



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



MARCH 2020

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FRIENDSHIP'S VOICE

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CALENDAR

MARCH

Activities Cancelled

APRIL

5 Palm Sunday
10 Good Friday
12 Easter
25 Sunday School Summit 9-11:00am

MAY

19 GA Presidential Primary Election Day

FBC MISSION STATEMENT

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

OFFICIAL NOTICE

Sent on behalf of Pastor Bowens

Dear Friendship Baptist Church Family and Friends,

With the continued recommendations from the CDC, we will be joining the rest of the community in taking health and safety precautions during this time.

Note the following:

- We will not have Services on Sunday, March 22nd & 29th
- We will not have Bible Study on Wednesday, March 18th & 25th
- All Church activities have been suspended until further notice, excluding Outreach distribution on Friday, March 20th
- The Church office will close Wednesday, March 18th at 5:00 pm until further notice.
- 770-497-8227 is open for voicemail messages that will be checked periodically.
- In case of an emergency, members should contact their assigned Deacon or send an email to fbcduluth@att.net.
- Members are encouraged to take advantage of online giving (<https://abundant.co/fbcduluth/give>).
- Refer back to the Church Website for future updates.

*For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.
2 Timothy 1:7 (KJV)*

THEME OF THE MONTH



Joy is a state of mind and an orientation of the heart. It is a settled state of contentment, confidence and hope. It is something or someone that provides a source of happiness. It appears 88 times in the Old Testament in 22 books; 57 times in the New Testament in 18 books.

Webster's dictionary definition: 1) to experience great pleasure or delight : REJOICE, 2) the emotion evoked by well-being, success, or good fortune or by the prospect of possessing what one desires: DELIGHT. Hebrew dictionary definition: 8057. simchah, sim-khaw'; from H8056 blithesomeness or glee, (religious or festival):-- X exceeding (-ly), gladness, joy (-fulness), mirth, pleasure, rejoice (-ing).

Greek dictionary definition: 5479. chara, khar-ah'; from G5463; cheerfulness, i.e., calm delight:--gladness, X greatly, (X be exceeding) joy (-ful, -fully, -fulness, -ous).

Christians should always find reasons to be joyful. There are many ways to define joy. Joy isn't just a smile or a laugh. Joy is something that is deep within and doesn't leave quickly. When we have the joy of the Lord, we'll know it and so will others. Since joy is given by God and something that He wants us to have, we need to be joyful! In addition to being joyful, we should let others have their joy and not bring them down when they are excited about good things. **The only thing worse than not having joy is stealing someone else's.**

Spending eternity in Heaven with God, the saints and the angels is something incredible! Ask for joy! If we can't find reasons to be joyful, our perspective must change. God lets us have blessings every day. We should be able to see them and thank God for them. Additionally, we should ask for God's blessings! Some think they should be blessed with joy automatically, but God's Word says *"you have not because you do not ask."* (John 15:16) God's Holy Spirit produces joy. Joy is a product of Christ-likeness. When we seek God through His Word and prayer, we will receive joy! Thank God that joy is something He wants us to have!

Joy is the second "fruit of the Spirit," according to Galatians 5:22 *"But the fruit of the Spirit is...joy..."* Reading the scriptures will bring us joy! *"And these things we write to you that your joy may be full."* (1 John 1:4) We will also see where the Bible gives us specific times to be joyful. Lastly, I've listed ways that God has given me joy! If you're lacking, pray and try some! Enjoy this lesson and God bless you! If we can't find reasons to be joyful, our perspective must change. God lets us have blessings every day. We should be able to see them and thank God for them. Additionally, we should ask for God's blessings! Some think they should be blessed with joy automatically, but God's Word says *"you have not because you do not ask."* Ask for joy!

Peace and joy go together. Give good advice and give peaceful advice. When we try not to fight and hate others, and decide to get along, we will experience peace and joy.

God's Holy Spirit produces joy. Joy is a product of Christ-likeness. When we seek God through His Word and prayer, we will receive joy! Thank God that joy is something He wants us to have! (1 John 1:4) Philippians 4:4 *"Rejoice in the Lord always. Again, I will say, rejoice!"*

(Joy cont'd)

Proverbs 12:20 *"Deceit is in the heart of those who devise evil, But counselors of peace have joy."*

Proverbs 21:15 *"It is a joy for the just to do justice, But destruction will come to the workers of iniquity."*

Ecclesiastes 2:26 *"For God gives wisdom and knowledge and joy to a man who is good in His sight; but to the sinner He gives the work of gathering and collecting, that he may give to him who is good before God. This also is vanity and grasping for the wind."*

"Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep." (Romans 12:15)

Source: Theopedia

Submitted by Sis. Paulette Tapp
Communications Ministry



HYMN OF THE MONTH

“GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS”



Thomas Obadiah Chisholm (July 29, 1866 – February 29, 1960) was an American songwriter who wrote several prominent Christian hymns. In 1923, Chisholm wrote the words to this hymn about God's faithfulness over his lifetime. There were no special circumstances which caused its writing—just his experience and Bible truth. Chisholm sent the song to William Runyan in Kansas, who was affiliated with both the Moody Bible Institute and Hope Publishing Company. Runyan set the poem to music, and it was published that same year by Hope Publishing Company and became popular among church groups. The Biblical lyrics reference Lamentations 3:22-23. The song was exposed to wide audiences after becoming popular with Dr. William Henry Houghton of the Moody Bible Institute and Billy Graham, who used the song frequently on his international crusades. Since the middle 20th century, this hymn has been the university hymn of Cairn University which was formerly Philadelphia Biblical University and prior to that Philadelphia College of Bible, founded in 1913.

