-19 and variant information. For contact tracing, please notify the church if you test positive for COVID-19 or are quarantining due to close contact with someone diagnosed with COVID-19. If you are experiencing symptoms, please isolate yourself from others and get tested for COVID-19.

Our 11:00 Sunday morning worship service currently remains in-person for ninety minutes. Temperatures are taken, names recorded for contract tracing, and hand sanitizer provided to each person. Please see below and page for more information. Announcements and 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 Live or accessed via our website (https://myfccbc.org/).

Adult Sunday School devotions 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 will resume from break in January and will be held via audio conference call as well. Audio conference call access instructions are as follows:

To call in by teleconference, please call (412) 924-7173 (Note: Long distance charges may apply. Please check with your carrier). At the prompt, enter access code 872722# (no host code is needed).

NOTE: To check availability and schedule use of audio conference calls, ministry presidents must contact Trustee Dorsey.

Church bus riders will be picked up for Sunday School and dropped off after morning worship service. Church bus ministry safety precautions will continue as shared previously. Please reach out to Trustee Everett Cash by 9:00 p.m. on Saturday if you desire a ride to church.

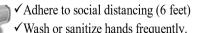
We look forward to resuming full in-person worship and fellowships. Please stay tuned for changes as conditions warrant. Trustee Dorsey will announce further updates via the 'robocall' messaging service. Please complete the Adult Member Information Sheet on page 17 to be added to the robocall roster.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

Until Further Notice – Upon Entering

- ✓EVERYONE must wear Face mask (<u>no exceptions</u>)...
- ✓ Temperature must be taken...

CDC guidelines ($100.4^{\circ}\,/\,38^{\circ}$ c) or above

NO ENTRY



Front Entrance to be used only ...





"Getting To Know You" - Bro. Keith Owens, Jr.

I begin this article by saying "They that wait upon the Lord..." we all know the rest. And wait I did. The Lord has blessed me with a new job after being out of work since September 2020. Allow me to bring you up to speed.



I graduated from Morgan State University with a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering back in May 2007. Since that time I've worked for a Land Development firm and two civil engineering consulting firms (Sabra, Wang & Associates, Inc. and Brudis & Associates, Inc., respectively). COVID-19 slowed down the rate in which projects were being awarded and I was let go from Brudis. I subsequently filed for unemployment insurance while continually looking for work in my field. When unemployment ran out, I secured a job at Target, Owings Mills in October 2021.

We all know that searching for a job can be grueling with or without a pandemic. After about a dozen or so applications with about half of them offering no response, I did get the opportunity to interview with one entity in early November 2021. Here is where I want to talk about how the prayers of the righteous availeth much. There have been a number of people who have poured themselves into me during my lifetime. It didn't stop there, but even in the midst of this pandemic, they thought of me and my situation. Indubitably my parents were going to stand by me, but also my entire extended family and my Church family.

On November 19, 2021 I accepted an offer from Harford County Parks and Recreation (the interviewers from earlier that month). I will be employed with them as a Civil Engineer II. I will be supervising projects in various stages of development. This is a step up from where I was previously. At my old job, I worked on no more than 4 projects at any given time and I only supervised myself. It is my understanding that I will have dozens of projects and a couple of engineers to supervise. I recall Pastor Tucker saying from the pulpit how God can elevate you to a new position even when you may not think you or others don't think you are qualified. However it is not what you have planned, it is what God has planned.

I would like to leave you with this passage from Romans 15:13 ... "Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."

Brother Keith Jr. is constantly working in the house of the Lord. He is involved with the music ministry. He directs the Voices of Praise and Humphrey Choral choirs. Since the pandemic, the church uses Facebook Live to reach our members and others who wish to worship with us. Brother Keith uses his technology skills to make sure we have a firm connection during the services.

Brother Keith Jr., your church family is very proud of your accomplishments in the church and in Getting to Know Pou your private life. We wish you much success in your new position.

