



Rev. Ronald L. Bowens
Pastor

FRIENDSHIP'S VOICE

JULY 2024

VOL. 11, ISSUE 6

“Exhalt the Savior, Equip the Saint, Evangelize the Sinner.”

Prayer

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Theme of the Month.....	2
Scripture of the Month.....	3
Hymn of the Month.....	4
Prayer List.....	6
“Prayer” A Poem.....	7
Highlighting Black History.....	8
Shepherd’s Care Ministry Outing.....	10
76th Church Anniversary.....	12
Creative Learning Ministry Workshop.....	13
Salute the Graduates.....	16
Upcoming Events.....	18
Genesis Crossword.....	20

JULY CALENDAR

13 - Women’s Ministry Meeting

13 - Christmas in July

Aug

1 - Sister Debbie Bowen’s Birthday

3 - Taste of Friendship

The deadline for August Newsletter articles is Friday, July 19th

THEME OF THE MONTH

Prayer

WRITTEN BY HYACINTH CHUNG



Prayer was established by God as a means of talking and spending time with Him when we need his supernatural help. We don't need eloquence or long-winded speeches to communicate with God. He knows our hearts and the sincerity of our hearts. Hebrews 4:16 says, "Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of Grace that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help us in time of need."

Prayer is also an open admission that without Christ we can do nothing. Prayer is an expression of faith in God's power, fueled by a desire for more of Him. We no longer need someone to intercede on our behalf because God gave us direct access when the curtain/veil in the temple was ripped in half for our access when Jesus gave his life on the cross for our sins, iniquities and burdens. References are Matthew 27:51, Mark 15:38 and Luke 23:45.

We should learn to be ourselves when we pray. James 5:16 says, "The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much", so you don't have to go before a crowd or be in a church to pray. We don't have to put on holy faces and close our eyes to show others we are praying. Prayer is a conversation with God. We can do this when walking, driving, working, cooking, or doing house chores because whenever we call out to God, He's right there with us. His promise is that He will never leave us or forsake us. He is right there in times of trouble and will deliver us, Psalm 50:15.

To shape our prayer lives, we should be consistent because this is a conscious personal communion with God. We should read the Word of God, so we know His promises and assurances, so when trouble comes our way, we can plant our feet solidly on the ground and face the trial and declare Jeremiah 17:7-8, "But blessed is the one who trusts in the Lord, whose confidence is in Him. They will be like a tree planted by the water that sends out its roots by the stream. It does not fear when heat comes, it's leaves are always green. It has no worries in a year of drought and never fails to bear fruit". Psalm 1:3 also confirms this scripture.

Many people have ingredients in their refrigerators and cupboards but have no instructions on how to cook. It's the same with the Bible - we have it laying in the house, gathering dust but do not know what it says if we fail to open it up and read what God is trying to say to us.

When we don't know what to pray for or how to pray, open up the line with God and the Holy Spirit will lead and direct you. Romans 8:26-28 says, "We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans. And He who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God's people in accordance with the will of God." When we pray also, it is not a monologue; give God time to respond. You may not hear an audible voice, but He will make impressions on our hearts to reassure us, He hears us and He's close by.

Scripture of the Month

**And when they had prayed,
the place where they had
gathered together was
shaken, and they were all
filled with the Holy Spirit and
began to speak the word of
God with boldness.**

ACTS 4:31 (NASB)

HYMN OF THE MONTH

Leaning on the Everlasting Arms

WRITTEN BY E. A. HOFFMAN

333 Leaning on the Everlasting Arms

1. What a fel - low-ship, what a joy di - vine,
 2. Oh, how sweet to walk in this pil - grim way,
 3. What have I to dread, what have I to fear,

3
 Leaning on the ev - er - last - ing arms; What a bless - ed - ness,
 Leaning on the ev - er - last - ing arms; Oh, how bright the path
 Leaning on the ev - er - last - ing arms? I have bless - ed peace

6
 what a peace is mine, Lean - ing on the ev - er -
 grows from day to day, Lean - ing on the ev - er -
 with my Lord so near, Lean - ing on the ev - er -

HYMN OF THE MONTH

Leaning on the Everlasting Arms

WRITTEN BY E. A. HOFFMAN

333

Leaning on the Everlasting Arms

8

last - ing arms.
last - ing arms. Lean - ing, lean - ing,
last - ing arms. Lean - ing on Je - sus, lean - ing on Je - sus,

11

Safe and secure from all a-larms; Lean - ing,
Lean - ing on Je - sus,

14

lean - ing, Lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.
lean - ing on Je - sus,

Pray for those on our "Sick and Shut-in" List

AS WELL AS THOSE GRIEVING THE LOSS OF A LOVED ONE



Send them a card, give them a call, visit them. You never know how much it could mean to them.

