



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



September 2020

FRIENDSHIP'S VOICE

Vol. 8, Issue 9

CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER

- 7 Labor Day
- 25-27 Youth Weekend 2020

OCTOBER

- 2 Newsletter Deadline
- 5 Voter Registration Deadline
- 11 36th Pastoral Anniversary
- 12 Early Voting Begins
- 31 Census Deadline

NOVEMBER

- 3 General Election – VOTE!!

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OUR MISSION STATEMENT:

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

FRIENDSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH

Welcome to Our Pastor's

Pastor Ronald L. Bowens

&

Sister Debbie Bowens

"DRIVE BY"

36th
PASTORAL



Theme:

Preaching in all seasons of life.

Scripture: 2 Timothy 4:2

Drive by will start promptly@1:30 pm

Date: October 11, 2020

Place: Friendship Baptist Church

3375 Church Lane

Duluth, GA 30096

ANNIVERSARY

Please drive- by to show your love and appreciation for the
Undershepherd of this great church.

THE WORLD'S PEACE IS TEMPORARY JESUS' PEACE IS ETERNAL

Jesus says, "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid." (John 14:27)

In the world, when everything is going our way and our circumstances are free of conflict, we have temporary peace. But when we face hard times such as a health issues, financial crisis, or depression – the world's temporary peace is disrupted and unrest & discord become the order of the day.

God offers His peace even in the midst of our crisis. God's peace doesn't change with our situation; God's peace is permanent regardless of the current crisis we're going through (and believe me, there will always be a crisis we'll go through.)

"These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world." (John 16:33)



The following 18 scriptures will offer you God's Peace during your Spiritual walk!

Isaiah 26:3

³ Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee.

Philippians 4:6-7

⁶ Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.

⁷ And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Numbers 6:26

²⁶ The LORD lift up his countenance upon thee, and give thee peace.

Psalm 4:8

⁸ I will both lay me down in peace, and sleep: for thou, LORD, only makest me dwell in safety.

Psalm 55:18

¹⁸ He hath delivered my soul in peace from the battle that was against me: for there were many with me.

Isaiah 9:6-7

⁶ For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

⁷ Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even forever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.

Isaiah 52:7

⁷ How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace; that bringeth good tidings of good, that publisheth salvation; that saith unto Zion, Thy God reigneth!

(Peace cont'd)

Isaiah 55:12

¹² For ye shall go out with joy, and be led forth with peace: the mountains and the hills shall break forth before you into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

Jeremiah 29:11

¹¹ For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the Lord, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end.

Luke 1:79

⁷⁹ To give light to them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.

Romans 5:1

¹ Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:

Romans 16:20

²⁰ And the God of peace shall bruise Satan under your feet shortly. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. Amen.

Galatians 5:22

²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith

Ephesians 6:15

¹⁵ And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace;

Colossians 3:15


¹⁵ And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful.

1 Thessalonians 5:23

²³ And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

2 Thessalonians 3:16

¹⁶ Now the Lord of peace himself give you peace always by all means. The Lord be with you all.



These are just a few scriptures in the Bible where God promises us His peace. Can you find any additional verses during your study time that speak to you about the peace of God? Allow these scriptures to minister to you and meditate on them to get them down in your heart.

God's peace be with you.

Submitted by Christine Smith, Communications Ministry

SCRIPTURE OF THE MONTH

Philippians 4:6-7

Be Anxious For Nothing

but in everything, by prayer and petition with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God.

And the

*Peace
of God*

which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in

CHRIST JESUS



Signs of the Season – Autumn

By Christine Smith, Communications Ministry

Soon the leaves on the trees will turn beautiful hues of red, orange, and gold – there'll be hints of green. The trees with their beautiful shades of autumn give us evidence of God's existence.

Genesis 2:9 "And out of the ground made the Lord God to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight, and good for food; the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of knowledge of good and evil." (KJV)

The days start getting shorter and because there is less sunlight, the leaves turn from green to these beautiful hues before turning brown and falling to the ground.

As we continue to shelter-in-place, you may consider family fun time by taking a drive to any one of these nine Georgia fall foliage destinations. Imagine what an awesome time of family fellowship and reflection that could be!

- 1) Cloudland Canyon State Park, Rising Fawn
- 2) Piedmont Park, Atlanta
- 3) Tallulah Gorge State Park, Tallulah Falls
- 4) Brasstown Bald, Near Blairsville
- 5) Red Top Mountain State Park, Cartersville
- 6) Black Rock Mountain State Park, Clayton
- 7) Yonah Mountain, Near Helen
- 8) Vogel state Park, Blairsville
- 9) Fort Mountain State Park, Chatsworth



Courtesy: <https://www.tripstodiscover.com/most-beautiful-places-to-see-fall-foliage-in-georgia/>

The cool crisp of the air let us know summer has ended and autumn is upon us and birds will start their migration to warmer climate environments.

This year the autumn equinox arrives at 3:30pm central Europe time on Tuesday, September 22, 2020.

Webster defines equinox as either of the two times each year (about March 21 and September 23) when the sun crosses the equator and day and night are everywhere on earth of approximately equal lengths.

(Signs of the Season cont'd)

It's harvest time! The harvest is the season to reap, gather, and store the crop. God's tender mercies in Leviticus 19:9-10 allows for the poor or marginalized to also eat of the harvest –

9 "And when ye reap the harvest of your land, thou shalt not wholly reap the corners of thy field, neither shalt thou gather the gleanings of thy harvest."

