



3375 Church Lane
Duluth, GA 30096

Rev. Ronald L. Bowens
Pastor



FEBRUARY 2021

Vol. 9, Issue 2

FRIENDSHIP'S VOICE



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CALENDAR

FEBRUARY

- 6 Men's Monthly Meeting
- 7 Super Bowl
- 14 Valentine's Day
- 17 Ash Wednesday

MARCH

- 14 Daylight Savings Time
- 28 Palm Sunday

Due to the COVID-19 virus, all in-person services, activities and events except the Friendship Market have been cancelled until further notice. Please visit fbcduluth.org for more information. Stay safe!

Love encompasses a range of strong and positive emotional and mental states, ranging from the most sublime virtue or good habit or the deepest interpersonal affection for the simplest of pleasure.

You can have positive love and negative love:

- ♥ Positive Love: The virtue of representing human kindness, compassion and affection.
- ♥ Negative Love: It's vice, representing human moral flaw, vanity, selfishness and egotism.

Ancient Greek philosophers identified five forms of love:

- ♥ Storge – Familial love
- ♥ Philia – Friendly or platonic love
- ♥ Eros – Romantic love
- ♥ Xenia – Guest love
- ♥ Agape – Divine love

Encompassed in these five love forms are also: unrequited love, empty love, companionate love, consummate love, infatuated love, self-love and courtly love. The triangular theory of love suggests the feelings intimacy, passion and commitment. Love has additional religious or spiritual meaning. This diversity of uses and meanings combined with the complexity of the feelings involved, makes love unusually difficult to consistently define, compared to other emotional states.

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(Love cont'd)

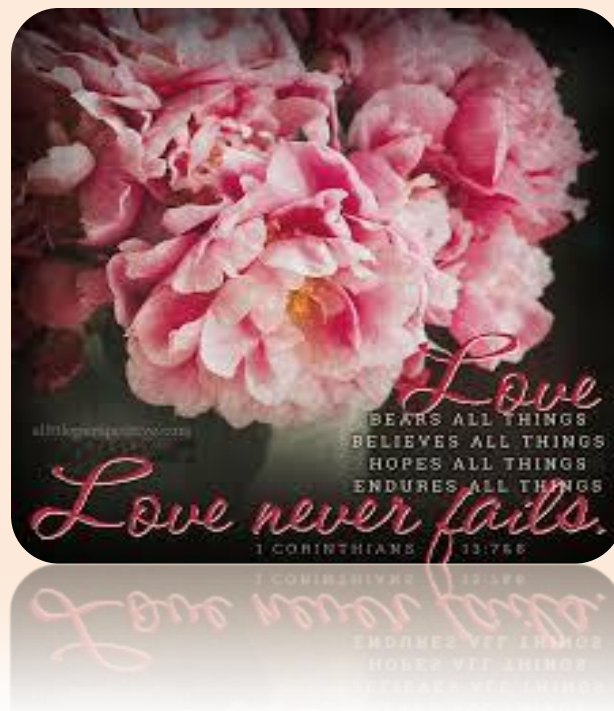
The love that God extends to us and expects us to share with others is Agape love. This is the covenant love of God for humans as well as the human reciprocal love for God. This is a selfless love that is passionately committed to the well-being of others.

I Corinthians 13:1-8 tells us clearly what love is and how to extend love through God's eyes and his ways. Anything that we do, no matter how great or small, if love is not in it, it means nothing to God. No matter how many spiritual gifts we have and flaunt, without love it means nothing to us. All the sacrifices we may make, without love, it means nothing. Love is long suffering, it is kind, it does not envy, it does not show off and it is not puffed up. Love is not egotistical; it's not easily provoked and thinks of no evil. It does not rejoice in wrong doing but stands firm and rejoice in truth. In all things it bears up, believes, hopes and endures. From Faith, Hope and Love, the greatest is LOVE.

Throughout the old and new Testaments, God has always expounded on Love. Leviticus 19:18, God told us to *"love thy neighbor as thyself;"* and Deuteronomy 6:5, *"And thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might."* Also, Jesus said the same words in Matthew 22:37. This is the Great and First Commandment.

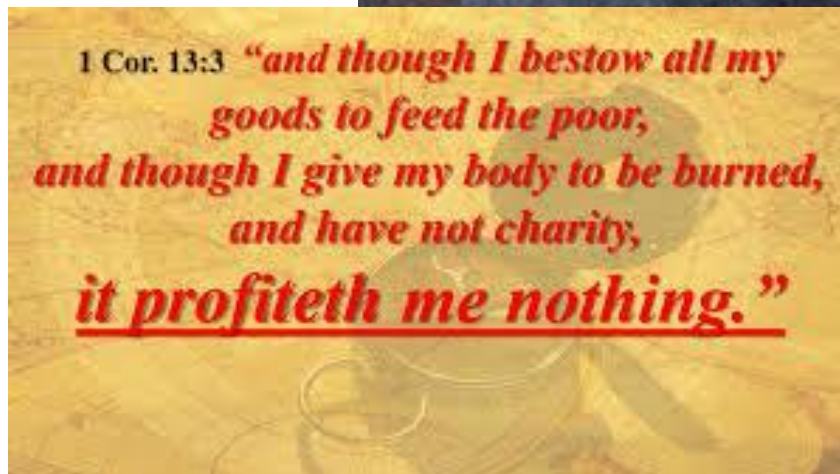
The first step to practicing good Christian principles is to love, love, love, not only your family or friends but your neighbors, your enemies, those on the job that talk about you, those in your circle that like to sow seeds of discord – love them because Love covers a multitude of sins (I Peter 4:8); and lastly, 1 John 4:8 says, *"He that loveth not knoweth not God, for God is Love."*

Submitted by Sis. Hyacinth Chung
Communications Ministry



SCRIPTURE OF THE MONTH

1 Corinthians 13:1-3



The Power of Prayer

Prayer works and prayer changes things!

