



Rev. Ronald L. Bowens
Pastor

FRIENDSHIP'S VOICE

JUNE 2025

VOL. 12, ISSUE 4

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

True Worship

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JUNE CALENDAR

2-6 - Vacation Bible School
8 - Salute the Graduates
15 - Father's Day
19 - Juneteenth
20 - Pastor and Sister Debbie's Wedding Anniversary
30 - Taste of Friendship registration closes

THEME OF THE MONTH

True Worship

WRITTEN BY SIS. HYACINTH CHUNG



The dictionary explains Worship to be “the feeling or expression of reverence and adoration for a deity”. That is showing a lot of love and respect, honor, and devotion for someone or something. Religious believers worship idols or man-made gods. People worship each other or material things, but what is true worship?

The basic function of worship is the establishment and maintenance of the relationship between human beings and the holy God; this enriches and renews closer relations with the divine God.

In the Bible, worship is the reverential response to creation to the all-encompassing magnificence of God. Isaiah 6:4 shows us that as the presence of God entered the temple, all creation bowed and cried out, “Holy, Holy, Holy”. Worshipping God is more than lip service; it is the repentance of hearts, in tune with God’s Word, feeding on God’s Word and Promises, exalting God for who He is and what He has done for us. Worship is pure and true communion with God. Exodus 15:11 shows us the exaltation of God. Psalm 147 through 150 are good scriptures of Exhortation to help in our worship experience.

True worship of God is directed through Jesus Christ, our Savior. John 14:6 tells us that Jesus is the Way, the Truth, and the Life. No man comes to the Father but by Him, Christ Jesus. So we have to worship God in Spirit and Truth.

As King Solomon in all his wisdom said in Proverbs 4:23, “Keep thy heart with all diligence, for out of the heart flows the issues of life”. If your heart is closely knitted with God’s Word, then out of your heart will flow true worship to God through your lips.



HYMN OF THE MONTH

How Great Thou Art

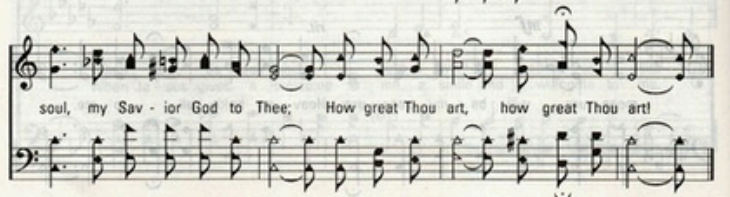
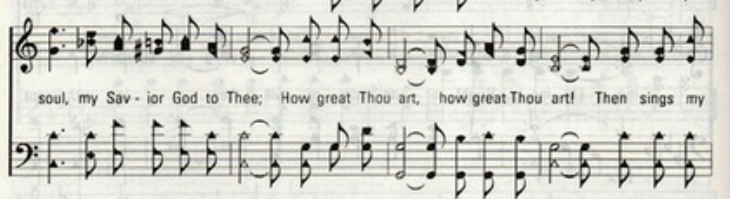
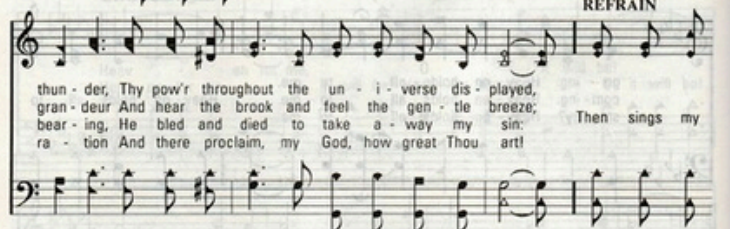
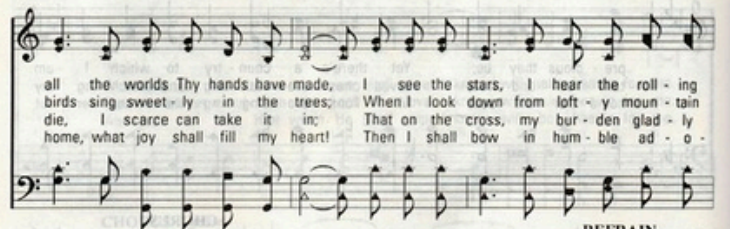
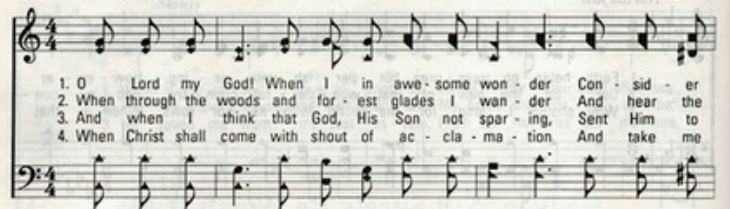
WRITTEN BY CARL BOBERG