10 "And thou shalt not glean thy vineyard, neither shalt thou gather every grape of thy vineyard; thou shalt leave them for the poor and stranger: I am the Lord your God." (KJV)

On the Fall Equinox you may want to honor all that you have in your life and shift your consciousness from one of lack to one of prosperity and gratitude in some way through a small ritual or ceremony. Such as lighting a candle, giving thanks, and speaking your gratitude for all that you are and all that you have.

Source: <https://exploreddeeply.com/live-your-purpose/the-spiritual-significance-of-autumn-equinox-in-our-modern-lives>

Consider creating your own fall harvest this year; try your green thumb at any of these 21 vegetables to grow this season:

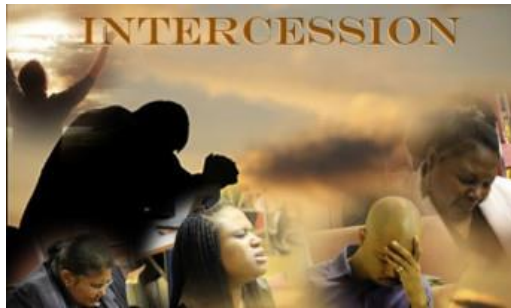
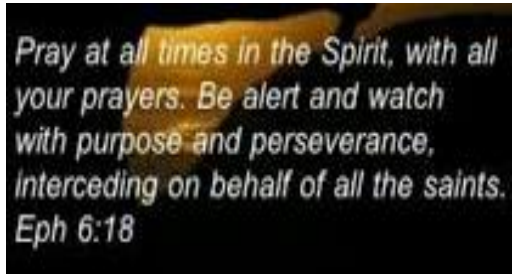
Pumpkin, beets, carrots, green beans, parsnip, cabbage, kale, broccoli, lettuce, collard greens, cauliflower, snow peas, kohlrabi (cabbage family), fennel, spinach, celery, onions, brussels sprouts, swiss chard, bell peppers, or radish.

Psalms 67:6 "The land yields its harvest; God, our God, blesses us." (NIV)



Piedmont Park, Atlanta GA

Prayer List



REMEMBER THE SICK AND SHUT-IN WITH PRAYER AND CALLS WHILE THE SHELTER-IN-PLACE ORDER REMAINS IN EFFECT

Bro. Willie Benton	Sis. Essie Foy	Bro. Laceem McCall	Bro. Xavier Stephens
Min. Karen Blacknell	Sis. Marlon German	Sis. Roxanne Motley	Sis. Tiffany Stovall
Rev. Kenneth Blacknell	Sis. Barbara Hall	Evg. Valerie Montaque	Sis. Mabel Thomas
Dea. Willie Blake	Sis. Crystal Ingram	Sis. Gloria Peters	Bro. Seth Tyler
Sis. Joyce Brooks	Sis. Charlotte Hayes	Bro. Garvin Potts	Sis. April Walker
Sis. Sherie Brown	Bro. Emanuel Hazell	Sis. Catherine Pressley	Rev. Dwight Wilkerson
Bro. Dwayne Bynum	Sis. Dorothy Jamison	Sis. Carrie Rawls	Min. Floyd Williams
Bro. Nicholas Caldwell	Bro. Patrick Jones	Sis. Peggy Rogers	Dea. Clendon Wilson
Sis. Sherita Caldwell	Miss Quincie Joyner	Dea. Clarence Slaughter	Sis. Sadie Wilson
Bro. Tyler Caldwell	Bro. Dennis Kimmey	Bro. Antone Smith	Bro. Victor Winston, Jr.
Sis. Nekka Dean	Sis. Mabel Lawrence	Sis. Latisha Smith	
Sis. Doris Doyle	Dea. Jack Leverett	Sis. Valerie Smith	



If you need prayer, dial
866-875-8245



FOR THOSE GRIEVING
THE LOSS OF
A LOVED ONE

GRIEF  SHARE



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.

Due to the pandemic and sheltering-in-place, GriefShare now meets every Monday from 7:30 pm to 9:00 pm via conference call. If interested in joining us, please dial 701-802-5331 and enter access code 2098635#. You must first register with GriefShare. To register, please call Minister Karen Blacknell at 678-896-1441.

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.

OUTREACH MINISTRY

Diana McGhee, Ministry Leader



3375 Church Lane
Duluth, GA 30096

Friendship Market

FBC Fellowship Hall

FOOD DISTRIBUTION GIFTS OF LOVE

Fridays

3:00 pm-4:00 pm

Saturdays

11:30 am-12:30 pm



Outreach Ministry

"ONE BODY SAVED TO SERVE"

Ronald L. Bowens, Pastor

FIRST-COME, FIRST-SERVED

For more information about the Outreach Ministry, please contact:

Diana McGhee

404-312-1232

dianaymcghee@bellsouth.net

or

Catherine Stafford

678-983-7587

For those impacted by the COVID-19 crisis, help is available @
Friendship Baptist Church, Duluth GA
for **Gwinnett County** residents to prevent **HOMELESSNESS**.

