

The FCCBC CONNECTION

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



We Are Family



Photos courtesy of Trustee Sharon Johnson and Trustee Henry Smith

Youth and Young Adult Day service/cookout held on 6/14/23. Story/photos on page 16.

Service Times

<i>Sunday School</i>	<i>Sun. 9:30 a.m.</i>
<i>Sunday Service</i>	<i>Sun. 11:00 a.m.</i>
<i>Mid-Day Bible Study</i>	<i>Tues. 1:00 p.m.</i>
<i>Prayer & Praise Service</i> <i>(first Wednesday of each month)</i>	<i>Wed. 6:00 p.m.</i>
<i>Bible Study</i>	<i>Wed. 7:00 p.m.</i>
<i>Youth/Young Adult Bible Study</i>	<i>Thurs., 7:00 p.m.</i>

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To call in to Sunday School or Bible Study by teleconference, please dial (412) 924-7173. At the prompt, enter Access Code: 872722# (NOTE: Long distance charges apply. Please check with your carrier).

Message From Our Pastor



“What does it profit, my brethren, if someone says he has faith but does not have works?”
(James 2:14 NKJV)

All of us have been assigned by God to do a particular work. All of God’s children have been given a specific assignment as it relates to the Kingdom of God. Some have been assigned to sing, others may be assigned to teach, or minister, or usher. In other words we all have been assigned, or given by God something to do. Of course, what we do in Church does not cover all that we have been assigned to do. Our works for Christ extend throughout our entire lives.

Sometimes during our work; we get tired and complacent. There are times when we become bored or distracted. Yes, there will be times when we even become discouraged and disappointed in our work. Many may even feel like King Solomon felt in Ecclesiastes 2: 17-26, as he described his dissatisfaction in working hard only for someone else less wise or resourceful to reap the benefits.

However, in James 2:14-17, he describes the importance of “faith and works.” The Bible clearly teaches us that we cannot earn our way to heaven. Also good works and loving service to God are not a substitute FOR our faith in Christ, but it is a verification OF our faith in Christ. What James is teaching us is that even though good works can never earn salvation; genuine faith in God ALWAYS results in a changed life of good works.

I am so excited to be able to see the great work that God is doing in the lives of His people. I am equally excited to see the work that He is doing in the life of our Church. As we are now actively operating out of the FCCBC Community Outreach Center, it serves as a perfect example of what James teaches about the relevancy of “faith and works.”

How do you know that your faith works, if you don’t put it to work? Keep the Faith Family and Keep Up the Good Work! “Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone.” (James 2:17 KJV)

Humbly Submitted,
Pastor Alphonso Tucker, Servant

14th Pastoral Anniversary

FCCBC will be honoring Pastor and Lady Tucker’s fourteen years of service, leadership, care, and love. Anniversary celebration activities are in the planning stage. Look out for announcements and Robocalls. We are planning to show our LOVE!

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: The Courtesy Phone in the Lower Auditorium (410-367-9776) has been discontinued. Please call (410) 664-7443 to reach the church (Pastor’s study).		
Conference Call Dial-In Number (as directed)		412-924-7173, Enter Access Code: 872722#

Holy Week 2023

Holy Week (also known as Passion week) is the time from Palm Sunday through Easter (Resurrection Sunday). Also included within Holy Week are Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday. On **Palm Sunday**, Jesus made His triumphant entry into Jerusalem where He declared His Messiahship and His kingship. Pastor Tucker preached on the topic of “*Who is This?*” The scriptural reference was Matthew 21:8-10. The answer was “*He is Jesus, the king, the Son of the Most High.*” Of course, knowing this is not enough, he said. We need to give Him all of our praise because He is: our Rock, water in dry places, bridge over troubled waters, Lord mighty in battle, the Bright and Morning Star, Alpha and Omega, the Lily of the Valley. Also, He is a problem solver, a healer, and burden bearer.

In addition to the sermon, the Male chorus outdid themselves singing “*Ride on King Jesus*” and “*Anointing Fall on Me.*” After praying over the palms by the pastor, they were distributed to the congregation.

On **Ash Wednesday**, a reference to Judas’ action in Matthew 26:14-16, we had prayer and praise service which was led by the deacons. Many congregants praised and thanked God through their testimonies for His love, grace, goodness and mercy. The Bible tells us in 1 Thessalonians 5:18 to give thanks in everything because it is the will of God. Psalm 150 commands everything that has breath to praise the Lord.

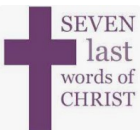
On **Thursday**, we took the time to remember and celebrate **Maundy Thursday**; this was led by the deaconesses. Maundy Thursday refers to the commands Jesus gave His disciples at the Last Supper: to love with humility by serving one another and to remember His sacrifice. In remembering Jesus’ sacrifice for our salvation, we also remember the service we owe others.

On **Good Friday**, we had the Seven Last Words of Christ by our Associate Ministers. In spite of time constraints, they were able to deliver the message in a succinct, compelling, and timely fashion (See the chart of the Seven Last Words below).

THE SEVEN LAST WORDS OF CHRIST

		Scripture	Preacher
Word #1	THE WORD OF FORGIVENESS “Father, forgive them for they know not what they do.”	Luke 23:34	Rev. Debbie Ervin
Word #2	THE WORD OF SALVATION “Verily I say unto the, today shalt thy be with me in paradise.”	Luke 23:43	Min. Deborah Seay
Word #3	THE WORD OF LOVE “Woman, behold thy son...Behold thy mother.”	John 19:25-27	Evang. Gwendolyn McKeever
Word #4	THE WORD OF ATONEMENT “My God, My God, why have you forsaken me?”	Matthew 27:46	Evang. Juliette Samuels
Word #5	THE WORD OF PHYSICAL SUFFERING “I Thirst.”	John 19:28	Rev. Freddie Samuels
Saying #6	THE WORD OF TRIUMPH “It is finished.”	John 19:30	Rev. Harvey Moore
Saying #7	THE WORD OF REUNION “Father, into your hands I commit my spirit.”	Luke 23:46	Rev. Delvon Houser

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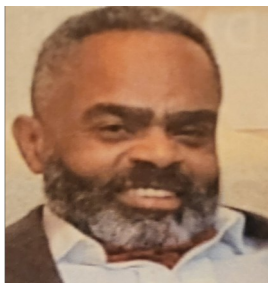
Holy Week (continued)

On **Holy Saturday**, we had a Churchwide Fast from 6 a.m.-6 p.m. That was one way of telling God that our priority at this time is to be alone with Him. It was a way of humbling ourselves before God and a part of the discipline of self-control. It was a way of sharing that we depend on God alone and draw all our strength and resources from Him. On this fast we went without food from 6 a.m. -6 p.m. However, we can fast from anything. If we give up something we love, e.g., sports, a concert or your favorite TV show, etc. to spend time with God, that is fasting also. It's just telling God that your priority at that moment is to be alone with Him. It is an opportunity for God to refresh our minds and address sin in our lives.

The week culminated in our resurrection message that was preached by our pastor at FCCBC and lived streamed on Facebook on Easter, **Resurrection Sunday**. The Resurrection was the greatest event in the history of man. Without the resurrection, our faith would be futile (1 Cor. 15:17)) The pastor's topic was "Joy in the Morning," (Matthew 28:5-8). It was a reminder that joy does not refer to a time of day but any time that our temporary troubles are over and we can experience joy. Good Friday was the worst day in history but joy came on the third day when Jesus conquered death and the grave; this was the best day, a joyous day!

Submitted by Deaconess Mary H. Murphy

Ordination of Deacon Flanigan



Praise the Lord! Bro. Bruce Flanigan was ordained as a deacon at FCCBC on July 28, 2023. Deacon Flanigan's ordination preparation extended over several months with his catechizer Deacon James Gardner, Wayland Baptist Church.

The FCCBC family, invited deacons, and guests participated in the Deacon Ordination examination and service. The Ordination service opened with devotions. Deacon Gardner served as Bro. Flanigan's catechist as well as the moderator for the Deacon's Examination. Bro. Flanigan adeptly answered all questions presented. A motion was made to suspend the Deacon Examination questions and to move forward with ordination, which was seconded and approved.

The choir led the congregation in singing "God Said He Would Be With Me." Pastor Tucker introduced the guest minister, Rev. Haywood Bradley, Jr., Pastor of New Pleasant Grove Missionary Baptist Church. He preached on the theme, "Reasonable Service," drawn from Romans 12:1.

The Baptist Deacons Conference of Baltimore and Vicinity moved forward with The Acts of Ordination. Deacon James Miller presided. Deacon Allen Bland, First Baptist Church Cherry Hill, opened with a fervent ordination prayer. Deacon Tyrone Bond presented a bible followed by the presentation of a hymn book by Deacon Greg Prioleau, Fountain Baptist Church. Deacon Christopher Mack presented a Communion Kit. Deacon Garner presented the charge. Chairman Waller offered remarks and led the Right Hand of Fellowship. Pastor Tucker presented Deacon Flanigan with a certificate. Deacon Flanigan made remarks, thanking his family, his church family, and fiancé for their support. He thanked Pastor Tucker for observing him for a period of time, not knowing he was looking for a possible candidate. Also for his patience and initial preparation for the training classes he would be partaking in to become a deacon. The service was concluded with pastoral remarks and the benediction.