Scripture of the Month

²³But an hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for such people the Father seeks to be His worshipers. ²⁴God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth."

JOHN 4:23-24 (NASB)

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How Great Thou ArtCarl Boberg, 1886
Tr., Stuart K. Hine, 1949Sanningssvitnet, 1891
Arr., Stuart K. Hine, 1949Copyright © 1953. Renewal 1981 by Manna Music, Inc., 25510 Avenue Stanford, Valencia, CA 91355.
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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

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

Sherita Caldwell

Breann Caldwell

Nick Caldwell

The Carmack Family

Sis. Chastity Collier

Sis. Sarah Collins

Sis. Carolyn Dukes

Bro. Joe Dukes

Sis. Andrea Green

Sis. Ruth Griggs

Sis. Barbara Hall

Sis. Dorothy Hines

Sis. Diane Hodge

Bro. Willie Irvin

Sis. Jennifer Jones

Bro. Patrick Jones

Sis. Marie Keys

Sis. Valerie McClendon

Sis. Virginia McLemore

Sis. Josephine May

Bro. Will May

Sis. Diane Meeks

Miss. Kaitlyn Miles

Sis. Alice Murphy

Tressa Norwood

Ms. Patricia Ochogu

Bro. Rickie Perry

Bro. Charles Phinizy

The Poe Family

Sis. Carrie Rawls

Sis. Linda Rogers

Sis. Cindy Rollins

Sis. Carrie Royals

Sis. Nilda C Sankitts

Sis. Jacqueline Scott

Sis. Tonya Sellers

Mr. Claudius Stafford

Bro. Xavier Stephens

Sis. Johnnie Stewart

Sis. Mabel Thomas

The Wells Family

Bro. Clarence Wilkerson

Rev. Dwight Wilkerson

Sis. Shelby Wilkerson

Sis. Valerie Williams

Sis. Joan Wilson

Sis. Sadie Wilson

Bro. Victor Winston Jr.

Sis. Priscilla Wise

Sis. Dorothy Woods

Sis. Lola Wright





SIGNS OF THE SEASON

Godly Fathers

WRITTEN BY SIS. CHRISTINE SMITH



Greetings, blessings, and favor to all the fathers and father figures in our lives!

A godly father mirrors the heart and character of our Heavenly Father, Jesus Christ. From the moment we are born, fathers begin shaping our lives, serving as protectors, confidants, and providers. Fatherhood is not limited to biology – any man who steps into the role of loving, nurturing, and guiding a child reflects true fatherhood. This includes meeting both our physical and spiritual needs.

In the United States, we celebrate Father's Day on the third Sunday in June—a time set aside to honor the many sacrifices, contributions, and lasting influence of fathers throughout the years.

If you are blessed to have a father or father figure with Christ-like qualities, thank God for that gift. The Word reminds us of the powerful presence of our spiritual Father, especially for those who may not have known their earthly one:

“For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.”