COVID-19 EMERGENCY RELIEF

HELPING GWINNETT COUNTY RESIDENTS WHO HAVE BEEN
AFFECTED BY THE PANDEMIC

- ◆ RENT & UTILITY ARREARS
- ◆ EMERGENCY SHELTER
- ◆ EXTENDED STAY
- ◆ APPLICATION FEE & SECURITY DEPOSIT

Now accepting applications on
Wednesdays (3:00-5:00pm) & **Saturdays** (12:30-3:30pm)

Friendship Baptist Church, Pastor Ronald L. Bowens
3375 Church Lane, Duluth, GA 30096
fbcduluth.org (website) 770-497-8227 (office number)

YOU MUST BRING: State issued ID, Past Due notice from Landlord or
Rental and Utility company, Proof of U.S. Citizenship/Residency

HEALTH MINISTRY

Vickie Perry, RN/BSN, Ministry Leader



Your health is a life-long journey:

- 1) Take care of body and mind;
- 2) Get and stay active;
- 3) Manage a healthy weight; and
- 4) Practice good sleep habits.

If anyone suspects they may be ill with COVID-19, call 770-513-5631 to schedule a FREE drive-through appointment. A doctor's referral is not needed and no insurance/billing is required. The test location is DPH-Health District 3-4/Lawrenceville East Metro Health District, 2570 Riverside Pkwy, Lawrenceville, GA 30046 (near Old Norcross Road).

COVID-19: How to Protect Yourself & Others

Updated April 24, 2020 CDC

Older adults and people who have severe underlying medical conditions like heart or lung disease or diabetes seem to be at higher risk for developing serious complications from COVID-19 illness.

Wash Your Hands Often

- [Wash your hands](#) often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds especially after you have been in a public place, or after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
- It's especially important to wash:
 - Before eating or preparing food
 - Before touching your face
 - After using the restroom
 - After leaving a public place
 - After blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing
 - After handling your cloth face covering
 - After changing a diaper
 - After caring for someone sick
 - After touching animals or pets
- If soap and water are not available, use a hand sanitizer that has 60% alcohol.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.

Avoid Close Contact

- **Inside your home:** Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- **Outside your home:** Put 6 feet of distance between yourself and people who don't live in your household.
 - Remember that some people without symptoms may be able to spread virus.
 - [Stay at least 6 feet \(about 2 arms' length\) from other people.](#)

Cover Your Mouth and Nose with a Cloth Face Cover When Around Others

- You could spread COVID-19 to others even if you do not feel sick.
- The cloth face cover is meant to protect other people in case you are infected.
- Everyone should wear a [cloth face cover](#) in public.

(COVID-19 cont'd)

Cover Coughs and Sneezes

- Always cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze or use the inside of your elbow.
- Throw used tissues in the trash.
- Wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or use hand sanitizers with at least 60% alcohol.

Clean and Disinfect

- Clean AND disinfect frequently touched surfaces [daily](#).
- If surfaces are dirty, clean them.
- Then, use a household disinfectant.

Monitor Your Health Daily

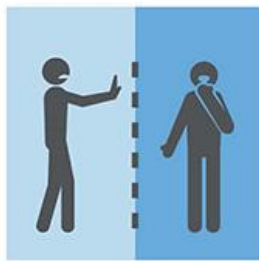
- Be alert for symptoms.
- Take your temperature if symptoms develop.
- Follow CDC guidance if symptoms develop.



STAY HOME
EXCEPT FOR
WORK AND
OTHER NEEDS



WEAR A FACE
COVERING WHEN
GOING OUT



PRACTICE SOCIAL
DISTANCING OF
AT LEAST 6 FEET
FROM OTHERS



SHOP AT
NON-PEAK
HOURS



WASH HANDS OFTEN
WITH WATER AND SOAP
(20 SECONDS
OR LONGER)



AVOID TOUCHING
YOUR EYES, NOSE,
OR MOUTH WITH
UNWASHED HANDS
OR AFTER
TOUCHING SURFACES



COVER YOUR
MOUTH WITH A
TISSUE OR SLEEVE
WHEN COUGHING
OR SNEEZING



CLEAN AND DISINFECT
"HIGH-TOUCH"
SURFACES OFTEN



DON'T WORK
WHEN SICK



CALL BEFORE
VISITING YOUR
DOCTOR



My Testimony: Surviving Cancer; Not Once, but Twice

By Brenda J. Graves

My testimony begins on Thursday, May 8, 2003, when I was admitted to Memorial Hermann Hospital in Houston, TX due to severe abdominal pain. It was four hours later when I received pain medication. My prayer, "Help me, Lord Jesus." On Sunday, May 11th, I woke up to a very swollen right leg and foot. I hollered for the nurse who took one look and started calling for help. It was a Deep Vein Thrombosis (DVT), a blood clot which broke in two parts and went into each lung. They put my leg in contraction to keep it level with my heart for 2 weeks and immediately put me on a blood thinner which I had to take for the next 8 years. Again, I prayed, "Help me, Lord Jesus." That night in the wee hours of the morning, I experienced darkness in the semi-private room I was in as never before and heard a voice say, **"This sickness is not unto death, go forward."** The Holy Spirit brought to mind Isaiah 53:5b, *"the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed."* That's when I began to fight.

Let Your FAITH be bigger than your fears...

A few days later, I was diagnosed with Stage 4 Non-Hodgkins lymphoma which is a cancer that starts in the white blood cells called lymphocytes which are part of the body's immune system. I was discharged on June 2, 2003 and after chemotherapy every 3 weeks for 5 months, I was declared cancer-free in November 2003.

In February 2009, I was again diagnosed with Non-Hodgkins lymphoma, Stage 3, and able to be at home and visit the cancer center for chemo. I cannot put into words how grateful I am to God for his comfort, peace, love, healing and holding me the whole time through numerous CT scans, PET scans, bone marrow biopsies, blood work, surgeries, medications during times of horrific pain. **I've been cancer free for 11 years now, testing twice a year. Praise God!! He's faithful.**

Let Your FAITH be bigger than your fears...