LYRICS

Verse 1:

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father,
There is no shadow of turning with Thee,
Thou changest not, Thy compassions they fail not,
As Thou hast been, Thou forever wilt be.

Refrain:

*Great is Thy faithfulness!
Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!*

Verse 2:

Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
Sun, moon, and stars in their courses above;
Join with all nature in manifold witness,
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.

Verse 3:

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
Strength for today, and bright hope for tomorrow
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside.



*Submitted by Sis. Paulette Tapp
Communications Ministry*



SIGNS OF THE SEASON

Sis. Christine Smith, Communications Ministry

SPRING

Spring marks the end of the winter and brings with it new life! Just as winter symbolizes death, spring symbolizes new life. Trees, plants, and fields are turning green.

Spring speaks of our rejuvenation and coming out of winter's hibernation with anticipation of the newness to come.

Easter is celebrated during nature's season of spring and like the season of spring, Easter is about new life. The name Easter is drawn from a spring festival that pre-dates the Church called, "ea stre."

The naming of the celebration as "Easter" seems to go back to the name of a pre-Christian goddess in England, Eostre, who was celebrated at beginning of spring.

Easter always falls on the first Sunday after the first full moon following the spring equinox. This year Easter will be recognized on April 12th, and on April 4th in 2021.

The Christian faith is about new life all year round, but especially so during Easter. During Easter we celebrate the death, burial, and resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! Hallelujah! He is Risen! Jesus Christ rose from the grave and He gives new life to everyone who believes in Him.

John 10:10 - ["I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly."](#) KJV
Nature will die over and over, but new life, eternal and abundant, comes through from Jesus Christ.

At the onset of Spring, the days get longer and the nights get shorter. Daylight Saving Time, which moves the clock forward in March, gives us even more light hours to get things done. These extra hours of daylight can be great for getting us in a good mood and lifting our spirits. There is so much energy and "new life" brought in with the Spring.

2 Corinthians 5:17 - ["Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new."](#) KJV



HEALTH MINISTRY

Sis. Vickie Perry, RN/BSN, Ministry Leader



National Nutrition Month

During the month of March, we invite everyone to focus on the importance of making informed food choices, developing sound eating and physical activity habits.

Eat Right, Bite by Bite

Good nutrition doesn't have to be restrictive or overwhelming. Small goals and changes can have a cumulative healthful effect, and every little bit (or bite!) of nutrition is a step in the right direction.

VARY YOUR DIET

EAT A VARIETY OF NUTRITIOUS FOODS EVERY DAY.

MEAL PLANNING

ENJOY HEALTHFUL EATING AT SCHOOL, WORK & HOME.

COOK & PREP

LEARN SKILLS TO CREATE TASTY MEALS TO SHARE AND ENJOY.

VISIT AN RDN

SEE A REGISTERED DIETITIAN NUTRITIONIST.



HEALTHY FOODS

HEALTHY HEART

FITNESS

FLC GYM AND FITNESS CENTER HOURS OF OPERATION:

Mornings	Monday - Friday	9:00 am - 12:00 noon
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OUTREACH MINISTRY – “ONE BODY SAVED TO SERVE”

Sis. 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 dianamcghee@bellsouth.net or
 Catherine Stafford at 678-983-7587.

“THE FRIENDSHIP MARKET”



Limited operation until
 further notice, refer to
 the website.

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



IT'S PROM TIME! It's time to help our young people dress for the prom. Please contact Sis. Pamela Barksdale at 504-343-2606 to request a gown or tuxedo, or if you would like to donate.



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

MARRIAGE MINISTRY

Dea. Michael Bailey, Ministry Leader



Mark 10:9: "Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate."

Once again, the Valentine's Day dinner and dance, hosted by the FBC Marriage Class Ministry, was a night to remember!

The Embassy Suites Sugarloaf was amazing and offered the cozy ambience for a romantic evening. The evening included live music performed by Alicia and Friends, featuring an awesome vocalist performing love songs by Luther Vandross. Soft red lipsticks were gift giveaways (compliments of PC Cosmetics).

Dinner included an awesome buffet with a tasty apple cobbler. Dessert also included two wonderful cakes from our own FBC member, Quinteria Denny, owner of Sumthin Sweet Cake Factory.

It was a beautiful night . Our lovely FBC women looked gorgeous dressed in red and the gentlemen were decked out in black.

The Master and Mistress of Ceremony for the evening were none other than our own Tony Sanford and his lovely wife, Violet.



To top the evening off, the couples danced to love songs performed by the band and finished up with one awesome line dance!



(Marriage Ministry cont'd)



Submitted by Sis. Violet Sanford

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Sis. Cheryl Alford, Ministry Leader



Due to the current COVID19 pandemic, the Women's Ministry cancelled its March Fellowship. In light of this, we decided to briefly share that several women had an opportunity to attend the Sisters in Christ Women's Conference which was held on Saturday, February 29th, at Mt. Holly Church in Carrollton, GA.