If we go to God with a sincere heart and believe that he hears us through faith, we will see his manifestation in our lives. We pray for ourselves, we pray for our loved ones, we pray for our friends, and we pray for those who can't pray for themselves.

We also have others who pray for us.

Help us Holy Spirit, please hear our prayers.

As children in Christian households, our first prayers were most likely, "Now I lay me down to sleep... I pray the Lord my soul to keep," as well as the Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6:9-13)

Throughout our Christian lives, prayer is how we communicate to and petition God for our requests (supplication).

Some of us find organizing our prayer by the ACTS method is beneficial. Some may find it helps make sure all things are covered when we go to God in prayer. The ACTS method is simple and means our prayers should be organized and contain the following components:

A – Adoration and Acknowledgement: **Begin by worshipping God for who He is. Focus on His character and His attributes – always acknowledging who He is to you (Heavenly Father, Creator, Savior, Strong Tower, Provider, etc., etc., etc.)**

C – Confession: **Next, confess your sins to God. List everything that comes to mind, and when you've exhausted that, ask God to search your heart and reveal any hidden sin that you've overlooked (Psalm 139:23-24).**

T – Thanksgiving: **After you've received forgiveness, it's time to give thanks for the many gifts God has blessed you with.**

S – Supplication: **Our prayer requests.**

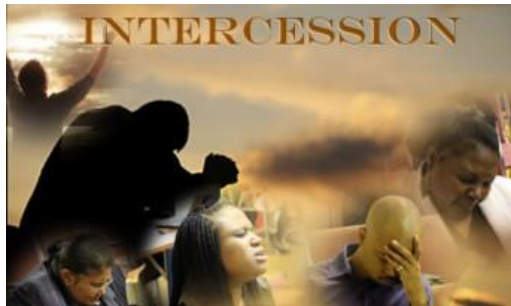
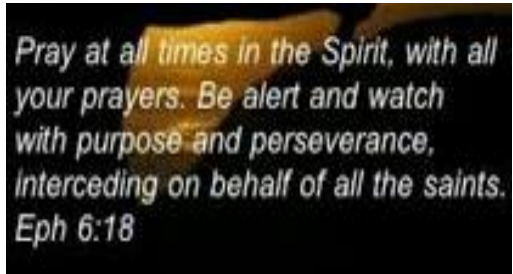
I remember several years ago on one occasion Pastor Bowens instructed the FBC family to look for reasons to pray and to always be ready to pray. I'm so glad I took this to heart because I now find myself many times a day, praying. Praying for myself, my family, and for situations of others that come up throughout the day. There is no better fellowship than to commune with God in prayer.

But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly (Matthew 6:6 KJV).

Submitted by Christine Smith
Communications Ministry



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



If you need prayer, dial
866-875-8245

Prayer changes things.

**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.

THANK YOU

FBC FRONT LINE WORKERS

DOCTORS NURSES TRUCKERS
HOSPITAL STAFF POLICE SERVICES
DOCTOR'S OFFICE STAFF PARAMEDICS
SMALL BUSINESS OWNERS AND STAFF
DENTISTS AVAILABLE FOR EMERGENCIES
FIRE DEPARTMENTS MAIL CARRIERS
SOCIAL WORKERS SANITATION WORKERS
CHILDCARE PROVIDERS GAS STATION STAFF
PUBLIC TRANSIT WORKERS DELIVERY DRIVERS
GROCERY CLERKS AND STAFF
RESTAURANT AND TAKE-OUT STAFF

**AND ANYONE WHO IS PUTTING THEIR HEALTH AT
RISK DURING THESE UNCERTAIN TIMES.
MAY GOD BLESS AND PROTECT YOU!**



OUTREACH MINISTRY

Diana McGhee, Ministry Leader



Friendship Baptist Church Outreach Ministry is here to *HELP* during these challenging times!

Drive through to get **FREE** groceries:
(Meat, Produce, Dairy & More)

When: Fridays 3:00pm-4:00pm
Saturdays 11:30am-12:30pm

Where: Friendship Baptist Church, Pastor Ronald L. Bowens
3375 Church Lane, Duluth, GA 30096
Telephone: 770-497-8227
Email: friendshipduluth@att.net



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

HEALTH MINISTRY

Vickie Perry, RN/BSN, Ministry Leader



February is Heart Awareness Month



Heart disease is one of the most widespread and complicated health challenges in the United States and around the world. Cardiovascular disease — disorders of the heart and blood vessels — accounted for more than 860,000 (about one in three) deaths in the United States in 2017, according to the American Heart Association.

Worldwide, cardiovascular disease is the leading cause of death, killing 17.9 million people every year — a number that's expected to grow past 23.6 million by 2030. About 80 percent of these deaths are from heart attack and stroke, disproportionately affecting low- and middle-income countries, according to the World Heart Federation.

In the United States, more than 126 million people had some form of cardiovascular disease between 2015 and 2018. During that time span, nearly 59 percent of non-Hispanic Black females and 60 percent of non-Hispanic Black males had some form of cardiovascular disease. The total direct costs of heart disease and stroke were estimated to be more than \$200 billion between 2016 and 2017.

Despite these enormous challenges, there are some hopeful signs. Many risk factors for heart disease can be modified, including lack of physical activity, poor diet, and tobacco use. And in the United States, the death rate from cardiovascular disease decreased by 18.6 percent between 2006 and 2016, according to an American Heart Association report published in January 2019 in the journal *Circulation*.

These facts — showing both the huge problem that heart disease presents, and the opportunities to reduce its burden — point to the importance of heart disease awareness and action. This year, a number of advocacy and research organizations are supporting events to educate the public about cardiovascular disease and raise money for research and support services.