Sis. Leslie Hyman

Coordinated by: Sis. Leslie Hyman

Youth Ministry presents Autumn Breeze

Under this realm of the Youth Ministry, the Education Ministry spearheaded a memorable "Trunk or Treat" activity on Saturday, October 30th from 4:00 - 6:00 p.m. on the church parking lot. Instead of going door to door, youths were able to safely social distance while going from one car to another, gathering candy and other sweet treats. Eighteen cars participated— with the adults dressing up and hosting their trunks decorated in a variety of creative themes.

There was a strong turnout of members and youth from the community dressed up in costumes. Prizes were given out for Hop Scotch and the Boo Pop Dart game. Planned crafts were not done due to the unpredictable weather.

There were four winners of the car contests:

Most Festive: Deacon Waller and Sis. Yvette Fowlkes Most Creative: Trustee Robert White (Boo pop dart game) Most Biblical: Brother Martie and Sis. La-Kia Kommeren

Each winner received a \$20 Amazon gift card donated by the Banks family.

We thank Lady Bridgete and the Culinary Ministry for preparing and providing free hot dogs, hamburgers, chips, ice cream, cookies, candy apples, and candy to all attendees.

Submitted by: Sis. Alexis Banks, President

Photos courtesy of Trus. Henry Smith, Sis. Alexis Banks, Sis. Cheryl McCottry, and Sis. La-Kia Kommeren



Women's Day Corner

The Women's Day Ministry

The Women's Day Ministry met on November 13, 2021 in the lower auditorium. We met to decide on our theme for Women's Day 2022. The women decided that the theme for 2022 will be "Women on the Move for Christ."

We discussed our planned wellness workshop. Lady Bridgett, Sister Sophie Tucker, Deacon Vurely Johnson and Trustee Marilyn Dorsey are team members. Our fasting/prayer exercise was discussed and Rev. Ervin has agreed to lead the women with our fasting beginning with our January meeting.

We did put dates on some of the activities that are planned for the year:

March 20 - Women's Concert

April 23 - Spring Bazaar

July 14 - Sight and Sound Bus trip (see flyer on page 24 for details)

August 6 - Jewelry Party

The women's annual financial assessment is \$175.00. A plate will be held each second Sunday.

Our next meeting will be held on January 15, 2022 at 12 noon.

Sis. Carolyn Laster Clark, Chairperson Sis. Annette Moore, Co-Chairperson



FCCBC Men's Ministry



FCCBC's annual Men's Day Celebration was held on November 7th. The theme was "Men Coming Together to Fellowship with Christ. "Rev. Freddie Samuels preached from the topic: "Watch Who You Fellowship With." His sermon was drawn from 1 John 1: 6 & 7.













Phot

The newly elected 2021-2022 Men's Ministry officers are:

Photos courtesy of Sis. Sharon Johnson

Chairman: Min. Harvey Moore Treasurer: Deacon Lawrence Waller

Co-Chairman: Bro. James Clark Secretary: Bro. Keith Owens, Jr.

Upcoming Men's Ministry meetings will be on Monday, January 24th, February 28th, and March 28th, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. A Men's fellowship meeting will also be held on Saturday, March 19th at 11:00 a.m.

Submitted by: Minister Harvey Moore

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ENDURANCE

The Bible says that endurance means:

"And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up." "As for you, brothers, do not grow weary in doing good." "For you have need of endurance, so that when you have done the will of God you may receive what is promised." "But the one who endures to the end will be saved.""

- E Enter into His gates with Thanksgiving
- N -Needs will be provided by God
- D Dwell into the House of the Lord
- U Understanding of God's Word
- R Run with perseverance
- A Always have faith
- N New Mercies
- C Cast out all fears
- E Endure to the end

NEVER EVER GIVE UP!!!!!!!

Giving Your Tithes and Offerings

Please continue to support the "**Plate Offerings**" for the following Ministries below. If you are using a church envelope, please annotate the ministry name and the amount you are giving that ministry. If you are using "Givelify" on-line service, use the column that says <u>other</u> and annotate the Ministry Name and amount you are giving that ministry.