While I was not able to attend, some who did provided pictures of our sisters fellowshiping with one another and also expressed that it was a most enlightening and uplifting time as they were encouraged through testimonies and songs shared by the many women who were present.

Sis. Lynne Alford, a fairly new sister in Christ and who has never attended a women's conference, shared that she enjoyed what she heard as well as the camaraderie with her Friendship sisters.



On another note...

As we continue to share the accomplishments and contributions of African Americans throughout history, it seems appropriate to introduce, at least through this writing, the First Female Assistant Pastor of the renowned Morning Star Baptist Church in Mattapan (Boston), MA where Bishop John M. Borders, III has served as Senior Pastor for almost 39 years.

On March 8, 2020, Rev. Dorothy Isles Smith was confirmed, consecrated and celebrated as she was installed in her new position. Why is this important? Morning Star Baptist Church will soon celebrate 55 years of ministry and until now has never allowed a woman to serve in this capacity.



Rev. Dorothy Isles Smith was licensed by Bishop Borders in 1996. Her licensing certified publicly what had already taken place privately... a surrender to serve. Rev. Dottie, affectionately known by some, was ordained to the Ministry in 2010. She has been actively engaged and committed to serving the body of Christ and sharing the gospel wherever opportunity permitted.

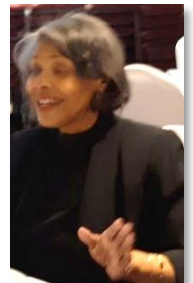
(Women's Ministry cont'd)

For many years, she co-labored with her late husband, Rev. Willard C. Smith, in several areas of ministry. While serving as an associate minister, she and her husband ministered at the Long Island Shelter, Italian Home, Prison Outreach, Street Ministry, Sick and Shut-in and as Sunday School teachers, all under the leadership of Bishop Borders. Rev. Dottie has also served in the Women's Ministry, as Assistant Sunday School Superintendent, the New Members Ministry and the Nurses Unit.



She has encouraged and engaged many women through mentoring and through hosting fellowships and bible studies in her home for several years. Her works extend to presenting at faith-based and community-sponsored workshops and seminars. It doesn't stop there. She and her late husband travelled to Uganda East Africa where they established a sewing ministry to support the women's efforts to become self-sufficient. She has also provided health education and social work support to a medical mission team providing free services in Ghana West Africa.

As a committed lifelong learner, Rev. Smith embraces all opportunities to learn and grow spiritually and professionally. She holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Health Education (Ithaca College), A Master of Science in Counseling, State University of New York (Albany, NY) and a Master of Social Work Degree from Boston College. She is currently on leave of absence from Boston University School of Theology where she plans to continue further theological studies. She has also run a private therapy practice since 2007 where she provides faith-based therapy services to individuals, couples and families with the goal of walking with and assisting those experiencing the storms of life. She believes in the healing of old wounds, restoration and well-being and achieving freedom from the damage done by traumatic events. She believes in the power of hope in Christ and in one's capacity to learn, to change and to grow beyond those circumstances that have caused distress and pain. Her life purpose is to help by the grace of God any who seek peace amid life's challenges.



Rev. Dottie is the mother of three adult children, grandmother of six and godmother of 21 children. She also refers to herself as the pet parent to two beloved dogs. She embraces the outdoors and frequently steals away to a quiet place for prayer and the opportunity to immerse herself in the presence of God. I will end this with one of her quotes, *"I realize now that the more I thought I wanted of God, was the more He was calling me to give."*

I've taken the opportunity to share her journey because I believe her elevation to Assistant Pastor is an accomplishment well worth noting, particularly since she is a female.

Please stay prayerful that we will be able to come together in fellowship in April.

Article submitted by Sis. Cheryl Alford

Photos of Sisters in Christ Women's Conference submitted by Mary Blackburn

Photos of Rev. Dorothy Isles Smith provided by Stacey Brako



YOUTH MINISTRY

Sis. Charlene Benn, Ministry Leader



Youth Department ... **We are growing by leaps and bounds** ...

The Youth Ministry is excited to announce that we will be adding a new Preschool Room to our Sunday Youth Church. The Preschool Room will accommodate our 3- and 4-year-old children who are transitioning from the Nursery.

We need volunteers to help out in the new room one service a month. If you are interested and gifted in serving with the Preschool Team as they minister God's Word in an age-appropriate environment, please contact Sis. Shevonne Meeks at shevonmemeeks@yahoo.com.

We are also looking for gifted workers in the Pre-K and Elementary Teams on Sundays and at Wednesday Night Bible Study. Please contact Sis. Charlene Benn at cbenn527@gmail.com, or the church office, if you are interested in working with us!



TECH CORNER

Sis. Tina Patterson, Communications Ministry

The Dark Web: What It Is, and Why It's Bad for Your Teen



You may have heard of the dark web. It's the underground Internet that you can only access through special software, and it's full of nefarious activity. The dark web hides your location and identity. As such, it is frequented by teens who want their digital activities to stay hidden.