Source: Everydayhealth.com

YOUR HEALTH IS A LIFE-LONG JOURNEY:

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

COVID INFORMATION & PREVENTION TIPS



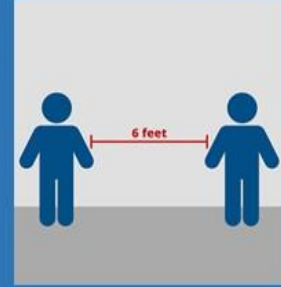
STAY AT HOME
AS MUCH AS
POSSIBLE



WASH HANDS
WITH SOAP OR USE
60%+ ALCOHOL
HAND SANITIZER



WEAR A MASK
WHEN OUT
AND ABOUT



STAY 6 FT APART
DO YOUR
PART

COVID-19 has a wide range of mild to severe symptoms which may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus.

TO ACCESS THE SYMPTOM CHECKER GO TO

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>

REMEMBER WE ARE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER

TOGETHER WE CAN PREVENT THE SPREAD OF COVID-19

FREE DRIVE-THROUGH COVID-19 TESTING

Appointments available Monday-Saturday.

Call to schedule.

770-513-5631

Call center open Mon-Fri 8a-7p and Sat 9a-4p.



Individuals must have an appointment to be tested and should have transportation to and from the test site.

WWW.GNRHEALTH.COM/COVID-19-INFO

WE ARE IN
PHASE

1A+

- Healthcare workers including nurses, physicians, EMS, laboratory technicians, environmental services
- Long-term care facilities (LTCF) staff and residents
- Adults 65+ and their caregivers
- Law enforcement, fire personnel (including volunteer fire departments), dispatchers, 9-1-1 operators

COVID-19 Vaccination

- Walk-ins cannot be accommodated.
- Appointments cannot be made by visiting or calling our health centers.
- Appointments are required for scheduling online only at this time.

**If you are in the Phase 1A+ category
schedule an appointment at**

<https://www.gnrhealth.com/covid-vaccine-scheduling>

Equity Statement: In each population group, vaccine access will be prioritized geographically, based on vaccine accessibility, disease burden and risk associated with socio-economic status, race and ethnicity, and geographic location. Final populations are dependent on approved EUA guidance and ACIP vaccine eligibility recommendations (e.g., children and pregnant women).



New Vaccine Location: GNR Health opened mass vaccination center in former Sears store 2/6/21. Gwinnett County Government and the Gwinnett, Newton, and Rockdale County Health Departments worked together to convert the bottom floor of the former Sears building at Gwinnett Place Mall into a mass vaccination center that will accommodate immunizing up to 3,000 people a day as vaccines become available.

The 80,000-square-foot site is now available for vaccinations from 9:00am to 6:00pm, but appointments are required. Appointments can only be made at www.GNRHealth.com/covid-vaccine-scheduling. Individuals should bring an insurance card, photo ID, and proof of employment, such as a hospital badge, if applicable, to the appointment. Anyone needing assistance with mobility or other issues should bring someone with them to the appointment to help. Second dose appointments are made during the first appointment.

Currently, the limited supply of vaccines is reserved for health care workers, first responders, long-term care staff and their residents, and adults 65 and older and their caregivers.

GNR Health is scheduling appointments according to the supply of vaccine on hand. When the supply is depleted, appointments are suspended until the supply is restocked.

The space is organized with social distancing in mind with directional signs and floor markers telling people where to stand safely apart. The public will enter through the main doors where they will be checked in and then follow stanchions to vaccination stations. After getting a shot, they will be allowed to rest in a large observation area for 15 to 30 minutes. Paramedics will be onsite for emergencies.

Drive-thru testing services at the site will be added in February. Funding for the project was covered by the federal CARES Act.



Greetings in the Name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, who still sits on the throne in times like these. In the past year, we have faced some difficult and tumultuous times. Racial injustice, systemic racism, economic hardship, voter suppression, domestic terrorism, economic inequality, lockdowns and food shortages. Loneliness, heartache, disappointment sickness, death and the worst pandemic in one hundred years. Some would ask, can it get any worse? While some of the things mentioned are new to us, most have been with us for some time.

We live in a world with so many uncertainties. I understand that uncertainties may bring about fear. My brothers and sisters, I want to encourage you that in times like these we need to reflect on the Savior's love. Romans 8:28, ***"And we know that all things work***

together for good to them that love God, to them who are called according to His purpose." In times like these we realize that whatever is going on in the universe; God's love for us is still working for our good.

The pandemic along with the lockdowns forced many of us into isolation. For me during this time of isolation I found time to accomplish things that I was too busy to do before the pandemic. I was too busy about being too busy to get it done. I spent quality time with my wife and we leaned on each other for support. Don't get me wrong there were times when we went to separate parts of the house to spend some alone time with God.

In times like these, we must learn to trust God to take a bad situation and turn it around for our good. In times like these we need to be still and here from God the father. Jeremiah 29:11, ***"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."*** Psalm 46:1, ***"God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."***

In times like these, we must walk in the knowledge of who Jesus is and that He is greater than anything we face. In times like these, we must have a blessed hope that better days are ahead. Weeping may endure for a night, but joy comes in the morning! Beloved, I know it's been stressful for many of us. Let us not lose faith, but let us hold onto God's unchanging hand and in the hope that we have in Christ Jesus. Even in these tumultuous times He never changes. He said, I'll be with you always, even until the end of times.

Beloved, I want to encourage your heart and minds in times like these your anchor holds and grips the solid rock! Beloved until we all come back together again, pray for one another. May the peace of God keep you in times like these. Brother and sisters, let's put our focus back on the mighty King of Kings and Lord of Lords. Let's hear His heart's cry, Matthew 11:28-29, ***"Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart; and ye shall find rest unto your souls."***

In closing, we might not know what 2021 will bring, but we know who holds 2021. So, beloved be encouraged because your latter days shall be greater than your former. May God bless you and keep you in perfect peace!

