



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

June 2021

SUMMER TIME

Vol. 9, Issue 6

FRIENDSHIP'S VOICE

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JUNE

- 18 Newsletter Submittals Due
- 19 Juneteenth
- 20 Pastor & Sis. Debbie's 40th Anniversary
- 20 Father's Day

JULY

- 10 Men's Ministry Meeting 10:30am
- 10 Women's Ministry Meeting 8:30am
- 5 Independence Day Observed
- 14-18 Vacation Bible School (Zoom)

CELEBRATE

Celebrate is to honor or commemorate, keep and observe a certain day or person. People celebrate for different reasons. We acknowledge an occasion by festivities like Birthdays, Weddings, Anniversaries, Promotions, Graduations, Retirements, etc.

Other meanings of celebrate is to proclaim the glory of someone or something; bless; emblazon; extol; glorify; hymn; laud; magnify; praise; adore; belaud; idolize; worship; acclaim; applaud; commend; salute; cheer, eulogize and rhapsodize.

The Biblical meaning of celebrate or celebration and its derivatives are used only three times in the KJV, but the NIV uses them eighty-three times. The word "celebrate" is the translation of the Hebrew verb "Hagag" which means to prepare, keep or observe a feast or festival. The noun "Hag" indicates a feast or festival. These words are used to describe the celebration of the three main pilgrimage feasts: The Passover, the Feast of First-fruits and the Feast of the Tabernacles.

What does the Bible say about celebrate? Psalms 150:1 says to "Praise ye the LORD. Praise God in His sanctuary; praise Him in the firmament of his power." To celebrate is to come together on one accord to feast with eating, drinking, singing and playing of instruments. It is a constant reminder of what God has done for us in order to encourage religious devotion.

God should be in the center of all things. A celebration is a joyful occasion for special festivities to mark some happy or special event. Each day we worship and praise God we are celebrating Him. Exalting Him for all the things He has done for us. He first gave us life; he watches over us and protect us. God provides for us. He's our defender, our shield and our buckler. He's our doctor, our friend and our brother. What more can we ask for in our God who is a very present help in times of trouble?

(cont'd next page)

(Celebrate cont'd)

As Christians, we should practice the discipline of celebration. We need to plan for an event before we can start the celebration. The church was closed to the worshippers for over a year due to the pandemic. Re-opening the church takes planning and putting safety measures in place before the celebration begins.

We also should be practicing the discipline of dedicating everything to God. Not only special events but our daily routine of life should be dedicated to God and for His glory like our school work, our marriages, our relationships and our very eating and drinking.

Paul taught us in 1 Corinthians 10:31, *“Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God.”* Also, in Colossians 3:23, *“... And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not unto men.”*

Christians practice the Discipline of Celebration when Leaders serve joyfully. Godly leaders must lead joyfully. Proverbs 15:13 says, *“A merry heart maketh a cheerful countenance; but by sorrow of the heart the spirit is broken.”* Leaders should be cheerful people, their smile should be contagious so that it brings a smile to others. Satan goes after people in leadership positions because once they become discouraged and their smile has faded it negatively affects everyone else. Instead of bringing healing, it crushes the spirits of others.

Corporate Worship is another way of exercising the discipline of celebration. Some people tend to stay home to worship, even prior to the pandemic they would watch online services but Hebrews 10:25 tells us, *“Not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another and all the more as you see the Day approaching.”*

So, in a nutshell, Celebration is not only for partying, socializing and having fun, it is a lifestyle:

- Planning daily and special times of celebration
- Dedicating everything to God
- Leading with Joy
- Participating in Corporate Worship
- Giving thanks in everything
- Continually confessing our sins
- Claiming the Promises of God
- Investing in the house of God
- Being devoted to the Word of God.

Submitted by Hyacinth Chung
Communications Ministry
(Some material taken from Bible.Org)





HAPPY **4**th WEDDING ANNIVERSARY
PASTOR & SIS. DEBBIE BOWENS
JUNE 20, 2021

Pastor and Sis. Debbie, we are deeply touched by the love and respect that you both have for each other. Love is all about forgetting the differences and looking in the same direction. Thanks for showing our Friendship Baptist Church family what a godly marriage looks like.

Scriptures that you have lived by:

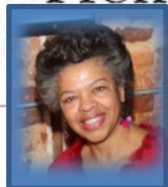
Amos 3:3 – *“Can two walk together, except they be agreed?”*

Proverbs 18:22 – *“Whoso findeth a wife findeth a God thing, and obtaineth favour of the Lord.”*

I’m sure there are others.

Congratulations, on behalf of Friendship Baptist Church family and the Sheppard’s Care Ministry – Vickie Chambers

From the Editor



Paulette Tapp

Last month on May 17th my husband, Rhoal, and I celebrated 35 years of marriage. I discovered the color for this milestone is coral and that it “takes many years to develop, and forms little by little, very much like the strength of a 35-year-old marriage.” It also “symbolizes protection, fertility, strength and longevity.”

Typically, February is the month we talk and write about love and marriage; however, I wanted to share sentiments from a couple of the beautiful anniversary cards we received in hopes it will bless your marriage, or if you are thinking about getting married, give you something to think about as marriage is not to be entered into lightly.

Marriage is a commitment and covenant agreement between a man and a woman and God. Choose wisely. Seek God with help in choosing your mate, for in marriage, there are good times and not so good times but both made a vow to stay together for the long haul, and with prayer—**lots of prayer** (not just for your spouse but for yourself), you can make it.

One card we received goes like this “*True Love is Blessed and beautiful, Giving and growing, Faith-Filled and forever.*” Sometimes marriages end in divorce, but if you choose right, you’ll be able to weather any storm.

The other card I want to share reads: “*A marriage is measured by more than just years – it’s measured by living, by laughter, and tears... by good times, contentment, and dreams that come true... and also by hard times that love brings you through.*”

A marriage is greater than simply the sum of all you’ve accomplished and how far you’ve come... it’s people whose lives you have touched in some way and values you’ve stood for and lived day by day.

A marriage is measured by lessons you’ve learned, examples you’ve set, and respect you have earned. It’s forged in the balance the two of you find in partnership, friendship, and love all combined. Happy Anniversary!”

Congratulations to you, Pastor and Sis. Debbie, on your 40th wedding anniversary! May God continue to bless you, keep you and give you many more years of love and happiness together!

SCRIPTURE OF THE MONTH: 1 Corinthians 5:8 KJV



HYMN OF PRAISE: “Glory to His Name”

Written by Elisha A. Hoffman in 1878

Lyrics

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>1. Down at the cross where my Savior died,
Down where for cleansing from sin I cried,
There to my heart was the blood applied;
Glory to His Name!</p> <p>2. I am so wondrously saved from sin,
Jesus so sweetly abides within,
There at the cross where He took me in;
Glory to His Name!</p> | <p>3. Oh, precious fountain that saves from sin,
I am so glad I have entered in;
There Jesus saves me and keeps me clean;
Glory to His Name!</p> <p>4. Come to this fountain so rich and sweet,
Cast thy poor soul at the Savior's feet;
Plunge in today, and be made complete;
Glory to His Name!</p> |
|--|--|

Refrain:

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

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

Deacon Clendon B. Wilson

*Rest
in
Peace*



*Rise in
Glory*

December 7, 1956 – June 9, 2021

Clint peacefully transitioned from this life on Wednesday June 9, 2021 at home surrounded by his loving family.

