



FBC | FRIENDSHIP

BAPTIST CHURCH

3375 Church Lane, Duluth, GA 30096
Ronald L. Bowens, Pastor

April 2019

Vol. 7, Issue 4

FRIENDSHIP'S VOICE

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UPCOMING EVENTS

APRIL

- 27 High School Seniors Meeting 9:30am
- 27 Sunday School Summit 9-11:00am
- 27 Seniors Outing – Macon, GA
- 28 Pastor Speaking Engagement – SMBC 3:00pm

MAY

- 4 Men's Ministry Meeting 10:30am
- 12 Mother's Day
- 18 Youth Movie Night-more to come
- 26 71st Church Anniversary
- 27 Memorial Day Holiday

FBC MISSION STATEMENT

"Exalt the Savior"
"Equip the Saint"
"Evangelize the Sinner"

Resurrection

Resurrection in a nutshell is bringing back to life. The synonyms for resurrection are: reappearance, rebirth, restoration, resurgence, revival, reawakening and return to life. So, we see it does not only apply to bringing back a person to life.

From a religious concept, it is used in two distinct respects: (1) belief in the resurrection of individual souls that is current and ongoing, and (2) belief in a singular resurrection of the dead at the end of the world.

The death and resurrection of Jesus is the central focus of Christianity. There is also the scientific examples of people dying, pronounced clinically dead and then life is restored to them. This is called the "Lazarus syndrome."

Resurrection from the Latin noun "resurrection-onis" and the verb "rego" means to make straight, to rise up, get up and stand up.

In Christianity, resurrection most critically concerns:

1. Resurrection of Jesus – He was raised from the dead, ascended to God the Father to return as the Messiah (1 Thessalonians 1:10).
2. Resurrection of Judgment Day – The dead in Christ shall arise (1 Thessalonians 4:16).

While most people, especially Christians, focus on Resurrection as a human body that is dead coming back to life, let us look at resurrection in other areas of our lives. We can experience resurrection in:

- Marriages
- Finances
- Jobs
- Family
- Health
- Our Spiritual Walk

Any situation in our lives that seems dead can be resurrected by fasting and prayer, Matthew 21:22, "And all things you ask in prayer, believing, you will receive." You need to ask God in prayer, praying according to His will and praying in faith.

(cont'd next page)

(Resurrection cont'd)

When you think your marriage is ending, don't just give up and run to the nearest attorney, commit the situation to God, ask Him for direction, trust God to resurrect the desire for each other and see how he comes through for you. Same concept applies to Finances, Jobs, Family and Health. I will walk you through - Spiritual Walk.

When you reach the point where you don't want to fellowship with the saints, you don't want to pray or go to church, you have become spiritually dead. For God to resurrect you spiritually, you have to make sacrifices. Start with playing worship songs, play them until it becomes a habit. Sing along with the songs; at some point you will not remember the words but the music will still be bursting in you. Make up your own words, tell God you love Him; tell Him how good and awesome He is. Pretty soon your song will become worship and praise. Things will start happening within you. The pruning process has now started and old things and habits are being cut away for the new life to increase in you. You will soon start praying and praising until you can't wait for Wednesdays to come around to go to Bible Study and Sundays for church and Sunday School.

We have to learn to praise our way out of dead situations for Resurrection to take place.

Hyacinth Chung
Communications Ministry

We wait for His Son from heaven
Whom He raised from the dead
that is Jesus

1 Thessalonians 1:10

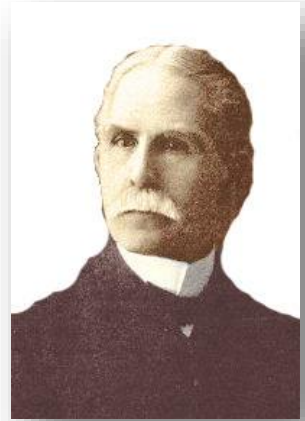
**Who rescues us from the
wrath to come**

HYMN OF THE MONTH: "GLORY TO HIS NAME"

*Submitted by Hyacinth Chung
Communications Ministry*

This hymn, "Glory to His Name" is also called "Down at the Cross" and was written by Elisha A. Hoffman in 1878. The lyrics came to him while he was reading about the Crucifixion of Jesus in the Bible and that set him to thinking about how God saved men from their sins by allowing Jesus to die on the cross. It was originally written as a poem and later set to music by John Stockton who was a musician and a member of the church Hoffman attended.

Born on May 7, 1839 in Orwigsburg, Pennsylvania, Hoffman was a Presbyterian minister and composer of over 2,000 hymns and editor of over 50 song books. He was also the son of an Evangelical minister so he was no stranger to singing hymns and bible studies. He furthered his education at Union Seminary in New Berlin, Pennsylvania, and was, subsequently, ordained as a Presbyterian minister in 1873. Minister Hoffman died in 1929 in Chicago, Illinois, and was buried there in Oak Woods Cemetery.



These lyrics were based on the scriptural passage of Matthew 26:28, "*For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.*"

LYRICS

1. Down at the cross where my Savior died,
Down where for cleansing from sin I cried,
There to my heart was the blood applied;
Glory to His Name!

Refrain:

Glory to His Name, Glory to His Name:
There to my heart was the blood applied;
Glory to His Name

2. I am so wondrously saved from sin,
Jesus so sweetly abides within,
There at the cross where He took me in;
Glory to His Name!
3. Oh, precious fountain that saves from sin,
I am so glad I have entered in;
There Jesus saves me and keeps me clean;
Glory to His Name!
4. Come to this fountain so rich and sweet,
Cast thy poor soul at the Savior's feet;
Plunge in today, and be made complete;
Glory to His Name!

REVIVAL AT SPRINGFIELD MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

Springfield Baptist Church had their annual three nights of revival services Wednesday, March 20th through Friday, March 22nd. Our own Pastor Ronald Lee Bowens was the guest speaker for all three nights of services.

Wednesday night started out with his message coming from Mark 5:1-14 and was titled, “The Jumping of Tombstone Demons.” The message was about the demon possessed man who lived among the tombs. He had a legion of demons in him, but when Satan tries to conquer us, Jesus restores us. The possessed man fell at Jesus’ feet and the demon begged him to be cast into the swine. Even the demons have to tremble at Jesus’ name.

Thursday night’s message came from 1 Kings 21:1-5 and this message was titled, “Deal or No Deal.” It tells of Naboth’s refusal to sell his vineyard to Ahab because there are some things you cannot put a value on. There are things that need to pass from generation to generation, not only material things, but morals and principles.

Friday night was Friendship Night as the revival came to a close. The Friendship family was invited to fellowship and was well represented. It was like Sunday Service at Friendship in Duluth, with a few visitors which was the Springfield family. All roads led us to Lula, Georgia as we piled into two buses, carpools and solo drivers. There were Friendship Ministers, Deacons, Ushers, the Choir and congregation.

Our Deacons conducted the devotion including scripture and prayer. Springfield’s congregational hymn was sung, “I Surrender All.” Friendship’s Choir sang a selection before Pastor Bowens brought the message, which came from Mark 10:17-20 and was titled “You Have a License to Praise the Lord.”

In a nutshell, the message was about our reason to Praise God because we are saved. The points to ponder were: 1) **Eternal Salvation**, 2) **Eternal Security** and 3) **Eternal Satisfaction**.