"This is the Lord's doing, it is marvelous in our eyes." Psalms 118:23 (KJV)

Missionary Ministry Anniversary 2023

The Missionaries had a fabulous anniversary on July 30th! Each Missionary was dressed in a white outfit adorned by a black corsage and a black fascinator. They looked magnificent!

Sis. Shirl Farrare served as worship leader and did a wonderful job. Sis. Zenobia McLaughlin led the responsive reading and Evangelist Gwen McKeever delivered a soul-stirring prayer. Sis. Jackie Ward welcomed visitors and members.

Deaconess Hallie Allen made special presentations to Pastor Tucker, Lady Bridgett Tucker, and a special plaque was presented to Mother Lillie Mae Campbell (accepted on her behalf by her daughter, Sis. Mae Williams). Sister Farrare presented flowers and a monetary gift on behalf of the Missionaries to the Missionary Ministry president, Sis. Carolyn Clark.

We had a special gift, a liturgical dancer. Daphne Hicks of St. Peter Catholic Church was our special surprise. She performed a beautiful spiritual dance that had many on their feet and tears in their eyes.

The choir performed in its usual spirit-filled fashion putting all in the mood to praise the Lord.

Deaconess Eileen McCloud introduced the speaker and added a nice little story of how she was familiar with both his mother and his father.

Finally, the preached word was delivered by Rev. Tyrell Laster of New Christian Memorial Church where the Pastor is Rev. Elliott Rice. His topic was entitled "Take Me to the King" and his scripture was taken from Luke 8:43-48. Rev. Laster has a unique way of delivering the Word and he preached a dynamic sermon that was received well by all. Closing comments were made by Sis. Carolyn Clark and Pastor Tucker.

Everything went well and a spirit-filled time was had by everyone.

Submitted by: Sis. Carolyn Clark



Photos courtesy of Sis. Sharon Johnson

What A Wonderful Honor

I just want to Thank God for giving me a church family like FCCBC. I am so grateful and humbled by the honor given to me by the Missionary Ministry. The plaque is simply beautiful and it represents the Love God has allowed us to share. I thank God for you all remembering me in so many ways. God sends us angels in many different ways and in the form of people just like you all. Thank you God for all of my dear darlings. Please continue to pray for my strength in the Lord.

Love and Blessings to All of My Dear Darlings,

Mother Lillie Mae Campbell

Juneteenth Observance

On Sunday, June 18th, we celebrated Juneteenth, a national holiday. Deaconess Hallie Allen gave us a brief history of this important day about the delayed emancipation of many slaves. It celebrated the freedom of those who did not know they were free until more than two years after the Emancipation Proclamation. Juneteenth is also a “symbolic date” representing the African American struggle for freedom and equality, and a celebration of family and community.

Many congregants proudly wore their Juneteenth T-Shirts. This event serves to remind us not to take our freedom for granted. There are many who strive to reverse many of the rights and privileges that our ancestors fought and died for. Be ever vigilant and “LEAD OUT LOUD.” Let your voice be heard whether it is at the polls, podium or pulpit. We must speak up and speak out for anything or anybody who seeks to jeopardize our hard-earned rights and freedom. According to Coretta Scott King, civil rights activist, **“Struggle is a never-ending process. Freedom is never really won; you earn it and win it in every generation.”**

Submitted by: Deaconess Mary Murphy



Photos courtesy of Trustee Henry Smith

Support Our Newsletter

The *FCCBC Connection* continues as a triannual publication. The newsletter purpose is 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....). Help us share YOUR good news!

Newsletters will be distributed each April, August, and December. **Tentative deadlines to submit articles, photos, and announcements will be 11/12/23, 3/10/24, and 7/9/24.**

All ministries are asked to designate a newsletter representative and to alert the Newsletter ministry of contact changes. Ministry representatives and members are asked to email photos, articles, announcements, information and suggestions to newsletter@myfccbc.org or submit to Trustee Sharon Johnson by the deadline.

NOTE: It is the ministry’s responsibility to arrange for photography services. Please reach out to Trustee Henry Smith at least two weeks before the event date.

Thanks to all for supporting our newsletter ministry!

Trustee Sharon Johnson, Editor and President, Newsletter Ministry

Service Updates

After many months of declining numbers, the U.S. is experiencing a late summer COVID-19 surge with cases and hospitalizations on the rise. Individuals are encouraged to receive COVID vaccines/boosters and follow precautions (frequent handwashing, wearing masks, and avoiding crowded indoor spaces. Visit www.cdc.gov for recommendations for isolation and precautions for people with COVID-19.

Our 11:00 Sunday morning worship service remains as full indoor in-person worship. Afternoon/evening services have resumed. **As of 8/18/23, Face coverings are OPTIONAL and we have discontinued the taking of temperatures, recording of names, and providing masks. Hand sanitizer remains available. For contact tracing, please notify church staff 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.**

Please stay tuned for changes and updates as conditions warrant. Trustee Dorsey will announce further updates via the One Call Now 'robocall' messaging service. Please complete an Adult Member Information Sheet (see page 31) to be added to the robocall roster, update your contact information, or provide your emergency contact's information.

Announcements and sermons continue to be streamed live beginning at approximately 11:30 a.m. via Facebook Live (<https://www.facebook.com/FirstChristianCommunityBaptistChurch/>). 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 in-person and via FaceTime (please reach out to Sis. Sofie Tucker to join in via FaceTime). Youth and Young Adult Bible Study is being conducted by Rev. Houser on Thursdays from 7-8 p.m. via SKYPE. Bible Study will resume on September 5th-6th. Changes in modes of delivery will be announced.

Audio conference call access instructions are as follows:

To call in to Sunday School or Bible Study by tele-conference, please dial (412) 924-7173. At the prompt, enter Access Code: 872722# (NOTE: Long distance charges apply. Please check with your carrier).

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

Church Announcements

All church announcements must be submitted to Trustee Marilyn Dorsey by e-mail, text, or hand delivery one week prior to the desired announcement date. Thank you.



F.C.C.B.C. SECURITY TEAM

The F.C.C.B.C. Security Team is in place each and every Sunday. You may recognize Security Team members with earpieces and Security hats. It is our goal to keep access to and from the church safe for members and visitors at all times. The security team will be making patrols prior to, during, and after each service. We encourage all members to ensure that your vehicles are locked and valuables placed out of sight to deter theft. Remember that security requires everyone to be aware of their surroundings and report any suspicious activity to any member of the Security Team.

Submitted by: Brother Michael Seay

Deacon's Corner

Grace be unto you, and peace, from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ (Philippians 1:2 KJV)

For God is my record, how greatly I long after you all in the bowels of Jesus Christ. (Philippians 1:8 KJV)

Once again, I greet you in the name of Jesus -- the name that we declare is above every name. I pray that you all have had a wonderful, fruitful, and safe summer and enjoyed the people, places, and things that came your way. The God that we serve never sleeps nor slumbers. Always remember to take a "Self-Care" day - a day that you spend doing whatever makes you happy or gives you the most peace. Self-care is so very important. It gives your body time to recharge.

The Baptist Deacons Conference of Baltimore and vicinity and its auxiliary held their Spring Revival at FCCBC from Tuesday, June 6th, through Thursday, June 8th, 2023. Pastor Tucker served as the Revivalist. We had a wonderful three nights of teaching and preaching.

Vacation Bible School was held June 26th - June 29th at FCCBC as well as our newly built Community Outreach Center located at 4201 Groveland Ave. Four days of studying within the classrooms. The teachers took charge of their classes, where our theme was "Leading Out Loud" drawn from Proverbs 31:8-9. In-class activities concluded on June 29th. On Friday, June 30th, we journeyed to Cambridge, MD to learn about the Underground Railroad and experiences during the times of slavery. We visited the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad Visitor Center and traveled to numerous historically significant sites. After the tour, we fellowshiped and had lunch together to discuss our feelings about what we saw and learned.

On Monday July 17th - 21st, I attended The National Baptist Deacons Convention at *The Double Tree Hilton Hotel*, in Columbia, SC. Our theme was "I Press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 3:14). It was a very spirit-led experience for the week. filled with workshops, bible classes, church services, and fellowship. We started each day with an early morning (5 a.m.) prayer service. The daily workshops were based on the theme and each evening the service (7 p.m.) reiterated what we learned within the workshop. We held our communion service on Tuesday night.

The work of the Lord is never completed. We know that there's Kingdom building work to be done. Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest." (Matthew 9:37-38 ESV).

