



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



August 2019

# FRIENDSHIP'S VOICE

Vol. 7, Issue 8



## SEPTEMBER

- 2 Labor Day (Church Office Closed)
- 7 Men's Entrepreneur Workshop
- 14 Women's Ministry Meeting 8:45am
- 14 Financial Peace University 9:00am
- 15 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Community Walk-A-Thon
- 15-16 FBC Unity Weekend
- 21 High School Seniors Meet & Greet
- 21 Annual Walk-A-Thon 7:30am
- 22 National Voter's Registration Day/FLC
- 28 ACT Prep Workshop 8:00am

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### OUR MISSION STATEMENT:

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



Commitment is an action on our part in response to someone or something. Some of the dictionary meaning of Commitment can be considered as: faithfulness, dedication, devotion, allegiance, loyalty, promise, oath, covenant, contract, pact, responsibility, obligation, liability and much more.

The Biblical meaning is merely to give of yourself. It is a personal commitment to give of yourself to a person or a thing under consideration. Jesus is the perfect example of Commitment to God and to man, He gave his Life for us. When we make a commitment to someone or something, we must see it through to the end.

We commit to a spouse/partner, a job, a contract, even to our faith, but if we do not see it through to the end, then it is not commitment. It cannot be partial or halfway--just like "Faith without works is dead," commitment without faith and loyalty is null and void. In Revelation 3:15-16, God said, *"I know your works, that you are neither cold or hot. I wish you were either cold or hot. So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold or hot, I will spew thee out of my mouth."*

We, as Christians, are crippled in our walk with God because of half-hearted commitment for the things of God. This is evidenced in our tithing, church attendance, prayer time, our service in the various ministries we signed up for. We have no joy in serving because we do not have a personal committed relationship with God.

*(cont'd next page)*

*(Commitment cont'd)*

**Scripture references:** **Deuteronomy 6:5-7** tells us to: *"<sup>5</sup>Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. <sup>6</sup>These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. <sup>7</sup>Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up."*

**Deuteronomy 11:13-14**, *"<sup>13</sup>And it shall come to pass, if ye shall hearken diligently unto my commandments which I command you this day, to love the LORD your God, and to serve him with all your heart and with all your soul, <sup>14</sup>That I will give you the rain of your land in his due season, the first rain and the latter rain, that thou mayest gather in thy corn, and thy wine, and thine oil."*

These scriptures are also affirmed in the New Testament in the teaching of Christ in **Matthew 22:37**, Jesus replied: *"Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind."* When you are acting on the things you have committed to and things are not looking good and the walls are caving in on all sides, continue on your course. In **1 Peter 2:23** we are reminded, *"When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly."*

Article written by Hyacinth Chung  
Communications Ministry

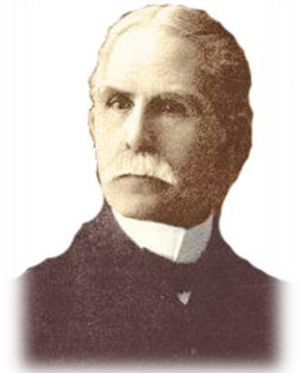




## HYMN OF THE MONTH: “Is Your All On The Altar”

This song was written by Elisha A. Hoffman in 1900 and was published in 96 Hymnals.

Elisha A. Hoffman was born in Orwigsburg, Schuylkill County, Pennsylvania, on May 7<sup>th</sup>, 1839. His parents, Francis A. and Rebecca A. Hoffman, were Pennsylvania Germans. His father was a minister of the Gospel in the Evangelical Association, and rendered over sixty years of service in preaching the Word.



Elisha was educated in the public schools of Philadelphia, the city of Brotherly Love, and graduated in the scientific course from the Central High School. Afterwards he took up the classics and completed a classical course in Union Seminary of the Evangelical Association. For eleven years he was connected with the Association's publishing house in Cleveland, Ohio.

His musical education was limited. He is not a graduate of any School of Music, but he is a natural musician. All the musical knowledge he has, was gained by personal application. Mr. Hoffman's first impressions of music came from hearing the voice of sacred song in the home. His parents both had sweet voices and sang well. It was their custom, in the hour of family worship, both morning and evening, to sing one or two hymns. At an early age, the children became familiar with these hymns and learned to love them and to feel their hallowing and refining power. Their lives were marvelously influenced by this little service of song in the home. A taste for sacred music was created and developed, and song became as natural a function of the soul as breathing was a function of the body.

Under the power of such an environment, Mr. Hoffman came to consciousness of a princely possession with which God had endowed him — the ability to express his intuitions and conceptions in meter and song. His inner being thrilled with inspirations, longing for expression, he used the power with which God had clothed him in the production of the many songs which bear his name. His first composition was given to the world when he was eighteen years of age. Since then heart, brain and pen have been very prolific in the birth of songs.

Over two thousand of his compositions are in print. He has assisted in the compilation and editing of fifty different song books, some of which have received marked favor and have been issued in large editions. All have accomplished a measure of good and have proved a blessing to the world. Many separate compositions have been translated into the languages of different countries and from these many countries have come letters expressing gratitude to the author for their helpfulness and inspiration.

In the larger number of his musical compositions Mr. Hoffman is the author of both the words and music. When a melody is born in his soul, appropriate words seem to be immediately associated with the melody; or, when a conception in his mind crystallizes into a hymn, usually there is present the suggestion of a melody that will give adequate and fitting expression to the mental conception. There are exceptions, but this is the rule which governs him in his musical writings.