In His Service,
Rev. Timothy Twyman

Alice Burnes' 80th Birthday Celebration



In just a few short weeks, classification of the coronavirus (COVID-19) escalated from outbreak, to epidemic, to global pandemic. There is not a person on this earth who hasn't been impacted by the coronavirus, in one way or another. During this time of COVID-19 it has been difficult to travel and spend time with loved ones. Some trips had to be cancelled; some celebrations postponed to a later date. However, some things can't be postponed for later. One of those things was the 80th birthday celebration for our mother Alice Burnes.

Not only does the bible speak highly of mothers, but they are also an important part of raising up the next generation and having an impact on society. Mothers are characterized by many different ways like beauty, wealth, and accomplishments, but the most important quality is a mother who loves the Lord. Anyone who knows Alice knows that she loves the Lord and she loves her family. We her children, grandchildren and great grandchildren were determined to honor her on her 80th birthday.

Since the majority of Alice's family doesn't live in the area, we had planned to celebrate with a surprise trip to Atlanta. Due to COVID-19 our plans went from a large gathering of friends and family, to a smaller gathering of just family, to postponing the trip due to safe travel concerns. In the midst of stay-at-home orders and coronavirus travel restrictions how do we come together to celebrate this occasion? Technology what better time to use technology and come together as a family. We decided to celebrate her using Zoom.

Since her birthday is on January 12th, we decided from January 1st through the 12th we would get together on Zoom every day. Each day she was given a gift and each day had a different theme. On January 1st we told Mom about the birthday plan for 12 days of Zoom. She was a little concerned that this was too much but for someone who gives so much to others she was deserving of every minute. We kept her in suspense only revealing the time of the zoom call for the next day but not the theme for the day. What better time to use technology and come together as a family to honor such a deserving woman of God? During the 11 days leading up to her birthday each day was something unique and different. Some of the daily themes that were used included family movie night, sibling day and grandchildren day. We had a bible trivia competition as well as a family church service.

Each day led up to her big day on January 12th. On this day other people were invited to join in on the zoom call to share this special day with her. There were over 50 friends and family members who attended the zoom birthday party. It was amazing the love everyone poured out to her on her special day. From well wishes, to gift cards, poems and monetary gifts. Also, unbeknown to her during a Sunday school zoom class, Sis. Paulette Tapp had taken a snapshot of her and commissioned Bro. Zachary Pratt to create a charcoal drawing of her as a gift. She was totally surprised when she received that gift. The laughs, smiles and tears were a clear indication that every day was worth every moment. Even though some of us were miles away from each other, you could feel all the love. No one was more deserving of this experience than Alice Burnes. It was a blessing to be a part of such a wonderful occasion.

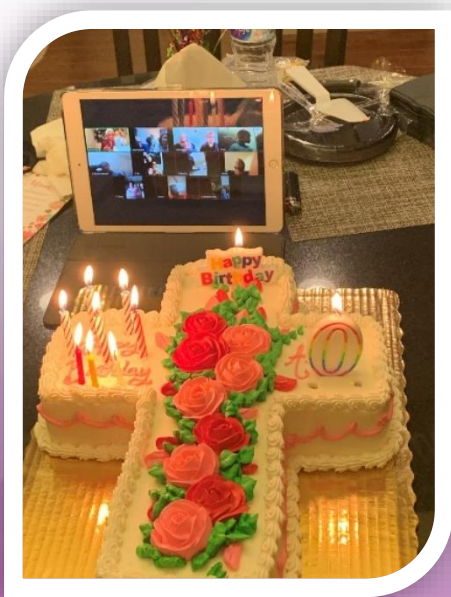
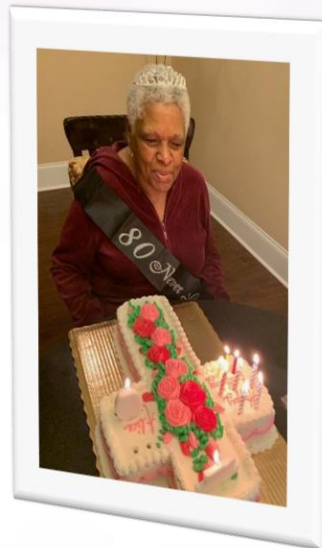


(Alice Burnes' Birthday Celebration cont'd)

We don't have to understand the purpose behind our world turning upside down this year because of the coronavirus. For what we do understand, is that "your ways are higher than our ways, and your thoughts are higher than ours" Isaiah 55:8. God is completely and totally in control and he knows how this story ends. We are so grateful today that we serve a God, the God of the universe, that knows the beginning from the end. This coronavirus might not feel good, but we can rest on the truth that our God who sees it is good.

There is nothing we can do to remove the pain in this world, nor anything we can do to prevent pain from occurring. Bad things are going to happen, this we know for certain. "For I know the plans I have for you declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." Jeremiah 29:11. The coronavirus is no surprise to God, as He's in total control. We can be thankful for the memories we've made. We can be thankful that we serve a God who is sovereign even over this.

Submitted By: Karen Hayes & Tiffany Walton



Valentine's Day

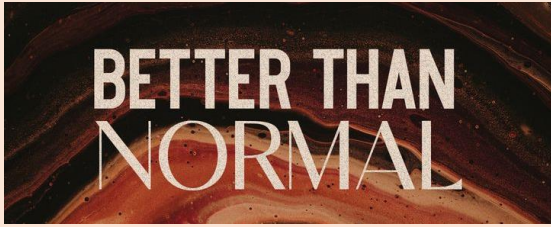
Valentine's Day, also called Saint Valentine's Day or the Feast of Saint Valentine, is celebrated annually on February 14. It originated as a Western Christian feast day honoring one or two early Christian martyrs named Saint Valentine and is recognized as a significant cultural, religious, and commercial celebration of romance and love in many regions of the world.