On Friday July 28th at 7 p.m., Bro. Bruce Flanigan was set apart. He answered the calling that was put upon his heart and was ordained into the Diaconate Ministry. Pastor Haywood Bradley, Jr. was the preacher for the occasion. I am grateful to God that Dea. Flanigan answered the call and I look forward to working with him because God's word is truth. "And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved." (Acts 2:47 KJV)

I thank God for Pastor Tucker, who has been laboring, being a servant for God, and feeding the flock. When there is praying in the pew, there will be preaching in the pulpit. When the pastor is free to devote himself to the word of God, the Holy Spirit will convict him and cause him to make sense of his ministry. When the Pastor makes sense of the Ministry, God will honor his obedience and send the increase.

Myself, Pastor Tucker, as well as the Diaconate Ministry really appreciate all of the visitors each Sunday. I especially would like to thank my first cousins Wendy Ford, Avis Burs, Jennifer Glass, and Debra Garner for worshipping with us in June. They traveled from Virginia, New York, and North Carolina. Words cannot express my gratitude for my family's support. Looking out into our congregation seeing their faces really warmed my heart.

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Deacon's Corner (continued)

Continue praying for the Diaconate Ministry that we remain dedicated to the Ministry and be available to God for His purposes. Pray without ceasing for our sick and shut-in members, family, for we know that the prayers of a righteous man availeth much. Mother Lillie Mae Campbell, Sis. Sophia Tucker, Tru. Rudolph Cole, Sis. Barbara Cole, Sis. Perlizer Davis, Pastor James Butler, and Bro. and Sis. Willie Webb are just a few. I am sure there are more, and I pray that those names that aren't mentioned here know that we are praying for you and that WE ARE FAMILY.

Humbly Submitted,
Deacon Lawrence Waller

Diaconate Ministry Outreach



On June 17, 2023, in keeping with First Christian's commitment to reach out and help someone along the way, the [Helping Up Mission](#) was provided a substantial amount of toiletry items donated by members of First Christian Community Baptist Church. The items were delivered directly to the mission by Deacon Keith Owens, his wife Kitty, his granddaughter Karlyece, Deaconess Mary Murphy, Deaconess Hallie Allen, and her daughter Audrey Highsmith. Brother Everett Cash, as always, was generous with his time by driving the church bus.

The items were received by members of Helping Up Mission who were so appreciative. Deacon Owens provided a word of prayer and a group photo was taken. We are blessed by God to be able to conduct these outreach activities and look forward to more opportunities to share God's love with others.

Submitted by: Deacon Keith Owens, Sr.

Photo courtesy of Sis. Audrey Highsmith

Deaconess Corner

Deaconess Outreach

Clothe yourselves with compassion. (Colossians 3:12-14)

As children of God, we strive to act with Christlike compassion when we see others in need. All around us are needs and those needs motivate us to act. On June 17th, 2023, we pooled our resources with the deacons to accommodate their outreach (*see details in article above*). On our next outreach venture, we will be accepting food, clothing, personal care items, and monetary contributions. We thank all whose acts of love and generosity contributed to this cause. You may bring in your donations at any time because this is an ongoing outreach.

Submitted by: Deaconess Mary Murphy

A Suggested List for Homeless Outreach can be found on page 27

We thank you for your donation!



The Sunday School ministry

“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 NKJV

Why go to Sunday School or study your Bible? In addition to the aforementioned Scripture, we have additional reasons to do so. This not only strengthens the faithful, but the church as well.

1. It provides a forum for learning. It encourages spiritual interaction between students and teachers, as well as providing a comprehensive way of learning as a group.
2. It helps fulfill the call of assembly of the saints. Sunday school sets the stage for better understanding of the morning service (Hebrews 10:24-25).
3. It is a form of fellowship. Assembling together with the saints is a form of fellowship that we are all *commanded* to do as believers and followers of Jesus Christ (Acts 2:42).
4. It is a way of preparation for the worship service. (Psalm 111:1) and
5. It is a way to know the needs of the body. It takes community and the knowledge of fellow church members to know and understand the needs of others within the body. As Paul wrote in 2 Timothy 2:15, “*Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.*” (2 Timothy 2:15, KJV)



Vacation Bible School (VBS) study, coupled with fun and fellowship, is also very important. Learning is an ongoing and never-ending process. There is a lot to learn and a lot to be reinforced. There was a significant increase in the number of attendees this year for VBS as the pandemic seems to be behind us. To increase the number of registrants for VBS, we had registration forms available for members, neighbors, and passersby during our Shredding Day

that was held at FCCBC on May 27th. It was sponsored by the Alpha Kappa Alpha (AKA) sorority. Many of our members and neighbors availed themselves of this service to shred old documents. Vacation Bible School classes began on June 26th and was held for four days from 6-8 p.m. On Friday, June 29, we had an excursion to the Harriet Tubman’s Museum in Cambridge, Maryland (see *Sis. Angela Ray’s article about the trip on pages 11-12*). Harriet Tubman was truly one who captured the essence of our VBS theme: “*Leading Out Loud: Leading Others Through Biblical Examples.*” Biblical characters who ‘led out loud’ exemplified characteristics of courageous leadership; these included Moses, Esther, Mary Magdalene, and Jesus. Also, our pastor and his wife are prime examples of saints who lead out loud. For the first time we used the FCCBC Community Outreach Center for VBS for three of our classes. Outdoor activities were limited due to inclement weather and time limitation. Individualized meals were communally served each night in the dining room. Great fellowship seemed to be had by all.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11



The Sunday School ministry (continued)

We would like to thank everyone who was instrumental in making our Vacation Bible School a success. It is our hope that after feasting on the word, we will make practical application by speaking up, speaking out, and “letting our light shine.” *“Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute. Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy” (Proverb 31:8-9 NIV).*

Submitted by: Deaconess Mary Murphy



Photos courtesy of Trustee Henry Smith

Cambridge, MD Bus Excursion

On Friday, June 30, 2023, our church, family, and friends took a trip to Cambridge, MD to “Tubman County” where we learned more about Araminta Ross “aka” Harriet Tubman. Araminta was born in Dorchester County, MD in 1822. “Tubman County” is a land rich in American history, depicting the life and legacy of Harriet Tubman.



Through *Harriet Tubman Tours*, we learned about the life of Harriet Tubman, “Minty” as she was so fondly called, her determination to be free, as well as helping others escape to freedom.

Our tour began in Cambridge. We traveled to the Dorchester County Courthouse which was the site of Harriet’s first rescue. We rode to Long Wharf where the enslaved were transported by ship until 1808. We saw the “Take My Hand” mural, which is painted on the exterior wall of the Tubman Museum and Educational Center. Traveling into Tubman County, we stopped at Stanley Institute, a historic African American one-room schoolhouse. Next, we visited the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad Visitor Center in Church Creek, MD, which contained multi-media exhibits, an audio-visual program, research library, interpretive programs, a museum store, and information on related sites.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

The Sunday School ministry (continued)

Cambridge, MD Bus Excursion (continued)

We saw Brodess Farm, Minty's childhood home and the Bucktown Store where she was hit in the head by a 2-pound weight thrown at her head. It was after this injury that Harriet began having vivid dreams and strange visions which she attributed to premonitions from God. These experiences, along with her upbringing, led her to become very spiritual. Lastly, we had lunch at a church in Cambridge's Pine Street neighborhood.



Harriet Tubman Tours is owned and operated by Alex and Lisa Green, lifelong residents of the area. Many thanks to them for being phenomenal tour guides and for providing us with an amazing educational experience.

Thank God for Harriet Tubman (Araminta Ross) for showing the world what bravery, determination, and love for others looks like. Harriet Tubman became an icon of courage and freedom and her contributions are invaluable to our American history.

Submitted by: Sis. Angela Ray



Photos courtesy of Alex Green (Harriet Tubman Tours, Sis. Angela Ray, Sis. Annette Moore, and Trustee Sharon Johnson

The Educational Corner

Academic and Award Recipients

The Educational Ministry's bylaws authorize the awarding of general and book scholarships as well as monetary gifts for members graduating from high school. No scholarship applications were received for the 2022-2023 cycle. Applications will be due for the 2023-2024 academic year in April 2024.



We thank members for submitting information for December 2022 - Spring 2023 graduates and award recipients. The ministry acknowledged known members/extended family member graduates of all ages and educational award recipients on June 11, 2023 during FCCBC's Youth and Young Adult Day service. FCCBC member Bro. Javier Troy, the grandson of Sis. Mae Williams and the great-grandson of Mother Lillie Mae Campbell received a monetary gift. He received his high school diploma and will be attending Florida State University in the Fall. Member Alvin Flanigan, the grandson of Deaconess Eileen and Bro. Lawrence McCloud, received a monetary gift as well. Alvin completed high school and will be attending the Community College of Baltimore County in the Fall. A full listing of graduates and award recipients is contained on pages 14-15.

Black History Month Speaker Recognition

Our youth presented HISTORY MAKERS for "Moments in Black History" on February 5th, 12th, 20th, and 26th. Presenters Sofie Tucker (**Charles Harrison**), Kaitlyn Sanders (**Miss Annie Lee**), Steven Jones (**Dr. Charles Richard Drew**), and Alvin Flanigan (Governor **Wes Moore**) were each presented with a love token following morning worship service.