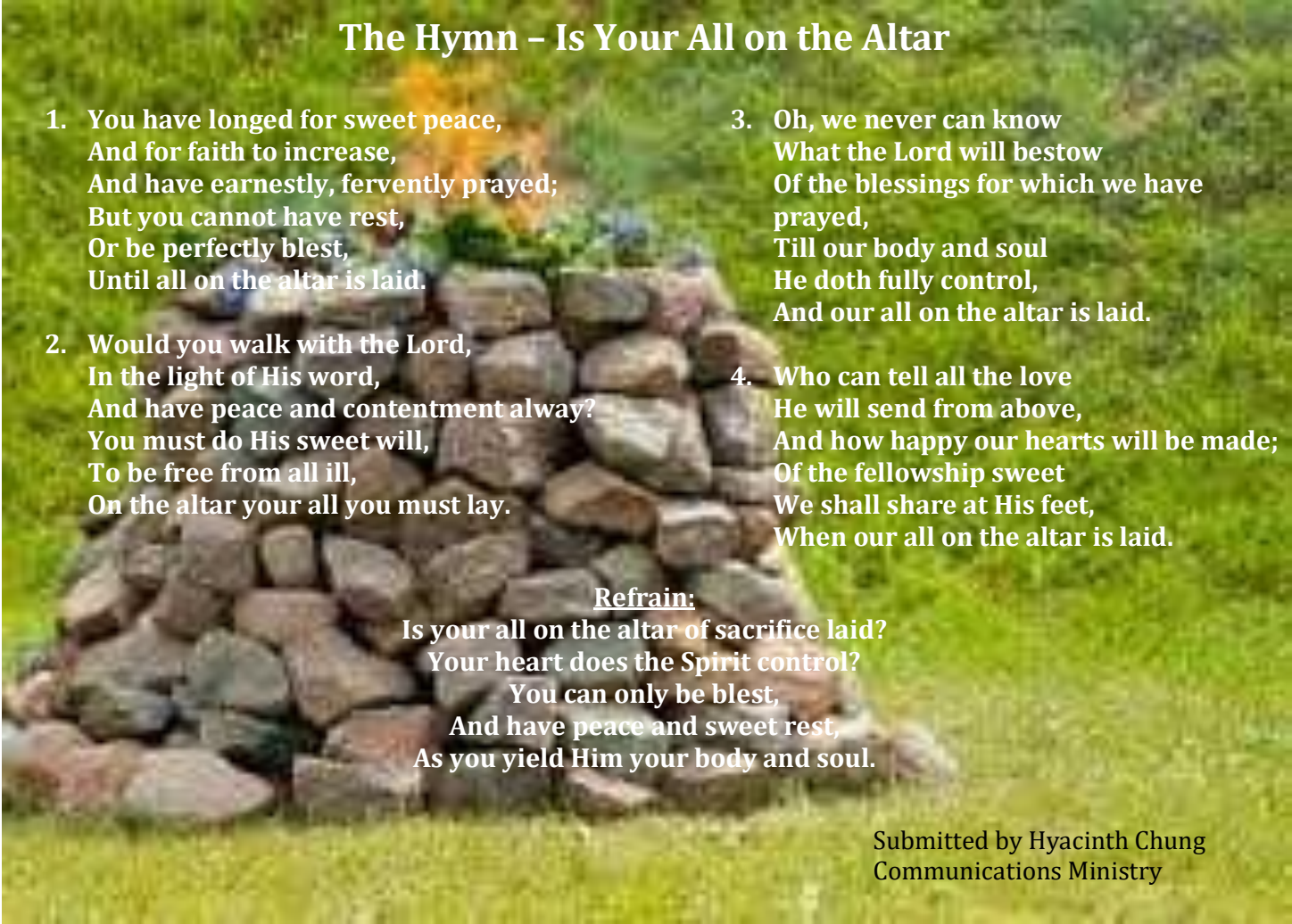
*(Hymn of the Month cont'd)*

Among his most popular and much used songs are: "What a Wonderful Savior!," "Enough for Me," "Are You Washed in the Blood?," "No Other Friend Like Jesus," "I Must Tell Jesus," "Is Your All on the Altar?," and many others.

Like his dad before him, Mr. Hoffman has been an evangelistic minister of the Gospel for many years, and at present is the pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Benton Harbor, Michigan, where he has served for over thirteen years. While his ministry in the churches which he has served has been fruitful, his songs in the good which they have done have constituted a still larger ministry. Through his songs he preached to many thousands who had never heard his voice.

While not working in his study or writing gospel songs and hymns, he could be found ministering with the poor in their homes. The story has been told that while visiting one day, he came to a home which had experienced much sorrow and affliction. He found the mother of the home in the depths of despair. He tried to quote Bible verses that he thought would help to console her, but to no avail. Then he suggested that she could do nothing better than to take all of her sorrow to the Lord Jesus. "You must tell Jesus," he told her. Upon mediating upon these words, a light broke across her face and she cried, "Yes, I must tell Jesus." Mr. Hoffman left immediately with those words still ringing in his ears — I must tell Jesus and went home to pen the song, "I must tell Jesus all of my trials." Elisha Hoffman died on November 25, 1929 in Chicago, Illinois at the age of 90.

## The Hymn – Is Your All on the Altar

- 
1. You have longed for sweet peace,  
And for faith to increase,  
And have earnestly, fervently prayed;  
But you cannot have rest,  
Or be perfectly blest,  
Until all on the altar is laid.
  2. Would you walk with the Lord,  
In the light of His word,  
And have peace and contentment alway?  
You must do His sweet will,  
To be free from all ill,  
On the altar your all you must lay.
  3. Oh, we never can know  
What the Lord will bestow  
Of the blessings for which we have  
prayed,  
Till our body and soul  
He doth fully control,  
And our all on the altar is laid.
  4. Who can tell all the love  
He will send from above,  
And how happy our hearts will be made;  
Of the fellowship sweet  
We shall share at His feet,  
When our all on the altar is laid.

### Refrain:

Is your all on the altar of sacrifice laid?  
Your heart does the Spirit control?  
You can only be blest,  
And have peace and sweet rest,  
As you yield Him your body and soul.

Submitted by Hyacinth Chung  
Communications Ministry

## INSPIRATION FROM THE PSALMS

Written by Evangelist Deloris Williams



### JESUS AND THE ETERNAL WEIGHT OF LOVE

**Psalm 22:1 David, the Author**

*“My God My God Why Has Thou Forsaken Me”*

David’s Cry Approximately 1,000 Years Before JESUS CHRIST

The “New Testament’s” mission will launch its audience into a spiritual shift change of a spiritual love into a “spiritual forecast” of divine undertaking and venture the mortal’s belief, to experience the plan of being a “citizen of grace” gripping mercies unknown, and thrusting us into a “mental spiritual awakening” of a send-off of Hallelujah’s like a symphony in the halls of heaven. Are you “tired” of the process of beginning over and over again? Looking for that release, to just live life without the ups and downs of life’s hills? What is it to live in peace?

**INSPIRATION:** What do you really think of the “**HOLY JESUS CHRIST?**” This is a question that we must ask with a “**child-like simplicity**” and present to his “**FATHER,**” as a prayer to allow us to foresee spiritually the majestic work put into the preparation of his son’s death and resurrection. Try to imagine ourselves in this year of 2019 “placed” in a position to give our only “son” up to die for neighbors that hated him, friends that said he was a lunatic, those church goers that said he was a devil after he healed a sick child, and the “whole” neighborhood that watched him grow from a baby, now being beaten for their sins, and the children that played with him, now join parents that once watched him play with children in the subdivision, only now lifting him up to authorities to (come), who shall beat the (**unwavering Christians**) simply because they have seen his showing up, lifting up and out of (troubles), healing through pain and loss of their beloved ones, hearing of his great (showing up) all over the world, keeping his WORD.