There are a number of martyrdom stories associated with various Valentines connected to February 14, including an account of the imprisonment of Saint Valentine of Rome for ministering to Christians persecuted under the Roman Empire in the third century. According to an early tradition, Saint Valentine restored sight to the blind daughter of his jailer. Numerous later additions to the legend have better related it to the theme of love: an 18th-century embellishment to the legend claims he wrote the jailer's daughter a letter signed "Your Valentine" as a farewell before his execution; another addition posits that Saint Valentine performed weddings for Christian soldiers who were forbidden to marry.

The Feast of Saint Valentine was established by Pope Gelasius I in AD 496 to be celebrated on February 14 in honour of Saint Valentine of Rome, who died on that date in AD 269. The day became associated with romantic love in the 14th and 15th centuries when notions of courtly love flourished, apparently by association with the "lovebirds" of early spring. In 18th-century England, it grew into an occasion in which couples expressed their love for each other by presenting flowers, offering confectionery, and sending greeting cards (known as "valentines"). Valentine's Day symbols that are used today include the heart-shaped outline, doves, and the figure of the winged Cupid. Since the 19th century, handwritten valentines have given way to mass-produced greeting cards. In Italy, Saint Valentine's Keys are given to lovers "as a romantic symbol and an invitation to unlock the giver's heart", as well as to children to ward off epilepsy (called Saint Valentine's Malady).

Saint Valentine's Day is not a public holiday in any country, although it is an official feast day in the Anglican Communion and the Lutheran Church. Many parts of the Eastern Orthodox Church also celebrate Saint Valentine's Day on July 6 in honor of Roman presbyter Saint Valentine, and on July 30 in honor of Hieromartyr Valentine, the Bishop of Interamna (modern Terni).

Contents taken from Wikipedia
Submitted by Hyacinth Chung
Communications Ministry



BAD HABITS

Part Five of Five Devotionals

WHAT IS NORMAL?

Whether we want to admit it or not, we all have bad habits... those things we do and say that we wish we didn't do and say. Some habits are difficult to break and some are incredibly difficult to break. We may be prone to laziness or gossip, or we may have formed a habit of abusing substances.

Whatever it is, we've probably either become comfortable with certain habits in our lives, or we think they're too difficult to overcome. Why is change so challenging? The Apostle Paul addresses this in Galatians 5:16-17. He tells us that we must "live by following the Spirit" because we want what is "against the Spirit." Basically, what we know to be right and what we know to be wrong are at war with each other. So, when we try to do the right thing, there's literally a war going on to try to prevent us from doing just that. We could also say that normal is at war with better than normal. Here are some takeaways from the Bible reading for today:

Normal conforms to the world, but better than normal renews the mind.

Normal gives into temptation, but better than normal trusts God for a way out.

Normal gratifies fleshly desires, but better than normal walks by God's Spirit.

Normal gives in to worry, but better than normal prays for strength and guidance.

Normal allows evil to win, but better than normal submits to God.

Normal ignores sin, but better than normal repents and receives forgiveness.

The bottom line about our bad habits is that if we focus on beating them, it may be hard to do just that. But, if we strive to make our lives healthy, many of the bad habits we've adopted will fall away. What we focus on is what will grow stronger in our lives.

Pastor Craig Groeschel says, "If it is important, you will find a way. If it's not, you will find an excuse." Instead of making excuses about our poor diet or how we speak, let's find a way to grow from normal to better than normal. And the best way to overcome our bad habits is to continually renew our minds by thinking about the things laid out in Philippians 4:8 (NCV)—things that are true, honorable, right, pure, beautiful, and respected. Our actions won't change until our minds do.

What are the bad habits that you continue to struggle with? Are there actions you do or words you say that are normal but not beneficial? If you aren't sure what needs to go, ask God to reveal what needs to change so that you can begin living a life that is better than normal.

Read: Romans 12:2, 1 Corinthians 10:13, Galatians 5:16-23, Philippians 4:6-8, James 4:7, 1 John 1:9.

(A YouVersion Bible Devotional shared by Paulette Tapp)

What is black history?
Black history is me
You see I'm everything my ancestors wanted me to be
I'm educated, employed, cute as can be, but most importantly, I'm FREE!

What is black history?
Black history is me
It's more than just about Rosa Parks and Dr. King
It's about all the things that we have overcome and achieved

What is black history?
Black history is me
My ancestors came to this country with nothing
But out of our struggle with slavery, we gave birth to a country

What is black history?
Black history is me
We came from humble beginnings, fought against a system that continues to mistreat us
But in the end, God has never forsaken us

What is black history?
Black history is me
We invented equipment, machines, beauty products, you name it, almost everything
Our stamp was made all over this country

What is black history?
Black history is me
Our melanin is poppin and with God, there ain't no stoppin
Nothing can stop us from being great

What is black history?
Black history is me
Our excellence extends further than a basketball court, football field or hip hop beat
It goes all the way back to when we were kings & queens

What is black history?
Black history is me
It's being made everyday
The older generation has paved the way
Which allowed the younger generation to lead today

What is black history?
Black history is me, it's you, your family, your friends
You are our ancestors' wildest dreams
God fearfully and wonderfully made you to change the world
Now go out there and let your voice be heard