Back To School Giveaway

A limited number of backpacks will be available for pre-K through undergraduate college students. Each student will receive a backpack with supplies or a gift card. Advance sign-up was REQUIRED.

Education Ministry of FCCBC Presents:



For members, member's children, grandchildren, family members, and friends

Sunday, August 20, 2023

Immediately following MORNING WORSHIP in lower auditorium (while supplies last)

Advance sign-up by August 13th required
(Sign-up sheet in lower auditorium or via Google form at
<https://forms.gle/EH9Gw2ncHthPQyWE7>)

For more information, please contact: newsletter@myfccbc.org, Sis. Alexis Banks: (443) 310-7710, or
Sis. Cheryl McCottry: (301) 908-3487

Rev. Dr. Alphonso Tucker, Pastor

Trunk or Treat

FCCBC's Halloween alternative, "Trunk or Treat," will be held on October 28, 2023. Details to be announced.

We thank everyone for their continued support of our ministry.

Submitted by: Sis. Cheryl McCottry

Congratulations to Graduates and Award Recipients

On Sunday, June 11, 2023, 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 Promotion to First Grade



Kinsley Fowlkes

Daughter of Yvette & Kermit Fowlkes. Granddaughter of Rev. Freddie & Evangelist Juliette Samuels

Elementary School to Middle School



Jabril Habeebullah

Grandson of Sis. Diane Habeebullah



Kennedee Pelzer

Daughter of Sis. Kimberlee Pelzer, Grand-daughter of Trustees Everett & Yolanda Cash



Journi Troy

Grandson of Sis. Mae Williams. Great-grandson of Mother Campbell



Zion Montoute

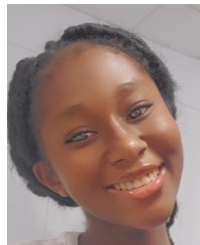
Grandson of Sis. Delores Hines

Middle School to High School



Tylea Booker

Granddaughter of Sis. Carolyn Booker



Kelaya Flanigan

Daughter of Bro. Keefe Flanigan. Granddaughter of Deaconess Eileen McCloud

Honors. Carried a 4.0 GPA for all 3 years of middle school. Perfect attendance. Honored at Johns Hopkins College Bound Program



Kristian McMorris

Granddaughter of Sis. Betty Jackson

High School



Devin Dangerfield

Grandson of Sis. Carolyn Booker
Going to college on scholarship.



Alvin Flanigan

Grandson of Deaconess Eileen McCloud & Brother Lawrence McCloud

To pursue Accounting degree at Community College of Baltimore County

Congratulations to Graduates and Award Recipients (cont.)

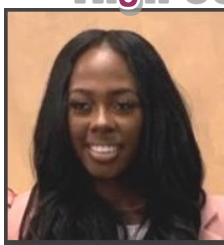
High School (continued)



Jordan Franklin

Grandson of Sis. Gwen Franklin

Graduated from Milford Mill Academy. Attending ABC Contracting Trade school (carpentry & HVAC). To pursue employment in carpentry/HVAC fields



Nayerah Habeebullah

Granddaughter of Sis. Diane Habeebullah

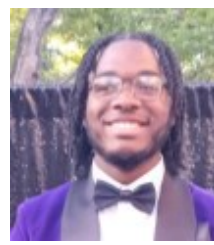
Graduated from Cristo Rey Jesuit High School. To pursue BS in Respiratory Therapy at Salisbury University (full scholarship). Received 14 college offers



Zakira Habeebullah

Granddaughter of Sis. Diane Habeebullah

Graduated from Bart High School . To pursue General Education degree at Baltimore City Community College



Donyele Taylor, Jr.

Grandson of Sis. Shirl Farrare

Graduated from Mergenthaler High School. To attend Univ. of Maryland Eastern Shore—4 year scholarship



Javier Troy

Grandson of Sis. Mae Williams. Great-grandson of Mother Campbell

Graduated from Riverview High School-International Baccalaureate program. To attend Florida State University. Honors. Check award for Educational Strive. Multiple scholarships and awards.

College and Beyond

Gianni Martin



Granddaughter of Sis. Delores & Bro. Teddy Hines.

Received bachelors degree from Alabama A&M University. Working at a veterinary hospital. Completing a veterinary fellowship in Italy. Applying to Veterinary School



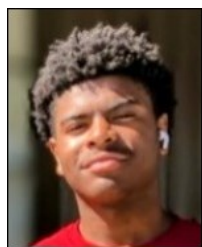
Alea Elaine Powell

Daughter of Minister Darlene Taylor

Awarded masters degree in music from University of Maryland College Park. Planning to audition and sing opera

Awards and Recognition

Promotions



Devaughn Banks

Son of Sis. Alexis Banks. Grandson of Pastor Alphonso & Lady Bridgett Tucker
10th grade Honor roll



Zaki Habeebullah

Grandson of Sis. Diane Habeebullah
Highest average in third grade. Being referred to Boys Latin



Steven A. Jones

Son of Trustee Steven Jones. Grandson of Sis. Mary Jones
Scholars award for 3.5 or higher GPA



Autumn Banks

Daughter of Sis. Alexis Banks. Granddaughter of Pastor Alphonso & Lady Bridgett Tucker
Promotion to second grade

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

Youth and Young Adult News

Youth and Young Adult Day

Our annual Youth and Young Adult Day was held on June 11, 2023 with FCCBC youth and young adults serving as worship leaders during the morning worship service. The theme was “Youth and Young Adults Staying Focused on Christ” drawn from Philippians 4:13. FCCBC’s Youth Ministry leader, Rev. Delvon Houser, was the Youth Day preacher.

The service was followed by a Youth and Young Adult Day cookout at the National Coast Guard Yard sponsored by FCCBC’s Men’s Ministry.

Youth and Young Adult day was a true success. We thank everyone for their participation with service and the cookout. We thank all the men for their support as well.

Submitted by Rev. Delvon Houser



Youth Sunday School

Sister Ray and I wish to thank Sofie Tucker for the beautiful article she wrote “Youth Sunday School Teachers Appreciation,” which appeared in the last issue of *The FCCBC Connection*, Fall 2022 – Spring 2023.

Sister Ray and I are making a plea for our Sunday School students to make an attempt to come to Sunday School and bring a friend. You can also join us on FaceTime (we will need your cell phone number to bring you on with us). We are eager to have our students return to Sunday school in person. If transportation is a problem, the church bus will be happy to pick you up. You must contact Trustee Everett Cash at (443) 850-5494 on Saturday evening by 8:00 p.m., to secure your place on the bus for Sunday morning. We have a great time studying The Word of God.

Looking forward to seeing you.

Please continue to keep Sofie and her family in your prayers. Please stay safe during the summer months.

Submitted by: Sister Beverly A. Ward

Youth and Young Adult News (continued)

Youth and Young Adult Sunday

Beginning in July, every second Sunday of the month will be Youth and Young Adult Sunday. Our youth and young adults will serve as worship leaders and render the musical selections.

Youth and Young Adult Bible Study

The Youth and Young Adult Bible Study meets every Thursday from 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. via SKYPE. This Bible study is also open to adults.

Submitted by: Reverend Delvon Houser

Grandparents Day

Sunday, September 10, 2023 is Grandparents Day, an official national holiday celebrated each year on the first Sunday after Labor Day. Celebrate the grandparents in your life on this special day.

From Generation to Generation

Grandparents are a bridge of love for future generations. The greatest heritage they can pass on is their faith and love for GOD.

Scripture: “Tell it to your children, and let your children tell it to their children, and their children to the next GENERATION.” **Joel 1:3 NIV**

Activity: List as many words you can create from the letters in the word **GENERATIONS**. Have Fun!

Submitted by: Sister Beverly A. Ward

Sunday School/AKA Outreach

On May 27, 2023, from noon to 2:00 p.m., the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Epsilon Omega chapter and FCCBC co-hosted a free Community Shred Day at FCCBC.

FCCBC’s Sunday School Superintendent (Deacon Lawrence Waller) and Assistant Superintendent (Deaconess Mary Murphy) recruited Vacation Bible School participants during the event.



Photos courtesy of Sis. Leslie Hyman

Project Planning Committee

The Project Planning Committee has successfully completed all of the requirements for use of the Community Outreach Center. In fact, because the Project Planning Committee completed all of the occupancy requirements in May 2023, we were able to use the Community Center in June for Vacation Bible School and in July for morning worship service when the air conditioning service was interrupted in the Church sanctuary. The Community Outreach Center has already proven that God has his hand on the center which will continue to become a vital instrument for the Church as well as community involvement.

VBS



July worship service



Photos courtesy of Trustee Henry Smith

The capability to live stream service from the main sanctuary and utilize Wi-Fi is fully operational. The building has been secured with around-the-clock surveillance and alarms. Building signage is being designed.