1st Sunday = Missionary Ministry/Building Fund/Men's Day pledges
2nd Sunday = Floral Ministry/Women's Day pledges
3rd Sunday = Educational Fund Ministry
4th Sunday = Pastor's Aide Ministry
5th Sunday = If there's a fifth Sunday, please give to either the Missionary or Educational
Fund Ministries

Sunday School offering is collected every Sunday

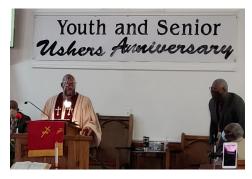


Submitted by: Finance Ministry

Combined Ushers Ministry

On November 14, 2021, the Combined Usher Board Ministry celebrated 69 years for the Senior Ushers and 73 years for the Youth Ushers. Because of the pandemic, this anniversary was like no other that we have ever experienced in the history of this Usher Board. What we have endured is a true test of our initiative, determination, and endurance to keep serving and working for the Lord. We are proud to be doorkeepers in the house of the Lord.

Our anniversary came without the pageantry of past Usher Board celebrations. There was no fellowship dinner, no visiting ushers, no marching up the King's highway, no afternoon service to commemorate such a milestone of dedicated service. Pastor Tucker acknowledged the Combined Usher Boards for their continued service and dedication and for a job well done. We presented a love offering to our President, Brother Tyrone Moore, for his dedication to the Usher Board. Brother Moore is always at his post on Sunday mornings greeting members and visitors and taking our temperatures due to COVID-19.







In 2020 and 2021, the Combined Usher Board Ministry was unable to fulfill our annual Thanksgiving basket outreach. I was contacted by several people for whom we had provided baskets in the past. I explained to them that due to the pandemic, we were unable to service this need at this time.

Concord Baptist Church had been providing boxes of food during the pandemic. I reached out to a former co-worker there, Deacon David Smith, to see if his church was giving out food donations for Thanksgiving. At the time of my inquiry, Deacon Smith did not know if they were going to be giving away any food. Deacon Smith and several of his members took it upon themselves to provide gift cards to help those persons who reached out to me to fulfill this need.

Deacon Smith was also instrumental in providing me with information about several more food pantries where people could receive food donations from other churches in and around Baltimore city and county. I passed this information on to Brother Moore, who was able to share and pass this information on to those who were in need. I am so thankful and grateful to Deacon Smith and his members for their assistance in helping us by reaching out and helping someone indirectly. Through his compassion to be a blessing not only the people who were in need, he was also blessing us.

GOD LOVES A CHEERFUL GIVER (Matthew 25: 40-45)

NOTE: Since the Ushers are few in number, Brother Moore is asking that ALL ushers be available to usher on all Sundays

Prayerfully Submitted By: Sister Beverly A. Ward

Sharing Their Technological Gifts

How fortunate as a church are we? To have such wonderful technology.

It provides sermons, updates, announcements, and other info for all to see.

We are living in times where technology is so important in our daily lives.

It harnesses the tools we need for our daily living, knowledge, and drives.

It has become essential and in many instances, cannot be avoided.

It is unimaginable if some things were not visible, saved, or recorded.

We are so blessed to have such tech savvy operators providing and managing

the tools at our house of worship.

They know just how and when to provide the appropriate slides and correct clips.

Having such technology allows valuable information to be shared with all.

No matter the event size, big or small.

It provides the best forms of communication for all of our Church family to be in the know.

Through the use of technology, we can get all updates and any other needed info.

There are many members behind the scenes to help make the tools available and ready for use.

Kudos to the Front line technology teamers who are sharing their

technological knowledge and gifts with us.

Having our own tech wizards is indeed a blessing and a plus.

We just want to give shout outs for jobs very well done!

Thank you Sofie Tucker, Keith Owens, Jr., and DeVaughn Banks, too!

We appreciate you sharing your gifts and all you do. Thank you!

Submitted by: Sis. 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—Winter by 3/21, Spring by 6/20, Summer by 9/21, and Fall by 12/20. The DEADLINE to submit articles, photos, and announcements will be 3/1/22, and 6/6/22, 9/4/22, and 12/4/2022.