On the dark web black markets, a teen can buy and sell almost anything—while staying totally anonymous. We're talking all kinds of illegal drugs (heroin, benzos, Ecstasy, marijuana, to name a few), guns, child pornographic material. Counterfeit money, stolen credit card information, hacked bank account information, forgeries, stolen artwork. To pay for these, one uses bitcoin or other forms of cryptocurrency.

Teens who have fallen prey to sex trafficking are advertised here. There are also services for things like computer-hacking and hitmen-hiring. Videos of animal cruelty, torture, and murders. It's all stuff that would make your insides turn. Not surprisingly, the dark web is popular with criminals, pedophiles, and other unsavory characters.

How to Access the Dark Web



These dark web sites are unsearchable to the general public. In order to browse its sites, one needs to download special free software. The most popular type of software is called Tor (which stands for "The Onion Router" as all the sites in the dark web end in .onion instead of .com). It's called the "onion" router because the encryption process has many layers. The browsing speed on Tor is thus very slow, and such sites can often infect your computers with viruses. While most teens use Tor to browse the dark web, one can also use Tor to

browse the surface web (aka the regular internet; what you're using now) anonymously.

It's important to note that not all activities on the dark web are nefarious. Some people use the dark web for political activism, especially if they live under regimes that censor free speech like Iran or China.

(Tech Corner cont'd)

There are whistleblower sites on Tor. Others use the dark web to avoid detection by stalkers or even the U.S. government. Interestingly enough, the U.S. Department of Defense originally founded the Tor software for top-secret intelligence projects—and they still fund Tor as a result. However, after it became accessible to the public, criminals and extremists began using it for illegal activities. There is no censorship on the dark web, so it's hard to shut down because of the very encryption system that enables users to be hidden. When one site is closed, another starts up in a matter of days.

Your Teen and Tor



While there is a chance your teen might be using Tor to engage in illicit activity (like viewing porn or buying or selling drugs), your adolescent may simply be curious about what's going on in the dark web. The problem is, even just browsing through the dark web poses dangers. Think of it as walking down a dark, unlit alley in an inner-city neighborhood. Sites pop up out of nowhere. Clicking on an innocent-sounding link may actually take you to a site displaying graphic abuse. There is a high chance, even if your child is just browsing, that he or she may stumble upon something that is truly horrific. And they cannot simply un-see it. While this can happen on the regular internet as well, it happens more frequently, and spontaneously, on Tor.

If your teen says he uses Tor for privacy reasons, you want to question why your teen wants to keep his digital footprint hidden. Sometimes adolescents use Tor to bypass blocked sites that a parent or school has filtered.

Protecting Your Teen from the Dark Web



As a parent, you must be vigilant about protecting your adolescent or teen online. There are a certain amount of measures you can take to limit your adolescent's access to the dark web. For one thing, you can block Tor or other applications that encrypt material. Check your computer's Downloads folder. If you see any newly downloaded software, delete them immediately and ask your teen what they are. (In addition to Tor, other Dark Web software is called I2P or Freenet.)

Most importantly, educate your teen about internet safety and the dangers lurking on the dark web. If you trust that there is a legitimate reason for your child to use a private browser, encourage them to use "Incognito" mode on Google instead of Tor. Chances are, once your teen realizes what truly horrific things happen in this digital underground, they may be too ill-at-ease to visit it.

BLACK HISTORY CELEBRATION

Photography by Sis. Shirley Price, Communications Ministry

Sis. Vanessa White,
Organizer

1st Sunday theme depicted:
Heartbreak Day – Joseph White
and Kelly Wilson



2nd Sunday theme depicted: Tommie
Smith and John Carlos @ 1968
Mexico City Olympics – Zaire Bryon



3rd Sunday – FBC
Dance Ministry

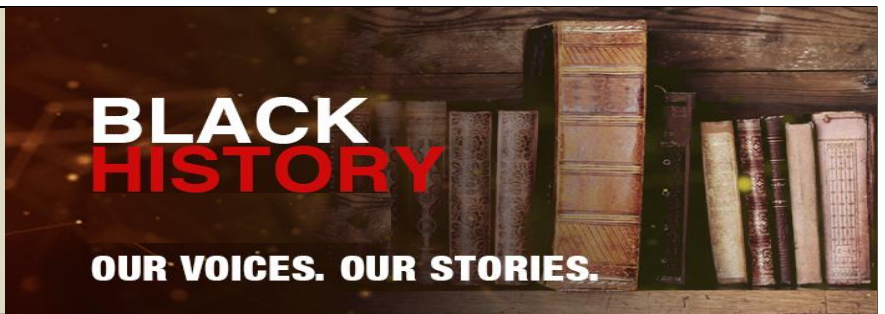


4th Sunday theme depicted: "We Are Who God Says We Are!" – Pictured L-R: Justice Booker, narrator; Leila Morrow (Harriet Tubman); Essence Bryon (Dorothy Dandridge); Jasmine Houser (Rosa Parks); Aiden Morrow (Jackie Robinson); Elijah May (Doris "Dorie" Miller); Andrey Garner (Mary Wallace). Not pictured 4th Sunday 2nd Service: Mikayla Sharpless and Miles Sharpless, narrators; Jael Redmond (Charlayne Hunter-Gault); James Redmond (George Washington Carver)

Celebrating Our History

A people without the knowledge of their past history, origin and culture is like a tree without roots.