Moving forward, Pastor Tucker envisions the implementation of four functional areas of operation:

- General Operations: Chairperson Trustee Robert White
- Fundraising Initiatives
- Ministry Programs
- Community Initiatives & Community Partnerships

Please contact Pastor Tucker or Trustee Robert White if you are interested in supporting any of these programs.

Submitted by: Brother Michael Seay

Usher Ministry Anniversary



FCCBC's Ushers serve our church with compassion and dedication. The Junior and Senior Ushers will be celebrating their service anniversary on Sunday, November 12, 2023. Please mark your calendars and join us as we celebrate our 'doorkeepers.'

Submitted by: Bro. Tyrone Moore, President

Car Wash

The Annual Men's Ministry Car Wash on July 15th was rather eventful due to the on and off weather forecast, however, we managed to get it done. The Lord blessed us to get set up by 9 a.m. to promptly begin washing cars. There was a steady flow of cars until 11:30 am and then again from 12:15 till 1:30 p.m. Just as we decided to do one more car, the rain fell like nobody's business. Overall, it was a good day fun and fellowship. We were able to minister to a visitor who blessed us by attending worship service that Sunday. Praise be to God! A very special thank you to Sis. Marilyn Brunt and Sis. Annette Moore for their excellent work on behalf of the Culinary Ministry. Thank you to all who supported the Men's Ministry.



Photos courtesy of Trustee Henry Smith

Men In Black

Twenty-six years ago, not including the pandemic, the men of FCCBC were challenged by, at that time Associate Minister Alphonso Tucker, to bring something to the table to add to the church ministry and fellowship. What God placed on my heart was a Men's fellowship called the "Men in Black." It was advertised in the Afro American newspaper by the late Mary Claiborne (Mary C). Guests for the first concert male chorus were from Mt. Zion Hill, New Unity Baptist, Oak Street AME, and a marching band from the late Rev. King. From then until now, God has never failed to bless us with new guests, way too many to list, including hosts like Pastor Lee Michael and sermons by preachers such as James Butler and Roger Owens. One of the most important part of the Men in Black is the support of the women and the Culinary ministry of FCCBC. I would be remiss if I failed to mention my devoted wife Neicy, who has supported me throughout the years. Thank you God for such a wonderful church.

Please enjoy the photos below from our fellowships over the years.

Submitted by: Deacon Garry Carter



Continued on page 20

Men-In-Black Flashback (continued)



Photos courtesy of Deacon Carter



During the 26th annual Men In Black fellowship concert on Friday, August 4th, Deacon Carter was recognized with a plaque presented by Pastor Tucker. The plaque inscription reads "FCCBC Presents this Award in Appreciation to Deacon Garry Carter For His dedicated commitment of service through the years in Leadership towards the Men in Black Concerts. Rev. Dr. Alphonso Tucker, Pastor 2023."



Photos and additional information about the 2023 fellowship will be included in the December newsletter.

Crab Feast

On Saturday, August 26th, the much anticipated Crab Feast will be held. Tickets are \$75.00. There are some, but very few tickets left for sale. If you have not done so, please get your tickets ASAP!

Men's Day

Our Men's Day theme is "Men Filled with Joy, Peace, and Hope Through the Power of the Holy Spirit" - Romans 15:13. The culmination of our 2022-2024 season will take place during morning worship service on Sunday, November 5, 2023 at 11:00 a.m. Our guest preacher will be Rev. Lionel Snowden, Associate Minister of Mt. Zion Hill Baptist Church.

Submitted by: Rev. Harvey Moore, Chairman and Bro. Ronald McKeever, Co-Chairman

MTZ CHURCH
400 CHURCH ST
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21201

MEN'S MINISTRY CRAB FEAST



SATURDAY, AUGUST 26, 2023
TIME: 3 PM - 6 PM
TICKETS: \$75.00

THE MENU INCLUDES:
STEAMED CRAB, GRILLED BEEF & VEGGIE BURGERS,
GRILLED LEMON PEPPER CHICKEN BREAST, 4 LB. HOT DOGS,
ITALIAN SAUSAGE, CARVED HAM

SIDE ITEMS:
BAKED BEANS, POTATO SALAD, TOSSED SALAD,
CREAMY MACARONI SALAD, SCAMPI STYLE CORN ON THE COB

ADDITIONAL ITEMS:
FROZEN FRUIT BARS, MARYLAND STYLE CRAB SOUP
CANNED SODA OR BOTTLED WATER

FCCBC Women's Day Ministry Corner

“Choosing to be Our Sister’s Keeper” ... “My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth.” 1 John 3:18 NKJV

The Women’s Day Ministry’s purpose is to collectively strengthen the ministry as a whole by way of continuing to study the word of God, prayer, fellowship, encouragement; to foster relationships within the sisterhood; and to support the church as a whole in its endeavors in fundraising. Our Focusing Theme was “Choosing to be Our Sister’s Keeper.” Our supporting scripture is above. Our background scripture was “And we have known and believed the love that God has for us. God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God in him.” [1 John 4:(NKJV)].

FCCBC Women's Day Ministry Corner



The Women's Day ministry sponsored several activities during this timeframe, including the culminating activity for the 2022-2023 year, our annual Women's Day.

On Saturday, April 29th, from 10:00 a.m. to noon, our annual Health and Wellness 2023 session was held. This year's topic was "Dealing with Stress: Healthy Minds, Healthy Bodies - "Unplug and Recharge." The presenter was FCCBC's own Minister Deborah Seay, a licensed clinician. This program was filled to capacity. Minister Seay engaged the audience and spoke on dealing with clinical stress. An interactive question and answer session followed the presentation. The planning committee consisted of Sis. Marilyn Brunt, Trustee Marilyn Dorsey (Chair), Evangelist Gwendolyn McKeever, Deaconess Mary Murphy, and Minister Deborah Seay.



The "Create, Chat, and Chew" fellowship was held on Saturday, May 20th, at noon. The ladies in attendance enjoyed quality time together and planned hands-on activities. A delicious lunch was served and the women in attendance chose from making jewelry, making Women's Day corsages, or playing a game. Sis. Carolyn Clark and Sis. Sofie Tucker served as the jewelry making and corsage making instructors, respectively.

Continued on page 22



Women's Day Ministry Corner (continued)



Our annual 2022-2023 Women's Day, held on Sunday, June 25, 2023, was a day of worship and celebration! The women wore basic white outfits accented with corsages of any color. Pastor Helen Grier was our guest preacher. She spoke from the theme, "The Love Of God," drawn from 1 John 1:4, 1:15, and 4:16. A family meal was served in the lower auditorium immediately following morning worship.



Photos courtesy of Trustee Sharon Johnson

Women's Day Ministry Corner (continued)



On July 20th, a group of members, family, and friends travelled by motorcoach to Lancaster, PA to the Millennium Theater to see the Sight and Sound production of "Moses." The bus trip, sponsored by the Women's Ministry, was an exciting and wonderful event, plenty of laughter and fellowship. As usual, Sight and Sound put on a marvelous production of Moses!!

Following the play, we fellowshiped together and enjoyed delicious, authentic Pennsylvania Dutch cooking at the Shady Maple luncheon smorgasbord. Our meals were enjoyed by all. We boarded the bus for our return trip home with full tummies. We enjoyed our ride home with singing led by Rev. Houser and Sis. Brunt. A wonderful time was had by all. Thank you to all who supported us for this final event of our calendar year. TO GOD BE THE GLORY!



Photos courtesy of Sis. Annette Moore

We thank all of FCCBC's women for their support and participation during our 2022-2023 Women's Day year.

Sis. Annette Moore, Chair

Lady Bridgett Tucker, Co-Chair

Finance Ministry Update

Let Us Worship the Lord Through Giving Our Tithes and Offerings

“And this stone, which I have set for a pillar, shall be God’s house: and of all that thou shalt give me I will surely give the tenth unto thee. “ **(Genesis 28:22 KJV)**

50 BIBLE VERSES

ON

TITHING

1 Corinthians 13:3	Hebrews 7:4
1 Corinthians 16:2	Hebrews 7:5
1 Timothy 5:8	James 1:27
1 Timothy 6:10	Job 41:11
2 Corinthians 8:12	John 3:16
2 Corinthians 8:9	Leviticus 27:30
2 Corinthians 9:11	Leviticus 27:32
2 Corinthians 9:7	Luke 11:42
Acts 20:35	Luke 12:33
Amos 4:4	Luke 12:48
Colossians 2:14	Luke 18:12
Deuteronomy 14:2	Luke 6:38
Deuteronomy 14:22	Malachi 3:10
Deuteronomy 16:17	Malachi 3:8
Deuteronomy 26:12	Matthew 19:21
Deuteronomy 8:18	Matthew 23:23
Exodus 19:5	Matthew 6:21
Exodus 25:2	Nehemiah 10:38
Galatians 2:10	Numbers 18:21
Galatians 3:10	Numbers 18:26
Galatians 5:18	Proverbs 28:27
Genesis 14:20	Proverbs 3:9
Genesis 28:22	Psalms 24:1
Haggai 2:8	Romans 12:1
Hebrews 6:10	Romans 13:7

✋ *Connect Us* ✋

Our Community Outreach Center construction is completed and we have the certificate of occupancy! **Praise God from whom all blessings flow!!!**

However, there is still much work to do to utilize the Center for its full potential. Therefore, we are still seeking members and dedicated Christian friends to support the Community Outreach Center by signing up for either a one-time pledge or a committed recurring pledge. Please see any Finance Ministry Trustee for a sign-up pledge sheet or complete and return the pledge form on page 25 to a Finance Ministry Trustee.