Clint leaves to cherish his memories; wife Sharon Denise of 37 years; three sons, Clendon (CJ), Morgan (Ashline), and Brandon (America); three grandsons, Tristan, Ethan and Noah; loving mother, Bettie Mae; his nine siblings, Zenora, Leslie Earl (Jackie), Judy, Jarnice, Larry (Sandra), Alvino (Vanessa Dale), LaVern, Gordon Jr. (Vanessa) and Anthony (Shirley); brother-in-law, John Jackson III (Sherri); and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, other relatives and friends.



Reflections of Life

Deacon Clendon (Clint) Bernard Wilson, Sr. was born December 7, 1956 in Reidsville, NC to Gordon Wilson (late) and Bettie Mae Wilson. He was the ninth child of ten children. Clint graduated from Reidsville High School in 1975 and received a Bachelors of Business Administration at North Carolina Central University (NCCU). It was at NCCU that Clint became a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.

Clint met the love of his life, Sharon Denise Jackson in Allentown, PA and they united in Holy matrimony on September 21, 1985. To their union are three sons Clendon Bernard Wilson, Jr (CJ), Morgan Bowman Wilson and Brandon Maurice Wilson.

Clint accepted the Lord as his personal Savior early in life and was a member of Greater Galilee Pentecostal Holiness Church in Reidsville, NC. Later he was a faithful member of Friendship Baptist Church in Duluth, GA serving in the Deacon Ministry over the Mother Board, Music and Drama Ministries, and the Male Choir. Clint was a gifted musician and loaned his gift of playing the keyboard to the church. Clint's favorite book was the Bible.

Clint's favorite past time activities included playing golf, traveling, watching football and calligraphy. He enjoyed being a role model and was revered by the community as a father figure to many youths throughout the years.

OUTREACH MINISTRY

Diana McGhee, Ministry Leader



FBC Outreach Ministry

is here to **HELP** during these
challenging times!

Drive through

on

Fridays

3:00pm-4:00pm

and

Saturdays

11:30am-12:30pm

to get **FREE** groceries

(Meat, Produce, Dairy & More)

FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED !!!



Friendship Baptist Church ~ 3375 Church Lane ~ Duluth, GA 30096

Phone ~ 770-497-8227 ~ Email ~ friendshipduluth@att.net

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



June is PTSD Awareness Month

June is Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) **Awareness Month**. ... **PTSD** is an anxiety disorder that some people develop after seeing or living through an event that caused or threatened serious harm or death.

There are currently about 8 million people in the United States with PTSD.

PTSD is an anxiety disorder that some people develop after seeing or living through an event that caused or threatened serious harm or death. PTSD may result in sleep problems, irritability, anger, recurrent dreams about the trauma, intense reactions to reminders of the trauma, disturbances in relationships, and isolation. Some people may recover a few months after the event, but for others it may take years. For some, PTSD may begin long after the events occur. However, PTSD can be treated.

Even though PTSD treatments work, most people who have PTSD don't get the help they need. Everyone with PTSD—whether they are Veterans or civilian survivors of sexual assault, serious accidents, natural disasters, or other traumatic events—needs to know that treatments really do work and can lead to a better quality of life.

The main treatments for people with PTSD are specific short-term psychotherapies. Everyone is different, so a treatment that works for one person may not work for another. Some people may need to try different treatments to find what works best for their symptoms. Regardless of which option you chose, it is important to seek treatment from a mental health professional who is experienced with PTSD.

Source for more information: ptsd.va.gov

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



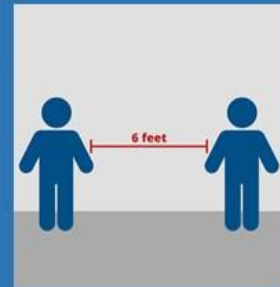
STAY AT HOME
AS MUCH AS
POSSIBLE



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



COVID-19 VACCINE INFORMATION

Make an appointment

By phone

@ 800-456-0186

Online

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

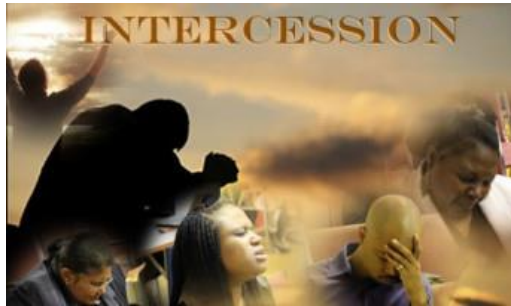
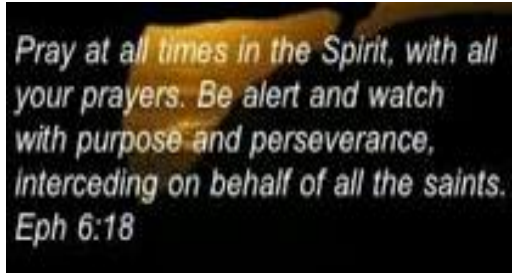
Walk-Up (Limited Availability)

@ Gwinnett Place Mall Mon-Sat, 9a-6p

@ GA Piedmont Technical College Newton Campus Mon-Wed, 9a-6p

@ Springfield Baptist Church Thu-Sat, 9a-6p

Prayer List



REMEMBER THE SICK AND SHUT-IN WITH PRAYER AND CALLS

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

Prayer changes things.



2021 NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

Duluth Town Green Festival Center Stage
 May 6, 2021 @ 12:00pm

Perimeter Church presented National Day of Prayer on Thursday, May 6, at noon at the Duluth Town Green. Local pastors, civic leaders and others led in prayer times for the city and nation. Prayer emphasis was: the sanctity of life, education, first responders, reconciliation, families, the persecuted, government officials, refugees and local churches.

Our Pastor Bowens was invited to participate in this effort. He was charged with praying for our governmental officials. Pastor said “the prayers of the righteous availeth much and the Bible says we



have not because we ask not.” He asked God’s blessing upon our governmental officials. He further stated “to be in leadership is not an easy task especially if you are in the government.” He then prayed and asked God’s wisdom and protection over them as they lead the people.



Pastor with the Mayor of Duluth and another pastor



Pictures taken by Louie Malone, Communications Ministry

MEN'S MINISTRY

Marvin Whitfield, Ministry President



HAPPY FATHER'S DAY!

The Men's Ministry June meeting celebrated Father's Day. The theme was "Godly Men Who Make a Difference!" The verse for June's meeting was 2 Corinthians 6:18 *"And I will be a father to you, and you shall be sons and daughters to me, says the Lord Almighty."*

The meeting was opened with a prayer by the Men's Ministry Chaplain and followed by scripture. The Secretary updated the group with old and new business. The Treasurer gave the monthly budget update. The inspirational message was delivered by the Men's Ministry Chaplain.

The presentation for the June meeting was "COMMON SENSE: A Simple Plan for Financial Independence" which included 10 principles for financial literacy.

The group discussion was on Father's Day, its meaning and the influence of Fathers.

The meeting wrapped up with announcements (Birthdays and Anniversaries) and closing prayer by the Ministry Chaplain.

Men's Ministry Leadership

President – Marvin Whitfield

Vice President - Ryan Dendy

Treasurer – Dale Hill

Secretary – Dallis Hairston

Asst. Secretary/Correspondence – Rickie Bowens

Chaplain - Minister Jimmy Redman

**JOIN US FOR OUR MONTHLY ZOOM
MEETING EVERY 1ST SATURDAY AT 10:30 AM
AT THE FOLLOWING LINK:**



<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86809041871?pwd=YkdXWDFoREs1YzZbDBIL3RHRTI4UT09>

The next meeting is scheduled for **July 10th** following the 4th of July.

For more information, contact: Bro. Marvin Whitfield @ 678-896-3918.



FATHERHOOD

Written by Deacon Thomas Young, Jr.

Fatherhood Beginning

1964: Christopher, the first of three children of Thomas and Venda Young, entered this world and subject, purpose, and responsibility of Fatherhood began its first level of importance in the life of Thomas Young, Jr.