If you are fearing the enemy, you are giving him power over you. Whatever you fear has power over you. Where there is fear there is no faith. ***Fear the Lord so that He may have the authority over you. Have faith in the promises of God and His peace will be established in you.***

What is Non-Hodgkins Lymphoma? Non-Hodgkin lymphoma (also known as non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, NHL, or sometimes just lymphoma) is a cancer that starts in white blood cells called *lymphocytes*, which are part of the body's immune system.

- NHL is a term that's used for many different types of lymphoma that all share some of the same characteristics. There is another main type of lymphoma, called Hodgkin lymphoma, which is treated differently.
- NHL most often affects adults, but children can get it too.
- NHL usually starts in lymph nodes or other lymph tissue, but it can sometimes affect the skin.

Lymphoma affects the body's lymph system (also known as the *lymphatic system*). The lymph system is part of the immune system, which helps fight infections and some other diseases. It also helps fluids move through the body. Lymphomas can start anywhere in the body where lymph tissue is found. The major sites of lymph tissue are:

- **Lymph nodes:** Lymph nodes are bean-sized collections of lymphocytes and other immune system cells throughout the body, including inside the chest, abdomen, and pelvis. They are connected by a system of lymphatic vessels.
- **Spleen:** The spleen is an organ under the lower ribs on the left side of the body. The spleen makes lymphocytes and other immune system cells. It also stores healthy blood cells and filters out damaged blood cells, bacteria, and cell waste.
- **Bone marrow:** The bone marrow is the spongy tissue inside certain bones. This is where new blood cells (including some lymphocytes) are made.
- **Thymus:** The thymus is a small organ behind the upper part of the breastbone and in front of the heart. It's important in the development of T lymphocytes.
- **Adenoids and tonsils:** These are collections of lymph tissue in the back of the throat. They help make antibodies against germs that are breathed in or swallowed.
- **Digestive tract:** The stomach, intestines, and many other organs also have lymph tissue.



My "Sun" Darrell

By *Catrice Shackelford*

November 29th 2017. I sat inside a small hospital room at Children's Healthcare of Atlanta-Egleston with my husband and 12½ year old son, Darrell, awaiting the results of a CT scan that I was almost certain would tell me that I just needed to make my son drink more water or get more sleep due to his complaints of feeling dizzy; but to my surprise, what I anticipated being a simple 2-hour hospital visit turned into 6 days of being in the hospital.

I was told that something was found on the CT scan and that my son was being admitted for further testing. Further testing turned into him being sedated, having a biopsy and being diagnosed with a brain tumor they call Diffuse Intrinsic Pontine Glioma, *aka (DIPG)*.

What is DIPG? It's a highly aggressive and difficult to treat brain tumor that is inoperable and has no chance of survival. Within a matter of days my one and only son now had a lifespan of 6-9 months. **WHY?** Why would God do this to this sweet, innocent child who wouldn't hurt a fly? Why would God do this to me, a believer, a mother who would die for her kids? Well, I can't answer those questions, but I can share my journey in caring for my son until his last and final days.

Like any other mother, I lost it when they told me my son was going to die. I was heartbroken, angry, confused, numb, yet I never stopped believing. Believing in a God that I couldn't quite understand why He would give me such a heavy load that was far too much for me to bear, or even fathom. As the weeks continued, I witnessed a once healthy, energetic, independent, charismatic child become an ill, depressed, confused, dependent child, and there wasn't a single thing that I could do.

In the midst of all the discouraging things that were happening and my anger toward God, I prayed. I was determined to show and tell my son and all of his doctors about the God that I believe in. In spite of the bad things that happens in life we must never lose site of the good. I had to remind myself and my children of this throughout our journey and because I was able to see the good it allowed me to be able to share my story.

At times I felt alone, defeated, helpless because I could not take away my baby's pain. I wondered where was God? What could I have possibly done so wrong that God would punish me or my child in such an awful way? God never left us, the load was and still is very hard for me to carry, but he has equipped me. He places people in your life for a reason. The man I call my husband, the person who sat next to me that unforgettable evening and witnessed everything that I witnessed, yet somehow was able to carry and pour into me. My father, the first person I called after being told that my baby had a tumor that was about to end his life, interrupted me, cried out to God, reminding me that only God can start or stop life, not man and that we all are going to die, but those who believe should not perish but have eternal life. Fourteen years of knowing, loving and mothering the sweetest little boy I've ever known that showed me pure, unconditional and unending love; and a beautiful healthy daughter who's still here with me, sharing in the memories that can never die. As much as I would give to have more time here on earth with my son, I will never forget the time that was allowed, and for that, I am forever grateful. I know that one day we will meet again.



(My "Sun" Darrell cont'd)

During the 16 months that my son lived with DIPG, I was able to speak life into him. I had to remind him as my father did for me who God is. I was forced to watch him suffer but, in the suffering, it reminded me of Jesus and how the little boy that I raised was becoming more like Jesus and showing me strength that I didn't even know he had.

I know that God has a reason for allowing things to happen, and we may not understand his wisdom, but we have to trust his will. I am at peace knowing that Darrell knew God and came to a place of trusting his will.