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!

Winter newsletter photos, announcements, and articles will be due on 3/1/22.

Sis. Sharon Johnson, Editor and President, Newsletter Ministry

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.



Please help us to make sure we have accurate contact and personal information (birthday, anniversary, etc.... 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** 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:			Middle Name				Gender: Male/Female
	Title	First Name	Middle Name	Last Name		Nickname	
Spouse	2:						Wedding Date:
i i	Title	First Name	Middle Name	Last Name		Nickname	Month Date Yo
Addres	ss:						Apartment
City Sta	ate Zip:						
Home	Phone:(_			(Cell Phone:	()	
E-mail	Address:			@			Birthday:
Minist	ries I curre	ntly serve:					
What are your hobbies?:							
What is your occupation or vocation (trade, profession, business)?:							
If student, name, city, state of school:							
Grade,	/year:	Ma	ajor:		Expecte	d Degree	Graduation Date:
OFFICE USE ONLY							
Member	r Status:		Method of J	oining;			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:

The Jennings and Ervin families on the loss of Julia Briscoe (mother of Sis. Pamela Jennings)

The Chapman Family on the passing of Karen Chapman

The Stokes family on the passing of her Ora Lee Stokes

The Bright family on the transition of Sis. Evelyn Bright

The Phillips family on the passing of Douglas Bell

The Pledger family on the passing of Annie Gregory

Cast your burden on the Lord who will sustain you Psalm 55:22

When those we love have left this earth, we still can feel them near.

We'll see a picture, hear a song, and it's just like they are here.

And when we call upon our faith, when we believe and trust,

we know the ones we care about are always close to us.

Constance Parker Graham

Coping through the Holiday season

As we embark on the holiday season and sharing with family and friends, we sometimes find it extremely challenging to deal with a loss of a loved one. We share this season as a togetherness, yet a void reminds us that things will never be the same. It is ok to celebrate. Try to use this time to reflect on the good times of those that are no longer with us. If you need to cry, by all means do so. Take time to take care of you, but if you need to talk to someone—please reach out to family, friends, co-workers — anyone with a listening ear. Remember Jesus is the reason for the season.

From the FCCBC Bereavement Ministry

Potpourri



Baby Dedication



Evyn Alexander Givens

Mother: Ashley Givens Father: Devin Givens

The Importance of Estate Planning

On May 1, 2020, my daughter Mahasin Leak passed on August 13, 2020, my husband and Malik Habeebullah. This was a very hard time for me and family. Neither Mahasin nor Malik had wills or named personal representatives/Estate Executors. I know that they loved us, but did not think it was important. It's so unfair to families and children. I had to hire an attorney to take care of their affairs. It has taken almost a year and a half to get everything taken care of. Some do not understand the importance of making a will or identifying someone to handle your affairs.

After this happened, I learned a number of things that I would like to share. Here are suggestions on what we need to do:

- 1. Talk about your homegoing service with family members
- 2. All family members should consider having life insurance policies
- 3. Identify a personal representative and nominate guardians responsible for minor children in family
- 4. Wills are very important. Make a valid will to specify how your money, homes, cars, and other assets are to be distributed and who will be in charge. I and all of my children have wills.

God bless everyone!

Sis. Diane Habeebullah

Editor's Note: Visit the Maryland Office of the Register of Wills website at http://registers.maryland.gov/main/home.html for additional resources on wills, probate, and the registering of wills for each Maryland jurisdiction.

Helpful Hints

Coffee makers that use pods, such as Keurig, should be cleaned once a month. Mineral build-up can cause slow brewing and can affect the taste of your morning coffee. There are products you can purchase to clean your coffee maker, a descaling solution that may cost you up to \$13.00 for 14 ounces If you don't want to spend that much money for a cleaning solution, the next best thing to use is all purpose white vinegar.

Place one cup of white vinegar into the water reservoir, then add cold water up to the max line. Allow the water to run through the brewing system. Once the reservoir is empty, continue to run cold water for several more times (at least four times) to remove any left over residue. This is an inexpensive way to clean your coffee maker. "I can do all things -through prayer and coffee."