Mr. William Annan

Sis. Charre Armstrong

Sis. Pat Ashe

Bro. Willie Benton

Min. Karen Blacknell

Sis. Sheila Blackwell

Dea. Willie Blake

Bro. Don Bowens

Sis. Liz Bowens

Barbara Williams Brown

Sis. Alice Burnes

Bro. Dwayne Bynum

Sis. Chastity Collier

Sis. Sarah Collins

Dea. Kevin Corbett

Sis. Andrea Green

Sis. Ruth Griggs

Sis. Barbara Hall

Bro. Emanuel Hazell

Sis. Dorothy Hines

Bro. Willie Irvin

Bro. Patrick Jones

Sis. Valerie McClendon

Sis. Virginia McLemore

Sis. Thelma Matthews

Sis. Josephine May

Bro. Will May

Miss. Kaitlyn Miles

JC Mitchell

Sis. Alice Murphy

Ms. Patricia Ochogu

Sis. Carrie Rawls

Sis. Letitia Robinson

Sis. Linda Rogers

Sis. Carrie Royals

Bro. Rennie Samuels

Sis. Jacqueline Scott

Sis. Tonya Sellers

Bro. Rudy Simmons

Mr. Claudius Stafford

Bro. Xavier Stephens

Sis. Johnnie Stewart

Sis. Mabel Thomas

The Wells Family

Rev. Dwight Wilkerson

Sis. Valerie Williams

Sis. Sadie Wilson

Bro. Victor Winston Jr.

Sis. Priscilla Wise

Sis. Dorothy Woods

Sis. Lola Wright



“Prayer”

A poem by Hyacinth Chung



Prayer is an act or form of communication with God
 You talk to him when you are down and just feeling sad
 Or in Thanksgiving when you are blessed and oh so glad
 Whatever the reason, He's always ready and waiting on the job.

There are different types of prayers to suit our needs
 And there is a prayer for each of our sinful deeds
 Petitionary or Supplication prayer is for asking God for stuff
 Thanksgiving and Praise prayer is for when we are blessed with enough.

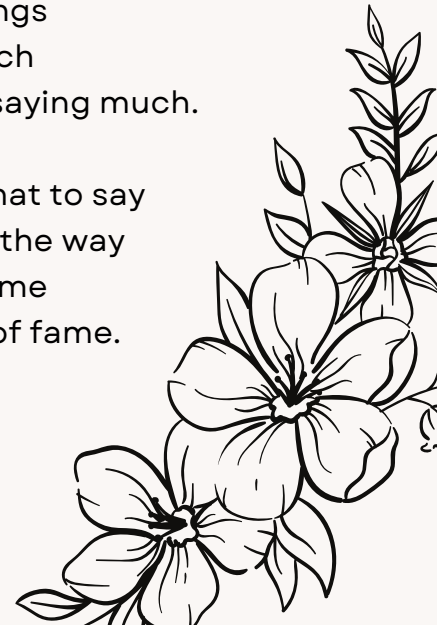
There is prayer for Guidance and prayer for Health
 And prayer to ask for Wisdom instead of material Wealth
 Then there's Intercessory prayer when we pray on behalf of others
 And Devotional prayers are for when the saints have all gathered.

Prayer is not selfish, it is giving of Ourselves
 Because if you want the yoke broken into prayer you must delve
 We need to pray for our President, our Leaders and Country
 For prayer in unison can make a change in All and Sundry.

Prayer should not be only a Sunday morning thing
 But should be a lifestyle for everyday that God brings
 You don't have to be fancy with big words and such
 You can talk to God on your level, from your heart, without saying much.