- 1) **Eternal Salvation** – This is the benefit of a new relationship with God:
 - Renewal – Some things are made new.
 - Reward – God rewards us both now and when we go home to him for the work we do on earth.
 - Rescue – We will be taken up in rapture before the great tribulation.
- 2) **Eternal Security** – We are saved forever. Our name is written in Heaven and will not be blotted out from the Lamb’s Book of Life. We are kept by the Power of God, saved and kept by Grace. Because we are saved forever does not mean we have a license to sin.
- 3) **Eternal Satisfaction** – Again, we are reminded, your name is written in the Lamb’s Book of Life. To be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord. We will be going to a place where there will be no more tears, hurts, crying, sin, sickness, pain, curse or death. God will be there with His people surrounded by Jasper walls and Pearly Gates, streets of Gold and Angelic Hosts.

PRAISE THE LORD

Are we giving God the Praise He deserves? Make Praise your priority in your daily routine. Rejoice and be glad in the Lord. Give God ALL the Glory and Praise He rightly deserves.

Written by Hyacinth Chung
Communications Ministry

78 Seeds of Faith

MORTGAGE ELIMINATION CAMPAIGN



FBC | FRIENDSHIP
BAPTIST CHURCH

THREE KEYS TO THE SEED OF FAITH CAMPAIGN:

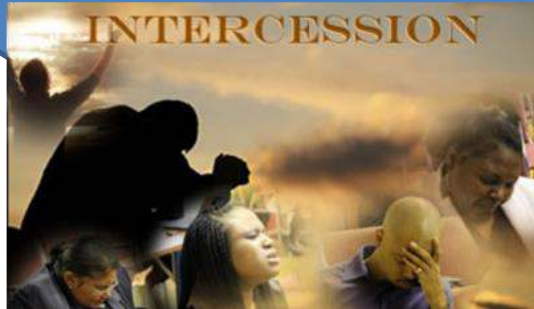
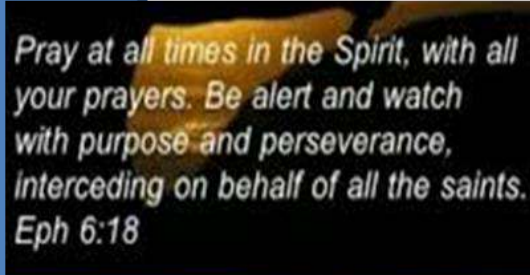
1. **Recognize that God is your Source** - Philippians 4:19 says, *"My God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus."* God will use many different instruments to supply our needs—but He alone is the Source, and He alone cannot fail.
2. **Give first, so that it may be given back to you** - Luke 6:38 says, *"Give, and it will be given to you."* We must first plant a Seed of Faith so that God can multiply it back to meet our needs. Jesus is talking about giving in the deepest sense of the word—the giving of ourselves to God. This includes anything we can give: love, time, patience, forgiveness, finances, and our prayers. Please note that our giving reflects our Trust in God.
3. **Expect a miracle** - Mark 11:24 says, *"Whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them."* The moment we ask God for something—the moment we do our part and plant our Seed of Faith—we should believe God that the answer is on its way. It's important to expect our miracle so we can recognize it and reach out to take it when it comes.

How This Campaign Will Work: Over the next 78 weeks, we are asking every member and friends to sow a seed of \$26 over and above your tithes and offerings. If you are not able to give \$26, give what you can, and if you are able to give more than \$26, please do so. If you are blessed to give \$260 or \$2,600 per week, be obedient to God.

We are asking you to please utilize the blue envelopes located on the back of the pews. Using the blue envelopes will help our Finance Ministry greatly. This allows them to track and account for your seed offerings. So please each Sunday for 78 weeks, give God something to work with. No matter how little you think you have, sow it in Joy and in Faith, knowing you are Sowing Seeds so you, your family, our church, each ministry and our community may reap miracles from the seeds that are sown.

Remember – God is Our Source – Give so that it can be Given Back to you, and Expect a Miracle! Thank you and God Bless!

Prayer List



Remember with prayer, calls and visitations:

Bro. James Agee
Bro. Willie Benton
Min. Karen Blacknell
Rev. Kenneth Blacknell
Bro. Julius Brogdon
Sis. Joyce Brooks
Sis. Sherie Brown
Bro. Tyler Caldwell
Sis. Pearl Coles
Sis. Nekka Dean
Sis. Doris Doyle

Sis. Everlene Fisher
Sis. Barbara Hall
Sis. Crystal Ingram
Bro. Willie L. Harris
Sis. Charlotte Hayes
Bro. Leroy Hurt
Sis. Mary L. Jones
Bro. Patrick Jones
Bro. Dennis Kimmey
Sis. Mabel Lawrence
Bro. Edwin Logan
Sis. Sylvia Marrow

Sis. Roxanne Motley
Evg. Valerie Montaque
Sis. Khuyen Nguyen
The Palmer Family
Sis. Gloria Peters
Bro. Garvin Potts
Sis. Carrie Rawls
Sis. Peggy Rogers
Bro. Benny Rollins
Dea. Clarence Slaughter
Bro. Antone Smith
Sis. Latisha Smith

Sis. Valerie Smith
Bro. Xavier Stephens
Sis. Tiffany Stovall
Bro. Julian Sydnor
Sis. April Walker
Sis. Mabel Thomas
Rev. Dwight Wilkerson
Min. Floyd Williams
Dea. Clendon Wilson
Sis. Sadie Wilson
Bro. Victor Winston, Jr.
Bro. Donald Wood



USHER'S MINISTRY

Isabelle Robinson, President

Louie Malone & Shirley Price, Photographers

FBC USHER'S MINISTRY ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

“Standing in Excellence”

Psalm 84:10

Friendship Baptist Church Usher's Anniversary Celebration was on Sunday, March 24th at 3:00 p.m. in the main sanctuary. The ushers marched in with flair and pizzazz as they rocked their brand new gray usher's attire with white baby breath and purple flower corsages. The men had matching boutonnieres minus the silver ribbon.

The Grand Entrance of the Ushers, utilizing all three aisles and rocking to the song “When I Rose This Morning,” much to the amusement of the congregation, received Pastor's nod of approval as he was also totally amazed and tickled at our comical entry.



Our emcee of the hour was our own Sis. Temeka Ramsey. The choir rendered selections of “One More Day,” “God is an Awesome God, He is Greatly to be Praised” and “We Offer the Sacrifice of Praise” before Pastor Bowens introduced the speaker of the hour, Dr. William F. Sherman of Mt. Carmel Baptist Church in Clearwater, FL.