I would like to thank each and every one who prayed for Darrell. To all of my family and friends, all of the members at Friendship Baptist Church, Mama Tapp and family, I thank you for weathering the storm with us, sharing Darrell's story, and giving us hope. And, to the beautiful Cynthia Urquhart for serenading us in the spur of the moment with your God gifted voice during Darrell's Homegoing. You may never truly understand what you did for me hearing you sing my favorite gospel song by Yolanda Adams-The Battle Is Not Yours. We thank you!





KNOW GOD, KNOW PEACE

By Min. Nicole Walker

“Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:6-7

This scripture became my chant of praise in December of 2019. I was between a rock and a hard place. My world was spinning out of control. I prayed and I cried. Cried and prayed. I paced my 725 square foot apartment night after night, shouting at God, begging, even demanding that He come and see about me. After all, I am a member of the “I Am” family. “I am” the apple of His eye. “I am” a King’s kid. **“I am” more than a conqueror.** And, there it was! My “aha” moment! *“Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us”* (Romans 8:37). I had been going about this thing all wrong. At that moment, I realized that without Him I could do nothing, but through Him I could do all things. My mind and my heart were at war. The peace that my heart was longing for was temporary. A quick fix. Just a little something to tie me over. But the peace that I needed, wanted, had to begin in my mind and flow down into my heart.

In my chosen scripture, beginning with verse 6, Paul is telling the church, as well as believers today, to not be anxious, don’t worry, and not to make quick rash decisions about anything. When we get ahead of God, we fall behind. We fall behind in receiving a blessing. We fall behind on the up building of our most holy faith. Instead of waiting patiently for God and trusting that He is faithful to provide *“all of our needs according to His riches in glory”* (Philippians 4:19), we try to figure out what God has already worked out. We must try and understand that the only true way to develop our faith is through times of testing and that He is steadily refining us and making us stronger.

Prayer and worship are our most powerful tools. As Christians, we can pray to God and ask Him to provide our needs. Most of us understand praying and thanksgiving. Supplication communicates how we should pray. This means to humble ourselves before God. The word supplication comes from a Latin term, supplicare, meaning to plead humbly. When we pray in humble submission, we do it with the mindset that we want God to make our minds supple. Allowing Him to mold our thinking, our opinions and our emotions to be in line with His will. In the 51st division of Psalms, David confessed his sins, prayed that God forgive, cleanse, and create in him a clean heart and renew his spirit. David did not want God to change his situation. He wanted God **to change him** so that he could handle his situation. When our desires become God’s desires, our thoughts and prayers shift, and we draw nearer to Him.

WHEREVER YOU ARE HEADED,
GOD IS ALREADY THERE.

Verse 7 – The peace of God is a promise to the believer. And there is nothing like peace of mind. Knowing that whatever trials and tribulations we go through, that at any given moment, in any situation good, bad or indifferent, God will always be there. Not only will He always be there, but Deuteronomy 31:8 from the NIV reads *“The LORD himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you or forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged.”* Isn’t that awesome! Before we even get to our next light affliction, God’s already there!

(Know God, Know Peace cont'd)

The peace of God allows the mind to focus on *“whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.”* (Philippians 4:8)

The peace of God surpasses, exceeds, rises above all understanding, as well as misunderstandings. It is a divine peace that can only be obtained by totally surrendering your all to God. And when you have peace of mind, you also have peace in your heart.

Most know my standard greeting when asked “how are you?” For the most part, my response is “All is well.” My mentor, Rev. Doug Motley, Jr., was the first person I ever heard respond in such a way. And because I admire and respect him, I too started saying it. In the beginning, it was just a statement, something to say, but over the years, it has not only become my mindset, I have adopted it as a way of life. And once that happened, my heart and soul believed it.

According to christianity.com, Horatio Spafford, author of that ageless hymn “It Is Well with My Soul,” wrote the words after hearing that his young daughters had been lost at sea. The website continued to say that despite the tragic loss, he experienced the peace of God because he had made a conscious decision to follow the God of peace.

Worried, concerned, or anxious about something in your life? **Turn your focus from the situation to the God who holds everything in the palm of His hand.** For God knows the plan He has for you (Jeremiah 29:11). His mercy and His grace are new every morning (Lamentations 3:22-23) and will cover whatever dilemma the day may bring.



My Daughter, My Dog and Our God

By Cynthia Urquhart



My daughter tends to text me late night or early morning; those precious hours when I have drifted off into sweet sleep. I am not responsible for my behavior or speech after 9 PM and I am sure I possess a bit of jealousy toward those people who work like soldiers during late night hours.

Now, if there is anyone who knows I am not very alert and certainly not my best self after 9:00 PM, it is my daughter, Traci. So, why would she text me at 1:23 AM, 11:39 PM, or 2:27 AM? Even at these random hours I seem to have just opened my eyes in time to respond. Shocked by my rapid response, she will ask, "Momma, do you ever sleep?" While not often, I have occasionally missed or chosen to ignore a few of those unpredictable messages.

Next there was my dog Dainty, a beautiful, rambunctious Dalmatian, and my constant companion. Not once during the years I had Dainty did I ever see her sleep – not one time. I assume she did sleep but I was never a witness to such. Her place was on the floor at the foot of my bed and no matter the moment I opened my eyes to take a trip to the bathroom or peer over the foot of the bed to catch her sleeping, her gaze would meet me full on. I remember wondering, "what are you looking for?" and "why are you always watching"? Her gaze back seemed to simply convey, "I'm here and I'm ok, are you OK?"



And then there is our God, the great I Am, the Author and the Finisher of our faith, our Bright and Morning Star, Way Maker, Miracle Worker, Promise Keeper, Redeemer, Savior, Sovereign God, Jehovah God, Lord and Savior, the Soon Coming King, yes truly our All in All God!