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**“... and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how He said, it is more blessed to give than to receive.”**

**(Acts 20:35 KJV)**

Please continue to support “**Plate Offerings**” for the ministries listed below. If you are using a church envelope, make certain that you annotate your name, the ministry’s name, and the amount you are giving that ministry from the row that says “**OTHER.**” If you are using the on-line service tool, “**Givelify,**” use the column that says other and annotate the ministry name and amount you are giving that ministry.

- 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday = Missionary Ministry
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday = Floral Ministry
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday = Education Ministry
- 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday = Pastor’s Aide Ministry
- 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday = To be announced during offering by the trustee. Plate offerings will be for the Missionary or the **Education** ministry
- Every Sunday = Sunday School



**Submitted by: Finance Ministry**

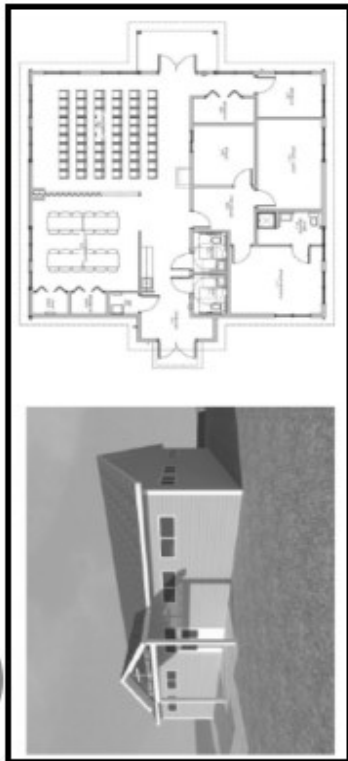


# FCCBC's Outreach Center Financial Pledges

Please complete and return the pledge form to a Finance Ministry Trustee.

RETURN THIS PORTION TO APPROPRIATE TRUSTEE

First Christian Community Baptist Church  
Outreach Center  
Financial Pledge



### You're Making a Difference ....

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 called us to do in spreading the Gospel.

### Future Use of Center:

- Administrative Offices
- Community Resources
- Vacation Bible School

*Pledge Campaign Approved by Rev. Dr. Alphonso Tucker, Pastor &  
Project Planning Committee - 4116 Groveland Ave.,  
Baltimore, MD 21215 - www.myfccbc.org (410) 664-7443*

*"We Are Family"*

Print Last Name of Pledger \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address OR Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_ Best Contact Number \_\_\_\_\_

Pledge Amount \_\_\_\_\_  
 \$100     \$200     \$300     Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Period of Pledge \_\_\_\_\_  
 One Time Pledge     Three Months     Six Months  
 Nine Months     1 Year     Monthly  
(Duration of Ten-Year Loan)

Other  
 Specified Period of time: \_\_\_\_\_

Start Date: \_\_\_\_\_ (mm/dd/yyyy)  
End Date: \_\_\_\_\_ (mm/dd/yyyy)

Total Amount of Pledge: \_\_\_\_\_

### Form of Payment:

- Check: Make payable to FCCBC (Note) Pledge Fund
  - Cash: Place in designated envelope
  - Electronic: <https://www.givelify.com>  
(Note) Pledge Fund     Please **DON'T** acknowledge me publicly
- Date Received: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Trustee Initials: \_\_\_\_\_

# Creative Expressions

## Our F.C.C.B.C. Family

We are a church family with a fierce leader led by God.  
We have associate ministers who also bring the Word in awe.  
Our church family leaders are all on one accord.  
They always remind us to follow the Word of the Lord.  
We try to support each other as all families should.  
We are there for one another and it is understood.  
When one hurts, we all hurt and feel the pain.  
We try to lose nothing, but focus on what we are hoping to gain.  
A home in eternity in God's Heavenly realm.  
Our happiness is something we all try to share.  
Being there for each other shows how much we care.  
We as a church family cry, play, pray, and study together.  
Being a support for each other makes it all better.

Submitted by Sis. Mae Williams

## Thank You Lord

Thank you Lord for your grace and your mercy.  
Thank you Lord for seeing us through all the controversy.  
Thank you Lord for your everlasting love.  
Thank you Lord for always looking from above.  
Thank you Lord for the greatest sacrifice you made.  
Thank you Lord for the ultimate price you paid.  
Thank you Lord for keeping us covered in your word.  
Thank you Lord for the songs of Zion our ears have ever heard.  
Thank you Lord because we are so Blessed.  
Thank you Lord for always giving us your BEST!  
Thank you Lord for equipping us with our sword and shield.  
Thank you Lord for letting your truth be revealed.  
Thank you Lord for just being You.  
Thank you, Thank you, Thank you Lord,  
Thank you Lord for Everything that you unselfishly do.

Submitted by Mae Williams

When I woke up this morning, I asked myself, "What is life about?"

I found the answer in my room...

The fan said, "Be cool."

The roof said, "Aim high"

The window said, "See the world."

The clock said, "Every minute is precious."

The mirror said, "Reflect before you act."

The calendar said, "Be up to date!"

The door said, "Push hard for your goal."

The floor said, "Kneel down and pray."

Author Unknown

Submitted by Sis. Betty Jackson



## Suggested List for Homeless Outreach



Please consider picking up an item or two from the list below the next time you make a trip to the store. The homeless in need are extremely appreciative of your generosity.

### TOILETRIES DRIVE



#### Open Lids/Easily Opened Items/Non-cooking items

**Fruit Items:** Fruit cups, Applesauce, Plastic fruit cup—any flavor, Plastic mini-jars of fruit, Fruit Squeeze products

**Meats:** Tuna fish/chicken, sausage (All Ready to Eat): Tuna Fish—Tear Notch pull open pouches, Tuna fish cans, Tuna fish ready lunch boxes with crackers/spoon, Kipper (fish), Sardines (several flavors)

**Underwood Products:** Chicken spreads, Ham spreads

**Libby's Products:** Vienna Sausage, Chicken Vienna, Corned Beef, Potted meat, Spam, Beef Jerky

**Boxed Products/Bagged Products:** Raisins (4 or 6 packs), Cookies (all kinds), Pop Tarts, Cereal Bars, General Mills (8 pouches of breakfast cereals), General cereal breakfast cups, Mixed peanuts, peanuts, Sunflower seeds

**Crackers/Chips:** chips (individual packs), pretzels, Ritz (fresh snacks individually wrapped), Easy Cheese spreads (needs no refrigeration), graham crackers, peanut butter and jelly (small plastic bottles), donuts/muffins

**Hydration:** bottled water, to-go single drink packages (Crystal Light), green tea drinks

#### Hygiene Products

Wet Wipes, tissues, hand sanitizer, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes, combs, brushes, First Aid kit to go (12 items), alcohol wipes, soap, hand lotion, Ziplock sandwich bags with four plastic forks/spoons/knives, powder (travel size)

#### Clothes

Shoe insoles, socks, gloves/caps/scarves, coats/jackets

Don't Throw it Away...  
USED CLOTHING DRIVE

## Media Ministry Updates

During Sis. Sofie's absence, our FCCBC Media Ministry recruited Trustee Sharon Johnson to assist Bro. Michael Seay with developing weekly slides. Bro. Leroy Smith is doing an excellent job with displaying announcement and worship slides during morning worship. We are thankful for all of our volunteers who assist with the monitors, the soundboard/systems, wi-fi operation, social media operations., etc...

We also appreciate feedback received on how to enhance the Announcement and Worship slides.

Please continue to keep Sofie and her family in your prayers.



# FCCBC Culinary Ministry

Considering becoming a  
"FCCBC Culinary  
Ministry Member"?

## Frequently asked questions:

\*Isn't "Culinary" only for females?

"No, the FCCBC Culinary Ministry is open to both male & female".

\*Is experience required?

"Experience is not required, However, culinary requires tasks to be completed. We ask that you are physically able, dependable and a team player."

\*How often will I be needed?

"For every scheduled event, we ask each Culinary Member's availability and plan accordingly. The only schedule expectation is that each member is an active member; not just a member on paper."

\*Do I need to know how to cook?

"No you don't need to know how to cook. There are many other tasks that have to be performed, i.e., {Packaging, setting tables, portioning food, greeting guest, washing dishes, etc.}"

\*What do the Culinary Ministry do?