Source: Consumer Reports – How to Clean Practically Anything

Submitted by: Sister Beverly A. Ward



Mahasin and Malik Habeebullah

Photos courtesy of Sis. Diane Habeebullah

Potpourri (continued)

Mental Health Issues Are Real

We are living in some times where life can be very trying.

Things are happening everywhere and many people are dying.

The world has been exposed to two years of devastation and unexpected turns.

No one knew what and where the pandemic was taking the world or how long it would last.

The Center of Disease Control knew that before them was quite a task.

People were steadily becoming ill and many losing their lives.

As people continued getting sick, many of them were unable to survive.

What we experienced was more than many people could bear.

It left so many people feeling stressed and full of despair.

When we take on burdens of the world, it can make us feel strengthless and weak.

This can cause the mind to lose focus and not think straight;

Many lose control of their minds and some even their fates.

Not knowing what thoughts to let go or which to keep.

When we are faced with those kinds of situations, It is God we should seek.

People tend to panic and forget who and Whose they are.

It is God who can provide us with the necessary protection.

All we need to do is make the needed connection.

Staving focused on God's Word can keep us mentally aware.

That no matter what, He Will always be there!

We must be tuned in to the mental as well as the physical health.

Both are important for us to be our very best healthy self.

Know that mental health issues are real and should be addressed;

Stay focused on God and you will have less stress and He Will order your steps.

Submitted by: Sister Mae Williams

FCCBC Culinary Ministry Seeking New Members

The Culinary Ministry is seeking new members. No experience needed. Must be dependable & physically able ...

Ministry Purpose: Render our gifts, talents; serve with a loving willing spirit

Ministry Mission: 1 Corinthians 10:24 ... Let no one seek his own good, but that of his neighbor ...

Ministry Role: Maintain and operate commercial kitchen within the church based on HACCP Plans,

COMAR, ServeSafe and FCCBC Standard Operating Culinary Procedures. Ensure guidelines are being upheld in preparing, cooking and serving food for the congregation and community.

Contact: Bridgett S. Tucker, Kitchen Manager bridgetttucker@hotmail.com (410) 428-1111

Public Service/Church Notices

From the Centers for Disease Control (CDC)

Travelling domestically? for the latest guidance on travelling domestically please visit https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/travel-during-covid19.html.

COVID-19 vaccines and booster vaccines have been approved. Learn more about vaccine development and the benefits of getting a COVID-19 vaccination at

www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019ncov/vaccines/index.html

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

More information is available at https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/index.html

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

Church Bus Ministry Safety Precautions

To help prevent exposure to COVID-19, several measures are being taken. Sis. Angie will check all prospective rider's temperature before they board the bus. Hand sanitizer, masks, and shields will be made available to all riders. Each passenger must clean their hands with hand sanitizer prior to boarding the bus. Masks/face coverings must be worn at all times by the driver and all passengers. Physical distancing will be practiced as far away as possible and bus capacity limits reduced. The bus will be cleaned after each trip. Eating and drinking are prohibited on the bus.

Please do not ride the bus if you feel ill or have been exposed to COVID-19. Thank you.

Choosing a Mask: Dos and Donts

DO choose masks that



Have two or more layers of washable, breathable fabric



Completely cover your nose and mouth



Fit snugly against the sides of your face and don't have gaps



Have a nose wire to prevent air from leaking out of the top of the mask

DO NOT choose masks that



Are made of fabric that makes it hard to breathe, for example, vinyl



Have exhalation valves or vents, which allow virus particles to escape



Are intended for healthcare workers, including N95 respirators

cdc.gov/coronavirus

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/about-face-coverings.html

Blessings and Birthday Wishes To:

January 2021

Bro. Lamont Aldridge Master DeVaughn Banks Trus. Everett Cash Sis. Lysa Davis Miss Amaya Heaggans Sis. Lauren Highsmith Sis. Amanda Hornes Sis. Ashanti Horton Sis. Joyce Jackson Bro. Rupert Jackson Sis. Pamela Jennings Sis. Mary Jones Trustee Steven Jones Miss Faith Nichols Sis. Nancy Pope Trus. John C. Sanders Sis. Kaitlyn Sanders Trustee Robert White Bro. Kendrick Winters Bro. Larry Womack