Poem by Kelly Wilson, Communications Ministry

Celebrating Our History

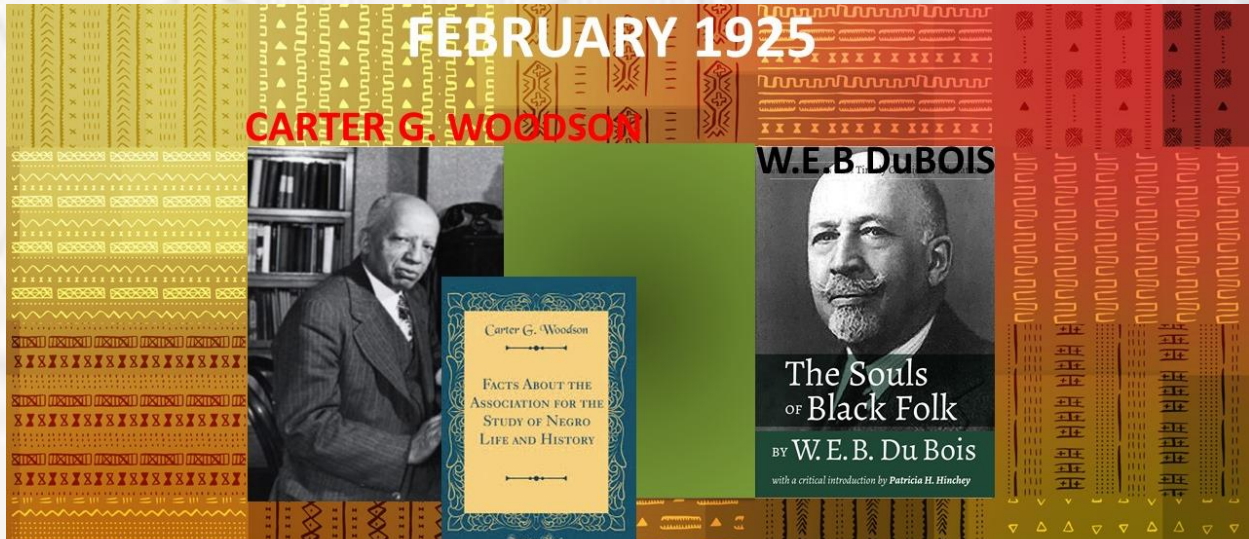
A people without the knowledge of their past history, origin and culture is like a tree without roots.

Attributed to Marcus Garvey

BLACK HISTORY

OUR VOICES. OUR STORIES.

Sis. Diane Russell, Black History Coordinator
Communications Ministry



As a Harvard-trained historian, Carter G. Woodson, like W. E. B. Du Bois before him, believed that truth could not be denied, and that reason would prevail over prejudice. His hopes to raise awareness of African American's contributions to civilization was realized when he and the organization he founded, the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History (ASNLH), conceived and announced Negro History Week in 1925. The event was first celebrated during a week in February 1926 that encompassed the birthdays of both Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass.



UNION ARMY



FREDRICK DOUGLASS



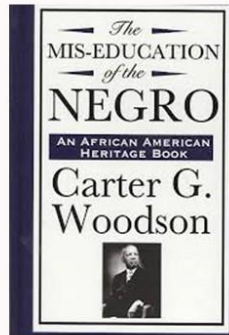
ABRAHAM LINCOLN

Woodson envisioned the study and celebration of the Negro as a race, not simply as the producers of a great man. And Lincoln, however great, had not freed the slaves — the Union Army, including hundreds of thousands of Black soldiers and sailors, had done that. Instead of focusing on two men, the Black community, he believed, should focus on the countless Black men and women who had contributed to the advance of human civilization. In fact, he never viewed black history as a one-week affair. He pressed for schools to use Negro History Week to demonstrate what students learned all year.

(Black History cont'd)

1930'S

PUBLISHED 1936



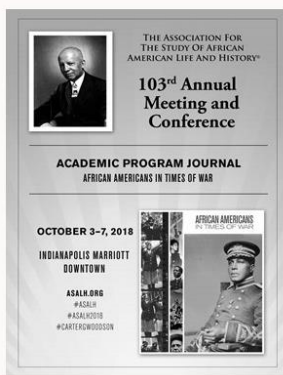
PUBLISHED 1903

MOVIE DEBUT
DECEMBER 1939



Throughout the 1930s, Negro History Week countered the growing myth of the South's "lost cause", as epitomized in both the novel and the movie "Gone With The Wind." That myth argued that slaves had been well-treated, that the Civil War was a war of "northern aggression," and that blacks had been better off under slavery. Woodson wrote in his book The Miseducation of the American Negro, "When you control a man's thinking you do not have to worry about his actions. You do not have to tell him not to stand here or go yonder. He will find his 'proper place' and will stay in it." In the 1940's, efforts began slowly within the black community to expand the study of black history in the schools and black history celebrations before the public.

FEBRUARY 1976

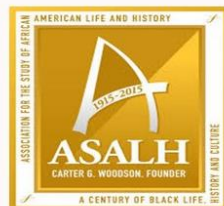


A. S. N. L. H.

The Association for the Study of Negro Life and History

BEGINNINGS

1. Organized by Carter G. Woodson in Chicago, September 9, 1915, with George Cleveland Hall, W. B. Hartgrove, J. E. Stamps, and Alexander L. Jackson, the four out of the many invited by the founder to participate in this organization.
2. Incorporated under the laws of the District of Columbia, October 2, 1915, with Carter G. Woodson, J. W.



In 1976 the association that Woodson had founded (later renamed the Association for the Study of African American Life and History) facilitated the widespread institutionalization of February as Black History Month, and U.S. President Gerald Ford urged Americans to participate in its observance. All subsequent presidents would do the same, sometimes referring to the event as National Afro-American (Black) History Month or National African American History Month. Other countries started celebrating Black History Month sometime later. The United Kingdom in 1987, Canada in 1995.

(Black History cont'd)



Since its inception, Black History Month has expanded beyond its initial acceptance in educational establishments. In 2018, Instagram created its first-ever Black History Month hashtag. By 2020, Black History Month had become a focus beyond schools. The Wall Street Journal describes it as "a time when the culture and contributions of African Americans take center stage" in a variety of cultural institutions including theaters, libraries, and museums. It has also garnered attention from the U.S. business community. In February 2020 Forbes noted that "much of corporate America is commemorating" Black History Month including The Coca-Cola Company and Wall Street.