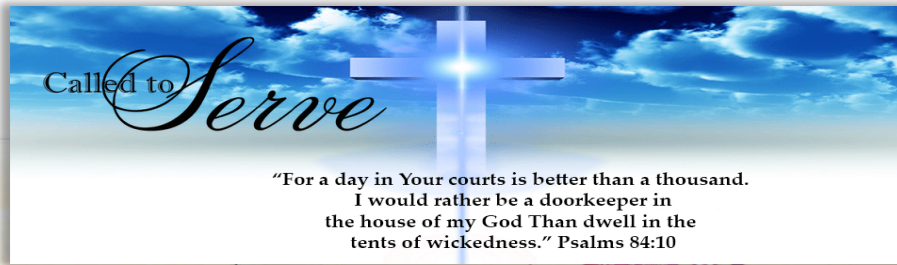
The message was taken from Psalm 84:10 and, keeping with our theme of “Standing in Excellence,” Dr. Sherman expounded on David's humility and in all his Royalty he recognized something special in Servanthood. David admired the service of Ushers because:

1. He recognized God is Supreme Ruler.
2. He is expressing appreciation for the service and humility of Ushers.

One of life's challenges is making appropriate decisions. Some decisions are simple, but others require wisdom and discernment. In comparison with us using a GPS system to take us where we want to go from where we are to our destination, we also need divine, supernatural help to make sound decisions. God knows where we are and where we want to go. As a surrendered Christian to God, we should never get lost. We have a never failing God who is always there—He is our GPS. He's our **G**uide, He's our **P**rotection and He's our **S**ecurity.

There are two things we should have in our service to God:

1. The Instrument of Faith – Without Faith it is impossible to please God. Proverbs 3:5-6, Trust in the Lord with all thine heart and lean not to thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct thy paths.
2. The Instrument of the Word of God – We are not dedicated to God by reading his word continuously and studying His word—we need to get into the Word so the Word can get into us. Reference was made to Psalm 23:3b; “He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake.” The Law of the Lord is Perfect, so we should strive for Excellence in God's Word.



FBC USHER'S MINISTRY OFFICERS

- President - Isabelle Robinson
- Vice President - Rosena Heyward
- Secretary - Vanessa White
- Treasurer - Lula Tally
- Chaplain - Irene Cassell
- Ministry Advisor - Deacon Clyde Johnson

TEAM LEADERS

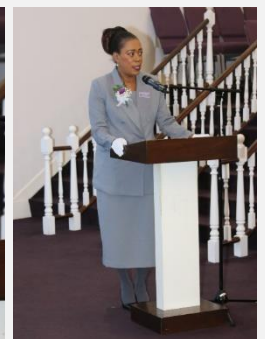
- 1st Sunday - JoAnne Williams
- 2nd Sunday - Henry Richardson
- 3rd Sunday - Isabelle Robinson
- 4th Sunday - Rosena Heyward

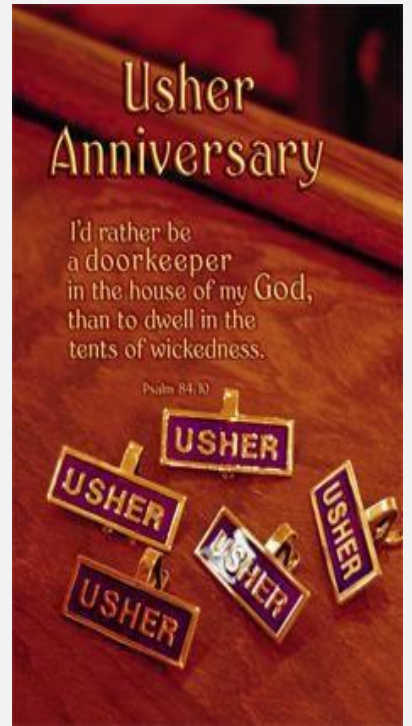
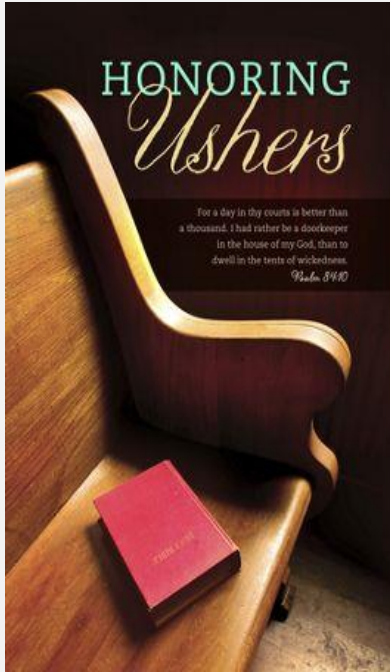


MINISTRY TEAM MEMBERS

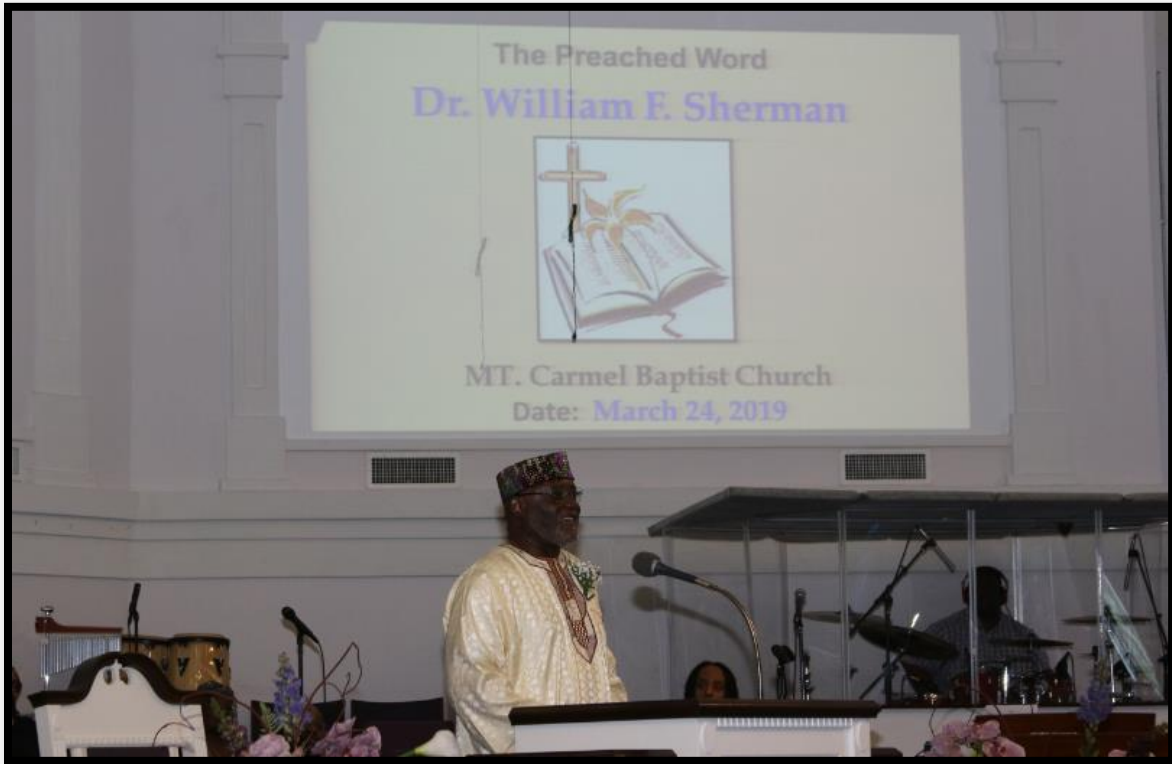
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|------------------|-------------------|----------------|--------------------|------------------|
| Mary Anderson | Angelica Cummings | Rainey Lee | Jewell Powell | Quentrance West |
| Thaddeus Bell | Michael Dibrell | Darion Malone | Joseph Reeves | Vanessa White |
| Rita Bowens | Ethel Emery | Martice Moore | Henry Richardson | Marvin Whitfield |
| Julia Brown | Patricia Harris | Yolanda Morgan | Israel Richardson | Sharyn Whitfield |
| Alfred Cassell | Randy Harrell | Desmond Nagbe | Latasha Richardson | Bobby Williams |
| Irene Cassell | Kevin Hayes | Jada Nagbe | Isabelle Robinson | Carolyn Williams |
| Demetra Casseus | Rosena Heyward | Jordan Nagbe | Michael Sharpless | JoAnne Williams |
| Hyacinth Chung | Kennedy Horton | Eugenia Nah | Mikayla Sharpless | |
| Ashley Clark | Barbara Johnson | Rose Nolan | Emma Stephens | |
| Brenda Commodore | Frances Johnson | Brandon Owens | Lula Tally | |
| Tyler Commodore | Jackie Lash | Raymond Poole | Agnes Taylor | |