<u>February 2021</u> Special Honorees: Deaconess Vurely Johnson

February 2021 (continued)

Sis. Sybil Adams
Sis. Dorothy Arthur
Trustee Shirley Carter
Trustee Marilyn Dorsey
Bro. Keefe Flanigan
Miss Maya Jones
Sis. Shirley Kenol
Sis. Sadie Knight
Sis. Angela Ray
Bro. Jonathan Sanders

March 2021

Bro. Carlton Allen
Miss Autumn Banks
Bro. Michael Bright, Jr.
Faith Carter-Topp
Sis. Asia Davis
Sis. Joyce Harris
Bro. Louis Highsmith
Sis. Lois Knight Harrison
Sis. Cheryl McCottry
Sis. Rosetta Quarles
Trustee Brenda Sanders
Sis. Adrienne Thomas

March 2021 (continued)

Sis. Mary Vaeth Bro. Michael Tynee Sis. Mae Williams Sis. Teyonna Wright

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



Member and visitor birthday honorees—

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

Wedding Anniversary Wishes

December (inadvertently omitted)

11th—Bro. Martie & Sis. La-Kia Kommeren (8 years)

<u>January</u>

None

February

12th—Bro. John & Dorothy Arthur (63 years)

16th—Bro. Roscoe & Trus. Sharon Johnson (31 years)

24th—Trus. John & Sis. Karen Sanders (31 years)

25th—Bro. James & Deaconess Vurely Johnson (27 years)

March

1st—Bro. Devin & Sis. Ashley Givens (8 years)

So that we might acknowledge your wedding anniversary, please notify Trustee Marilyn Dorsey, email newsletter@myfccbc.org, or complete and submit a Member Contact Information Form (see page 17) to Trustee Dorsey





Congratulations to
Bro. Precious Hale, Jr. and
Sis. Lorraine Hale! They celebrated
their ten year wedding anniversary
vow renewal on October 17, 2021 at
the Gala Center. Pastor Tucker
officiated.

Regularly Scheduled Ministries

Our Known Sick & Shut-In

	Time	Day
Sunday School	9:30 - 10:30a.m.	Sunday
New Members' Ministry	9:45 - 10:45 a.m.	1" & 2" Sunday
Baptismal Service	9:30 a.m.	Third Sunday
Mid-Day Bible Study	1:00 - 2:00 p.m.	Tuesday
Evening Prayer Service	{Currently Suspended}	First Wednesday of each month
Evening Bible Study	7:00 - 8:00 p.m.	Wednesday
Choir Rehearsals	7:00 p.m.	Refer to monthly schedule
Men's' Fellowship & Meeting	6:00 - 7 p.m.	4 ^⁴ Monday

Current Times & Days as January /2022 - {Subject to change

Church Calendar

January 2022

15 Women's Day Ministry meeting	Noon
16 Baptismal Service (if candidates and re	opened) 9:30 a.m.
16 Installation Service for Officeholders	Morning Worship Service
24 Men's Ministry meeting	6:00 p.m.

February 2022

14 Greater St. John worships with us	3:30 p.m.
20 Baptismal Service (if candidates and reopened)	9:30 a.m.
21 Black History program	3:30 p.m.
28 Men's Ministry meeting	6:00 p.m.

March 2022

3	Quarterly Official Board meeting		7:00 p.m.
7	We worship with Greater St. John		3:30 p.m.
19	Men's Fellowship meeting		11:00 a.m.
20	Baptismal Service (if candidates and re	eopened)	9:30 a.m.
20	Women's concert		
21	Official Day	Morning Wors	hip Service

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 robocalls. Please complete the Member Contact Information Form (see page 17 for details)

Dea. Walter Adams (Home)

Mother Lillie Mae Campbell (Home)

Sis. Pam Chapman (Home)

Sis. Nancy Pope (Home)

Trus. John Spencer (Home)

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	

Please alert the Officials of illness or deaths.