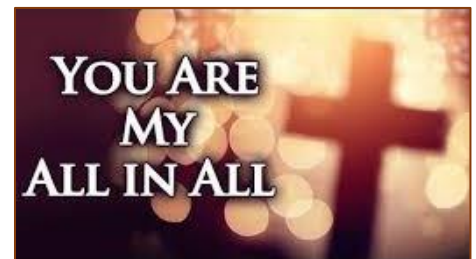
Like my daughter Traci reaches out to me at any time, we can reach out to God – at ANY time with a sincere heart. Unlike me, He always responds and has never missed our cry, or our call and He has certainly never ignored us. That is not to say we are always readily pleased with His response. He has not turned his face far from us; He is here and He cares.

Like my dog Dainty who appeared to never sleep she did eventually die – and is still dead. Unlike our God who truly never sleeps and who loved us enough to send His only Son to die for us as a pardon for our sins. Yet, He rose from the dead and remains alive. His eye is constantly on us.

The year 2020 could certainly lead us to question, where are you, O God? What are you doing? Why are you allowing one atrocity after the other to come upon us? When will this season of uncertainty cease? We want to declare, enough is enough! Our question is much like that of the prophet Habakkuk, "O Lord, how long will I call for help and You will not hear?"

We must remember – our God has not forgotten or failed us.

"Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the LORD your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you." **Deuteronomy 31:6**



PANICKING IN A TIME OF THIS PANDEMIC

By Zachary and Vanessa Pratt

During the month of May, my wife and I were planning to leave one particular weekend to visit Vanessa's daughter and her mother in Peoria, Illinois, where her mother is now living and dealing with cancer. But on the Tuesday before our trip, I arrived home from work to a great big surprise. I discovered a water pipe had burst inside the walls and water flooded not only our upstairs master bedroom, but water came down through the living room ceiling on the downstairs level of our townhouse.

When Vanessa came home a few hours later after an appointment, she was overcome with panic and fear and started crying because this meant we needed to find a hotel in the middle of this pandemic! The next day the ceiling had fallen in right where Vanessa had been sitting the evening before! That night we found and moved into a hotel and stayed there for three days. In the middle of this, we still needed to go to Illinois to check on her mother. So, we did.

When we came back from Illinois, we learned that our place was not ready for us to move back in so we had to stay in the hotel for about three more weeks. Not only that, the leasing office did not accept responsibility for the broken pipe or damage and acted as if we were somehow responsible. At that point, we decided to look for somewhere else to live.

We made plans to look at three houses each evening after work. After about 20 houses later where either the house was already taken or the location wasn't right or property not what we wanted, Vanessa told me that I should take charge of looking for the place to move to. So, on the Saturday after we finally got back into our townhouse, I called an agent who was having an open house on that Sunday. I asked if we could meet her on Saturday instead of Sunday so that if we liked it and got the first look at it maybe the owner will pick us to move into it. The agent agreed to meet us on Saturday.

As we drive into the subdivision, Vanessa tried to find every reason not to look at or move into that neighborhood. When we get to the house, the agent was sitting in her car waiting. When Vanessa looked at the house and saw that it was a beautiful home on the outside, she decided to give it a chance. As the agent started getting out of her car and reached back for her cane, Vanessa told the agent she was sorry to be looking at her so hard, but told her that she looked like someone that she knew from church. So, she asked Vanessa if she knew someone who used to attend Friendship with the last name of "Brown." Vanessa said yes and the agent smiled and said she is my sister. Was this a sign from the Lord that this was going to be our new home? Vanessa thought.

So, we went in to see the house and we both liked everything about the house and could see us living there—and it came with a BBQ grill in the backyard! That's right down my alley. But the agent still had plans to have her open house on Sunday.

On Monday, she turned in all the applications in the order of how they were received. After the owner looked through each one, in the next day or two we were informed that she chose our application, presented us with the key, and allowed us to move in earlier than the date of the contract! Look at God! The rest of the story is all to His glory!

*"But **they that wait** upon the **Lord** shall renew their strength; **they** shall mount up with wings as eagles; **they** shall run, and not be weary; and **they** shall walk, and not faint" (Isaiah 40:31).*



SAVE THE DATE

YOUTH DAY 20/20 HAS BEEN PUSHED OUT TO SEPTEMBER
BUT IS STILL ON-VIRTUALLY!!!



YOUTH WEEKEND 2020

The Vision Unfolds

HOLLA 2BE HEARD • BIBLE BOWL • SUNDAY SERVICE

9/25

9/26

9/27

STAY TUNED/MORE TO COME!!



FBC Sunday School on ZOOM! Please join one of our Sunday School classes every Sunday at 9:45 am. We have begun our Fall Quarter: The study for this quarter will focus on “Love for One Another.”

Classes Available

Men’s Class

Women’s Class

Marriage Class

Conn3ct Class (Young Adults)

Singles Class

Also, join us for Youth Church and Teen Church.

Please go to our website at www.fbcduluth.org for the link to the Zoom classes. See you there!

Sunday school books are available for pick up from the Church office Monday-Friday, 10am-2pm.

Dorian Rogers, Superintendent

4integrityauto@gmail.com

Phone: 770-309-6245

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

BLACK HISTORY

OUR VOICES. OUR STORIES.