(Usher's Ministry Anniversary)





Called to *Serve*



Acknowledgements from the Usher Ministry President Isabelle Robinson above and a photo with Pastor Bowens



The celebration ended with refreshments and fellowship in the Fellowship Hall.

OUTREACH MINISTRY – “ONE BODY SAVED TO SERVE”

Diana McGhee, Ministry Leader

OUTREACH CENTER HOURS:

Mondays & Saturdays: 11:00 am - 1:00 pm

Wednesdays: 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm

For more information about the Outreach Ministry:
Contact Diana McGhee at 404-312-1232 or by email at dianaymcghee@bellsouth.net or
Catherine Stafford at 678-983-7587.



IT'S PROM TIME AGAIN! We have gowns and after-five attire available for our young ladies for the Prom. We are also accepting gown and tuxedo donations. Please contact Sis. Pamela Stodghill at 504-710-6990 for more information. You may also bring donations to the Outreach Center.



The “**Friendship Market**” food distribution project needs more **MALE VOLUNTEERS** **between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. on Fridays.** If you can volunteer for any hours during that time, please contact Diana McGhee at 404-312-1232.

FRUIT & PRODUCE HOURS:

Wednesdays: 1:30 pm - 2:30 pm

Fridays: 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Saturdays: 11:30 am - 12:30 pm

Items will be distributed in the Fellowship Hall on Fridays and from the Outreach Center on Wednesdays and Saturdays. First Come, First Served.



The FBC Outreach Ministry offers a Care Community to support foster care parents and information on becoming a foster parent. We also offer training to members who wish to become Care Community volunteers. Please contact Venda Young at 219-688-1365 or Linda Milton at LBmilton1@charter.net for more information.



Did you know that the Outreach Ministry hosts a mid-week worship service at noon every Wednesday in the Fellowship Hall? **JOIN US!!**

The Outreach Center's Spring Donation & Cookout March 15, 2019



(Outreach cont'd)





COMMUNITY OUTREACH



The Outreach staff thanks everyone who braved the chilly temperatures to come out to lend a hand in this church-wide community event. You are appreciated!

Thank You!

Louie Malone, Photographer

HEALTH MINISTRY – National Autism Awareness Month

Sis. Vickie Perry, RN/BSN, Ministry Leader



Autism spectrum disorder (ASD) is a complex developmental disability; signs typically appear during early childhood and affect a person’s ability to communicate, and interact with others. ASD is defined by a certain set of behaviors and is a “spectrum condition” that affects individuals differently and to varying degrees. There is no known single cause of autism, but increased awareness and early diagnosis/intervention and access to appropriate services/supports lead to significantly improved outcomes. Some of the behaviors associated with autism include delayed learning of language; difficulty making eye contact or holding a conversation; difficulty with executive functioning, which relates to reasoning and planning; narrow, intense interests; poor motor skills’ and sensory sensitivities. Again, a person on the spectrum might follow many of these behaviors or just a few, or many others besides. The diagnosis of autism spectrum disorder is applied based on analysis of all behaviors and their severity.

In 2018, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention issued their [ADDM autism prevalence report](#). The report concluded that the prevalence of autism had risen to 1 in every 59 births in the United States – **twice as great** as the 2004 rate of 1 in 125 – and almost 1 in 54 boys. The spotlight shining on autism as a result has opened opportunities for the nation to consider how to serve families facing a lifetime of supports for the individual with autism. In June 2014, [researchers estimated](#) the lifetime cost of caring for an individual with autism is as great as \$2.4 million. The Autism Society estimates that the United States is facing almost \$90 billion annually in costs for autism. (This figure includes research, insurance costs and non-covered expenses, Medicaid waivers for autism, educational spending, housing, transportation, employment, related therapeutic services and caregiver costs.)

Learn the signs: Early identification can change lives

Autism is treatable. Individuals with autism do not “outgrow” autism, but studies show that [early diagnosis](#) and intervention lead to significantly improved outcomes. For more information on developmental milestones, visit the CDC’s “[Learn the Signs. Act Early](#)” site. Here are some signs to look for:

- Lack of or delay in spoken language
- Repetitive use of language and/or motor mannerisms (e.g., hand-flapping, twirling objects)
- Little or no eye contact
- Lack of interest in peer relationships
- Lack of spontaneous or make-believe play
- Persistent fixation on parts of objects

For more information, go to: <https://www.autism-society.org/>



HEALTHY FOODS

HEALTHY HEART

FITNESS

| FLC GYM AND FITNESS CENTER HOURS OF OPERATION: | | |
|--|-----------------|----------------------|
| Mornings | Monday – Friday | 9:00 am – 12:00 noon |

DANCE MINISTRY

Sis. Nyla Blacknell, Ministry Leader

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Photos from Shirley Price, Communications

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Cheryl Alford, Ministry Leader



Glory to God in the highest!
The theme for March was “Removing the Mask.”

The women came together on Friday, March 8th to share in a surprise activity: the painting of masks. They chatted excitedly as each painted her mask in an array of colors and decorative flowers and jewels. It was a joyous occasion and each sister seemed pleased with the results. After displaying the masks and taking photos of each, we departed for the evening only to return the following Saturday for our regular monthly meeting.

Seventeen masks were displayed to showcase the activity for those who weren't able to attend the evening before. “Oohs and ahhs were uttered as attendees viewed the display.

During our meeting, three scriptures were read by the following sisters as a way of setting the tone for the gathering:

Gertie Brock:

2 Corinthians 5:17: *“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.”*

Linda Berry:

2 Corinthians 3:18: *“But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the LORD, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the LORD.”*

Geraldine Powell:

1 Peter 2:9: *“But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.”*

We selected the song, “Holy Spirit” by Kim Walker-Smith to welcome His presence.

In adhering to our normal customs, **Harriett Hairston** welcomed three 1st time attendees: Rosetta Garnett, Maria Love and Brenda Steverson. The ministry also acknowledged birthday and anniversary celebrants. Following these acknowledgements, **Cheryl Alford** asked the women to assist in preparing for our April meeting by providing an anonymous question that would be addressed at that time. **Vickie Chambers** led the women in the reading of our Covenant followed by **Kelly Wilson** who offered a moving mime interpretation to “Secrets” by Israel and Adrienne Houghton.