If you are still too stubborn or too shy and don't know what to say
 Just release yourself to the Holy Spirit and let Him lead the way
 Our Father, who art in Heaven, Hallowed be thy Name
 Is a good way to start with the New Testament prayer of fame.

(Matthew 6: 9-13)

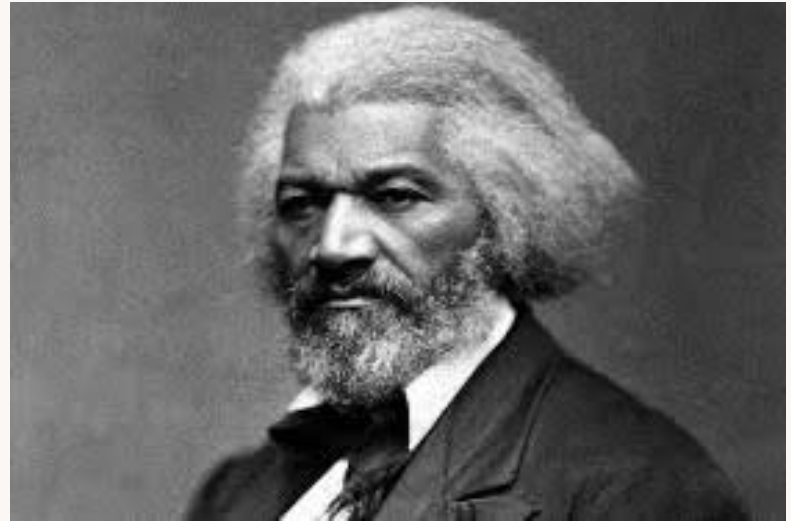


HIGHLIGHTING BLACK HISTORY

What to the Slave is the Fourth of July?