**SITUATION:** David amazingly gave an accurate description of the suffering the Messiah would endure hundreds of years later. 22:1. JESUS also would cry out “*My God, My God why has thou forsaken me?*” JESUS quotes this verse for an urgent appeal to GOD. Matthew 27:46

**THE PASSION OF JESUS’ LOVE:** What are the assets of Love? How do we respond to Love? Could we say Love was the “Master’s Theme” on the cross? Are you sure the nails held JESUS on the cross? NO IT WAS LOVE THAT HELD JESUS ON THE CROSS. How do we know JESUS demonstrated a deep and eternal love for his FATHER’s humanity? A few things come to mind about JESUS on the cross. What are they:

- Scripture points us to the exact moment of angels witnessing this savagery.
- Matthew 26:53 tells us that the Angels were standing on the precipice of Heaven, awaiting the order from God to deliver His Son. **But that order never came.** Jesus said in **Matthew 26:53** to His accusers, “*Do you think that I cannot appeal to My Father, and He will at once put at “My” disposal more than twelve legions of angels?*”

*(Inspiration of the Psalms cont'd)*

**OBSERVATION:** LOVE'S LABOR was much more an intrinsic deep "TRIUMPH," it was, and yet is, the distinctive mark of God's citizens that they know the love of Christ and the weight of LOVE from the Oracle of Heaven with an open door for his children living under oppressions, moans and persecutions. Shamefully, then and now, some reject the gospel, and remain the separated un-convicted... as the gospel comes to us, it does not find us loving God; it does not expect those who choose to wander in a dark and miry state to have much merit for the blood of the cross.

### The Weight of LOVE



**ENLIGHTENMENT:** This Psalm teaches the Church Community today that God's concern does not begin on the day we are born and conclude on the day we die. It reaches back to those days before we were born, and reaches ahead along the unending path of eternity. (Psalms 22:9-11) Our only sure help comes from GOD whose concern for us reaches beyond our earthly existence.

### HOW CAN ANYONE REJECT SUCH A LOVE?

**THE CONCLUDING BEAUTY OF IT ALL:** "OUR SAVIOR'S LOVE FOR US KEPT HIM ON THE CROSS!" If he had disposal of more than twelve legions of Angels, now that he is "Heir," just what do we have through him when we suffer! It is a phrase translated as "LORD of Hosts" in the KJV and "LORD Almighty" in the NIV. Examples from the Message include Psalm 24:10 "Who is this King-Glory? **God-of-the-Angel-Armies: he is King-Glory.**" and Isaiah 6:3 "Holy, Holy, Holy is **God-of-the-Angel-Armies. His bright glory fills the whole earth.**"

*"Or do you think that I cannot appeal to My Father, and He will at once put at My disposal more than twelve legions of angels." Matthew 26:53*

### GIVE YOUR BURDENS UNTO THE LORD

Smile Intensely  
 Commit Ambitiously  
 Think Wondrously  
 Live Lovingly  
 Let every Man Adore JESUS CHRIST  
 EXCEEDINGLY WITH LOVE



# 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!**



## *Join us as we celebrate*

**Pastor Ronald & Sis. Debra Bowens  
35th Pastoral Anniversary  
Revival Services will be held October 1-3,  
2019 nightly at 7:00 pm**

### **GUEST CHURCHES**

**Tuesday, October 1st: Rev. Gerard Blanding, Hopewell NE, Grayson, GA  
Wednesday, October 2nd: Rev. Abraham Mosley, Mt. Pleasant BC, Athens, GA  
Thursday, October 3rd: Rev. Derrick Shelton, Springfield MBC, Molena, GA**

### **ANNIVERSARY SERVICE**

**Sunday, October 6, 2019 – 7:30 & 11:00 am Services**

**Speaker: Rev. Jeffrey T. Rainey  
Christian Union PBC, Mobile, AL**

### **PASTOR BOWENS 35TH ANNIVERSARY LUNCHEON**

**Also, on Sunday, October 6<sup>th</sup>, you are cordially invited to Pastor Bowens 35th Anniversary Luncheon immediately following the 11:00 am service. Please register at [Eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com) and in the “look for event section” type: FBC Pastor Bowens 35th Anniversary. In the “location section,” type: Duluth, GA 30097 and select enter.**

**Registration deadline is 11:00 pm September 16<sup>th</sup>**





Please Join Pastor Bowens  
as He Brings the Word during the  
**First Annual Revival for**

**Salvage Baptist Church**  
26 South Williams Street  
Winder, GA 30680

**to Celebrate their 6<sup>th</sup> Church Anniversary**

**Thursday, August 22<sup>nd</sup> @ 7:00 pm**

## OUTREACH MINISTRY - "One Body Saved To Serve"

Sis. Diane McGhee, Ministry Leader

### OUTREACH CENTER HOURS:

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

Wednesdays: 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm

## "THE FRIENDSHIP MARKET"

### Fruit and Produce



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 or by email: [dianaymcghee@bellsouth.net](mailto:dianaymcghee@bellsouth.net).

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](mailto:LBmilton1@charter.net) for more information.



Did you know that the Outreach Ministry hosts a **MID-WEEK** worship service every Wednesday at noon in the Fellowship Hall? Join us!!



## **THE OUTREACH MINISTRY PRESENTS**

**Its Annual Walk-A-Thon FBC Ministries' & Business Owners' Showcase**

**Free Car Wash & Fish Fry**

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21<sup>ST</sup>, 8:30 AM AT FBC**

**Same Day Registration Begins @ 7:30 AM**

**Walk Starts At 8:30 AM**

**Advance Registration Forms Are Now Available In The FLC, Outreach Center, Church Office & Fellowship Hall**

**Funds Raised Will Support Church School Tuition, Orphanages, Food Pantry Refrigeration/Storage Needs**

**You Can Also Donate Via Offering Envelope**

**For More Information, Contact:  
Diana McGhee @ 404-312-1232  
Catherine Stafford @ 678-983-7587**



## CALLING ALL FBC BUSINESS OWNERS!



You are invited to participate in the FBC business showcase during our Annual Walk-A-Thon on:

**Saturday,  
September 21<sup>st</sup>**

This is an opportunity to grow your business.