As we continued in our fellowship, **Gerri Wright** shared a reading entitled, “The Onion” (author unknown) which spoke about how our Heavenly Father peels away the many layers of sin in our lives so that He can get to our core and begin to make us who He wants us to be. Our take away from this is that once He cleans us to the core, we can determine that “We won't go back”. To emphasize this point, our resident music technician, **Dranita Morrow**, played “I Won't Go Back” by William McDowell.

It was now the moment we'd been waiting for. Newly licensed **Minister Monique Stroman** shared a few words of encouragement on the importance of not hiding behind the mask. **Harriett Hairston**, ministry secretary, was able to capture several points made during her presentation: There may be more than one thing hiding behind the mask (but we have the Word to draw from in these moments):

(Women's Ministry cont'd)

1. The Mask of Expectancy: Feeling different and sensitive, comparing ourselves to others. We may hear several positive expressions yet we hold on to that one negative. Though the devil starts early to bring negativity, we must remember Jeremiah 1:5: *"Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations."*
2. The Mask of Fear: We say "I'm ok" even though we may not feel that way. Psalm 27:1: *"The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?"* Deuteronomy 30:20 tells us God's promises help to overcome fear; and Jeremiah 29:11 says, *"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."*

Min. Monique reminded the women that "death" brings about pain, but we can call on the Lord for help. She supported further comments with the following verses:

Psalm 143:7: *"Hear me speedily, O Lord: my spirit faileth: hide not thy face from me, lest I be like unto them that go down into the pit."* Psalm 118:14: *"The Lord is my strength and song and is become my salvation."* Isaiah 61:3: *"To appoint unto them that mourn in Zion, to give unto them beauty for ashes the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that He might be glorified."*

Finally, as we grow in God's word, we begin to relate to the Word as we see ourselves. We can share with others when we're free. *"If the Son, therefore, shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed"* John 8:36.

At the end of her presentation, we were uplifted with a rendition of "Your Love" by William Murphy after which all ladies were asked to remove the mask and discard them in the trash as a symbolic expression of being delivered from hiding behind our fears, etc.

After being spiritually enlightened, the ladies shared in a light breakfast followed by a final reading by **Mother Pat Ashe** entitled, "How We See Ourselves." It was based on one of our opening scriptures, 2 Corinthians 3:18 and a reminder that we must learn to see ourselves as God sees us.

At the end of this reading, we were reminded that

"When we, in true humility, see ourselves perfect as He sees us, then we will reflect to the world the One who is more desirable than any other. Don't be confined to who you think you are but expand into the limitless potential of who God has made you to be." In the end, "Your story will reveal His glory!"

We invite you to join us each month as we strive to walk together in one band of Christian love and unity and as we continue to encourage one another in strengthening our faith.

Article by Cheryl Alford
Supporting notes by Harriett Hairston
Photos by Lynne Alford

(Women's Ministry cont'd)



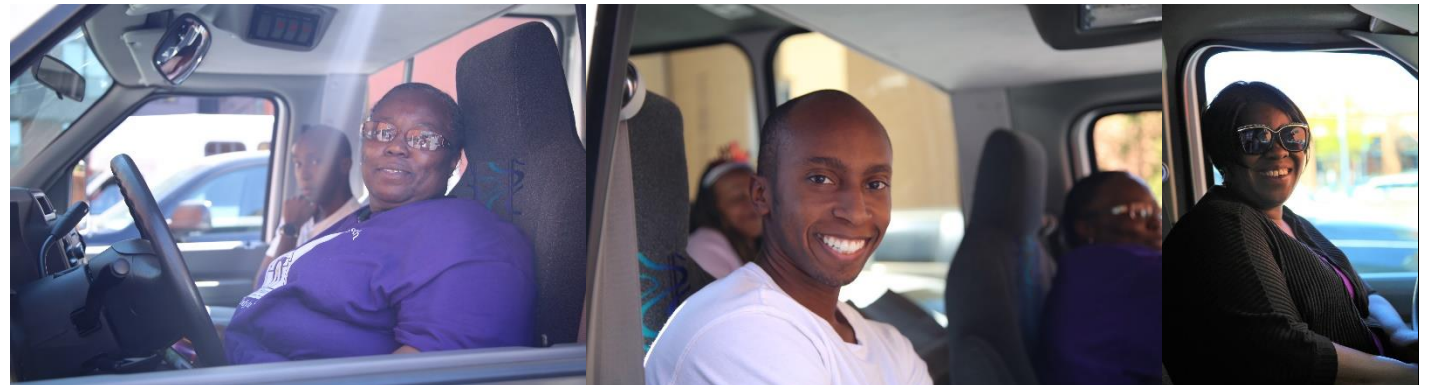
SENIOR'S MINISTRY

Rev. Eugene Graves, Ministry Leader
Shirley Price, Photographer

March 23, 2019 – Athens, GA trip



(Senior's Ministry cont'd)



COMMUNICATION'S MINISTRY

Louis Malone, Ministry Leader

The Communications Ministry gathered together on Saturday, March 30th, for dinner and a live production of “Steel Magnolias” to support one of our own ministry members, Kiane Davis, who directed the play held at the New Dawn Theater in Duluth, GA. The play was based on the acclaimed 1989 movie starring Sally Fields, Julia Roberts, Dolly Parton, Shirley Maclaine and Olympia Dukakis. Dinner was good and we had a great time.



On Sunday, April 14th, Friendship was blessed with the vocal talents of Bridget Bazile, a long-time friend of Kiane Davis. Kiane writes: “We have been friends since college. I met her at the University of New Orleans during my undergraduate in music. She was pursuing her graduate degree in vocal performance - classical. We had some classes together. She offered me the opportunity to join the Moses Hogan Chorale, an international singing group where she was lead soprano. We travelled with the group and she began solo singing at churches around the country. I assisted her with travel and sound check at her performances. As her career grew, my responsibilities grew and I have coordinated events, sang background, worked audio at events and produced music with her. She recently began a new mission called “Sing It Forward” where she wants to tour to areas less travelled and share her gift.

BRIDGET BAZILE, Soprano

Native of Metairie, Louisiana,

Bridget Bazile is a graduate of Tulane University and the University of New Orleans. She is the winner of the prestigious Leontyne Price Competition and preformed in several operas. Her musical talent has allowed her to sing all over the world, including performing at Carnegie Hall, Spain, France and the JFK Center for Performing Arts.

It is her mission to promote and keep alive the rich African-American musical heritage and culture.



Bridget came to Duluth to see the play I was directing and I asked her to share at my church. She will be on tour in Atlanta next year and Friendship would already be familiar and, hopefully, excited to help her Sing It Forward. She was well received at both 7:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. services and Pastor Bowens invited her to return anytime she is in Georgia. Bridget is a wonderful person and a cherished friend. Her gift she shares is only the tip of the iceberg of what she has done for me. I am blessed to call her my dear friend. She is a pleasure to work with for all these many years.

“And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.” Romans 8:28.

To God be the Glory! Kiane Davis – Communications Ministry

From the editor...

Paulette Tapp, Communications Ministry

Sharing a story from “Inside Chick-fil-A” to encourage, inspire and motivate our young people. It doesn’t matter where you come from or where you live—what matters are the choices you make for your life. Here is one young lady’s story:

Growing up in Nigeria, against the backdrop of an unstable political climate, Adaobi Gwacham’s parents dreamt of a new life for their five children.