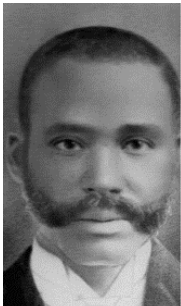
Attributed to Marcus Garvey



Sis. Diane Russell, Black History Coordinator
Communications Ministry

GEORGIA PIONEERS IN MEDICINE

FIRST AFRICAN AMERICAN DOCTOR IN GEORGIA



Dr. John Henry Jordan was born March 11, 1870, in Hogansville, Georgia, to former slaves turned sharecroppers. From an early age, he dreamed of becoming a doctor perhaps fueled by the death of his mother, Isabella, when he was just two years old. His father, Berry, was adamantly against the idea of his son becoming a doctor, thinking it was a foolish notion for a black man to consider.

John was educated at schools in Hogansville and LaGrange before attending Clark College in Atlanta. He was then accepted into Meharry Medical College's Class of 1895. With no support and a lack of finances, John was forced to drop out of medical school in 1894. He was able to return a year later and graduated as valedictorian of his class in 1896.

After graduation, John returned to his hometown of Hogansville and became the second black doctor in Troup County, Georgia. However, he had a difficult time finding patients and resorted to teaching school during the day and practicing medicine at night as a result. Frustrated by those circumstances, John decided to relocate to nearby Coweta County and set up residence in Newnan in 1898, the same year he married Mollie Emma Ramsey.

John's medical practice in Newnan thrived. He and his wife had two sons, Johnny Clementine and Edward Porter, and built their dream house on Pinson Street in Newnan. John also built the first black hospital in Coweta County. He was known to perform difficult operations with success and helped to integrate medicine in the county after saving the life of a child of a wealthy white citizen in Newnan.

John was a big supporter of Newnan Chapel United Methodist Church while also maintaining his membership at Boozer Chapel in his hometown of Hogansville. He became a landowner as well, purchasing more than 100 acres of land in Coweta County as well as a sawmill.

His biggest regret in life was said to be that he could not save the life of his first son, Johnny Clementine, who died as an infant. John died September 16, 1912, at the age of 42 as a result of a car accident while on his way to make a house call. After his death, the city of Newnan honored him by naming its first low-income housing project, the Jordan Homes.

(Black History cont'd)

FIRST AFRICAN AMERICAN WOMAN LICENSED TO PRACTICE MEDICINE IN GEORGIA



Eliza Ann Grier was born enslaved in Mecklenburg, County North Carolina in 1864 but along with her parents, Emily and George Washington Grier, she was freed by the 13th Amendment to the US Constitution in 1865. Grier eventually earned her M.D., becoming in 1898 the first African American woman to practice medicine in Georgia. Little is known of Grier's early life beyond her growing up in Atlanta where she and her family moved in 1869. In 1883, nearly 20 years after her emancipation, Grier entered Fisk University in Nashville, Tennessee with the goal of becoming a teacher. She earned a degree in education from Fisk eight years later in 1891 because she took every other year off to pick cotton and perform other work to earn her tuition to continue her studies.

Shortly before graduating from Fisk, Grier decided she wanted to become a medical doctor. She wrote to the Dean of the Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania requesting information about tuition and the possibility of pursuing advanced medical education. Grier indicated that she wished to become a medical doctor because she could benefit her race more as a physician than as a teacher. She hoped for both admission and financial assistance. The College admitted her but did not provide any help, prompting her to revert to the strategy she employed at Fisk, alternately working and studying for eight years until she completed her medical degree.

In 1897 after graduating from the Women's Medical College of Pennsylvania, Dr. Eliza Grier returned to Atlanta, Georgia. In 1898 she wrote "I went to Philadelphia, studied medicine hard, procured my degree, and have come back to Atlanta where I have lived all my life, to practice my profession. Some of the best white doctors in the city have welcomed me and say that they will give me an even chance in the profession. That is all I ask."

By 1899, however, Grier moved her practice to Greenville, South Carolina where she specialized in obstetrics and gynecology. In 1901 she contracted influenza and could not see patients for six weeks. Facing the loss of her practice, Dr. Grier wrote a plea for financial assistance to Susan B. Anthony. The famous suffragist could not help her but sympathetically forwarded her request to the Woman's Medical College. It is not known if the College provided help.

Later in 1901 Grier moved to Albany, Georgia partly because her brother, Dr. R.E. Grier, also practiced medicine there. Tragically, after struggling for eight years to become a physician, Dr. Eliza Ann Grier died in 1902 at the age of 38 after only five years of medical practice. She was buried in Charlotte, North Carolina.



(Black History cont'd)

ONE OF EMORY'S FIRST TWO AFRICAN-AMERICAN GRADUATES



Verdelle Bellamy was born on March 15, 1927, in Birmingham, Alabama. She earned a bachelor's degree from Tuskegee University before attending Emory.

She was known as a pioneer in the nursing profession. With her classmate Allie Saxon, Bellamy integrated Emory in 1963, where she earned a master's degree in nursing from the Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing.

In 1974, Bellamy became the first African American to receive a gubernatorial appointment to the Georgia Board of Nursing from then-governor Jimmy Carter. She was honored in 1980 in the U.S. House of Representatives, and the following year, she received the Alumni Merit Award from Tuskegee University. In 1993, she was inducted into the American Academy of Nursing, the most prestigious honor for nursing professionals. She earned Emory's highest alumni honor, the Emory Medal, in 2005. She also was recognized as an Emory University Maker of History during Emory's 175th anniversary in 2011.