Contact Diana McGhee at 404-312-1232 or Catherine Stafford at 678-983-7587 no later than

**September 13<sup>th</sup> if you would like to participate.**

## HEALTH MINISTRY

Sis. Vickie Perry, RN/BSN, Ministry Leader

national  
**IMMUNIZATION**  
awareness month

Adults need  
vaccines, too!



**VACCINES**  
are not just for kids.

When was the last time you checked to see if your immune system is up to date? This August, National Immunization Awareness Month raises awareness and encourages everyone to make sure they are current on the necessary vaccinations for potentially harmful diseases. Many diseases can be easily prevented by administering vaccines, and thus, protecting you from unseen viruses. Take the necessary precautions with a simple call to your doctor, and avoid potential harm while leading a healthy, happy life.

1. **Call your doctor** - The only way to be absolutely certain about what vaccinations you've received is to gather your medical records. Contact your doctor and request your immunization records to determine whether or not you are up to date.
2. **Encourage friends to do the same** - Just because you feel healthy doesn't mean you don't need to be vaccinated. Unlike most medicines, which treat or cure diseases, vaccines prevent them. When you check your immunization records, encourage friends to do the same, and you can all make sure you are up to date.
3. **Know your family history** - A family medical history can reveal the history of disease in your family and help a doctor identify patterns that might be relevant to your own health. This will allow the doctor to be best informed about recommending vaccines for immunization.

We finally have a chickenpox vaccine. Prior to the introduction of the vaccine in 1995, there were around 4 million cases per year in the United States. Ten years after the vaccine was recommended in the US, the CDC reported as much as a 90% drop in chickenpox cases. One dose of the vaccine prevents 95% of moderate disease and 100% of severe disease.

Measles meets its match. In 1958, there were 763,094 cases of measles in the United States. In 2008, there were 64 suspected cases of measles thanks to immunization from vaccines.

Meningitis has nearly been eliminated. Meningitis A is an infection that can cause severe brain damage and is often fatal. The introduction of the Meningitis A vaccine in Africa in 2010 has all but eliminated the disease.

Source: Nationaltoday.com



HEALTHY FOODS

HEALTHY HEART

FITNESS

### FLC GYM AND FITNESS CENTER HOURS OF OPERATION:

Mornings

Monday - Friday

9:00 am - 12:00 noon

## EDUCATION MINISTRY

*Sis. Sharon Norman, Ministry Leader*

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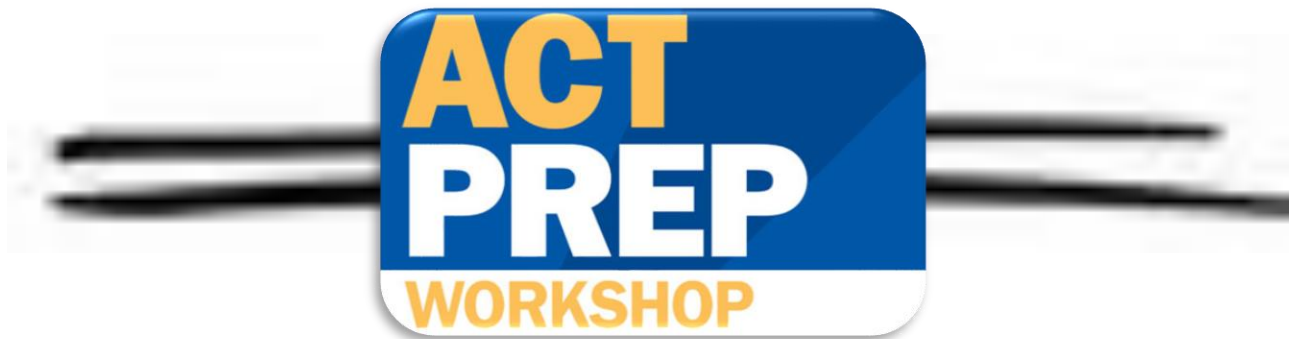
### MEET & GREET

## HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS

There will be a "meet & greet" for all high school seniors and their parents on  
September 21, 2019 @ 10:00 am.

This meeting is open to all high school seniors who are FBC members or regular attendees of FBC. Come out and join us as we get to know each other and prepare for your 2020 graduation.

For more information, contact Sharon Norman at [sharon4282.sn@gmail.com](mailto:sharon4282.sn@gmail.com)



**ACT PREP/PRACTICE TEST**  
**September 28, 2019 @ 8:00 am**

Open to all high school juniors and seniors  
who attend Friendship Baptist Church.

The Practice Test starts promptly @ 8:30 am.

There is a \$15 fee to take this class.

A light breakfast will be provided.

Register no later than September 19<sup>th</sup>.

Contact: Sharon Norman @ [Sharon4282sn@gmail.com](mailto:Sharon4282sn@gmail.com)

# SENIORS MINISTRY

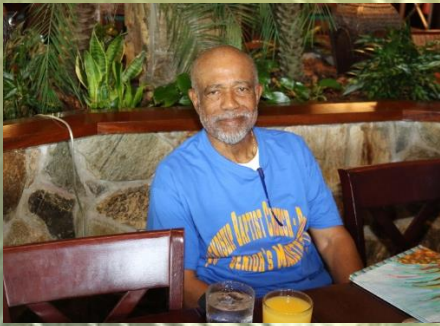
*Rev. Eugene Graves, Ministry Leader*

The Seniors met for lunch and fellowship at the Bahama Breeze Restaurant on Saturday, July 27<sup>th</sup>. A good time was had by all. Photography by Louie Malone.





(Seniors Ministry cont'd)



# MEN'S MINISTRY

Bro. Brandon Owens, Ministry Leader

On August 3, 2019, the FBC Men's Ministry enjoyed a day of fellowship, food, fun, fishing and more at the Jones Bridge Park located at 4901 E Jones Bridge Road, Peachtree Corners, GA for their Men's Ministry Cookout. The theme was inspired by Matthew 4:19 (KJV) "*And he saith unto them, **Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.***"



(Men's Ministry cont'd)



(Men's Ministry cont'd)



## WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Sis. Cheryl Alford, Ministry Leader

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*"Grace be to you and peace from God the Father, and from our Lord Jesus Christ, who gave himself for our sins, that he might deliver us from this present evil world, according to the will of God and our Father."  
(Galatians 1:3-4)*

The Women's Ministry continued with the topic: "What's on Your Mind?" We originally began this discussion back in April with 26 questions submitted by the women. We spent April and June addressing questions 1-20. During our August fellowship, we were able to address the remaining six.