“Nigeria was different and difficult, but it was all we knew. We made the best of it,” says Gwacham.

Dreams finally gave way to reality when the Gwacham family won a visa lottery in 1999 and moved to the U.S., settling into the town of Chino Hills, Calif. With little money and a different culture to navigate, they began their new life.

During high school, Gwacham found a job at a local fast food restaurant, but her path took a different direction after a Chick-fil-A Operator came in for lunch. He was impressed by her positive attitude and strong work ethic and, after several lunch visits, finally convinced her to leave that job and come work in his restaurant. She stayed on through college.

“I was studying to be a nurse. But I loved my job at Chick-fil-A so much that it turned into a dream to own my own Chick-fil-A. That’s when I changed my major to business,” says Gwacham.

After graduating from California Baptist University, Gwacham took on new assignments with Chick-fil-A. She traveled across the country to work on grand openings, but always kept dreaming and working towards her ultimate goal of becoming a Chick-fil-A Operator.

Finally, the opportunity came along in 2014 when she became the franchise owner of the Chick-fil-A at E. Colorado Blvd. in Pasadena, CA.

“It was surreal for probably the first six months that I actually accomplished my goal. All my hard work actually paid off,” says Gwacham. “But the best part was that I made my parents proud.”

Gwacham, the first in her family to graduate from high school and college, sees her business as an opportunity to impact the lives of her team members and serve her community. She teaches personal budgeting classes for her restaurant team members, many of whom have never had a savings account. She recently began offering a 401k to eligible employees. Not surprisingly, Gwacham has a low turnover rate among her employees.

“I know what it’s like to struggle, and I want things to be different for my team members. I want to create a family in my restaurant. They may not always work for me, but while they are here, I will take care of them and make sure their needs are met. I will help them think about their futures,” says Gwacham.

Gwacham channels that passion for young people into her community as well. She speaks monthly to local schools to share her experiences, in hopes that it will inspire teenagers to chase their dreams.

“I tell them that anyone can achieve their goals. You just have to put in the work and get your education, no matter who you are.”



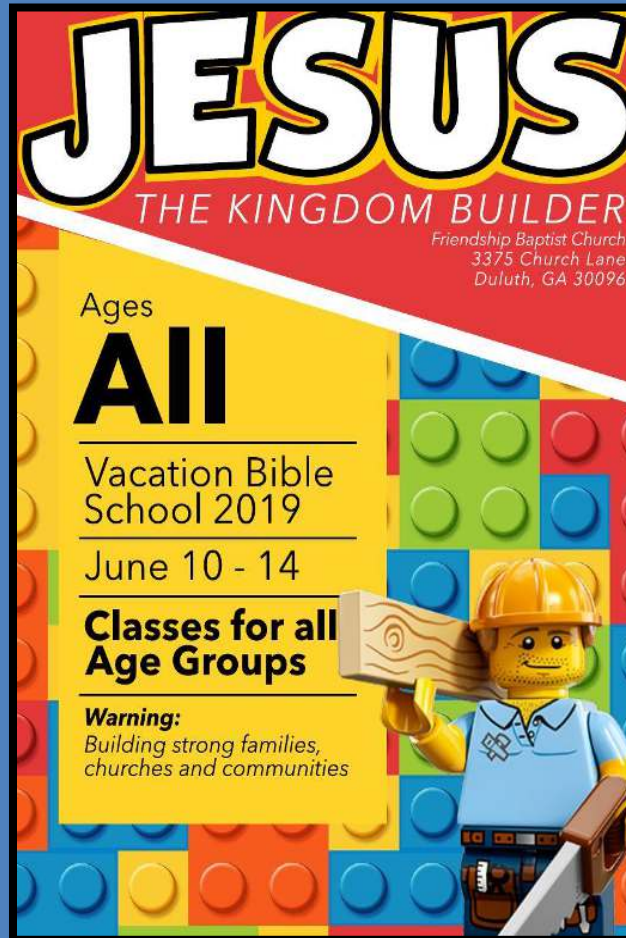
YOUTH MINISTRY

Sis. Charlene Benn, Ministry Leader

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

June 10-14, 2019

6:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.



Please join the VBS Team as we plan a full week of exciting Bible Study, Praise and Worship and Fellowship for the entire family and community. To sign up or if you have any questions, please contact the VBS Directors:

Kindell May: kpmay03@yahoo.com

Madelyn Sharpless: madelynsharpless@gmail.com

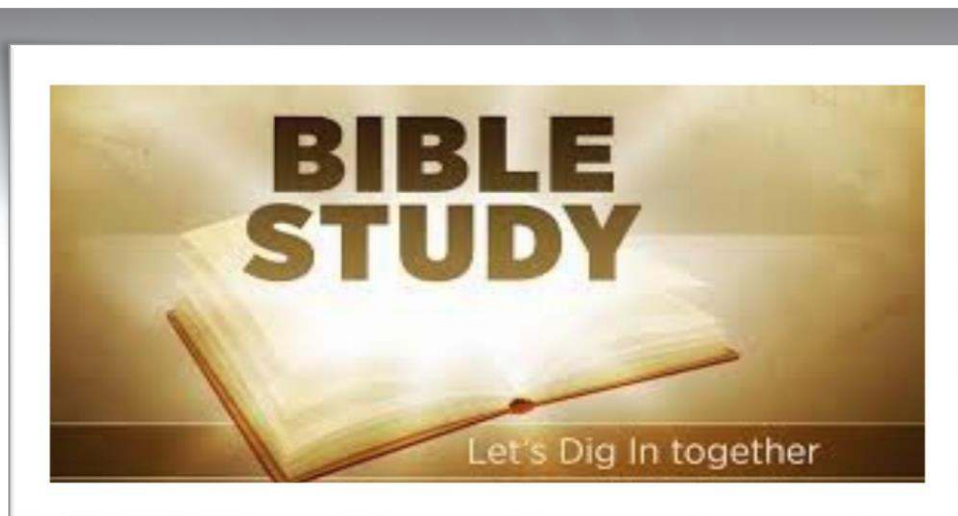
Nita Owens: juanitamowens@gmail.com

COME JOIN US

Every Wednesday Night for:

Intercessory Prayer
6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
PRAYER
changes things

Worship Service & Bible Study
7:30 p.m.



FBC YOUTH MINISTRIES
WORSHIP SERVICES 7:30 AM & 11:00 AM



NURSERY - 5TH GRADE
Youth Classroom Area Lower Level Main Building



*As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another,
as good stewards of God's varied grace*
1 Peter 4:10



MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL (6th – 12th Grades)
Heritage Sanctuary
(former Church Building)



Church News & Other Important Information

High School Seniors

There will be a mandatory kickoff meeting for the High School Senior Graduating Class of 2019 on Saturday, April 27th from 9:30-10:30 am in Classroom 131 in the Family Life Center. This is the second and final kickoff meeting. If you did not attend the meeting on April 13th, you must attend this meeting in order to participate in the upcoming commencement celebration sponsored by the Friendship Baptist Church. All students and parents are expected to attend. Please be on time.