1967: Denette, our only daughter, made her entrance into the life of Venda's and mine and Fatherhood added a new responsibility because the care of a daughter was indeed a new and different challenge. Early on I realized I could not just ignore the cries of my daughter as I might have done with my son. Certainly, a daughter's cries must be heard with more urgency than a son's cries.

1973: Michael, our youngest, made his arrival, with me now into my ninth year of Fatherhood. Unknown to me at the time, with this now being a literal decade later into Fatherhood, social well-being and ways of life had changed— leaving me with brand new Fatherhood trials.

1973 continuing: Now well into my ninth year of Fatherhood, I thought I had it all under control. I was working every day with a good job, providing all the material wishes and needs of each child and our household upon request. We were then into our fourth year of our family home purchased in 1967 for 19,000, now hard-to-believe, dollars in comparison to today's prices! What a wonderful father I thought of myself with only nine years of experience. Then one Sunday morning, I overheard our eldest, Christopher, tell his mom he wanted to stay home and watch football on television with me instead of going to church with her.

At the time, I thought, I regularly attended church sometimes – during football off-season. My head dropped because I had always proclaimed that I wanted to be the best example for my children. Now, here my eldest wanted to follow my exposed example of ignoring church worship service to stay home and watch football instead.

"And a child shall lead the way!" Isaiah 11:6 speaks of a child's ability to lead the way of a wolf, leopard, and a young lion! Now my eldest son at the age of nine years began leading me with just a few words shared with his mom.



1977 - 6th Family Anniversary

In no way did I become saved overnight because of this new beginning, but it did open my mind into the understanding of an example being good or bad. I also began to remember how much as a child I used to watch adults, especially when they weren't looking at me. Some good examples seen, as well as many seemingly less than good ones. "One picture indeed is worth a thousand words!"

Ephesians 5:28-29: *"In the same way husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ does the church."*

God created man and woman to allow not just the birth of a child, but I believe, to provide both aspects of parenthood to enhance the life of the child from both visions.

(Fatherhood cont'd)

My parents divorced when I was a young child, and for years, I held my father to blame even without any known reasons, but simply because he wasn't physically there for me every day during my adolescence. Looking back at the time, I realized "Fatherhood" was not readily apparent among many of my neighborhood community. Mothers were always there, but father figures, seemingly occasional, if at all.

As such, I knew early on that I wanted to be present as the best example for my children. Under God's direction, my eldest literally, and unknowingly, opened the door for me into church worship service. With this, I really began fulfillment of my life-long promised example for my children. My, at the time, mis-purposed church attendance, subsequently, began to evolve even without my full knowledge or understanding. I didn't realize my spiritual growth seeds had been planted and began to develop roots as I continued being an example by doing what was expected of me, but not necessarily what I may have desired.

My roots began to expand as my two eldest children also began to become involved with the church's children's participation service programs and choirs. My pastor apparently saw in me what I could not see, and I believe purposefully extended opportunities for my spiritual growth in the church.

Fatherhood became more than just providing desired toys or other desires, but now becoming the pictured example I had pledged even before my Fatherhood actually began. Before long, I actually began to enjoy church and looked forward to becoming involved spiritually and physically for each worship service.

God, the Father of Jesus as well as the Father of all, began to be more important to me. I recognized Him as the perfect example of Fatherhood even while knowing I could never equal His level. I had to do all I could to be the physical and spiritual example of Fatherhood for my children to help establish the foundational roots, especially for my two sons and their eventual Fatherhood.

1993: Twenty-nine years of Fatherhood to year one of Grandfatherhood. Arielle Bulls, our first grandchild, our only granddaughter and the daughter of our only daughter, was born in the state of Virginia. Needless to say, my wife and I eagerly traveled from our Indiana home to Virginia for her expected birth.

1993 continued: Just one month after our first grandchild's birth, the birth of Christian Young, our second grandchild, began the seeming competition of the two that is now into its 28th year! Born a month later after Arielle, his eldest cousin, Christian seemingly has been striving to overtake his cousin's family seniority status. This includes his once stated declaration at the age of seven years that his parents changed his date of birth for no explained reason which then allowed his cousin Arielle to be the eldest grandchild.

2000: Year 36 of Fatherhood and year seven of Grandfatherhood came the birth of Bryce Bulls, our third grandchild, seemingly began a new competition this time between our daughter and her younger brother who was also expecting his soon to be first-born child.

2001: Now in my eighth year of Grandfatherhood, anticipating the birth of Michael Young Jr., our fourth grandchild, and the first of our youngest child! On the road once again shortly after Michael's birth, back to the state of Virginia.

2002: During my approximate sixth year of servitude as a deacon at Goodwill Baptist Church of East Chicago, IN, I was blessed with the opportunity to personally baptize my eldest grandson Christian due to our pastor's current illness.

2004: As a deacon in our home church of Goodwill Baptist, I was again blessed with the unusual. This time I was part of a New Deacon's Ministry Ordainment study and ceremony that included our eldest son, Christopher. First, he watched me baptize his son, then his son watched as I helped with his dad's ordainment.

(Fatherhood cont'd)

Malachi 4:6: "He will turn the hearts of the fathers to their children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers."

Looking back even today, 17 years later, I don't know of many who have lived the just stated two examples of Fatherhood that I was blessed with.

2007: Now the 14th year of my Grandfatherhood living experience. The birth of our fifth grandchild, Isaiah Young, son of our youngest son Michael. I truly believe he was so named because of his father's beginning deep involvement in worship services and bible study at his family's church home.



2014 - 50 Year Family Anniversary

Proverbs 22:6: "Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old, they will not turn from it."

Venda and I were blessed with our 50th year wedding anniversary celebration just eight years after our retirement relocation to the Atlanta area. With our God-approved planning, we were blessed to have our three children, their respective spouses, and all five of our grandchildren present for the ceremony and events. Never, over our entire 50 years of marriage did we have the God blessed occasion of all 13 of us being together in one location.

2021: An 80th year birthday celebration for Venda, my wife of 57 years, orchestrated by our daughter with all the plans and guidelines for her two brothers including the elder, as well as myself without any objections.

As with most, my Fatherhood was not a life of perfection, nor total happiness. Our eldest son Christopher's wife passed away suddenly in 2018 during their 29th year of marriage. Our daughter is now in her 31st year of matrimony, and Michael, our youngest in his 23rd year.

My Fatherhood of now two generations appears to have founded fruit-bearing and God-filled spiritual growth.

FATHERHOOD or DADDYHOOD—My Father's Day, Every Day!



Happy Father's Day!



7 Traits of a Strong Father

Learn the traits that make a man a dad.

By Wesley Baines, Beliefnet.com



Many things go into the making of a good father, but there are a few traits that stand out above the rest. These are the aspects of a man's personality that allow him to make a positive difference in his child's life, to be a pillar of support, love, and guidance, and to have the fortitude to not grudgingly endure fatherhood, but to love and commit to every moment of it.

Unfortunately, good fathers are a thing we lack right now. Too many men have warped ideas of what it means to be a father, and abandon their families when they feel they can't live up to the title—according to the U.S. Census Bureau, 24 million American children live without their biological father in their home. That's 1 out of 3 kids. And according to the National Fatherhood Initiative, those kids have four times the risk of poverty, when compared to homes where fathers remain. They're more likely to have behavioral problems. They're more likely to drop out of school. They suffer.

We need strong fathers. So, whether you're dating and would like to learn how to spot men with the potential to be a great father, or if you're a man who desires to cultivate those traits within yourself, take a look at these 7 traits of a strong father, and learn what it means to truly take on the role of dad.