BY FREDRICK DOUGLAS | JULY 5, 1852

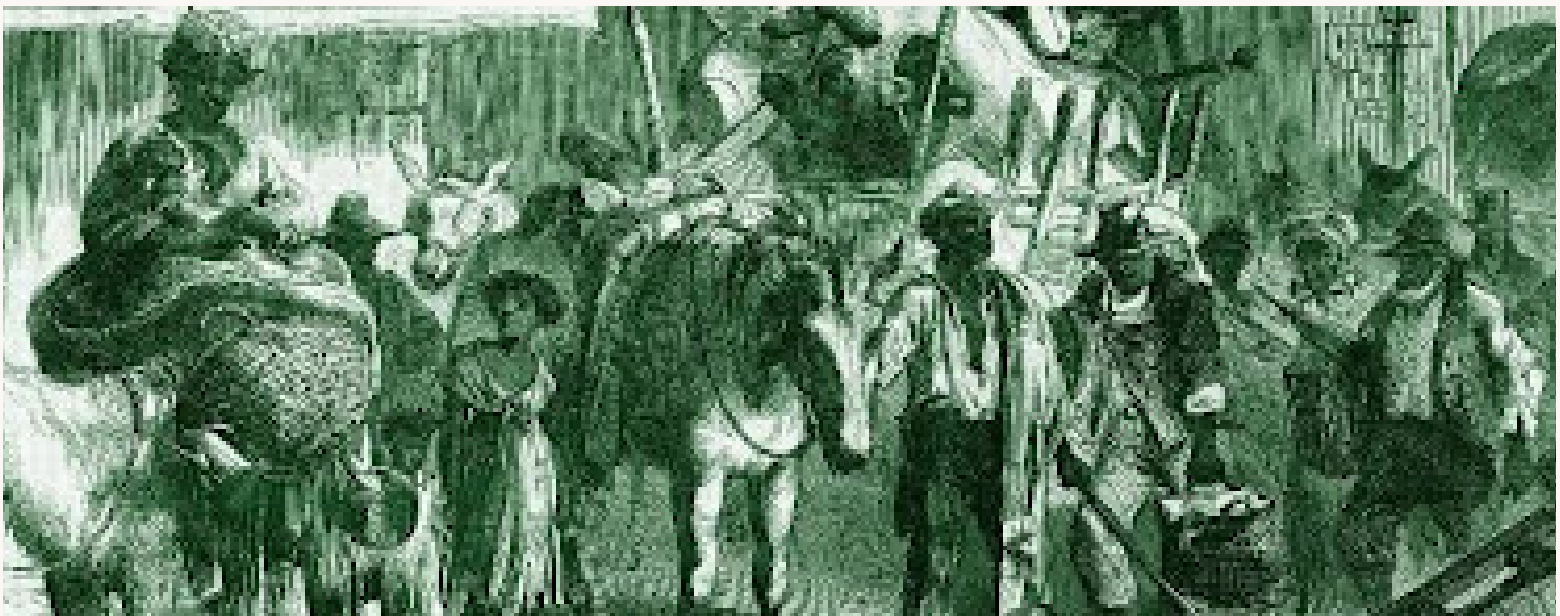
SUBMITTED BY DIANE RUSSELL



“Fellow Citizens, I am not wanting in respect for the fathers of this republic. The signers of the Declaration of Independence were brave men. They were great men too, great enough to give frame to a great age. It does not often happen to a nation to raise, at one time, such a number of truly great men. The point from which I am compelled to view

them is not, certainly, the most favorable; and yet I cannot contemplate their great deeds with less than admiration. They were statesmen, patriots and heroes, and for the good they did, and the principles they contended for, I will unite with you to honor their memory.”

“Fellow-citizens, pardon me, allow me to ask, why am I called upon to speak here to-day? What have I, or those I represent, to do with your national independence? Are the great principles of political freedom and of natural justice, embodied in that Declaration of Independence, extended to us? and am I, therefore, called upon to bring our humble offering to the national altar, and to confess the benefits and express devout gratitude for the blessings resulting from your independence to us?”



HIGHLIGHTING BLACK HISTORY

“Would to God, both for your sakes and ours, that an affirmative answer could be truthfully returned to these questions! Then would my task be light, and my burden easy and delightful. For who is there so cold, that a nation’s sympathy could not warm him? Who so obdurate and dead to the claims of

gratitude, that would not thankfully acknowledge such priceless benefits? Who so stolid and selfish, that would not give his voice to swell the hallelujahs of a nation’s jubilee, when the chains of servitude had been torn from his limbs? I am not that man. In a case like that, the dumb might eloquently speak, and the 'lame man leap as an hart.' But such is not the state of the case. I say it with a sad sense of the disparity between us. I am not included within the pale of glorious anniversary! Your high independence only reveals the immeasurable distance between us. The blessings in which you, this day, rejoice, are not enjoyed in common. The rich inheritance of justice, liberty, prosperity and independence, bequeathed by your fathers, is shared by you, not by me. The sunlight that brought light and healing to you, has brought stripes and death to me. This Fourth July is yours, not mine. You may rejoice, I must mourn.”

For the information of our friends, we feel it our duty to state, that there will be two CELEBRATIONS in this City, in honour of the Abolition of Slavery in this State. One party will celebrate the Fourth of July, without any public procession; and the other, the Fifth, with a Grand Procession, Oration and Public Dinner.

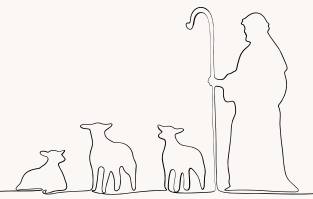


Shepherd's Care Ministry Trip

Fields of the Wood

In late April the ministry went on a trip to a peaceful destination. Pastor Bowens, Sis. Debbie, and fifteen other members enjoyed the serene facility. We are grateful for our drivers, Brother Art Peters and Deacon Michael Jerrals, for safely getting us to and from our destination. We had breakfast bars, fruit, nuts, chips and water packed for us to start our morning. During the trip, we had lunch at a local barbecue spot, as seen in the pictures. Our Pastor and his wife are friendly and welcoming, and they made everyone feel comfortable. Some other patrons in the restaurant even wanted to join our table because they thought we were having too much fun. Please enjoy pictures from our trip.