Pastor's Speaking Engagement

On Sunday, April 28th, you are cordially invited to Springfield Missionary Baptist Church, 6897 Hwy 74 East, Morena, GA. Pastor Bowens will minister at their 3:00 p.m. service. FBC Ushers and choir are asked to render service.

FBC Vacation Bible School – June 10-14, 2019

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!! Please join the VBS Team as we plan a full week of exciting Bible Study, Praise and Worship and Fellowship for the entire family and community. The theme this year is “Jesus, the Kingdom Builder” *Warning: Building Strong Families, Churches and Communities.* To sign up or for any questions, please contact the VBS Directors: Sis. Kindell May at kpmay03@yahoo.com, Sis. Madelyn Sharpless at madelynsharpless@gmail.com, and Sis. Nita Owens at janitamowens@gmail.com.

Men's Ministry

On May 4, 2019, from 10:30 am-12:30 pm, the FBC Men's Ministry is asking ALL Men and Young Men to come out for a Great Day of Fellowshiping, Learning, Encouragement and Discipleship. We are encouraging you to invite a friend. If you have any questions, please contact Brandon Owens at 204-503-1715 or Rommell May at 770-715-6117.

Women's Ministry

Please join the ladies of Creative Learning on Saturdays from 11:30 am–2:30 pm in the Lower Level Heritage building.

Neighboring Church News

You are invited to Mt. Zion Baptist Church's Male Chorus 20th Anniversary on Saturday, May 4th at 5:00 pm. The address is 4000 Thurmond Tanner Rd., Flowery Branch, GA. Please render A&B selections.

LIT 2019 – Living in Truth Conference, May 30-June 1, for Youth ages 13-21. Cost is \$35 per person with early registration before May 1st. Kicking off with a Free Concert on Thursday from 7:00-9:00 pm at Hopewell Missionary Baptist Church. For more information, go to www.getlit.church.

Lost and Found – If you have lost items and would like to check the Lost and Found, you may contact the church office Monday – Friday from 9:00 am – 3:00 pm. If you find a lost item, please see one of the ushers after any Sunday service, or contact the church office.

Transportation Ministry - Interested in being a driver? Dial 404-643-0755. Need a ride to the church? Dial 770-622-2797 and leave a message.

WEEKLY CLASSES

Sunday

Masterlife 1: “The Disciple's Cross” - FLC Room 130
 Masterlife 2: “The Disciple's Personality” - FLC Room 210
 Masterlife 3: “The Disciple's Victory” - FLC Room 211
 Masterlife 4: “The Disciple's Mission” - FLC Room 213
 GriefShare - FLC Room 234

Monday

“When Life Is Hard” Turning Your Trials into Gold. Join us Monday nights from 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Books are \$12.



Go to fbcduluth.org
 and click on “Giving”
 From your phone, text
 to: fbcduluth to 73256

Distracted Driving Awareness Month!

Every day, at least nine Americans die and 100 are injured in distracted driving crashes. Cell phones, dashboard touchscreens, voice commands and other in-vehicle technologies pose a threat to our safety. The consequences of those distractions are not worth the convenience they offer. Ignore the distractions and #justdrive to keep us all safer on the roads.

Distracted Driving Awareness Month in April is a united effort to recognize the dangers of and eliminate preventable deaths from distracted driving.

Make the pledge to “Just Drive” for your own safety and for others with whom you share the roads. Choose to not drive distracted in any way – pledge I will not:

- Have a phone conversation – handheld, hands-free, or via Bluetooth
- Text or send Snapchats
- Use voice-to-text features in my vehicle’s dashboard system
- Update Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Vimeo or other social media
- Check or send emails
- Take selfies or film videos
- Input destinations into GPS (while the vehicle is in motion)
- Call or message someone else when I know they are driving



BLACK HISTORY FACTS

SILVER COMMEMORATIVES 1952 WASHINGTON-CARVER 50C MS

Coin Specifications

Category: Silver Commemoratives (1892-1954)

Mint: Philadelphia

Mintage: 2,006,000

Obverse Designer: Isaac Scott Hathaway

Reverse Designer: Isaac Scott Hathaway

Composition: Silver

Fineness: 0.9000

Weight: 12.5000g

ASW: 0.3617oz

Melt Value: \$5.45 (4/17/2019)

Diameter: 30.6mm

Edge: Reeded



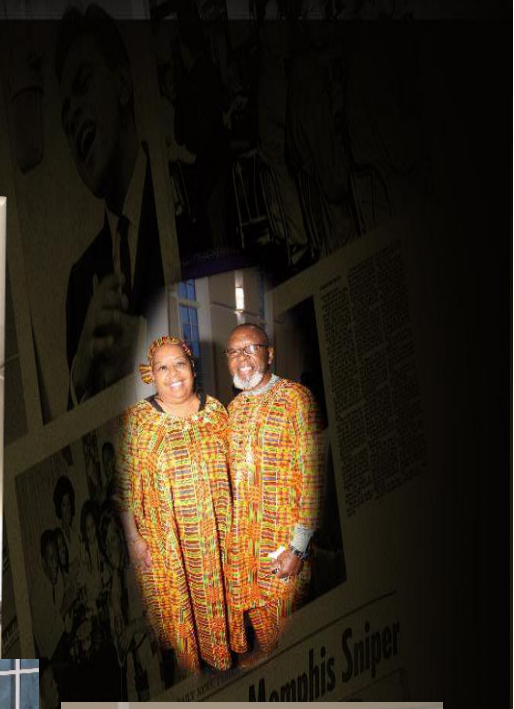
Booker T. Washington was one of the leading figures in the charge to educate freed slaves during the reconstruction era. Being a free slave himself, he believed that the key to African Americans' future success was through learning practical skills. Though his emphasis on manual skills as the ticket to advancement for his race drew criticism from those favoring a more balanced education for African Americans, it's evident that his approach was perhaps better suited to the American social climate of its time. But Booker T. Washington's ceaseless, pioneering efforts helped to ease white America into a greater acceptance of their fellow Americans.

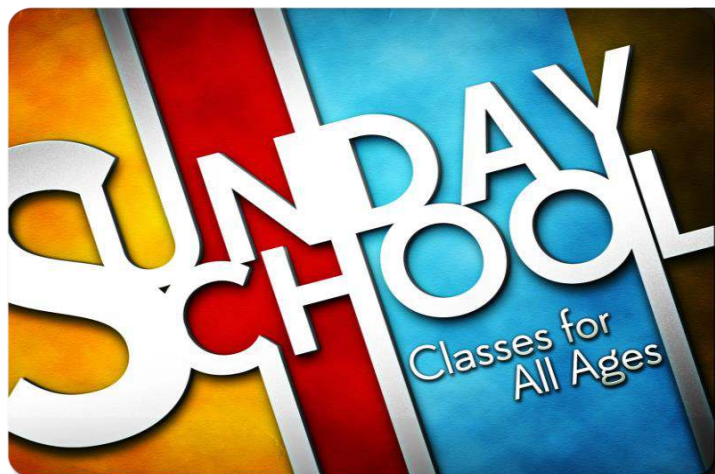
George Washington Carver too was inexorably linked with slavery (his parents were former slaves,) and like Washington, did not let that fact keep him down. He was quite intelligent, and after a boyhood growing up learning about plants and botany, he pursued that field in higher education. He eventually graduated with a B.S. from the Iowa State College of Agriculture in 1894. He used this degree to great effect, discovering numerous uses for peanuts, soybeans, and sweet potatoes; crops that were once considered worthless. His research helped many farmers in the South deal with problems such as soil depletion and the boll weevil, which destroyed the cotton industry.