Patience

For a father, patience is essential. A father will inevitably face challenges from his relationship, from his children, and even from himself. He will be tested. He will have to do things both noble and lowly. And he must be able to endure it all without giving up.



The truth is that fatherhood isn't always fun. In fact, it's downright difficult. Children constantly test boundaries from the time they can say "No," to the time they move out. Partners disagree with major life choices or make their own mistakes.

But what breaks fathers more than anything is a lack of patience with the self. Many men place the title of "father" on a pedestal, leaving no room for their own humanity. They feel unworthy to be dad. This is because of any number of reasons—they feel they don't earn enough, that they're inadequate, that they're not perfect enough. Whatever the reason, the result is often the same—fathers with a lack of patience pull away, abandoning their families. But fathers who practice patience have staying power, and don't waver when things get hard. This is one attribute dads can't do without.

He's Moral

The second attribute that all fathers need is a deeply grounded sense of morality. This simply means that his decisions are rooted in something greater than himself—he looks to something higher. He's selfless. He's righteous. He knows the difference between good and evil, and can deftly navigate the shades of gray between them.



This sense of morality is what will guide him when temptation arises—when another woman's eyes linger on him a little too long, when money is short and his workplace credit card is burning a hole in his pocket, when his child makes him angry enough to lash out. The moral man will know what to do in each of these situations—there will be no doubt as to which is the correct path.

Temptation will always be there. We're only human, after all. But having a strong moral compass that does not bend or break helps make a man the best father he can be.

(Traits of a Strong Father cont'd)

He's Open-Minded



An open-minded man makes for a thriving family. Some men have the wrong idea of what fatherhood really is. They think it's about control. They think it's about power or dominance or strength. They think it's about imposing upon their family their own single-minded vision of what should and should not be. They are wrong.

The open-minded man accepts that his family members are a diverse bunch, and admire the differences between them. He is teachable, and rather than rejecting what is different in his family, he happily learns from them.

This means, for example, that when his child chooses a liberal arts education over the military, or vice-versa, he's happy for him or her, despite his own preferences. This means that when his wife decides she wants to begin her career, he encourages her to follow her dream, even if he wants to be the sole breadwinner.

This doesn't mean that he isn't rational that he makes poor leadership decisions. This simply means that he is open to the new, to the different, to possibility.

An open-minded father allows his family a safe place in which they can explore their own dreams, desires, and personalities, and in which they can fully be themselves. This trait makes for a wonderfully happy home.

He's Loving



Ask people everywhere what they wish their fathers had done better, and you'll likely hear this. "I wish he had shown his love more often." The lack of emotional intelligence—also known as EQ—in many men is a problem. Although this has been improving in recent years, the harsh lessons of conventional masculinity teach men to, at best, hide the highs and lows of their emotions, or at worst, transmute it into anger. But for fathers, consistently showing affection and love are vital. Emotional honesty and intimacy are rare treasures in a dad, both for his children and his partner.

Looking at data from the U.S. Census Bureau, children who have loving, expressive, involved fathers are much likelier to do well in school, develop empathy, and avoid risky behaviors. And what's more, these children are simply happier. They feel safe. They feel unconditionally loved. That's important.

The spouse of a loving father also receives these benefits, and marriages thrive when both partners are able to express their love for one another. It's obvious that being unabashedly and openly loving is a prime trait of a good father.

He's Loyal



Loyalty is the trait that keeps families together in the hardest of times. A loyal father is one that can be trusted to be there today, tomorrow, and forever. This is about the ability to commit. A step forward from mere patience, loyalty is the ability to consistently stick by your choices, no matter the cost. And when a man makes the choice to become a father, a strong sense of loyalty becomes vital. This doesn't just mean a father physically stays with his family. Loyalty means much more than that.

It means standing up for your family when others attack them or when life events lay them low. It means being there for them—keeping your commitment to ensuring the welfare of your children and spouses. And it means being consistent in all of these things.

(Traits of a Strong Father cont'd)

Loyal fathers don't place work or recreation or friendships above their families. They put family first, and the result is a strong household that will not break beneath even the most violent of storms.

He's Honest

Honesty is hard to come by in anyone, but to be a good father, this trait is a must. Relationships are built on trust. This includes the relationship between father and spouse, as well as that between father and child. Honesty creates a sense of safety—when everyone can trust that dad's word is his bond, they know that they can go to him for anything, and that they can trust him to do what he says he will do.



Dishonesty is the bane of closeness—you cannot develop an intimate relationship with someone who misrepresents themselves. And so, honesty in all things encourages strong familial bonds.

Honesty isn't just about telling the truth. It's also about keeping promises. If you say you're going to be at your son's recital, be there. If you promise your spouse a date night on Thursday evening, make it happen. This lets a father's family know that they can depend on him for anything, making honesty an extremely valuable trait.

He Leads by Example

Last of all, one of the most-needed traits of any parent is the ability to lead by example. The father is the co-leader of the family unit, and is often considered the head of the house. What he does, and what he shows to be permissible through his own choices, everyone else will do. That's why it's vitally important that fathers lead by example.



This means putting into action all of the traits on this list. It means being loving, honest, loyal, open-minded, moral, and patient. No one can be perfect, but if a father is able to visibly act in these ways, he'll plant the seeds of these traits in his children, and they'll one day do the same with their own kids.

Leading by example provides what every good father should be—a role model. The world is built on nations, nations are built on communities, communities are built on families, and families take their cues from the strong role models within their ranks. This means that if a father consistently makes harmful choices, his children may take the same path, and through them, will negatively affect the world.

But if fathers begin making the right choices, and if they begin modeling good behavior and the wonderful effects this creates, he puts goodness out into the world.

And what's more, his family will be happier and more stable beneath his guidance.

2 Corinthians 6:18 - "And I will be a father to you, and you shall be sons and daughters to me, says the Lord Almighty."

1 Thessalonians 2:11-12 - "For you know that we dealt with each of you as a father deals with his own children, encouraging, comforting and urging you to live lives worthy of God, who calls you into his kingdom and glory."

What Is Juneteenth?

by [Henry Louis Gates, Jr.](#) | Originally posted on [The Root](#)

The First Juneteenth



“The people of Texas are informed that, in accordance with a proclamation from the Executive of the United States, all slaves are free. This involves an absolute equality of personal rights and rights of property between former masters and slaves, and the connection heretofore existing between them becomes that between employer and hired labor. The freedmen are advised to remain quietly at their present homes and work for wages. They are informed that they will not be allowed to collect at military posts and that they will not be supported in idleness either there or elsewhere.” —[General Orders, Number 3](#); Headquarters District of Texas, Galveston, June 19, 1865. When Maj. Gen. Gordon Granger issued the order, he had no idea that, in establishing the Union Army’s authority over the people of Texas, he was also establishing the basis for a holiday, “Juneteenth” (“June” plus “nineteenth”), today the most popular annual celebration of emancipation from slavery in the United States. After all, by the time Granger assumed command of the Department of Texas, the Confederate capital in Richmond had fallen; the “Executive” to whom he referred, President Lincoln, was dead; and the 13th Amendment abolishing slavery was well on its way to ratification.

But Granger wasn’t just a few months late. The Emancipation Proclamation itself, ending slavery in the Confederacy (at least on paper), had taken effect two-and-a-half years before, and in the interim, close to 200,000 black men had enlisted in the fight. So, formalities aside, wasn’t it all over, literally, but the shouting? It would be easy to think so in our world of immediate communication, but as Granger and the 1,800 bluecoats under him soon found out, news traveled slowly in Texas. Whatever Gen. Robert E. Lee had surrendered in Virginia, the Army of the Trans-Mississippi had held out until late May, and even with its formal surrender on June 2, a number of ex-rebels in the region took to bushwhacking and plunder.