Before delving into the final six questions, we were led in prayer by Mother Gerald Baker. Gerry Wright followed with our song of inspiration, "For Every Mountain" by the Brooklyn Tabernacle Choir. We then invited those who desired to share a favorite scripture of their choosing.

As is our custom, we welcomed first-time attendees, acknowledged birthdays (July and August) and congratulated those celebrating marriage anniversaries. First-time attendees included Evg. Lenn Jones from Louisiana and Diane Ramseur from North Carolina. Birthday acknowledgements included Mother Gerald Baker, Debbie Bowens, Hazel Franklin, Cheryl Alford, Shirley Price and Shirley Thomas. Sis. Rose Garnett also celebrated her 30<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.

As a side note, in lieu of our meeting in July, Creative Learning hosted a fun filled "Christmas in July" event during which we had the opportunity to make pot holders, pillow cases, lanyards and other interesting crafts. Gifts were awarded to those with the appropriate ticket. There was also a contest for the best homemade chili. What an awesome fellowship!

Another important custom we share is the reading of our covenant which was led by Gerry Wright. With the 'preliminaries' out of the way, it was time to focus on our discussions. This month's panelists included Min. Roslyn Long, Mother Gerald Baker, Sisters' Mary Blackburn and Teresa Rainey and another first-time attendee, Min. Jada Redman, who serves on our ministerial staff and has been a member of our church since March of this year.

Below is a combined summary of the remaining questions and answers as presented by our five panelists:

21. Attendance in the Women's Ministry has dropped. What can be done to encourage more women to attend?

*Answer: We must take the initiative to invite women of all ages to join with us. We should look to older women to cheer us on and encourage us. Stay positive and keep your mind on God. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord (Colossians 3). Stay out of the flesh; instead, walk in the spirit. Pray for direction from God. When we invite young or new sisters, allow them to share their concerns so we can understand and guide them. Be mindful that it's hard for some of us to come out of our shell. Take the initiative...invite a sister to come. Be willing to pick her up. Do unto others as you would have them do for you. Some are just waiting to be asked. It begins with the love of God in our hearts. If it's in you, you'll seek other women who love God. Women who love God want to be around other women who love Him.*

*(Women's Ministry cont'd)*

22. *Why are Christian ladies so ready to criticize and judge instead of uplifting each other?*

*Answer: When we walk in love, it's hard to criticize. Jesus Christ is love. We are followers of Christ once we receive Him into our heart. We should have or develop certain characteristics. Everyone who attends church is not a Christian. Christ must be in us. As Christians, we must continue to read the Word. We can't stay babies. We must be mindful that some judge because of an envious or jealous spirit. The Holy Spirit will convict us when we criticize or judge others. However, the enemy will use us if we don't have on the whole armor. You can repent. God is faithful to restore. John 13:34 says, "A new commandment I give unto you, that you love one another, as I have loved you, that you also love one another." Remember that every day we have a choice between the spiritual nature and the carnal. Pray daily. It's important that we make the choice to walk in the Spirit. Remember also that what you feed the most is how you'll conduct yourself. Therefore, quell sinful behavior. Additional scriptures to reflect on include Romans 8:11 and Romans 7:18.*

23. *Why when the main message in the Bible is to love one another, we do not always see love exhibited among Christians?*

*Answer: Ecclesiastes 10:4 and Matthew 18:7 speak about how to avoid offenses. In fact, all of our answers can be found in the Word. 2 Timothy 3:16 says, "all scripture is given for inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness." We are to live by it. We must realize how good God has been to us. Spend time around those who love the Lord; who are full of joy; who are glowing. Satan is the accuser of the brethren. We tend to get off track and take our eyes off God. Pray for one another. Allow yourself to be vulnerable. Take off the mask. Be real. God is the only one who can empower us to love our enemies. Pray and Ask God to order your steps in His Word and hide it in your heart. Your love towards your sister must be unconditional. You are to look at her not through the natural eye but through eyes of love. Instead of judging her, look for the good. God wants us talking about Him, not each other.*

24. *Everyone's relationship with God is personal. So, what makes Christians judge others by the way they dress or act instead of praying for them to grow by God's grace?*

*Answer: It's personal. Although some are still infants in Christ, we're still growing. Words do hurt and it's not okay to give "people a piece of your mind." We must pray for those who behave in this manner. Be mindful how you approach another sister. That person may need help but you must stay mindful as to how to do that. It's important to remember that as born-again believers, we're accountable to God for our words and deeds. Be careful to be led by the Spirit. In other words, walk in the Spirit so you will not fulfill the lust of the flesh. Romans 4:10 says, "But why do you judge your brother? Or why do you set at naught your brother? For we shall all stand before the judgement seat of Christ."*

25. *Why are Christians known by how many things we hate than by our acts of love?*

*Answer: It's because of our words and actions. It can't be said enough that we must be born again. The Holy Spirit will restrain or constrain you. You must feed your spirit daily. We are to be known by our love. Therefore, we must guard our eyes, ears and tongue. Be mindful of what you watch on TV. Feed your spirit daily. What you feed the most is what will be the strongest. Feed your spirit with the Word. Set your affections on things above. Life is short so spend more time with people who bring out the best in you and not the stress in you. Remember, the enemy is strategic; he knows us. We are in a live battle.*

*(Women's Ministry cont'd)*

26. *Why do bad things happen to good people?*

*Answer: Nothing can happen to us that did not happen to our sinless Savior, Jesus Christ. We're not always good or bad. Everything is of the Lord who reigns on the just and the unjust. Romans 8:28: "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are called according to His purpose." Matthew 5:44-45: "But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you; that ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for He maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust." Philippians 1:29: "For unto you it is given in the behalf of Christ, not only to believe on him, but also to suffer for his sake." Psalm 91:4: "He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust: his truth shall be thy shield and buckler." Romans 8:37: "Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us." John 16:33: "I have told you these things so that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take courage; I have overcome the world."*

We made every effort to provide as many responses as possible without actually identifying who provided them. The past three months of these discussions were most helpful and much needed. They generated a good amount of follow-up questions from our audience and prayerfully satisfied the 'need to know.'

Special thanks to the following panelists for their willingness and faithfulness in addressing the concerns of our sisters: Rev. Denise Jackson, Min. Roslyn Long, Min. Karen Blacknell, Min. Jada Redman, Mother Gerald Baker, Sis. Mary Blackburn and Sis. Teresa Rainey. We are truly grateful for the time and effort put in and pray that God will continue to use each as His voice of truth in addressing the concerns of the body of Christ.