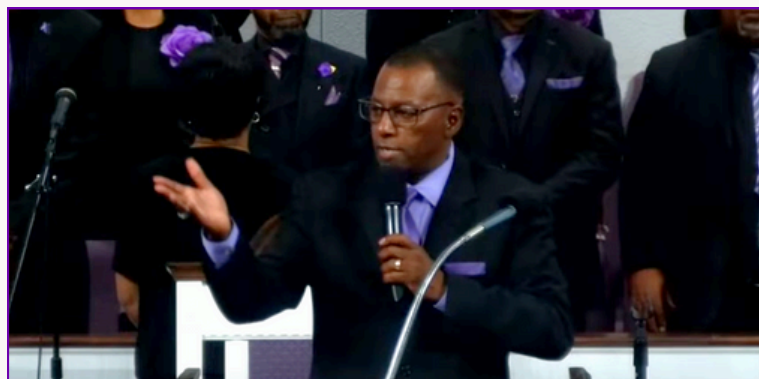
Vickie Chambers,
Servant Leader





76th Church Anniversary

On Sunday, May 26, 2024, Friendship Baptist Church celebrated 76 years of ministry. The Anniversary service took place in the afternoon following the regular service, and the theme was "Standing Firm in the Gospel." The preached word was delivered by Reverend Emerson Ross, Pastor of Mount Zion Baptist Church, Flowery Branch, Georgia, and the praise and worship was led by the Mount Zion Baptist Church Choir. Following the service was a reception where guests were served a hot dinner and given time to fellowship. Praise God for His sustenance and providence in this church home. May He continue His work at Friendship for years to come.





DIY Apron Workshop

CREATIVE LEARNING MINISTRY



WRITTEN AND SUBMITTED BY LATRELL CARR



The Creative Learning Ministry, led by Sister Erichka Rogers, hosted an inspiring craft session on Saturday, June 8th, in the Fellowship Hall. From 10 AM to 2 PM, the room buzzed with creativity as nine enthusiastic ladies gathered to make their own aprons in a warm and supportive environment.



The event, under the expert guidance of Ms. Betty Johnson, who has over 50 years of experience in sewing, crafting, and quilting, provided a rich tapestry of learning and fun. Ms. Johnson's background is as colorful as her quilts, having traveled globally to hone her craft and generously donating many of the 150+ quilts she has created over the years. Her passion for quilting is a family tradition, making her an inspiring mentor for both novice and seasoned crafters.



Participants ranged in crafting experience, creating a dynamic atmosphere where laughter, motivation, and encouragement flowed freely. The diverse fabric designs and patterns brought unique personal touches to each apron, symbolizing the individuality and creativity of every attendee. Some aprons were earmarked for donation to local senior living facilities, extending the spirit of giving beyond the Fellowship Hall.

Sister Sharon Wilson was joined by her twin grandsons, Tristan and Ethan who beamed with excitement as they learned to sew and create their own aprons alongside their grandmother, which added a touching, generational aspect to the day. The memories made and skills learned will surely be cherished for years to come.

As participants shared ideas and helped one another, they also enjoyed delightful light snacks, making the event not just a crafting session but a delightful time of fellowship and community bonding.

The Creative Learning Ministry is already preparing for their next big event, "Christmas in July, which takes place on Saturday, July 13th and features the variety of craft projects created from the Ministry's Saturday workshops." Stay tuned for more details as the ministry continues to foster creativity and community spirit!





For more information about upcoming Creative Learning Ministry events, please contact Ericka Rogers 404-819-6901 or visit the FBC website.

SALUTE THE GRADUATES

On June 9th, the church recognized its Spring 2024 graduates. This included high school, ungraduate and graduate students.

High School Graduates

Hailey Conwell

Buford High School

Amaya Gaston

Peachtree Ridge High School

Paul Harris Jr.

Grayson High School

Takata Murphy

Duluth High School

Braxton Mustiful

Peachtree Ridge High School

Germain Patterson

Mountain View High School

College Graduates

Rictavious Bowens

Mercer University School of Medicine;
Degree of Doctor of Medicine

Cameron Hines

University of Washington; Bachelors of Arts
in Psychology

Stacey Hines Jr.