NOTABLE TIMES IN BLACK HISTORY

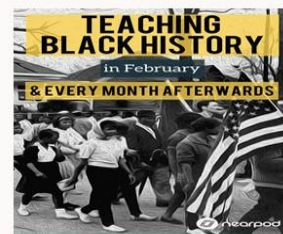
KAMALA HARRIS
VICE PRESIDENT 2021



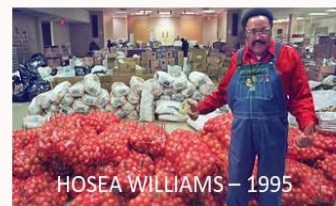
PRESIDENT OBAMA, VIRGINIA MCLAURIN, AND
FIRST LADY.



STUDENT MARCH - 1968

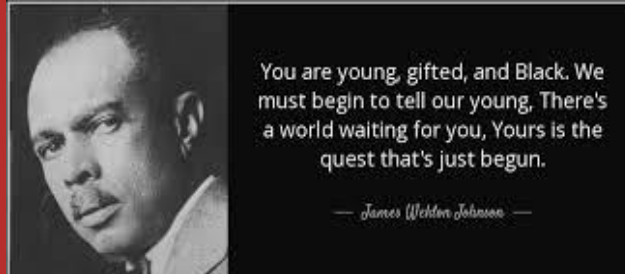


MLK AND MALCOM X - 1964



HOSEA WILLIAMS - 1995

On February 21, 2016, 106-year Washington D.C. resident and school volunteer Virginia McLaurin visited the White House as part of Black History Month. When asked by the president why she was there, McLaurin said, "A Black president. A Black wife. And I'm here to celebrate Black History. That's what I'm here for."



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 Word Search: Loving

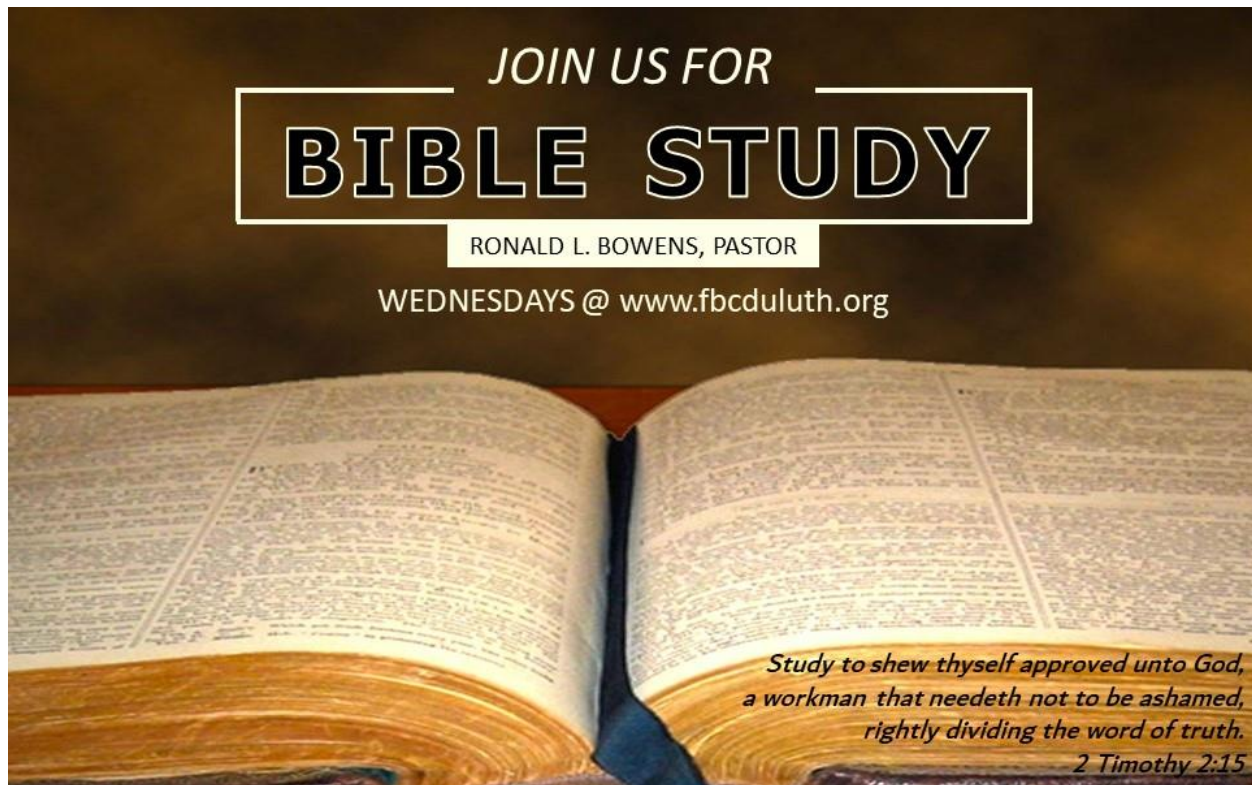
All the words listed below are in the puzzle (left, right, up, down or diagonally). Print this page and circle each word you find. After you have found all the words, write down the leftover letters in the correct order to form the *mystery answer*.