"The Culinary Ministry supports every ministry within the church as it relates to food involvement. We purchase, prep, cook, and serve food to the congregation and the community through different initiatives while maintaining & operating our commercial licensed kitchen".

\*Will I be trained?

"Yes, this is an ongoing endeavor, i.e., proper cleaning of dishes & food surfaces, food cooking & holding temperatures, food handling & storage, etc. ".

\*Is it only cooking?

"No, it isn't just cooking, though the majority the tasks are based on food handling and food distribution.

\*Do I have to attend meetings?

"The Culinary Ministry meets face-to-face on a quarterly basis and connect via conference call in preparation for each event.

**Ministry Mission:**

... "Let on one seek his own good, but that of his neighbor" ...

1 Corinthians 10:24



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

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

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

***Isaiah 54:10 NIV***

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

***Please continue to pray for:***

***The Quarles family on the passing of Eric Harris***

***The Troy// boys on the passing of James Troy, Jr. and James Troy, Sr.***

***The Tucker, Banks , and Randall families on the transition of Melville Roles***

***The Foote and Moore families on the passing of Robert O. Williams***

***The Watson family on the transition of DaShawn Watson***

***The Stokes family on the passing of Katrina and Cy Redmon and Irene Mayo***

***The Johnson family on the passing of Janey Johnson***

***The Grier, Steptoe, and Winters families on the passing of Gregory Grier***

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

**Death leaves a heartache difficult to heal;  
Love leaves sweet memories no one can steal.**

Author unknown

## Spotlights



### Mother Campbell's 94<sup>th</sup> Birthday Garden

God has allowed Mother Campbell to celebrate her 94th birthday. Her granddaughter, Antoinette, spearheaded it in a beautiful, unique way. She had all family members bring some white or pink flowers. Then she created a garden just for Mother on her special day. We can only continue to give God thanks and much praise for He allowed Mother to see many more beautiful days. Thank you God for your Goodness and your Mercy for Mother!

Submitted by: Sis. Mae Williams



### Baby Dedication



**Date:** 5/7/23

**Baby's Name:** Reginald Eugene White, III (Tre)

**Parents:** Reginald Eugene White, Jr. and Destiny Singh

**Godmother:** Taylor Simpson

**Godfathers:** Ray Booker, Jr. Kevin Boyd, Jr.



## Potpourri

### Helpful Hints

#### Safety Advice during Extreme Heat

1. Know the signs -If you are sweating heavily, clammy, nauseated, or cramping, move to a cool place, sip water, and cool your body down with a wet cloth or cold bath, per the CDC. If your temperature is 103 F or higher or your skin becomes hot and dry, call 911.
2. Hydrate slowly – your body can absorb only a small amount of water at a time. Pre-hydrate safely by sipping water steadily over several hours.
3. On really hot days, you need to carry water and drink 6 oz. to 8 oz. every 20 minutes. If you exercise outside, for more than hour, drink an electrolyte solution (such as Gatorade).
4. Wear clothes that are light colored, thin, and loose fitting to aid in sweating.
5. Know your risk – people with cardiovascular and respiratory illnesses are especially vulnerable to excessive heat (as are children and the elderly).
6. Stay in air conditioning during a multi-day heat wave.

Check on people who do not have air conditioning and who are at risk. Take them to some place that is cool (library, movies, or the mall).

**PLEASE STAY SAFE**

Submitted by: Sister Beverly A. Ward

Information from the *Prevention Magazine* for July 2023



# Contact/Information Updates

If you have not completed a paper or electronic Member Information Sheet or if your contact information has changed, please complete a sheet so that we can validate that we have everyone's correct contact, birthday, and anniversary information for mailings, sick/shut-in visits, One Call Now robocalls, and newsletter items. The form has been updated to collect everyone's emergency contact information in the event we need to reach them due to an emergency.

Youth information is being collected to help church ministries plan for scholarships, activities, and events.

Thank you in advance for updating your information.

## First Christian Community Baptist Church Member Information Sheet

Please complete the Member Information Sheet to help us make sure we have accurate contact and personal information for you (please print) and turn in to Trustee Marilyn Dorsey or mail to FCCBC, P.O. Box 67407, Baltimore, MD 21215. One form per person please. Members with Google logins can submit their information electronically at <https://forms.gle/XtKJVzRZGgQVDneT9>.

Please contact Trustee Marilyn Dorsey or Sis. Kitty Owens with any changes.

Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Gender: \_\_\_\_\_  
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: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_   
Please check to indicate preferred number for your family to receive robocalls (One Call Now)

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

Emergency Contact Name and Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Ministries in which I am interested: \_\_\_\_\_

Retired  What is your  current or  former occupation or vocation (trade, profession, business)?  
\_\_\_\_\_

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

Current Education Level:  Preschool  Elementary  Middle School  High School  Trade School  College

Grade/year: \_\_\_\_\_ Major/Program: \_\_\_\_\_

Expected Degree \_\_\_\_\_ Graduation Date/Expected Graduation Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Plans following graduation \_\_\_\_\_

Comments \_\_\_\_\_

.....  
OFFICE USE ONLY

Member Status: \_\_\_\_\_ Method of Joining: \_\_\_\_\_ Membership Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
June 2023

# Wedding Anniversary Wishes

## September

7<sup>th</sup> - Bro. Kermit & Sis. Yvette Fowlkes (10 years)  
23<sup>rd</sup> - Bro. Karl & Sis. LaNecia Owens (18 years)

## October

9<sup>th</sup> - Bro. Precious & Sis. Lorraine Hale (12 years)  
12<sup>th</sup> - Brother Ruppert (Rudy) & Joyce Jackson (24 years)  
21<sup>st</sup> - Rev. Alphonso & Lady Bridgett Tucker (23 years)

## November

6<sup>th</sup> - Bro. Leroy and Sis. Elvira (Vera) Smith (5 years)

## December

11<sup>th</sup> - Bro. Matheus (Martie) and Sis. La-Kia Kommeren (10 years)  
18<sup>th</sup> - Bro. Theodore & Sis. Delores Hines (26 years)  
31<sup>st</sup> - Trustees Everett & Yolanda Cash (35 years)

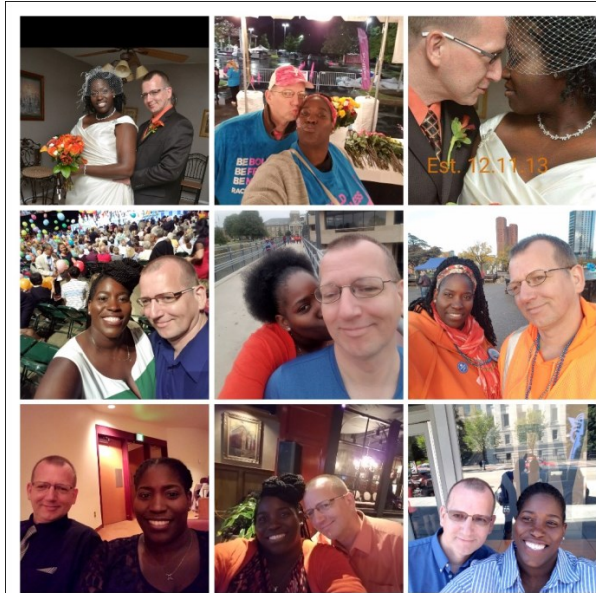


So that we might acknowledge your wedding anniversary, please notify Trustee Marilyn Dorsey, email [newsletter@myfccbc.org](mailto:newsletter@myfccbc.org), or complete and submit a hard copy Member Contact Information Form (see page 31) to Trustee Dorsey. Members with Google logins can submit their information electronically at an online Member Contact Information Form at <https://forms.gle/XtKJVzRZGgQVDneT9>.

Thank you!

## CONGRATULATIONS TO:

### Ten Year Wedding Anniversary



We are so blessed that God has blessed our marriage over the years. We met online. After a year, we met face-to-face and less than 6 months of dating, Martie proposed.

We are grateful for FCCBC and Pastor for the leadership, friendship, as well as support.

Bro. Matheus (Martie) and  
Sis. La-Kia Kommeren



We would like to thank all of our FCCBC family for your love and support on our wedding day. All that were in attendance and all that sent a gift, your love was felt and we appreciate you.

Lovingly submitted,

Mr. and Mrs. Lolando Hamilton, Sr.



## News You Can Use

### Post Office Caution

The U.S. Postal service warns users against putting checks in their mailboxes for pick-up or sending checks through the mail. The Postal Service reports that complaints of mail theft doubled in 2021 and banks report that check fraud more than doubled last year, up from 300,000 the year before. To protect your mail, it is recommended that you use a secure mail drop such as inside a post office or USPS blue boxes.

### Apply for energy assistance now

The Office of Home Energy Programs (OHEP) provides bill assistance to income-eligible households in the State of Maryland to make their energy costs more affordable and to help with the prevention of loss and the restoration of home energy service. The Office of People's Counsel encourages anyone who is behind on their utility bills to not wait to receive a turn-off notice and apply for assistance.