University of Washington; Bachelors of Arts
in Education with Minor in Diversity

Darion Malone

Georgia Gwinnett College; Bachelor of Arts
in Cinema and Media Arts

John Maxwell

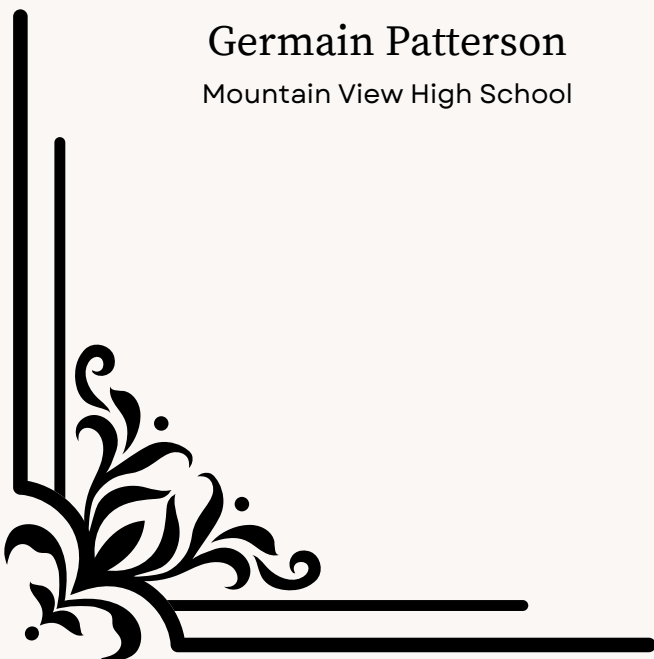
Patrick & Henry Community College;
Associate of Arts & Sciences in General
Studies

Trey Short

Georgia Southern University; Bachelor of
Science in Kinesiology Exercise Science

Maxwell Turk

University of Alabama School of Law; Juris
Doctor Degree



SALUTE THE GRADUATES

Congratulations to all the 2024 graduates! We are so proud of you and all you have achieved at this point in life's journey. We look forward to hearing about your future accomplishments as you continue your course in life. We pray for your continued success in all that you do.





Save the Date

Christmas In July

JULY

13TH

10 AM - 2PM

Now accepting vendor applications

What is Christmas in July?

Hosted by FBC Creative Learning

A day filled with festive activities, shopping, hand crafted gift ideas, door prizes, quilt show/display, make and take crafts, music, food, fellowship and fun! You'll have a chance to see all the talented work from our Saturday workshops

Contact Erichka Rogers for more information

Email: esharee@att.net or Text: 404.819.6901

FBC Women's Ministry



MENS MINISTRY PRESENTS TASTE OF FRIENDSHIP EAT, LAUGH, & FELLOWSHIP



August 3rd, 2024
Family Life Center @ 12PM -2PM

The Men's Ministry is spicing things up with the revival of "Men Who Cook" now rebranded as "A Taste of Friendship." Calling all men to come out and flaunt your top dishes for this fun culinary showcase! Let's turn up the heat and have a blast!

We are encouraging all men to come out and show off their skills.