That’s not all that plagued the extreme western edge of the former Confederate states. Since the capture of New Orleans in 1862, slave owners in Mississippi, Louisiana and other points east had been migrating to Texas to escape the Union Army’s reach. In a hurried re-enactment of the original Middle Passage, more than 150,000 slaves had made the trek west, according to historian Leon Litwack in his book *Been in the Storm So Long: The Aftermath of Slavery*. As one former slave he quotes recalled, “It looked like everybody in the world was going to Texas.” When Texas fell and Granger dispatched his now famous order No. 3, it wasn’t exactly instant magic for most of the Lone Star State’s 250,000 slaves. On plantations, masters had to decide when and how to announce the news — or wait for a government agent to arrive — and it was not uncommon for them to delay until after the harvest. Even in Galveston city, the ex-Confederate mayor flouted the Army by forcing the freed people back to work, as historian Elizabeth Hayes Turner details in her comprehensive essay, “Juneteenth: Emancipation and Memory,” in *Lone Star Past: Memory and History in Texas*.

Those who acted on the news did so at their peril. As quoted in Litwack’s book, former slave Susan Merritt recalled, “You could see lots of niggers hangin’ to trees in Sabine bottom right after freedom, ’cause they cotch ’em swimmin’ ’cross Sabine River and shoot ’em.” In one extreme case, according to Hayes Turner, a former slave named Katie Darling continued working for her mistress another six years (She “whip me after the war jist like she did ‘fore,” Darling said).

Hardly the recipe for a celebration — which is what makes the story of Juneteenth all the more remarkable. Defying confusion and delay, terror and violence, the newly “freed” black men and women of Texas, with the aid of the Freedmen’s Bureau (itself delayed from arriving until September 1865), now had a date to rally around. In one of the most inspiring grassroots efforts of the post-Civil War period, they transformed June 19 from a day of unheeded military orders into their own annual rite, “Juneteenth,” beginning one year later in 1866.

“The way it was explained to me,” one heir to the tradition is quoted in Hayes Turner’s essay, “the 19th of June wasn’t the exact day the Negro was freed. But that’s the day they told them that they was free ... And my daddy told

(Juneteenth cont'd)

me that they whooped and hollered and bored holes in trees with augers and stopped it up with [gun] powder and light and that would be their blast for the celebration.' ”

Other Contenders

There were other available anniversaries for celebrating emancipation, to be sure, including the following:

- Sept. 22: the day Lincoln issued his preliminary Emancipation Proclamation Order in 1862
- Jan. 1: the day it took effect in 1863
- Jan. 31: the date the 13th Amendment passed Congress in 1865, officially abolishing the institution of slavery
- Dec. 6: the day the 13th Amendment was ratified that year
- April 3: the day Richmond, VA, fell
- April 9: the day Lee surrendered to Ulysses Grant at Appomattox, VA.
- April 16: the day slavery was abolished in the nation's capital in 1862
- May 1: Decoration Day, which, as David Blight movingly recounts in *Race and Reunion: The Civil War in American Memory*, the former slaves of Charleston, S.C., founded by giving the Union war dead a proper burial at the site of the fallen planter elite's Race Course
- July 4: America's first Independence Day, some “four score and seven years” before President Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation

Each of these anniversaries has its celebrants today. Each has also had its share of conflicts and confusion. July 4 is compelling, of course, but it was also problematic for many African Americans, since the country's founders had given in on slavery and their descendants had expanded it through a series of failed “compromises,” at the nadir of which Frederick Douglass had made his own famous declaration to the people of Rochester, N.Y., on July 5, 1852: “What, to the American slave, is your 4th of July? I answer; a day that reveals to him, more than all other days in the year, the gross injustice and cruelty to which he is the constant victim. To him, your celebration is a sham; your boasted liberty, an unholy license; your national greatness, swelling vanity.”

The most logical candidate for commemoration of the slave's freedom was Jan. 1. In fact, the minute Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation had taken effect at the midpoint of the war, Northern black leaders like Douglass led massive celebrations in midnight jubilees; and on its 20th anniversary in 1883, they gathered again in Washington, D.C., to honor Douglass for all that he and his compatriots had achieved.

Yet even the original Emancipation Day had its drawbacks — not only because it coincided with New Year's Day and the initiation dates of numerous other laws, but also because the underlying proclamation, while of enormous symbolic significance, didn't free all the slaves, only those in the Confederate states in areas liberated by Union troops, and not those in the border states in which slavery remained legal until the ratification of the 13th Amendment. (Historians estimate that about 500,000 slaves — out of a total of 3.9 million — liberated themselves by escaping to Union lines between 1863 and the end of the war; the rest remained in slavery.)

Because of its partial effects, some scholars argue that perhaps the most significant aspect of the Emancipation Proclamation was the authorization of black men to fight in the war, both because their service proved to be crucial to the North's war effort, and because it would be cited as irrefutable proof of the right of blacks to citizenship (which would be granted by the 14th Amendment).

No one in the post-Civil War generation could deny that something fundamental had changed as a result of Lincoln's war measure, but dwelling on it was a separate matter, David Blight explains. Among those in the ‘It's time to move on’ camp were Episcopal priest and scholar Alexander Crummell, who, in a May 1885 address to the graduates of Storer College, said, “What I would fain have you guard against is not the memory of slavery, but the constant recollection of it, as the commanding thought of a new people.” On the other side was Douglass, who insisted on lighting a perpetual flame to “the causes, the incidents, and the results of the late rebellion.” After all, he

(Juneteenth cont'd)

liked to say, the legacy of black people in America could “be traced like that of a wounded man through a crowd by the blood.”

Hard as Douglass tried to make emancipation matter every day, Jan. 1 continued to be exalted — and increasingly weighed down by the betrayal of Reconstruction. (As detailed in Plessy v. Ferguson: Who Was Plessy?, the Supreme Court’s gift to the 20th anniversary of emancipation was striking down the Civil Rights Act of 1875.) W.E.B. Du Bois used this to biting effect in his Swiftian short story, “A Mild Suggestion” (1912), in which he had his black main character provide a final solution to Jim Crow America’s obsession with racial purity: On the next Jan. 1 (“for historical reasons” it would “probably be best,” he explained), all blacks should either be invited to dine with whites and poisoned or gathered in large assemblies to be stabbed and shot. “The next morning there would be ten million funerals,” Du Bois’ protagonist predicted, “and therefore no Negro problem.”

Juneteenth Endures

While national black leaders continued to debate the importance of remembering other milestone anniversaries, the freed people of Texas went about the business of celebrating their local version of Emancipation Day. For them, Juneteenth was, from its earliest incarnations, as Hayes Turner and others have recorded, a past that was “usable” as an occasion for gathering lost family members, measuring progress against freedom and inculcating rising generations with the values of self-improvement and racial uplift. This was accomplished through readings of the Emancipation Proclamation, religious sermons and spirituals, the preservation of slave food delicacies (always at the center: the almighty barbecue pit), as well as the incorporation of new games and traditions, from baseball to rodeos and, later, stock car races and overhead flights.

Like a boxer sparring with his rival, year after year Juneteenth was strengthened by the contest its committee members had to wage against the Jim Crow faithful of Texas, who, in the years following Reconstruction, rallied around their version of history in an effort to glorify (and whitewash) past cruelties and defeats. When whites forbade blacks from using their public spaces, black people gathered near rivers and lakes and eventually raised enough money to buy their own celebration sites, among them Emancipation Park in Houston and Booker T. Washington Park in Mexia.