*Please pray with this ministry that many more of our sisters will join with us every 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the month from 8:45am – 11:15am so that we can stand united as one body in Christ willing to uplift and encourage each other as we grow in wisdom, knowledge and understanding of our most gracious and loving God as He directs our paths.*



Article written by: Gerry Wright and Cheryl Alford  
Photos by: Shirley Price, Communications Ministry



*Sis. Debbie Bowens' 65<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration*  
*Family Life Center*  
*August 4, 2019*



Sister Debbie Bowens was celebrated on her 65th birthday by her Friendship family on Sunday, August 4th, in the Family Life Center for "Donuts with Debbie." Here in this photo are children representing the Youth Department surrounding her in love. Sis. Debbie works diligently with our young people.

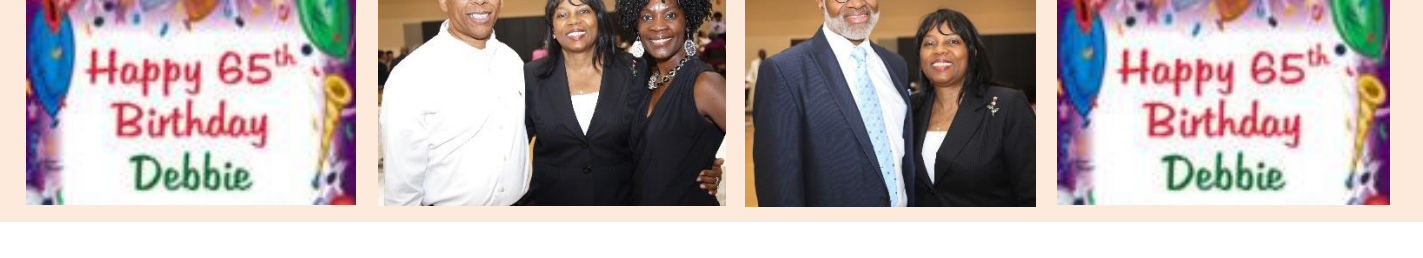
*Photography: Shirley Price*



**Happy Birthday,  
Sis. Debbie!!**



*Donuts with Debbie cont'd)*



# YOUTH MINISTRY

Sis. Charlene Benn, Ministry Leader



**AGES: NURSERY - 5TH GRADE  
MEETS IN THE LOWER LEVEL MAIN BUILDING  
7:30 AM & 11:00 AM SERVICES**



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

# TEEN MINISTRY

Rev. Stan & Barbara Williams, Ministry Leaders



**AGES: 12 TO 19 (MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL)  
MEETS IN THE HERITAGE CHURCH  
7:30 AM & 11:00 AM**



# Church News & Other Important Information

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**Men's Ministry** – Fall into Football and Entrepreneur Workshop. All men and young men of FBC are invited out on Saturday, September 7<sup>th</sup>, at 10:30 am-12:30 pm for a great day of fellowshiping, learning, encouragement and discipleship. Invite a friend! If you have any questions, please contact: Brandon Owens at 205-503-1715 or Rommell May at 770-715-6617.

**The Women's Ministry** would like to invite all of our sisters to join us on Saturday, September 14<sup>th</sup> from 8:45-11:15 am. Our theme for the morning will be "ACTS." We look forward to your presence. If you have any questions, please email: [Cheryl@bexalted@att.net](mailto:Cheryl@bexalted@att.net) or send text to: 617-285-4954.

**FBC Creative Learning Fall Classes** - Join one of our experienced sewing and craft educators to learn more about your craft. No matter your skill level or area of interest, Creative Learning has a class for you. **Upcoming classes:** August - Quilted Christmas Skirt; September - Tuffet Stool; October - Beadwork. Join us every first, second & third Saturdays (excluding holidays) from 12:00-3:00 pm in the Heritage fellowship hall. Come check out all of our exciting, upcoming classes and events.

**Transportation Ministry** - To request a ride to church, call 770-622-2797 by Saturday, 4:00 pm.

**The FBC Senior Ministry** will not meet in September.

**NEW WEEKLY CLASS** - Monday Night Bible Study begins September 9<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 pm-8:00 pm in the Main Fellowship Hall. The new topic is: JAMES Faith/Works by Matt Chandler.

**Lost and Found** – If you have lost items and would like to check the Lost and Found, you may contact the Church Office at 770-497-8227 Monday – Friday, 9:00 am – 4:30 pm. If you find a lost item, please see one of the ushers after any Sunday service, or contact the church office.

### **Neighboring Church News**

**Springfield MBC Laymen Chorus** invites you to join in their Male Chorus Anniversary on Saturday, September 14<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 pm.

**Poplar Hill MBC, Buford, GA** will celebrate their 136<sup>th</sup> Church Anniversary, Sunday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>. Please contact them at 770-945-6131 for additional information.

You are cordially invited to attend the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Banquet for Rev. Arthur Jones of **Springfield Baptist Church** on Saturday, October 19<sup>th</sup>, at 5:00 pm. Tickets are \$20. For more information and tickets, contact Rev. Jones at 678-482-1278.



<https://abundant.co/fbcduluth/give>

Go to [fbcduluth.org](http://fbcduluth.org) and click on: "Giving" tab

Or from your cell phone **Text: FBCDULUTH TO 73256.**

## MORE INFORMATION



**Join the Census Bureau and earn money while helping your community** - The U.S. Census Bureau is recruiting thousands of people across the nation, including Gwinnett County, to assist with the 2020 Census count.

Jobs include census takers, recruiting assistants, office staff, and supervisory staff. To be eligible, you must be at least 18 years old, have a valid Social Security number, and be a U.S. citizen. The Census Bureau offers up to \$20 per hour for census takers, competitive wages, flexible hours, weekly paychecks, and paid training.

The U.S. Constitution requires a head count of the country every 10 years. The census results are used by government and the private sector for multiple purposes, including:

- Redistricting at the national, state, and local level
- Land use planning
- Distributing billions of dollars in federal and state funds
- Planning transportation projects
- Analyzing local economic and demographic trends
- Designing facilities for people with disabilities, the elderly, or children
- Planning investments and local risks

To learn more about job details and how to apply, visit [2020census.gov/jobs](https://2020census.gov/jobs).



### **AARP Defensive Smart Driver Course**

October 1 from 10:30am to 5:00pm. Learn defensive driving techniques and refresh your driving skills. Cost: \$15 for AARP members (don't forget to bring your card) and \$20 for non-members. Cash or check only. Please bring a drink and a lunch. Register at [events@gwinnettpl.org](mailto:events@gwinnettpl.org). Suwanee Branch of the Gwinnett County Public Library. 361 Main Street, Suwanee.