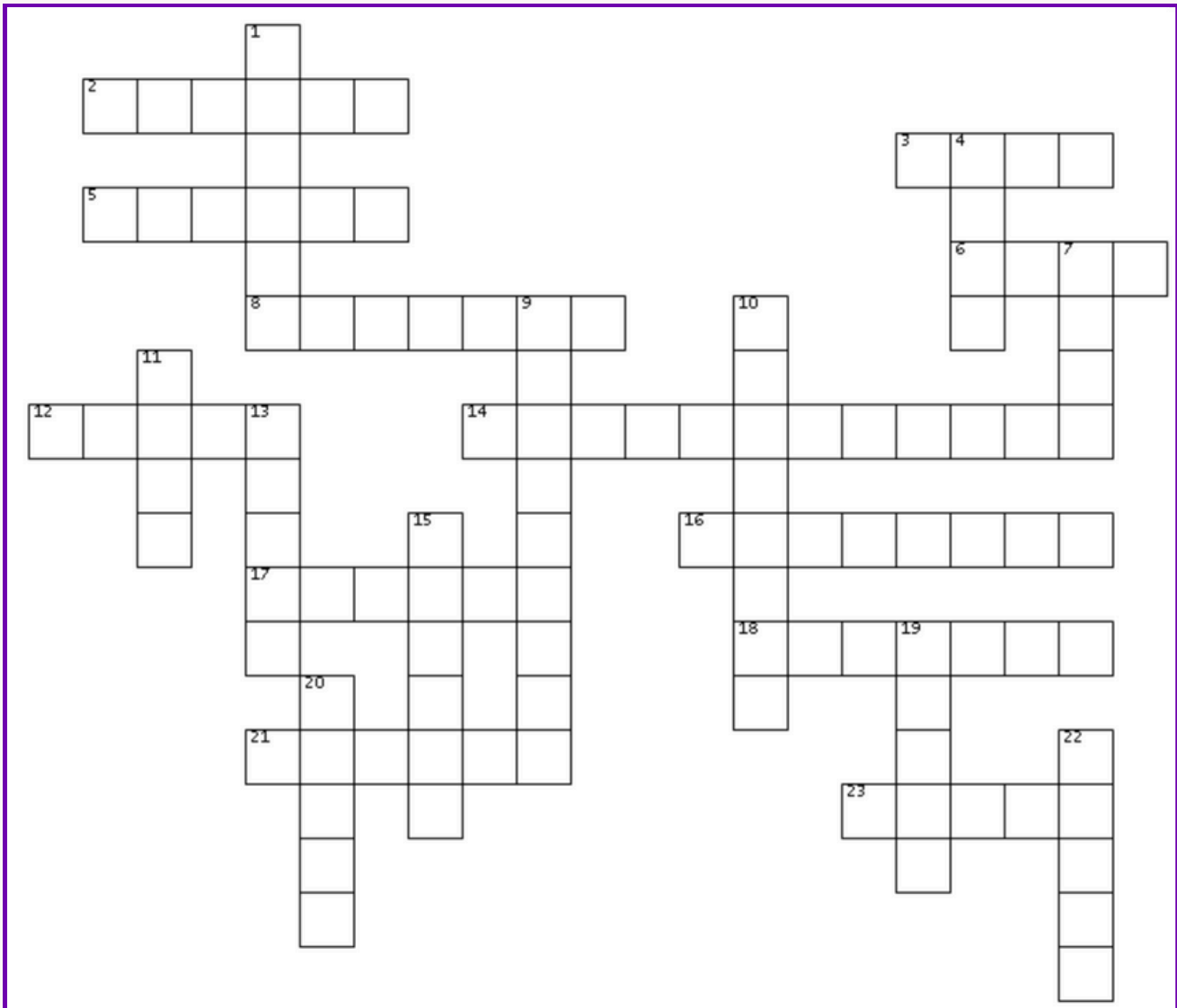
Registration Cut-off: July 15, 2024

We invite everyone to join us and support the men as we aim to impress you with our culinary creations. This event is open to everyone, come out and let

The Men of Friendship cook for you.



What's the Word: Genesis Edition



Answers can be found on the next page.

ACROSS

2. Joseph's Profession in Egypt
3. Jacob's first wife
5. The ____ Tribes of Israel
6. Son of Adam and Eve
8. Wife of Isaac
12. Son of Abraham and Sarah
14. Covenant sign in Genesis
16. Joseph's jealous ____ sold him
17. Jacob's Other Name
18. Father of Many Nations
21. Jacob's Favorite Son
23. Tower of ____

DOWN

1. Lot's Wife Turned into One
4. Jacob's Twin Brother
7. Garden of ____
9. King who took Sarah
10. City destroyed with Sodom
11. First Murderer
13. Measurement of Ark's Size
15. Jacob's beloved wife
19. Abraham's Original Name
20. City destroyed with Gomorrah
22. Cataclysmic event in Genesis

"Prayer is an expression of faith in God's power..."

Thanks for reading

Friendship's Voice

Stay tuned for next month's Newsletter!

The deadline for August Newsletter articles is Friday, July 19th



What's the Word Puzzle Answers

1. Pillar
2. Vizier
3. Leah
4. Esau
5. Twelve
6. Abel
7. Eden
8. Rebekah
9. Abimelech
10. Gomorrah
11. Cain
12. Isaac
13. Cubit
14. Circumcision
15. Rachel
16. Brothers
17. Israel
18. Abraham
19. Abram
20. Sodom
21. Joseph
22. Flood
23. Babel

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Christine Smith

Improvements to FBC's website are ongoing. Feedback can be provided to the

Communications Ministry at

tag49llm@aol.com



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

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Min. Karen Blackwell

Evg. Geneva Burse

Evg. Valerie A. Montague

Evg. Ruthell Morris

Evg. Kimberly Rogers

Min. Monique Stroman

Min. Barbara Williams