E L B M U H T I A F E C A R G
 S L E G N A M E H E A V E N R
 A E Y O J N E C C H E R I S H
 I S P A T I E N C E F R L M G
 N I A G E M K A N I E H U A U
 T S S O M A N D C F L C F R A
 S T T S P L E I F H L L P R L
 U E O P E S S U U Y O O L I P
 S R R E R N S G P S W T E A I
 E E I L A G D P D B S H H G H
 J D E O N E A N O T H E R E S
 G N S O C H E V I G I S A N R
 O E L S E I B A B K P R O T O
 O T C A R I N G O D T G S L W
 D O O F E L B I B R O T H E R

ANGELS	ENJOY	GOSPEL	JESUS	SAINTS
ANIMALS	FAITH	GRACE	KINDNESS	SISTER
BABIES	FELLOWSHIP	GUIDANCE	LAUGH	STORIES
BIBLE	FOOD	HAPPY	LONGSUFFERING	TEMPERANCE
BROTHER	FRIENDS	HEART	MARRIAGE	TENDER
CARING	GENTLE	HEAVEN	MEEKNESS	WORSHIP
CHERISH	GIVE	HELPFUL	ONE ANOTHER	
CLOTHES	GOD	HUG	PASTOR	
EACH OTHER	GOOD	HUMBLE	PATIENCE	

Mystery Answer: _____

(Answer on page 28)



JOIN US FOR

BIBLE STUDY

RONALD L. BOWENS, PASTOR

WEDNESDAYS @ www.fbcduluth.org

*Study to shew thyself approved unto God,
a workman that needeth not to be ashamed,
rightly dividing the word of truth.*
2 Timothy 2:15



Anything that annoys you is for teaching you patience.
Anyone who abandons you is teaching you how to stand up on your own two feet.
Anything that angers you is for teaching you forgiveness and compassion.
Anything that has power over you is for teaching you how to take your power back.
Anything you hate is teaching you unconditional love.
Anything you fear is teaching you courage to overcome your fear.
Anything you can't control is for teaching you how to let go and trust the universe.
Sometimes when you're in a dark place, you tend to think you have been buried;
what if you've been planted?

(Author Unknown)



Dorian Rogers, Superintendent

4integrityauto@gmail.com

Phone: 770-309-6245

FBC Sunday School on ZOOM! Please join one of our Sunday School classes every Sunday at 9:45 am. We have begun our Spring Quarter: The study for this quarter will focus on **“Call in the New Testament.”**

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.

From the January 31st lesson “Prophesying Daughters,” Jesus instructed His followers to go to Jerusalem and wait for the coming of the Holy Spirit. They obeyed and 120 men and women assembled in the Upper Room. The Scripture clearly states that certain women were included in this number. Mary, the mother of Jesus, was mentioned by name (Acts 1: 14) and the wives of the apostles (cf. 1 Corinthians 9: 5). Also, in this assembly were the female followers of Jesus devoted to Him throughout His ministry (Luke 8: 2–3). So, when the Holy Spirit came, He fell on men and women, just as Joel prophesied. Keep in Mind “¹⁶But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel; ¹⁷And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams. ¹⁸And on my servants and on my handmaidens, I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy”(Acts 2: 16-18).

Liberating Lesson: Some churches and denominations debate women’s roles in the furtherance of the Gospel. Study these passages: Luke 2: 36-38; Acts 2: 16-21, 21: 8-9.

Application for Activation: The statements regarding women in the above passages declare the role of women in speaking out as the Spirit of the Lord divinely inspires. Have you ever felt the urgency of speaking in faith under God’s Word? How did you respond? What was the result? Seek God for the boldness to speak in favor of the Gospel.

YOUTH MINISTRY

Sis. Charlene Benn, Ministry Leader



FBC
Youth & Teen
Worship Services

@ fbcduluth.org/onlineclass-4/

A large graphic with a vibrant rainbow background. The text "FBC Youth & Teen Worship Services" is written in a bold, black, sans-serif font. Below the text is a row of black silhouettes of people holding hands in a circle. At the bottom, the website address "@ fbcduluth.org/onlineclass-4/" is written in white.

TEEN MINISTRY
Rev. Stan & Min. Barbara Williams, Ministry Leaders

A graphic with a light blue and purple background. On the left, there are silhouettes of people with their arms raised. On the right, there are circular portraits of Rev. Stan Williams and Min. Barbara Williams. The text "TEEN MINISTRY" is in bold black, and the names below are in italics.



Church News & Other Important Information

Job Opportunities - Now Hiring

- Rooms to Go Distribution Center
265 Old Peachtree Road
Suwanee, GA 30024
Pay \$14-\$17 hour
(678) 546-8343
- McKesson Corp.
www.mckesson.com
1005 Satellite Blvd NW
Suwanee, GA 30024
678-957-9170
- In-Home Nanny
Looking for a nanny to care for a one-year-old boy in home in Lawrenceville 3 days a week Mondays-Wednesdays. Must have own reliable transportation. Please send contact information and qualifications to Myia at stfleur2021@gmail.com



Volunteer Opportunities: GNR Health needs volunteers to help staff the vaccination center at Gwinnett Mall in Duluth. People interested in helping should contact the Medical Reserve Corps, MRC GEM at www.mrcgem.com/join. Volunteers do not have to be a medical professional to join and can serve in a non-clinical capacity.



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

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

Contributions can also be mailed to:

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

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

Classes and Meetings are virtual until further notice

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.**

Mystery Answer: SELF CONTROL

Communications Ministry

President

Louie Malone

Vice President

Tina Patterson

Secretary

Paulette Tapp

Assistant Secretary

Kelly Wilson

Treasurer

Michal Patterson

Chaplain

Regina Gilbert

Deacon Advisor

Harold Mitchell

Newsletter Staff

Editor-in-Chief/Graphic Designer

Paulette Tapp

Editor/Proofreader

Christine Smith

Diane Russell

Photographers

Louie Malone

Shirley Price

Publisher

Louie Malone

Reporters/Writers

Hyacinth Chung

Jennifer Jones

Tina Patterson

Christine Smith

Kelly Wilson

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

**DEADLINE FOR NEXT ARTICLE SUBMITTALS
FRIDAY, MARCH 5TH**



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 @ 770-497-8227

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

Email: fbcduluth@att.net

Website: www.fbcduluth.org

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