### **Veterans Round Table | FREE!**

October 9 at 1:00pm. Discuss your needs and get information on filing VA claims, medical care, housing, and job resources. Newly discharged or senior retirees welcome! For more information, please email [events@gwinnettpl.org](mailto:events@gwinnettpl.org). Buford Branch of the Gwinnett County Public Library. 2100 Buford Highway, Buford.

### **Senior Coffee Club | FREE!**

October 11 from 9:30am to 10:30am. Come meet your neighbors with a free cup of coffee and breakfast treats. Enjoy crafts, games, and snacks. For ages 50 and up. Lilburn Activity Building, 788 Hillcrest Road, Lilburn.

### **Public Safety Fall Festival | FREE!**

October 12 from 10:00am to 2:00pm. Police and Fire and Emergency Services are partnering for an exciting day with lots to see at the Public Safety Fall Festival. First responders will show off their emergency vehicles, including a helicopter, ambulance, SWAT personnel carrier, and ladder truck. Coolray Field, 2500 Buford Drive, Lawrenceville.

### **Homeowner H2O**

October 17 from 6:30pm to 7:30pm. Learn why water conservation is important, and receive tips to conserve water at home. Attendees will receive a low-flow home retrofit kit. [Preregister](#) here. Lucky Shoals Park, 4651 Britt Road, Norcross.



FBC MONEY MATTERS MINISTRY  
INVITES YOU TO JOIN US ON  
A 9-WEEK JOURNEY TO  
FINANCIAL PEACE

Dave Ramsey's 9-week course teaches steps  
to achieve and maintain financial peace.

**FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY (FPU)**  
**Will Be Held Every Saturday**  
**from 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM**

**September 14<sup>th</sup> – November 19<sup>th</sup>**

**FBC Members can purchase kits for a discount of \$50.**

For additional information and/or to purchase  
discounted kits, please contact the FBC Office,  
Sharon Levister @ 404-218-8662 or  
Kitrich Pettway @ 678-521-9555.



\*\*\***NATIONAL VOTER'S REGISTRATION DAY**\*\*\*

Did you know that National Voter's Registration Day is **Tuesday, September 24, 2019**? Join us on **September 22<sup>nd</sup>** at the Voter's Registration Drive sponsored by Gwinnett County Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority and the New Georgia Project.

**Location: FLC Gym 9:30 am – 10:00 am**



**LOCAL ELECTIONS**

**November 5, 2019**

**Do you know who's running?**

**Come Out & See**

**Monday, September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2019 @ 7:00 pm**

**Berean Christian Church Gwinnett  
1465 Highpoint Road  
Snellville, GA**

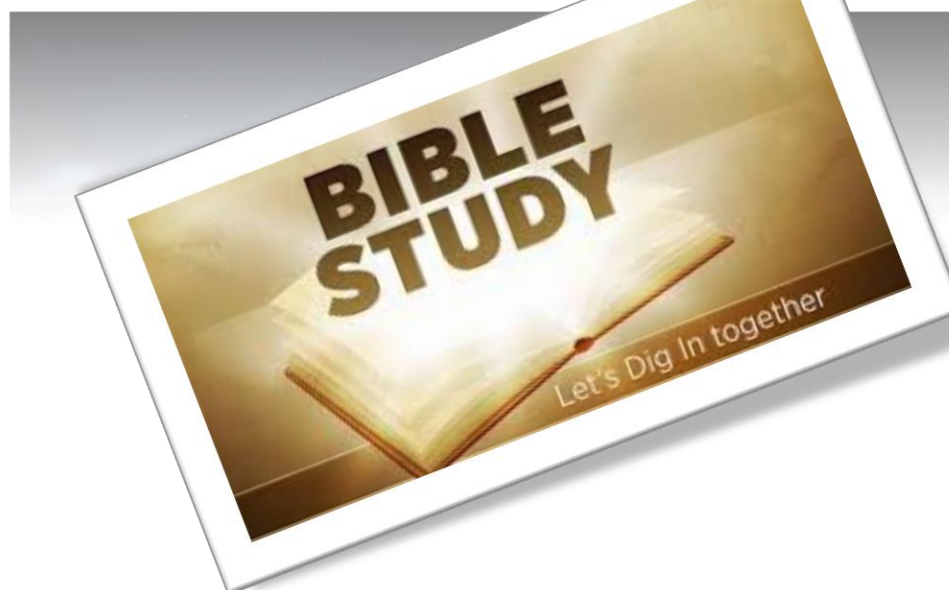
## COME JOIN US

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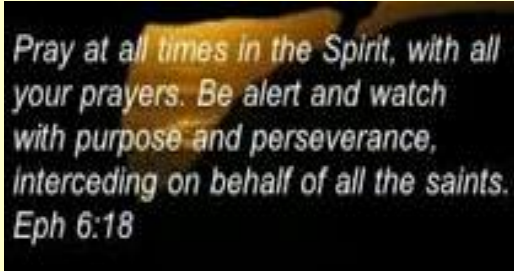
**Every Wednesday Night for:**

**Intercessory Prayer**  
**6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.**

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



# 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  
 Miss Quincie Joyner  
 Bro. Dennis Kimmey  
 Sis. Mabel Lawrence  
 Bro. Edwin Logan  
 The Manget Family  
 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



FOR THOSE GRIEVING  
THE LOSS OF  
A LOVED ONE

GRIEF  SHARE



**GriefShare Ministry Leader**

Minister Karen L. Blacknell

678-896-1441

[Karen83052@gmail.com](mailto:Karen83052@gmail.com)

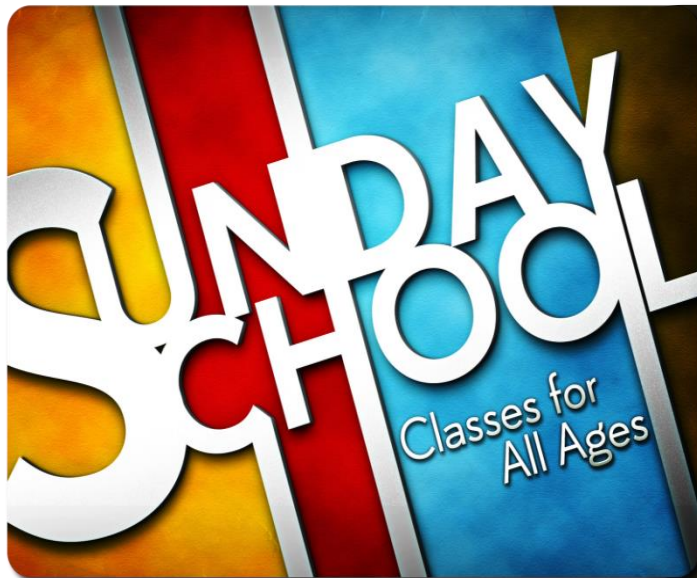
**Help and encouragement after the death of a spouse, a child, family member or friend.**

GriefShare is a special weekly seminar and support group designed to help you rebuild your life after losing a loved one. The support group is led by caring people who have experienced grief themselves and want to help you through the difficult days ahead. We know it hurts, and we want to help.