Texas Juneteenth Day Celebration, 1900 (Austin History Center, Austin Public Library)



Signs of the Season: Summer 2021

Summer of 2021 begins on Sunday, June 20th and ends Wednesday, September 22nd.

Glory to God the Father! The pandemic shows to be slowing and restrictions on travel and outdoor gatherings are slowly lifting (please continue to be safe and practice social distancing protocols where appropriate.)

Friendship Baptist Church will reopen this Summer on June 6th, the first Sunday in June! In-person worship is limited to one hundred (100) congregants, also reservations and registration are required. Isn't God Good? Every good and perfect gift comes from Him. There are no mistakes with God. God tells us in **Ecclesiastes 3:1**, *"To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven."* There are still lots of ways to enjoy this summer season while maintaining precautions and staying close to home:

Consider nature walks in the cool of the day (after all, this is where Adam and Eve heard the voice of the Lord – **Genesis 3:8**), backyard barbeques (my favorite), host virtual movie nights (movie viewers vote on which movie to watch, make sure everyone dresses in pajamas, and enjoy the movie together), bike rides in the park, or take a free online museum tour¹. How about having a scavenger hunt in the backyard or the kids or adults can join a virtual Meetup Group.

Children and adults can enjoy the following Bible crossword puzzles for some fun entertainment.

Psalms 74:17 *"It was you who set all the boundaries of the earth; you made both summer and winter."*

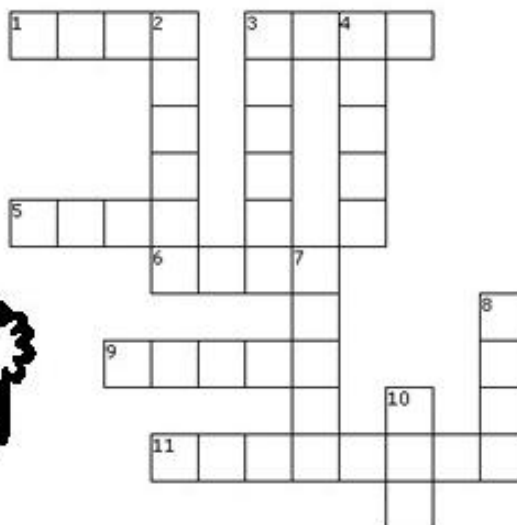
Submitted by Christine Smith
Communications Ministry



¹ Many national and worldwide museums are [offering virtual tours free of charge](#). You'll be able to see nearly any exhibit you'd like from your own screen at home.

The Good Shepherd

John 10:11-18 (NIV)



ACROSS

1. Wild animal that looks like a dog and hunts in packs
3. The period from birth to death
5. A strong feeling of affection
6. Goes faster than walking
9. What we use to speak
11. One who takes care of the sheep

DOWN

2. The male parent
3. To hear or pay attention to something
4. A group of sheep herded together
7. Woolly animals which are similar to goats
8. The opposite of bad
10. A small place where animals are kept

Words Used

good	sheep	runs	listen
shepherd	wolf	father	pen
life	flock	voice	love

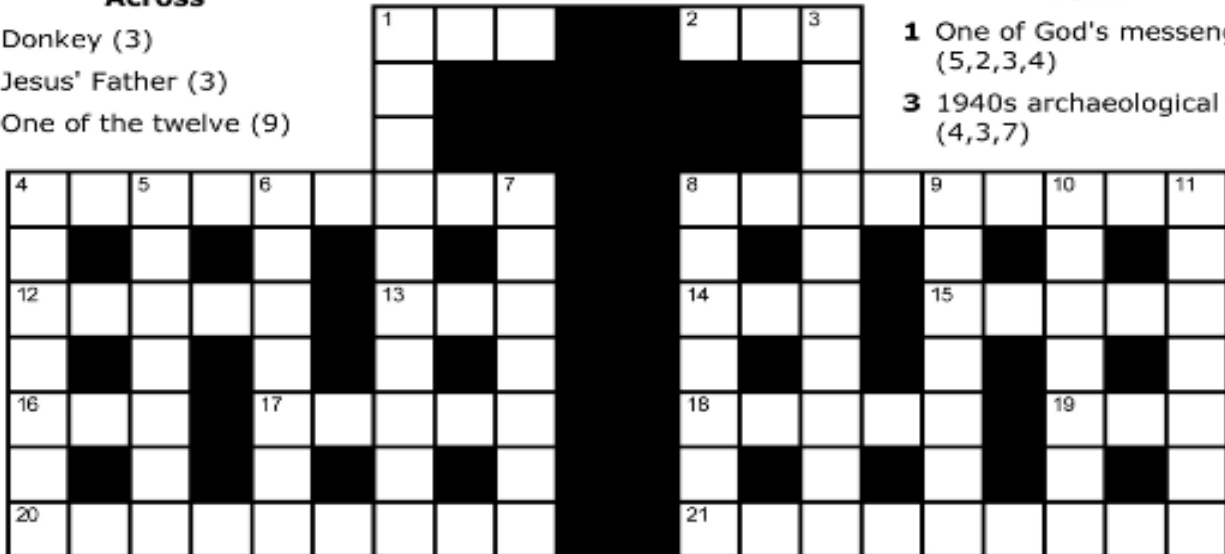
Bible Crossword X

Across

- 1 Donkey (3)
- 2 Jesus' Father (3)
- 4 One of the twelve (9)

Down

- 1 One of God's messengers (5,2,3,4)
- 3 1940s archaeological find (4,3,7)



- 8 Didn't believe in resurrection (9)
- 12 One of David's warriors (5)
- 13 First word of the Lord's Prayer (3)
- 14 New Testament name for Noah (3)
- 15 Wish harm upon (5)
- 16 Hole in the ground (3)
- 17 Adversary (5)
- 18 Saviour (5)
- 19 First woman (3)
- 20 Mother of John the Baptist (9)
- 21 Family of priests (9)
- 22 Third son of Jacob (4)
- 23 Hates (8)
- 26 Assurances (8)
- 30 Endured pain (8)
- 31 Return from the dead (4)
- 32 Intercessor (8)
- 35 Decorating (8)
- 39 Old Testament book of the Bible (4)
- 40 The prince of Rosh, Mesech and Tubal (3)
- 42 A wise insect (3)
- 44 Dwelling place of kings (6)
- 45 Make bigger (8)

- 4 Tread down (7)
- 5 Father of Jonah (7)
- 6 Very salty water bordering Israel (4,3)
- 7 Defensive structures (11)
- 8 Refuges (11)
- 9 Dirty (7)
- 10 Devout (7)
- 11 Pieces of money (7)
- 24 Used to listen (3)
- 25 Used to see (3)
- 26 Positions (5)
- 27 Made available (7)
- 28 Snake (7)
- 29 Destroyed along with Gomorrah (5)
- 33 Finish (3)
- 34 Possess (3)
- 35 King of the Amalekites (4)
- 36 Last letter of the Greek alphabet (5)
- 37 Almost sacrificed by Abraham (5)
- 38 Present (4)
- 41 Unfasten (4)
- 43 Fish traps (4)

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*



HAPPY FATHER'S DAY

MAY THE LORD BLESS YOU
AND PROTECT YOU.
MAY THE LORD SMILE ON YOU
AND BE GRACIOUS TO YOU.
MAY THE LORD SHOW YOU HIS FAVOR
AND GIVE YOU HIS PEACE.