OHEP has recently started their new program year and released the new application. Visit their website at <https://dhs.maryland.gov/office-of-home-energy-programs/how-do-you-apply/> to learn more.

Source: Office of People's Counsel

### Baltimore County Restaurant Closures and Health Violations

Ever wondered if the Baltimore County restaurant you're about to order from has been closed for health or other violations? Baltimore County has launched a [data dashboard](#) showing recent Baltimore County Department of Health food facility inspections. It displays the establishment name, date of closure(s), reason for closure(s), and reopen date(s) for establishments that have experienced closure due to a critical violation discovered during an inspection that could not be corrected immediately.

Visit <https://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/county-news/2023/07/11/baltimore-county-releases-food-establishment-closure-dashboard> for more information.

### Avoid "Juice Jacking"

Charging up your electronic device at free USB port charging stations, such as those found in airports and hotel lobbies might have unfortunate consequences. You could become a victim of "juice jacking," yet another cyber-theft tactic.

Cybersecurity experts warn that bad actors can load malware onto public USB charging stations to maliciously access electronic devices while they are being charged. Malware installed through a corrupted USB port can lock a device or export personal data and passwords directly to the perpetrator. Criminals can then use that information to access online accounts or sell it to other bad actors.

Some tips: 1) Use your own AC, car chargers, and USB cables in AC power outlets. 2) Carry an external battery. 3) Consider carrying a charging-only cable, which prevents data from sending or receiving while charging, from a trusted supplier. 4) If you plug your device into a USB port and a prompt appears asking you to select "share data," "trust this computer," or "charge only," always select "charge only."

Source: Federal Communications Commission

# Blessings and Birthday Wishes To:

## September 2023

**Special Honorees:**  
**Deaconess Hallie Allen**  
**Evangelist Juliette Samuels**  
**Minister Darlene Taylor**

Darlene Bell  
Bonita Fisher  
Paula Foote  
Sierra Gaither  
Diane Habeebullah  
Amanda Hall  
Makiyah Hornes  
Walter Jones  
Michael Montoute  
Kennedee Pelzer  
Carolyn Phillips  
Alana Powell  
Amira Powell  
Mary Quinn  
Shiloh Randall-Bryant  
Leroy Smith  
Sydney Smith  
Bridgete (Sofie) Tucker

## October 2023

Alma Baker  
Shia Billups  
Rickia Briggs  
Trustee Gwendolyn Franklin  
Lorraine Hale  
Audrey Highsmith

## October 2023 (continued)

James Johnson  
Phillip Johnson  
Zenobia McLaughlin  
LaNecia Owens  
Aleea Powell  
Jonathan Powell  
Esther Steptoe  
Beverly (Jackie) Ward

## November 2023

**Special Honoree:**  
**Rev. Debbie Ervin**

Alexis Banks  
Solomon Cole  
Jasmine Conway  
Deborah Cooper  
Shirlene Farrare  
Joey Foote  
Precious Hale, Jr.  
Betty Jackson  
Trustee Sharon Johnson  
Trustee Steven Jones  
C'ynai Moore  
Bro. Keith Owens, Jr.  
Ella Smith  
Florence Taylor  
Journi Troy  
Javier Troy

## December 2023

**Special Honorees:**  
**Rev. Delvon Houser**  
**Rev. Harvey Moore**  
**Deacon Keith Owens, Sr.**  
**Rev. Alphonso Tucker**

Kim Carter  
Barbara Cole  
Lewis Ervin  
Delano Jordan  
Levon Moore  
Tyrone Moore  
Patricia Rhinehart  
Vera Robinson  
Elvira (Vera) Smith

If you don't see your birthday, please notify Trustee Marilyn Dorsey, e-mail [newsletter@myfccbc.org](mailto:newsletter@myfccbc.org), or complete and submit a hard copy or online Member Information Sheet so we can keep our records up-to-date. Thank you.

## Monthly Free Sweet Treats

(Last Sunday of each Month)

HOSTED BY THE  
BIRTHDAY & CULINARY  
MINISTRIES



Member and visitor birthday honorees may pick up a sweet treat following morning worship service in the lower auditorium.

## Please get your photo taken !

First Christian Community Baptist Church  
4116 Groveland Ave. 21215  
Rev. Dr. Alphonso Tucker, Pastor

### "Birthday Committee Photo"

Come get your photo taken  
to be used for  
"Sundae Sunday Birthday Honoree"

See Sofie or Keith Jr. after service!

Birthday Photo Board is located  
in the lower dining area ...





## Regularly Scheduled Ministries

|                                 | Time                  | Day                                      |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------------------|
| Sunday School                   | 9:30 - 10:30a.m.      | Sunday                                   |
| New Members' Ministry           | 9:45 - 10:45 a.m.     | 1 <sup>st</sup> & 2 <sup>nd</sup> 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 <sup>th</sup> Monday                   |
| Youth & Young Adult Bible Study | 7:00 p.m.             | Thursday                                 |

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

### Church Calendar

#### August 2023 (Casual Dress month)

- |                                          |           |
|------------------------------------------|-----------|
| 4 Annual Men in Black Fellowship concert | 7:00 p.m. |
| 27 Baptismal Service                     | 9:30 a.m. |

#### September 2023

- |                                               |            |
|-----------------------------------------------|------------|
| 3 Male Chorus anniversary                     | 11:00 a.m. |
| 5-6 Bible Studies resume                      |            |
| 7 Quarterly Official Board meeting            | 7:00 p.m.  |
| 17 Baptismal Service (if candidates)          | 9:30 a.m.  |
| 20 Service leading up to Pastor's anniversary | 7:00 p.m.  |
| 24 Humphrey Choral Ensemble anniversary       | 11:00 a.m. |

#### October 2023

- |                                               |           |
|-----------------------------------------------|-----------|
| 1 Fourteenth Pastoral anniversary celebration |           |
| 15 Baptismal Service (if candidates)          | 9:30 a.m. |
| 28 Trunk or Treat                             |           |

#### November 2023

- |                                       |                    |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 5 Men's Day celebration               |                    |
| 12 Usher's Anniversary                | 11:00 a.m.         |
| 14-15 Bible Studies Fall break begins |                    |
| 19 Unified Voices anniversary         | 11:00 a.m.         |
| 23 Thanksgiving Day service           | 11:00 a.m. to noon |
| 26 Baptismal Service (if candidates)  | 9:30 a.m.          |

#### December 2023 (partial)

- |                                      |                    |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 7 Quarterly Official Board meeting   | 7:00 p.m.          |
| 9 Annual Church meeting              | 10:00 a.m. to noon |
| 17 Baptismal Service (if candidates) | 9:30 a.m.          |

Due to the pandemic and possibility of inclement weather, dates, times, location, and mode of delivery are subject to change. Please check before leaving home. Trustee Dorsey will keep you abreast of any changes via robocall. Please make certain we have your preferred phone number.

### In God's House...

- 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

## Our Known Sick & Shut-In

Mother Lillie Mae Campbell (Home)

Sis. Barbara Cole (Home)

Bro. Rudolph Cole (facility)

Sis. Perlizer Davis (Home)

Rev. Debbie Ervin

Sis. Leslie Hyman

Bro. Walter Jones, Jr.

Sis. Sadie Knight

Sis. Annette Moore (Home)

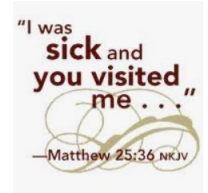
Kennedee Pelzer (Home)

Sis. Nancy Pope (Home)

Evan. Juliette Samuels

Trus. John Spencer (Home)

Sis. Sofie Tucker (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. Barbara Cole       |
| Sis. Dené Cole       | Bro. Ronnie Cole        |
| Sis. La-Kia Kommeren | Sis. Karen Cole Sanders |
| Sis. Mae Williams    |                         |

### Welcome to our New/Reinstated Members



## *Special Prayer for Our Sick and Shut-In Members*

Dear Heavenly Father we call upon you once more today,  
To ask you to continue blessing our sick members in a very special way.  
It is in your care that we place our Trust and Faith for healing power.  
For we know that you are with us everyday and every hour.  
Only you God can heal and restore us back to a healthy place.  
We ask that you will grant us your tender loving mercy and grace.  
Please give each of our members the strength to know that you are there;  
And the knowledge that you will put no more on them than they can bear.  
Reassure them that while we sometimes feel weak and powerless, too.  
It is only in your name, we know that you will see us through.  
Give them the hope to know that you are strong and very powerful!!  
We ask that you remove any pain or infirmities from their bodies and minds.  
Thank you Oh Kind Heavenly Father for being so merciful and kind.  
We know that you are a doctor in a sick room and a Healer.  
We come before you in continuous prayer and humbly kneeling.  
Oh Lord please hear our prayers and grant all of our members your healing touch.  
For this God, we praise you, thank you, and honor you so much.

Sis. Mae Williams

August 2023

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