SCHOLARS

*Sis. Diane Russell
Black History Coordinator
Communications Ministry*

PAULA JOHNSON – 1ST BLACK WOMAN PRESIDENT OF WELLESLEY COLLEGE



Paula Johnson was born and raised in New York. She attended Samuel J. Tilden High School in Brooklyn. About her childhood she said: "I was very fortunate growing up in Brooklyn. I have one sister, and from a very early age my mother focused on us not only being well-educated, but also thinking independently. I think that gave me the latitude to think differently about my college education. I went to Harvard Radcliffe, which allowed me to really have my first introduction to women's health." The best piece of advice her mom gave her was to "find your voice and not let failure knock you down." Johnson is married to Robert Sands, a rheumatologist at Atrius Health of Harvard University. Johnson and her husband have a son who attended Harvard, a teenage daughter, and two Havanese dogs. The family resides in Wellesley, Massachusetts.

In 1985 she received her medical doctor's degree (M.D.) and a master's in public health (MPH) degrees from Harvard.

Dr. Johnson founded and headed the Mary Horrigan Connors Center for Women's Health and Gender Biology and was chief of the Division of Women's Health at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston. She also directed the Center for Cardiovascular Disease in Women, which aims to develop new prevention, treatment, and rehabilitation strategies through research as it serves women in all stages of life. One focus of the Center is to reduce the risk of heart disease by educating women about life style choices—including smoking, poor nutrition, and lack of exercise—that endanger the heart and blood vessels. Because African-American women are 50 percent more likely to die of cardiovascular disease than white women, many of the Center's efforts are directed to empowering black women in matters of their health and to examining relationships between race and disease.

In 2016, Dr. Johnson became the first African American woman to be president at Wellesley College in Massachusetts.

(Black History cont'd)

RICHARD THEODORE GREENER – 1ST AFRICAN AMERICAN HARVARD SCHOOL GRADUATE



Richard Greener was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in 1844 and moved with his mother to Boston when he was approximately nine years old. He quit school in his mid-teens to earn money for his family, but one of his employers, Franklin B. Sanborn, helped him to enroll in preparatory school (Oberlin Academy) at Oberlin College.

Greener was the first African American graduate of Harvard University. In addition to teaching philosophy, Latin, and Greek at USC, Greener served as librarian and helped to reorganize and catalog the library's holdings, which were in disarray after the Civil War. Greener was the only black professor at a southern university during the Reconstruction Era from 1873 through 1877, and it would be decades before another black professor would be appointed at USC. While a faculty member at South Carolina, he also attended the School of Law. His law degree and law license were found in Chicago and later obtained by USC. After leaving South Carolina, Greener served from 1878 to 1880 as dean of the Howard University School of Law.

Active in the Republican Party, Greener was appointed United States Consul at Bombay, India in 1898 by President William McKinley. Greener never went to India because of the Bubonic Plague then raging in Bombay. Later that year he was transferred to Vladivostok, Russia, where he served as commercial agent until 1905. During his term Greener reported to Washington on the construction of the Trans-Siberian Railroad, the rapid growth of the European Russian population in the region, the status of the local Jewish population, and the local impact of China's Boxer Rebellion in 1900. He was decorated by the Chinese government for his role in famine relief efforts in North China in the wake of the Boxer Rebellion.

Recognizing Siberia's growing importance to United States economic interests, Greener called unsuccessfully for the U.S. State Department to establish a consul-general in Vladivostok. During the Russo-Japanese War of 1904-05 Greener supervised the evacuation of the Japanese from Sakhalin Island. In October 1905, Greener was recalled from Vladivostok. He retired to Chicago, Illinois the following year and died there in 1922.



(Black History cont'd)

PATRICK FRANCIS HEALY – 1ST BLACK AMERICAN TO EARN A PH.D.



Patrick Francis Healy was born February 27, 1834 to an Irish farmer and a slave mother of mixed parentage in Macon, Georgia. According to the law in the South, Healy and his siblings were known as slaves although his parents enjoyed a common-law marriage that was kept hidden from others. To see that his children would have equal opportunity, the elder Healy sent his children to the North where they could live free.

Healy and his siblings were raised in the Catholic tradition and the future educator was reared by Quakers. Patrick Healy was educated at the College of the Holy Cross in Massachusetts. He graduated in 1850, at the age of 16, and was awarded a Bachelor of Arts by Georgetown University, as Holy Cross had not yet been chartered and conferred degrees under Georgetown's charter. Healy joined the Jesuit order, becoming the first African-American to do so.

Although the Rev. Patrick Francis Healy appeared to look white and lived his life as such, history has proven that he was indeed of African descent. Born into slavery, Healy became the first African-American to earn a Ph.D. in 1865. The Quakers then sent Healy to study abroad in Europe and eventually earning his doctorate in Philosophy from the Catholic University of Lueven in Belgium. He then returned to the states to teach at Georgetown University. In 1874, he became the school's 29th president and, secretly, its first African-American president.

Under his leadership, Georgetown grew to become one of the leading institutions of its time but it was largely unknown that he was born a slave. His siblings also passed for white and enjoyed the privileges that came along with it. While the Healys held fast to their white Irish heritage, history has shown that their roots were Black after all.

Rev. Healy died in 1910.





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 —

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.

Bible Quiz: Parable of the Workers in the Vineyard

Select one answer for each question. Then go to page 28 to check your answers.

1) In Jesus' Parable of the Workers in the Vineyard, a landowner went into town several times during the day to hire laborers. Why were some of the workers grumbling when they got paid at the end of the day?