NUMBERS 6:24-26

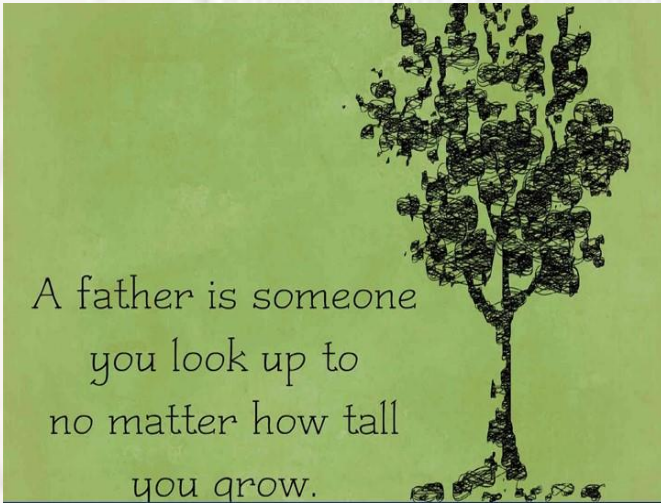


I have a Hero
I call him Dad.

Fathers Day Quotes From Son

I will continue to represent you and my mom as best as I can for as long as God gives me the breath and strength to do so. HAPPY FATHER'S DAY to my revolutionary dad who through a movement changed people and systems.
Bernice King – June 21, 2020

(Black History cont'd)



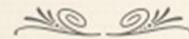
A father is someone
 you look up to
 no matter how tall
 you grow.



"He was just a young man who gave all that he possibly
 could," said Ilyasah Shabazz
 Feb. 21, 2015



Benjamin O Davis Sr and
 Benjamin O Davis Jr.



*I chose him because seemed interesting to
 me and he was a huge inspiration and
 role model to what was right and wrong
 and how hard you try you can always
 accomplish your dreams if you really try.*

(Black History cont'd)

Duke and Mercer Ellington



"Over the years, we'd had so many arguments," said Mercer, recalling his father's domineering pride. "But the only time you feel at a loss is when you don't have anything to fight, and one of the things that made me feel so lost was that when Pop passed away, I was left without an argument. My thought of what to do never really went past him. He was supposed to last forever."



Former President Obama

MORE FAMOUS

FATHERS



Former NBA star
Dwyane Wade



Actor Idris Elba



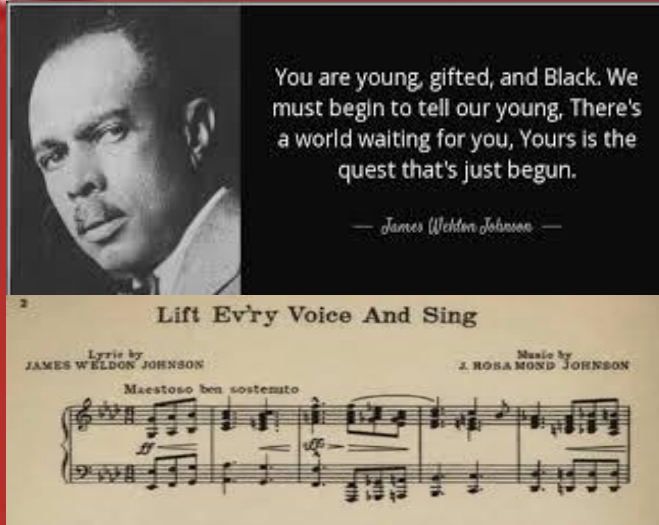
NBA star LeBron James



NBA MVP Stephen Curry



Actor Denzel Washington



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

— James Weldon Johnson —

Lift Ev'ry Voice And Sing

Lyrics by JAMES WELDON JOHNSON Music by I. ROSAMOND JOHNSON

Maestoso ben sostenuto

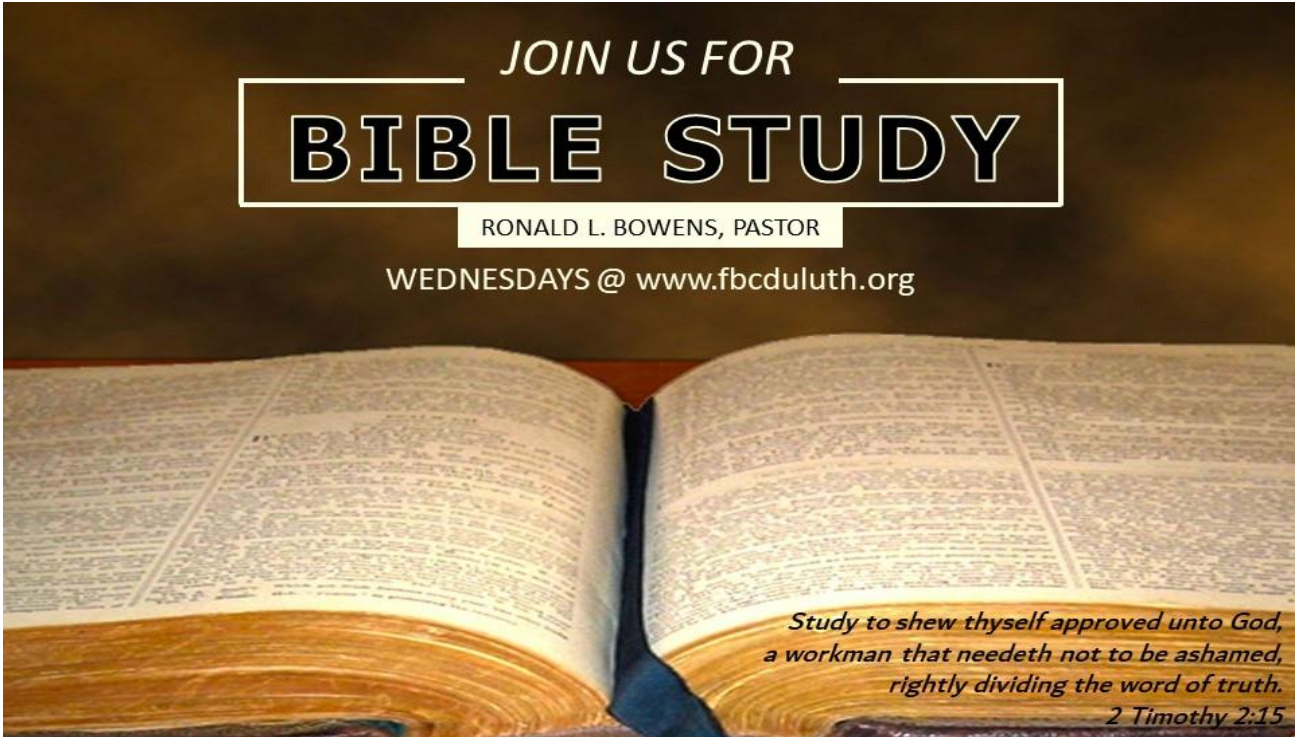
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National Black Anthem

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.