Gary Hauk, vice president and deputy to the president of Emory, noted Bellamy's role in integrating Emory and the lack of controversy compared to some other Southern universities. He described Bellamy as "big of heart, large of purpose, noble of vision" and recalled how she described her experience integrating Emory after she received the Emory Medal in 2005: "I just didn't think about it. I felt excited and good . . . but not overwhelmed. I wanted to be seen and treated like the other students. When the press got word of the integration, I was called to be interviewed, but I refused. I said, well if [being interviewed] is the pattern for all students, yes, but since this is not the way all students are accepted at Emory—with a press conference—I didn't want to be any different from any other student."

Bellamy was also a nationally recognized nursing leader in veteran health care. She was the first African American administrator at the Atlanta VA Medical Center (VAMC) when she became the associate chief of nursing for geriatric services. She eventually rose through the ranks at the VAMC to become chief of long-term care nursing. Bellamy's leadership led to major improvements in patient care, including the design and implementation of the state-of-the-art VA Nursing Home, where she worked tirelessly until her retirement in 1998. Her work there included the creation of a 120-bed, long-term-care unit that became a model for VA hospitals around the country.

Bellamy died on April 22, 2015. She was 88.



No Wrong Time

for the Right Thing . . .

In the early 1960s, Dean Ada Fort (above right) convinced the Emory administration that the time was right to admit African American students. As a result, Verdelle Bellamy (above left) and Allie Saxon enrolled in the School of Nursing in 1963.

The School of Nursing holds a special place in Emory history in championing diversity

By Sylvia Wrobel

(Black History cont'd)

FIRST AFRICAN AMERICAN PEDIATRIC SURGEON TO PRACTICE IN THE U.S.



James Franklin Densler, MD, FAAP, FACS (Aka “Dr. D. – The Fun Doctor”) James Franklin Densler, MD is a Professor of Surgery at Morehouse School of Medicine. He spends most of his time at the medical school in the Department of Medical Education teaching first and second year students.

Dr. Densler was born in Savannah, GA, July 3, 1932, and attended the public schools of his hometown. He graduated from Alfred E. Beach High School in 1950 and was the Valedictorian of his class.

Dr. Densler received a B.S. degree in Biology from Savannah State College in 1954 (highest ranked student) and taught briefly in the Chatham County (GA) school system before serving in the U.S. Army as a medic. He received his Medical Degree (first honor student) from Meharry Medical College in Nashville, TN in 1961 and did his Internship and General Surgery Residency at the U.S. Public Health Hospital, Staten Island, NY (1961-1966). He completed his Fellowship in Pediatric Surgery at the United Hospitals of Newark, NJ (1966-1968).

He started his practice in Atlanta, GA in 1969 with the Atlanta Surgical Professional Association. His associates were Clinton E. Warner, MD, FACS and Warner E. Meadows, MD, FACS. The Atlanta Surgical Professional Association was the first African American Incorporated Group Practice in Georgia. He also worked for the Georgia Department of Children and Youth Services as Medical Director of the Lorenzo Benn Youth Development Center, Atlanta, GA (1977-1998) and as a Consultant Surgeon for the Georgia Children’s Medical Service (1988-1990).

Dr. Densler was the First African Pediatric Surgeon to practice in the USA (1969), the first African American to be accepted into the Surgical Section of the American Academy of the Pediatrics (1971) and the second African American to be certified in Pediatric Surgery (1976). Locally, he was the first African American to serve on the Hospital Authority of Fulton County for Northside Hospital, Atlanta, GA (1980-1988).

He has had many leadership roles in several hospitals and medical societies. When he was Chief of Staff at Southwest Community Hospital, Atlanta, GA (1974), he invited Morehouse School of Medicine, which was in the planning stages, to use the hospital to train their students and residents. When the medical school opened, he gave lectures to the Charter Class and trained many students and residents in his practice.

As chairman of the Education Committee of the Atlanta Medical Association and co-chairman of the Georgia State Medical Association, he was able to invite many prominent speakers and to sponsor several lectures and conventions to help upgrade medical care in Georgia.

Dr. Densler retired from his busy practice in 1999 and then started to work for Morehouse School of Medicine in the Department of Medical Education, teaching first and second year students and running the Pediatric Surgery Clinic at the Otis W. Smith/Southwest Grady James Franklin Densler, MD, FAAP, FACS JFD Bio 022014 Page 2 Healthcare Center (2000-2003). He also worked as a Medical Officer at the Atlanta Military Entrance Processing Station at Fort Gillem, GA (2000-2012).

You are young, gifted, and Black. We must begin to tell our young, There's a world waiting for you, Yours is the quest that's just begun.

— James Weldon Johnson —

Lift Ev'ry Voice And Sing

Lyrics by JAMES WELDON JOHNSON Music by I. ROSAMOND JOHNSON

Maestoso ben sostenuto

ff

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.