The GriefShare Ministry has received the necessary GriefShare training to be able to provide a warm, caring and comfortable environment to those experiencing the pain of grief. Training is key for effective ministry. GriefShare provides ongoing training to the support group in order to continue to build and maintain a strong leadership team.

GriefShare meets Sundays at 9:45 a.m. in the Family Life Center in Room 234. Each participant will need to register to attend this class. The workbooks are \$15.

The GriefShare Ministry support group members are: Minister Karen L. Blacknell, Rev. Kenneth M. Blacknell, Rev. Garfield Garner, Minister Amelia Brown, Minister Barbara Williams, Sis. Sandra Williams, Sis. Linda Berry, Sis. HaLynn Brown, Mother Gerald Baker, Mother Dorothy Blagman, Sis. Tyesaha Peak-Lane, Sis. Tradenia Hill, Sis. Cortney Garner, Sis. Hyacinth Chung and Evangelist Deloris Williams.



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

**CLASSES LOCATED IN THE FAMILY LIFE CENTER (FLC):**

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)	220
Basic Bible Study	208	IGNITE! (Singles and Young Adults 29 & Older)	221
New Member's Class	209	Marriage Class	233
Master Life 1: "The Disciple's Cross"	130	Single Parenting	220
Master Life 2: "The Disciple's Personality"	210	<b><u>Please Note:</u></b> <b>All Adult classes meet in the Sanctuary                      on the 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays</b>	
Master Life 3: "The Disciple's Victory"	211		
Master Life 4: "The Disciple's Mission"	212		

**CLASSES LOCATED IN THE LOWER LEVEL OF THE MAIN BUILDING:**

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



## OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

### W E E K L Y

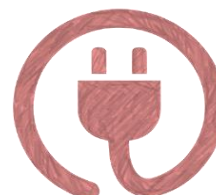
Worship Services	Sunday	7:30 & 11:00 am	Sanctuary
Teen Church	Sunday	7:30 & 11:00 am	Heritage Church
Sunday School	Sunday	9:45 am	Family Life Center
Sunday School (Youth)	Sunday	9:45 am	Lower Level Main Building
New Members Class	Sunday	9:45 am	Room 209 Family Life Center
Deacons Meeting	Tuesday (1st & 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 Bible Study	Wednesday	7:45 pm	Lower Level Main Building
Recovery Ministry	7 days a week – 24 hours a day		Contact: Tim Sanford @ 678-598-1120

### M O N T H L Y

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
Mothers Ministry	1st Saturday	9:30 am	Room 135 Family Life Center
Ministers 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 Saturdays	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
Communications 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 1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sundays		7:00 pm
Youth Choir Preparation	Tuesday before 2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Sundays		6:45 pm

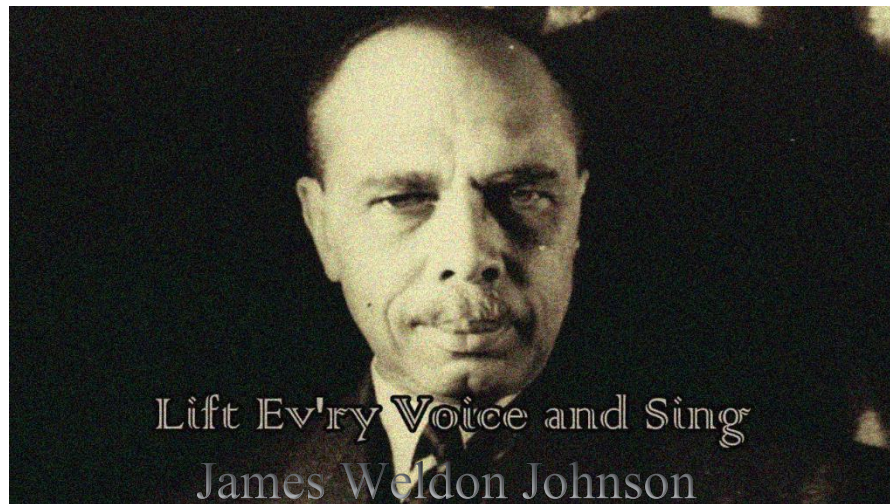
### S P E C I A L M O N T H L Y S E R V I C E S

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.

## National Black Anthem



Lift every voice and sing, till earth and heaven ring,  
 Ring with the harmonies of liberty;  
 Let our rejoicing rise, high as the listening skies,  
 Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.  
 Sing a song full of faith that the dark past has taught us,  
 Sing a song full of hope that the present has brought us;  
 Facing the rising sun of our new day begun,  
 Let us march on till victory won.

Stony the road we trod, bitter the chastening rod,  
 Felt in the days when hope unborn had died;  
 Yet with a steady beat, have not our weary feet,  
 Come to the place for which our fathers sighed?  
 We have come over a way that with tears has been watered,  
 We have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered;  
 Out from the gloomy past, till now we stand at last  
 Where the white gleam of our star is cast.

God of our weary years, God of our silent tears,  
 Thou who has brought us thus far on the way;  
 Thou who hast by Thy might, led us into the light,  
 Keep us forever in the path, we pray.  
 Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met Thee,  
 Lest our hearts, drunk with the wine of the world, we forget Thee.  
 Shadowed beneath Thy hand, may we forever stand,  
 True to our God, true to our native land.



### 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](mailto:fbcduluth@att.net)  
 Website: [www.fbcduluth.org](http://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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#### COMMUNICATIONS LEADERS

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

#### NEWSLETTER STAFF

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](mailto:tag49llm@aol.com).

**SUBSCRIBE** today at: [www.fbcduluth.org](http://www.fbcduluth.org).

Articles for the next newsletter are due the 1st Friday of the month. **NEXT DUE DATE: SEPTEMBER 6, 2019.**