In God's House...

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

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

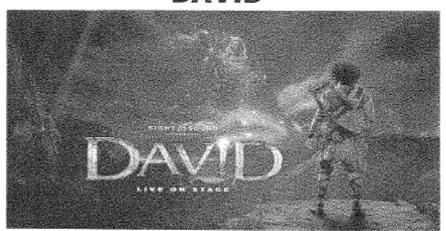
Welcome to our New/Reinstated Members



Upcoming Women's Day Ministry Bus Trip

First Christian Community Baptist Church & Rev. Dr. Alphonso Tucker, Pastor Along With Curran Travel, Inc. Group Tours & Cruises Present:

SIGHT AND SOUND THEATER "DAVID"



THURSDAY, JULY 14, 2022

Trip Itinerary:

\$155.00 PER PERSON

Depart First Christian Community Baptist Church at 9:30 AM

Luncheon Smorgasbord at Shady Maple at 11:30 AM

Admission to Sight and Sound's "DAVID" Show at the Millennium Theatre in Lancaster, PA at 3:00 PM

Depart for Home Approximately 5:45 PM

For More Information Please Contact: Sis Leslie Hyman at 410-370-4772 \$25.00 Deposit Due by 12/15/21 Final Due By 6/30/22

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: FCCBC

PLEASE BRING OR MAIL CHECKS TO: FIRST CHRISTIAN BAPTIST COMMUNITY CHURCH 4116 GROVELAND AVENUE

BALTIMORE, MD 21215

Outreach Center Pledge Campaign

ret

First Christian Community Baptist Church	RELOKN THIS PORTION TO APPROPRIATE TRUSTEE	PRIATE TRUSTEE
Outreach Center	Pint Last Name of Piedger First Name	Name
Financial Pledge	Email Address OR Mailing Address Best C	Best Contact Number
	Pledge Amount	
	\$100 \$200 \$300	Other:
	Period of Pledge	
	One Time Piedge	s Six Months
4 4 4 5	□ Nine Months □ 1 Year	Monthly (Duration of Ten-Year Loan)
You're Making a Difference	Specified Period of time:	
By pledging to become a financial supporter for the "FCCBC Outreach Center", your generosity will significantly support the daily operations and monthly financial obligations that will help sustain this great work God has	Start Date: (mm/dd/yyyy)	
called us to do in spreading the Gospel.	End Date: (mm/dd/yyyy)	
Future Use of Center:	Total Amount of Pledge:	dee:
 Administrative Offices 		
Community Resources	Form of Payment:	
Vacation Bible School	☐ Check: Make payable to FCCBC (Note) Pledge Fund	pu
	Cash: Place in designated envelope	
Pledge Campaign Approved by Rev. Dr. Alphonso Tucker, Pastor g Project Planning Committee - 4116 Groveland Ave., Balto, MD 21215—www.myfoobc.org (410) 664-7443	Electronic: http://www.givelify.com (Note) Pledge Find Please	Please DON'T acknowledge me publicly Date Received:
"We Are Family"		Trustee Initials:

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:

The following are several recent sermons:

<u>August 29th</u> - Rev. Dr. Alphonso Tucker, Pastor, "A Simple Act of Obedience", **II King 5:9-14**

<u>September 5th</u> - Rev. Dr. Alphonso Tucker, Pastor, "The Power Behind the Tongue", **James 3:5-10**

<u>September 8th</u> - Min. Harvey Moore - "Grace Broke All The Rules", **Romans 3:19-26**

<u>September 19th</u> - Rev. Dr. Freddie Samuels - "They Said", **Job 32:1-4**

<u>September 26th</u> - Rev. Delvon Houser - "Counted Worthy of Double Honor", **1 Timothy 5:17**

Submitted by: Sis. Sofie Tucker







May peace and happiness reign in your home this Christmas and may the new year be loaded with blessings for your family.

December 2021

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