Submitted by Kelly Wilson
Communications Ministry

BLACK HISTORY (cont'd)

Photography by Shirley Price, Communications Ministry





**Bro. Dorian Rogers,
Superintendent**
4integrityauto@gmail.com
770-309-6245

CLASSES LOCATED IN THE FAMILY LIFE CENTER:

| Class | Room | Class | Room |
|---|------|---|------|
| Men's Class | 131 | In Teens (High School) | 217 |
| Survival Kit | 135 | Jesus and Me (Middle School) | 219 |
| Women's Class | 139 | CONN3CT (College age 19-29) | 133 |
| Basic Bible Study | 208 | IGNITE! (Singles and Young Adults 29 & Older) | 221 |
| New Member's Class | 209 | Marriage Class | 235 |
| Master Life 1: "The Disciple's Cross" | 130 | Single Parenting | 220 |
| Master Life 2: "The Disciple's Personality" | 210 | GriefShare | 234 |
| Master Life 3: "The Disciple's Victory" | 211 | Note: Adult classes are combined on the 5th Sundays and meet in the Sanctuary | |
| Master Life 4: "The Disciple's Mission" | 213 | | |

CLASSES LOCATED IN THE LOWER LEVEL OF THE MAIN BUILDING:

- The Nursery (3 months-2 years old)
- Beginners (3-4 year olds)
- Primary (K-2nd Grade)
- Juniors (3rd-5th Grade)



OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

WEEKLY

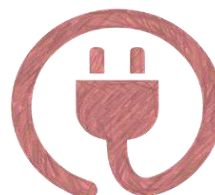
| | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------------|
| Worship Services | Sunday | 7:30 & 11:00 am | Sanctuary |
| Teen Church | Sunday | 7:30 & 11:00 am | Heritage Church |
| Sunday School | Sunday | 9:45 am | Family Life Center |
| Sunday School (Youth) | Sunday | 9:45 am | Lower Level Main Building |
| New Members' Class | Sunday | 9:45 am | Room 209 Family Life Center |
| God's Calling & Purpose for Your Life | Monday | 7:00 pm | Fellowship Hall |
| Deacon's Meeting | Tuesday (1st & 3rd) | 7:00 pm | Room 232 Family Life Center |
| Mid-Week Service | Wednesday | 12:00 noon | Heritage Church |
| Intercessory Prayer | Wednesday | 6:30 pm | Sanctuary |
| Sunday School Teachers | Wednesday | 6:30 pm | Lower Level Main Building |
| Adult Bible Study | Wednesday | 7:30 pm | Sanctuary |
| Youth Church WoW Bible Study | Wednesday | 7:45 pm | Lower Level Main Building |
| Marriage Class | Thursday | 7:00 pm | Room 201 Lower Level Main Bldg |
| Recovery Ministry | 7 days a week – 24 hours a day | | Contact: Tim Sanford @ 678-598-1120 |

MONTHLY

| | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|----------------|--------------------------------|
| Education Ministry | 2nd Monday | 7:00 pm | Room 303 Lower Level Main Bldg |
| Usher Ministry | 1st Tuesday | 7:00 pm | Room 135 Family Life Center |
| Men's Ministry | 1st Saturday | 7:30 am | TBA Monthly |
| Media Ministry | 1st Saturday | 9:30 am | Room 130 Family Life Center |
| Mother's Ministry | 1st Saturday | 9:30 am | Room 135 Family Life Center |
| Minister's Meeting | 1st Saturday | 3:00 pm | Room 232 Family Life Center |
| Women's Ministry | 2nd Saturday | 8:45 am | Fellowship Hall |
| Money Matters | 2nd Saturday | 11:30 am | Fellowship Hall |
| Male Chorus Preparation | 2nd & 4th Saturday | 9:30 am | Sanctuary |
| Health Ministry | 2nd Saturday | 11:00 am | Room 303 Lower Level Main Bldg |
| Outreach Ministry | 3rd Saturday | 9:00 am | Fellowship Hall |
| Shepherd's Care Ministry | 3rd Saturday | 10:00 am | Room 202 Lower Level Main Bldg |
| Communication's Ministry | 3rd Saturday | 11:00 am | Room 135 Family Life Center |
| Marriage Ministry | 3rd Saturday | 5:00 pm | Room 239 Family Life Center |
| Seniors Ministry | 4th Saturday | 11:00 am | Fellowship Hall |
| Singles Ministry | 4th Saturday | 12:30 pm | Lower Level – Heritage Church |
| Prison Ministry | | | |
| Gospel Choir Preparation | Tuesday before 1st & 3rd | Sunday 7:00 pm | |
| Youth Choir Preparation | Tuesday before 2nd & 4th | Sunday 6:45 pm | |

SPECIAL MONTHLY SERVICES

| | | | |
|------------------|------------|-----------------|-----------|
| Holy Communion | 1st Sunday | 7:30 & 11:00 am | Sanctuary |
| Baptism | 3rd Sunday | 11:00 am | Sanctuary |
| Baby Dedications | 4th Sunday | 7:30 & 11:00am | Sanctuary |



Get plugged in and start serving today. Your gifts, talent, skills and time are needed.



CHURCH ADDRESS AND CONTACT INFORMATION

3375 Church Lane, Duluth GA 30096

Contact: Rita Bowens, Office Manager @ 770-497-8227

Office Hours: Monday – Friday 9:00am-5:00pm

Email: fbcduluth@att.net

Website: www.fbcduluth.org

FBC LEADERSHIP

FBC ASSOCIATE MINISTERS

Rev. Ken Blacknell
 Rev. Garfield Garner
 Rev. Eugene Graves
 Min. Shurron Green
 Rev. Timothy Twyman
 Min. Floyd Williams
 Rev. Stan Williams
 Rev. Alton Wilson

FBC MINISTERS OF EVANGELISM

Min. Karen Blacknell
 Min. Amelia Brown
 Evg. Geneva Burse
 Evg. Karen DeLee
 Min. Roslyn Long
 Evg. Valerie Montaque
 Evg. Ruthell Morris
 Evg. Kimberly Rogers
 Min. Monique Stroman
 Min. Nicole Walker
 Min. Barbara Williams
 Evg. Deloris Williams

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 Vice President – Tina Patterson
 Secretary – Paulette Tapp
 Assistant Secretary – Kelly Wilson
 Treasurer – Jerry Fisher
 Chaplain – Hyacinth Chung
 Deacon Advisor, Harold Mitchell

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Editor-in-Chief/Graphic Designer – Paulette Tapp
 Editor/Proofreader – Christine Smith
 Photographer – Louie Malone
 Photographer – Shirley Price
 Publisher – Louie Malone

Friendship Baptist Church has a newly-enhanced website to provide greater communication across all FBC Ministries. Improvements are ongoing. Feedback can be provided to the Communications Ministry at tag49llm@aol.com.

SUBSCRIBE today at: www.fbcduluth.org.

Articles for the next newsletter are due the 1st Friday of each month. **NEXT DUE DATE: MAY 3, 2019.**