COME JOIN US

***** Every Wednesday Night *****

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

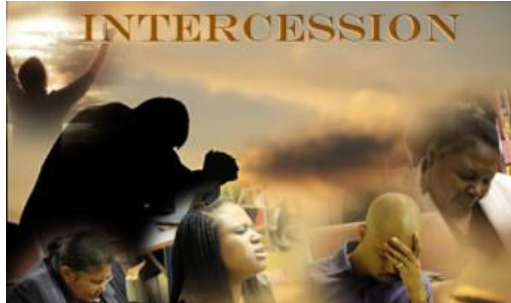
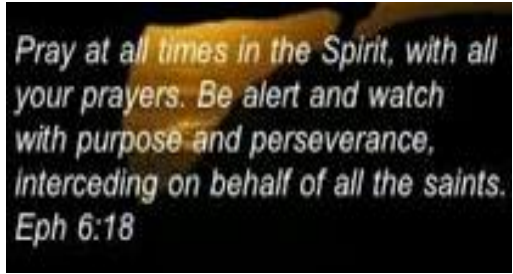
PRAYER
changes things

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



Monday Night Bible Study, Fellowship Hall
Topic: James - Faith Works by Matt Chandler
Book Cost: \$15

Prayer List



REMEMBER WITH PRAYER, CALLS AND VISITATIONS

Bro. Willie Benton
Min. Karen Blacknell
Rev. Kenneth Blacknell
Dea. Willie Blake
Sis. Melissa Brock
Sis. Joyce Brooks
Sis. Sherie Brown
Bro. Dwayne Bynum
Bro. Nicholas Caldwell
Sis. Sherita Caldwell
Bro. Tyler Caldwell
Sis. Nekka Dean

Sis. Doris Doyle
Sis. Everlene Fisher
Sis. Essie Foy
Sis. Marlon German
Sis. Barbara Hall
Sis. Crystal Ingram
Bro. Willie L. Harris
Sis. Charlotte Hayes
Bro. Emanuel Hazel
Sis. Dorothy Jamison
Sis. Mary L. Jones
Bro. Patrick Jones

Miss Quincie Joyner
Bro. Dennis Kimmey
Sis. Mabel Lawrence
Dea. Jack Leverett
Bro. Laceem McCall
Sis. Roxanne Motley
Evg. Valerie Montaque
Sis. Gloria Peters
Bro. Garvin Potts
Sis. Catherine Pressley
Sis. Carrie Rawls
Sis. Peggy Rogers

Dea. Clarence Slaughter
Bro. Antone Smith
Sis. Latisha Smith
Sis. Valerie Smith
Bro. Xavier Stephens
Sis. Tiffany Stovall
Sis. April Walker
Sis. Mabel Thomas
Rev. Dwight Wilkerson
Min. Floyd Williams
Dea. Clendon Wilson
Sis. Sadie Wilson
Bro. Victor Winston, Jr.

Prayer changes things.

YOUTH MINISTRY

Sis. Charlene Benn, Ministry Leader



gifted.
MIND+BODY+SPIRIT

**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 & Min. Barbara Williams, Ministry Leaders



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

**GriefShare Ministry Leader**

Minister Karen L. Blacknell

678-896-1441

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 is a 13-week class that meets every Sunday 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 Blagmon, 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):

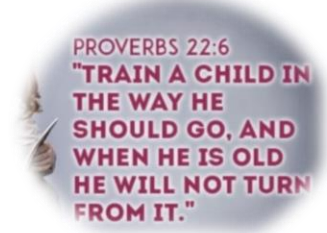
Class	Room	Class	Room
Men's Class	131	In Teens (High School)	217
Survival Kit	135	Jesus and Me (Middle School)	219
Women's Class	139	CONN3CT (College age 19-29)	220
Basic Bible Study	208	IGNITE! (Singles and Young Adults 29 & Older)	221
New Member's Class	209	Marriage Class	233
NEW CLASS: "Spiritual Warfare"	130	Single Parenting	220
MasterLife 2: "The Disciple's Personality"	210	GriefShare	234
MasterLife 3: "The Disciple's Victory"	211	The Character of God	236
MasterLife 4: "The Disciple's Mission"	213	NOTE: Adult Sunday School classes are combined on the 5th Sundays and meet in the Sanctuary	

Sunday School

CLASSES LOCATED IN THE LOWER LEVEL OF THE MAIN BUILDING:



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





Church News & Other Important Information

Please note: Refer to the website for updates on activities and events.

Welcome New Members!

Estella Brown, Cybill Clermont, Shamine "Rose" Francis, Audrey Graham, David Graham, Penny Murray, Rollie Murray III, Renita Strickland, William Strickland, Jordan Thomas

Black History Series - The Communications Ministry will present a black history fact each Sunday, every week of the year, to remind us of the great contributions and accomplishments our people have made to society. The black history fact will be covered on a slide with the announcements. We would also like to acknowledge any FBC member or family member who has received recognition as the first black in a particular area/field. Please send information to Bro. Louie Malone at tag49llm@aol.com

Outreach Monthly Meeting - If you would like to know more about your FBC Outreach Ministry, please join us for our next monthly meeting on Saturday, March 21st at 9:00 am in the Fellowship Hall. Call Sis. Diana McGhee at 404-312-1232 or Sis. Catherine Stafford at 678-983-7587 for more information.