- They only got paid one denarius for the day's work.
 - The landowner did not pay them a standard day's wages.
 - The workers who started early in the morning were angry that they got only the same pay as those who started late in the day.
 - The workers who started late in the day were angry that they would not get paid until they had worked a whole day.
-

2) How did the landowner answer the grumbling workers?

- He promised to pay each worker a bonus after he had worked five days.
 - He said he had paid more than a standard day's wages and they had no right to complain.
 - He said he had a right to be generous with his money if he pleased.
 - He promised to pay the workers who came late at the end of their next day.
-

3) What is the moral of the parable?

- Salvation is earned only through hard work.
- Salvation is a gift from God, not a birthright.
- A worker should ask what his pay will be before taking a job.
- Anyone who takes unfair advantage of his employees is not worthy of the Kingdom of God.



Church News & Other Important Information

Job Opportunity

A.E.S., 3465 Martin Farm Rd., Suwanee, has immediate openings for factory workers. They make hospital walls, ceilings, doors, windows etc., \$13/hr. to start. Bonus and overtime for 2-3 hours over 40. Please call 678-804-0260 for further information.

Neighborhood Announcements

Emergency assistance for seniors is available for those who are over 60. If you or someone you know is over 60 and facing hunger, health, or mobility issues, please call 678-377-4150 to speak with Senior Services staff.

VOTING INFORMATION

Election date: General Election - November 3

Registration deadline: October 5

Absentee voter deadlines:

- Application by mail - October 30
- Submission by mail - November 3
- Submission in person - November 3

Early voting: October 12-30

The Georgia Secretary of State's Office has launched a new online portal for voters to request an absentee ballot. Voters can now visit BallotRequest.sos.ga.gov to request an absentee by mail ballot for November 3 election. The new website asks voters to enter their first name, last name, date of birth, and provide a Georgia driver's license or personal identification card issued by the State of Georgia, as well as their county of residence. The request is then sent to county election officials. When the ballots are available, voters will receive their ballot in the mail.

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your future
START HERE >

United States®
Census
2020

The 2020 Census counts everyone. Make sure you're counted!

Respond Today at: my2020census.gov.
Deadline extended until October 31.

Census takers are currently going out into the community to conduct interviews at homes that haven't yet completed the 2020 Census questionnaire. Census takers work between 9:00am and 9:00pm, including weekends, and they wear masks and follow local public health guidelines when they visit your home.

It is critical that #EveryOneCounts in the 2020 Census, so please answer the door to be counted. Learn more about census takers in your neighborhood. Remember, your private information is confidential by law and can't be shared with any other agency.

You can complete your questionnaire online, by phone, or by mail. For more information and to complete the census online, visit 2020Census.gov.

ONLINE GIVING

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

Go to fbcduluth.org and click on: "Giving" tab or text: [fbcduluth](https://fbcduluth.org) to 73256.

Contributions can also be mailed to:

Friendship Baptist Church
P.O. Box 604
Duluth, GA 30096

How did you do?

Bible Quiz: Parable of the Workers in the Vineyard

(from page 26)

1) In Jesus' Parable of the Workers in the Vineyard, a landowner went into town several times during the day to hire laborers. Why were some of the workers grumbling when they got paid at the end of the day?

Answer: The workers who started early in the morning were angry that they got only the same pay as those who started late in the day.

Matthew 20:1-16. This is a difficult parable to understand because its meaning must be found in historical context. The parable is summed up by the verses that precede (Matthew 19:30) and follow (Matthew 20:16) it: "Many who are first shall be last, and the last shall be first." The workers who started early in the morning represent the Jews, who had been God's chosen people for over a thousand years. Those who started late in the day represent the Gentiles and outcasts, who were now being offered the Kingdom of God. Jesus' followers among the Jews were jealous of the salvation being offered to those apparently undeserving people.

2) How did the landowner answer the grumbling workers?

Answer: He said he had a right to be generous with his money if he pleased.

The landowner represents God. Jesus reminds us in this parable that God is free, in His wisdom, to offer salvation to any and all He finds worthy.

3) What is the moral of the parable?

Answer: Salvation is a gift from God, not a birthright.

God loves and extends His mercy to all His children. We do not have a right to look down on those we consider sinners (Luke 18:9-14), nor to claim special status with God. God's salvation is offered to those who, in their hearts, are found worthy. It is **not** a privilege of religious affiliation, ethnic or racial background, nor of status or wealth.

OPPORTUNITIES TO **SERVE** AT FRIENDSHIP

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 using your gifts, talent, skills and time serving God's people **TOGETHER IN LOVE.**

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Louie Malone

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

SUBSCRIBE to: www.fbcduluth.org

**Submit articles for the next newsletter
now through Friday, October 2nd, 2020**



Mission Statement

Exalt the Savior • Equip the Saint • Evangelize the Sinner

A Purpose-Driven Church

Friendly through Fellowship
 Developed through Discipleship
 Enlarged through Evangelism
 Sharing and Caring through Servanthood
 Stronger through God's Word and True Worship

Church Address and Contact Information

3375 Church Lane, Duluth GA 30096

Contact: Rita Bowens, Executive Assistant to Pastor @ 770-497-8227

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

Email: fbcduluth@att.net

Website: www.fbcduluth.org

Leadership

FBC Associate Ministers

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Rev. Garfield Garner

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Min. Shurron Green

Rev. Artis Johnson

Rev. Timothy Twyman

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Rev. Stan Williams

Rev. Alton Wilson

FBC Ministers of Evangelism

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Min. Amelia Brown

Evg. Geneva Burse

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