JOIN US FOR

BIBLE STUDY

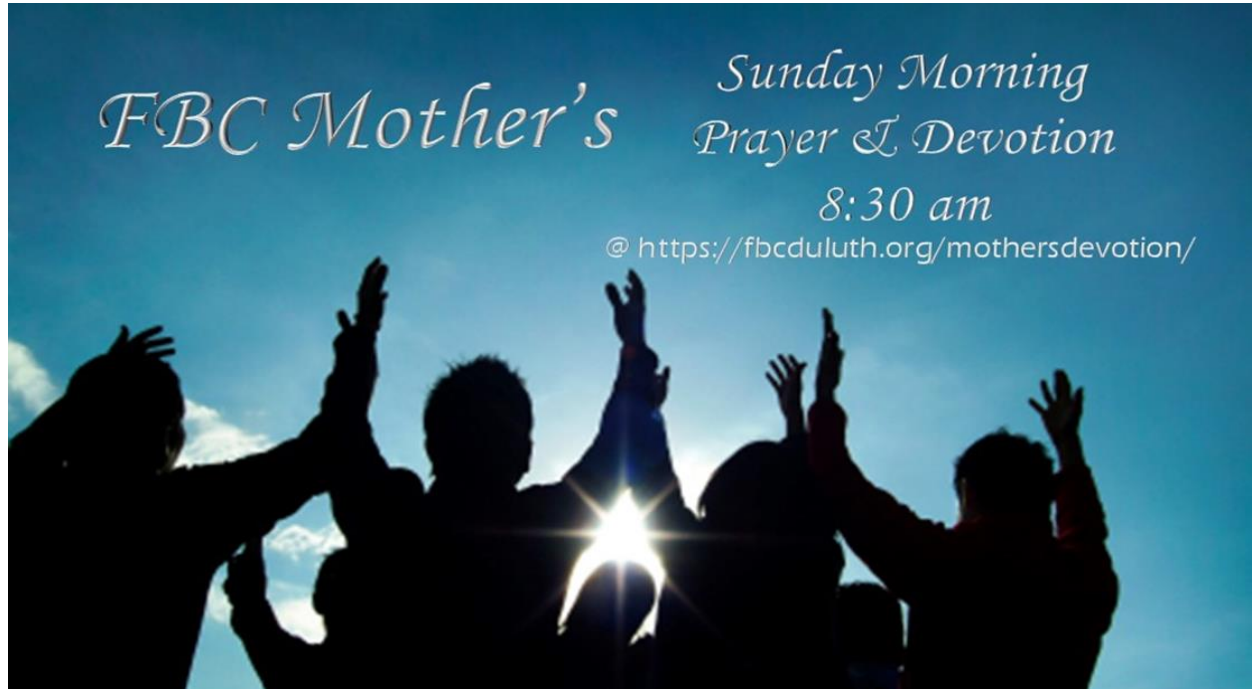
RONALD L. BOWENS, PASTOR

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*

Inspirational Words of Encouragement

Life changes every minute of everyday. You lose friends. You gain friends. You realize your friend wasn't ever really your friend and the person you used to hate can make a really good friend. You look for love. You find love. You lose love. You realize all along that you've been loved. You laugh. You cry. You laugh so hard that you cry. You do this, you do that. You really wish you hadn't done that. You then learn from that and you're glad that you did. You have your ups. You have your downs. You see good movies. You see bad movies. You wonder if your life is just a big movie. You look at others and wish you were them. You then realize who they are and glad that you're you. You love life. You hate life. In the end you just find yourself happy to be living life, no matter what's being thrown at you.



FBC Women's Ministry 2021

"We're All In!"

Come join us each month as we go after God with all our heart!

2nd Saturday @ 8:30 am

Zoom Meeting ID ~ 850 9570 8020

Passcode ~ 792408



For more information contact

Minister Monique Stroman (678) 357-8282

Sister Leslie Houston (770) 296-8874

Friendship Baptist Church Presents...

JUNE 14-18



I've GOT This!

WITH JESUS

VIRTUAL VBS!



Register today @
fbcduluth.com

ALL CLASSES HELD ON
zoom

Youth registration is now open! Please fill out the registration form at the link below or on the FBC website.

Registration closes on Monday, June 7th. First 100 youth and teens registered will receive a kit and booklet. Register at:
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSehsP3crmYKsf_-rDN1MWLOoYFU-hMpspXnISL37bDJQpEbFg/viewform

ADULT ONLINE Sunday SCHOOL

9:45 am
@fbcduluth.org

Women's Class
Men's Class
Living Single for Christ

Marriage Class
Conn3ct

Sunday School Books
available in the Church Office
Monday-Thursday
10am-2pm



Dorian Rogers, Superintendent
4integrityauto@gmail.com
 Phone: 770-309-6245

FBC Sunday School on ZOOM! Please join one of our Adult online Sunday School classes every Sunday from 9:45 am – 10:45 am. Go to fbcduluth.org and choose your class. The study for the summer quarter (June-August) will focus on “**Confident Hope.**” Sunday school books are available for pick up from the Church office Monday-Friday, 10am-2pm.

From the May 30th lesson “Do the Right Thing” Jonah 3: **Liberating Lesson:** Jonah’s sin was believing that these people were unredeemable and the Jewish people were the only true people of God. Many Black people have difficulty forgiving White people for their atrocities during the days of slavery. Revelation 7:12 says that people of all races, cultures, and languages will one day stand together before the throne. Shouldn’t we be practicing now for that great day?

Application for Activation: Jonah described God as being merciful, compassionate, and patient with the faults of others. Christians are supposed to be physical expressions of our spiritual God to a physical world. This week, look for people to whom you can demonstrate mercy, compassion, and patience.

Friendship Baptist Church

YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL

SUNDAYS

🕒 9:00 - 9:45 AM

Go to fbcduluth.org and click Online Youth Sunday School

Come fellowship and gain a much deeper understanding of God's Word
so you can apply these scriptural truths to your everyday life.

YOUTH MINISTRY

Sis. Charlene Benn, Ministry Leader



A large, stylized graphic with a purple and blue background. The word "YOUTH" is written in large, bold, blue letters at the top. Below it, the word "and" is written in a smaller, orange, cursive font. Below "and", the word "TEEN" is written in large, bold, blue letters. At the bottom, the words "Worship Service" are written in a red, sans-serif font. Below that, the website address "@ fbcduluth.org" is written in a green, sans-serif font. To the right of the text, there are several colorful, rounded rectangular shapes in various colors like yellow, blue, green, and purple, some with patterns.



TEEN MINISTRY

Rev. Stan & Min. Barbara Williams, Ministry Leaders





Church News & Other Important Information

Welcome Back! Friendship Baptist Church is open Sundays at 11:00 am. The opening is limited and reservations are required. For **Information and Registration go to fbcduluth.org/reopening/**.

“Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!” Psalm 133:1

For the protection of everyone:

- Maintain social distancing
- A face mask is required at all times
- Follow ushers and staff instructions
- Walk directly outside after service
- Adhere to the signs posted in the church

“Let all things be done decently and in order.”
1 Corinthians 14:40

Education Ministry

The Class of 2021 invites you to be a part of this special moment in their lives as they walk into their next chapter. On June 13, 2021 during service, we will highlight and recognize both our high school and college graduates virtually. At this moment in time, we all have faced obstacles, but this class did not allow anything to stop them from reaching their goal.

Communications Ministry

FBC’s newsletter, Friendship’s Voice, is the voice of the people. Being sheltered in has changed many lives in a number of ways. Consider sharing a word for God’s people, a testimony, an inspiration, a helpful tip for parents trying to balance working from home and helping their children with school work. “You can merely be a witness and share aspects of your experience while sheltered in.” Are you doing something specifically to help others who are sheltered in? Have you adopted a new hobby or some other activity you would like to share with your Friendship family? Please provide feedback and include your name, phone number and email address and send newsletter information to Paulette Tapp at ptapp1052@gmail.com or via text at 678-779-4661. If you need additional information about the Communications Ministry, please contact Louie Malone at tag49llm@aol.com.

How to Apply for FEMA Funeral Funds up to \$7,000 – The Rules Explained
<https://a.msn.com/r/2/BB1eN8iz?m=en-us&referrerID=InAppShare>



<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

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 1st & 3rd 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 2nd & 4th Sunday 6:45 pm		

SPECIAL MONTHLY SERVICES

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



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

Communications Ministry

President

Louie Malone

Vice President

Tina Patterson

Secretary

Hyacinth Chung

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

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Louie Malone

Shirley Price

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Louie Malone

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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 JULY SUBMITTALS IS
FRIDAY, JUNE 18TH**



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