PROM Time! - It's time to help our young people dress for the Prom. Please contact Sis. Pamela Barksdale at 504-343-2606 to request a gown or tuxedo or if you would like to donate.

FBC Creative Learning Classes - Join us. Classes meet Saturdays at 11:30 am in the Heritage Fellowship Hall.

Easter Program - Sunday, April 12th at 3:00 pm in the Family Life Center. Practice for the Easter Program will be Saturday, March 21st at 10:00 am on the FLC Stage. This is the final call for participants and we need your little ones shining faces. Recital rehearsal will be held April 4th at 10:00 am in the FLC.

The Senior's Ministry will NOT meet on Saturday, March 28th. The Senior's Ministry trip to Marietta, GA on Saturday, March 28th is cancelled.

Calling All Cast and Crew! Vacation Bible School needs you June 8-12, 2020. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Sis. Kindell May at 770-715-3726 or fbcduluthvbs@gmail.com.

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

Lost and Found - Contact the Church Office at 770-497-8227 Monday-Friday, 9:00 am - 4:30 pm.

ONLINE GIVING

<https://abundant.co/fbcduluth/give>. Go to fbcduluth.org and click on: "Giving" tab or text: fbcduluth to 73256.

NEWS AROUND GWINNETT...

The Presidential Primary Election

The COVID-19 emergency has pushed back the Presidential Primary election to **May 19**. Per the [Gwinnett Daily Post](#), state officials were considering whether to send paper absentee ballots to all registered voters in Georgia. However, you can go ahead and order your own absentee ballot now if you want to and it will be mailed to the address on your current voter registration card.

Here's how to cast an absentee ballot: Fill out an application for an absentee ballot by contacting the Voter Registrations and Elections Division at 678-226-7210 to request an application by mail or fax. Georgia law gives you until the Friday before the election to cast your absentee ballot-- that would be Friday, May 15. Do not wait until the last minute to cast your absentee ballot by U.S. mail. You can submit your absentee ballot in person to the Voter Registrations and Elections Division at [455 Grayson Highway, Suite 200, Lawrenceville, GA 30046](#), send as an e-mail attachment to absentee@gwinnettcountry.com or fax to 678-226-7275. Should you have any questions about casting your absentee ballot or about any other election-related matters, call the Gwinnett County Voter Registrations and Elections Division at 678-226-7210.

Reduce your tax bill by applying for homestead exemptions!

The best way to reduce your property tax bill is to apply for homestead exemptions. You must own and occupy the home as of January 1 of the application year. Please visit the website at: GwinnettTaxCommissioner.com/Exemptions to check eligibility and apply. **April 1 is the deadline to apply for all exemptions.**



Fill out the census, but watch for scammers

In mid-March, you'll receive your first invitation to participate in the 2020 Census. Your answers are safe and confidential with the U.S. Census Bureau, but some scammers may use the upcoming census as an opportunity to steal your personal information.

They may send you official-looking emails, but the Census Bureau doesn't send unsolicited emails. Nor will it ask for your Social Security number, your bank account or credit cards, or money or donations.

If a Census taker comes to your home, ask to see their ID badge bearing their photograph, a Department of Commerce watermark, and an expiration date. To verify their identity or to report suspected fraud, call 800-932-8282.



OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

WEEKLY

Bible Study (Adult)	Wednesday	7:30 pm	Sanctuary
Intercessory Prayer	Wednesday	6:30 pm	Sanctuary
Mid-Week Service	Wednesday	12:00 noon	Lower Level Main Building
New Members' Class	Sunday	9:45 am	Room 209 Family Life Center
Sunday School	Sunday	9:45 am	Family Life Center
Sunday School Teachers	Wednesday	6:30 pm	Lower Level Main Building
Sunday Worship	Sunday	7:30 & 11:00 am	Sanctuary
Teen Church	Sunday	7:30 & 11:00 am	Heritage Church
Youth Church Bible Study	Wednesday	7:45 pm	Lower Level Main Building

MONTHLY MINISTRY MEETINGS

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

Website: www.fcduluth.org

FBC LEADERSHIP

FBC ASSOCIATE MINISTERS

Rev. Ken Blacknell
 Min. Clyde Conerly
 Min. James Cottingham
 Elder Chris Evans
 Rev. Garfield Garner
 Rev. Eugene Graves
 Min. Shurron Green
 Rev. Artis Johnson
 Min. Larry Jones
 Min. James Redman
 Rev. Timothy Twyman
 Min. Floyd Williams
 Rev. Stanley Williams
 Rev. Alton Wilson

FBC MINISTERS OF EVANGELISM

Min. Karen Blacknell
 Evg. Geneva Burse
 Min. Erika Cottingham
 Min. Roslyn Long
 Evg. Valerie Montaque
 Evg. Ruthell Morris
 Min. Jada Redman
 Evg. Kimberly Rogers
 Min. Monique Stroman
 Min. Nicole Walker
 Min. Barbara Williams
 Evg. Deloris Williams

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/Writers/Proofreaders:
 – Christine Smith
 – Hyacinth Chung
 – Diane Russell
 Black History Coordinator – Diane Russell
 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.

ARTICLES AND EVENT WRITE UPS ARE DUE THE 1ST FRIDAY OF EACH MONTH

NEXT DEADLINE: APRIL 3, 2020