—Romans 8:15 (KJV)

Continue →

JUNE

2025

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

Below are ten Bible verses on godly fathers –

1. **Ephesians 6:4 NASB** Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.
2. **Proverbs 22:6 NASB** Train up a child [a]in the way he should go, Even when he grows older he will not abandon it.
3. **Psalms 103:13 NASB** Just as a father has compassion on his children, So the Lord has compassion on those who fear Him.
4. **Colossians 3:21 NASB** Fathers, do not antagonize your children, so that they will not become discouraged.
5. **Proverbs 23:24 NASB** The father of the righteous will greatly rejoice, And he who fathers a wise son will be glad in him.
6. **Psalms 127:3-5 NASB** 3 Behold, children are a [a]gift of the Lord, The fruit of the womb is a reward. 4 Like arrows in the hand of a warrior, So are the children of one's youth. 5 Blessed is the man whose quiver is full of them; They will not be ashamed, When they speak with their enemies in the gate.
- 7.1 **John 3:1 NASB** See how great a love the Father has given us, that we would be called children of God; and in fact we are. For this reason the world does not know us: because it did not know Him.
8. **Luke 11:11-12 NASB** 11 Now which one of you fathers will his son ask for a fish, and instead of a fish, he will give him a snake? 12 Or he will even ask for an egg, and his father will give him a scorpion?
9. **Joshua 24:15 NASB** But if it is disagreeable in your sight to serve the Lord, choose for yourselves today whom you will serve: whether the gods which your fathers served, which were beyond the Euphrates River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."
10. **Proverbs 3:11-12 NASB** 11 My son, do not reject the [a]discipline of the Lord Or loathe His rebuke, 12 For whom the Lord loves He disciplines, Just as a father disciplines the son in whom he delights.

To every father, uncle, mentor, and father figure, we thank and honor you. We pray God's continued strength, wisdom, and blessing over your life. Happy Father's Day!

FATHERS IN THE BIBLE MATCH UP GAME

MATCH THE BIBLICAL FATHERS WITH THE CORRECT CHILD/CHILDREN. EARN ONE POINT FOR A CORRECT ANSWER. THE MOST CORRECT ANSWERS WINS!

1. Father of Isaac _____
2. Father of Jacob _____
3. Father of Solomon _____
4. Father of Samuel _____
5. Father of Joseph & Benjamin _____
6. Father of Moses _____
7. Father of John the Baptist _____
8. Father of Cain & Abel _____
9. Father of James & John _____
10. Father of King Saul _____
11. Father of Rebekah _____
12. Father of Leah & Rachel _____
13. Father of Jonathan _____
14. Father of Peter & Andrew _____
15. Father of Joshua _____
16. Father of Gideon _____
17. Father of David _____
18. Father of Noah _____
19. Father of Samson _____
20. Father of Obed _____

Zebedee
Boaz
Manoah
Saul
Bethuel
Jesse
David
Joash
Kish
Jacob
Lamech
Isaac
Nun
Elkanah
Laban
Zechariah
Jonah
Abraham
Adam
Amram

Total Points: _____

[Find the answers on page 10]



FATHER'S DAY MENTIONS



Father's Day is Sunday, June 15th, and in honor of all the loving fathers and father-figures, here are some Father's Day Mentions from the congregation.

Dad, thank you for always being there to help me. I appreciate you! (Psalm 25:4) Love, Caleb

– Caleb Rogers

Today, we thank Our Heavenly Father for blessing us with an Earthly Father whose love knows no limits. Your example teaches us what's right, even when we fall short. There's no greater pride than saying, "That's my father." Thank you for guiding us with love, strength, and faith. We are forever grateful for the man you are. Happy Father's Day, Dad — we love you deeply! Love, Joshua, Jena, and Jordan

– Jena Thomas, daughter of Deacon Adrian Thomas

Happy Father's Day to the most incredible dad! Your strength, wisdom, and unwavering love have been the foundation of our family. You've always led by example, showing us what it means to be kind, courageous, and dependable. I'm so grateful for all the sacrifices you've made and the laughter you've shared. Today and every day, I celebrate the amazing man you are.

– Derick Chambers

You've always been my rock. Thank you for everything you do. We love you!

– Trinity & Kayla

Dr Williams, we celebrate you on this your 30th Father's Day! You are a wonderful dad and dad-in-Love! Enjoy your day!!!

– Autumn, Justice & Lanessa Williams

To My Father in Heaven,

Although the pain of losing you still feels as fresh as if it happened yesterday, I find comfort in knowing you are at peace, resting in Heaven in God's loving embrace. What I miss most are our phone calls, and the way you'd always end them with, "Papa loves you." You were a shining example of what it means to be a devoted husband, a loving father, and a true man of God.

Happy Father's Day Daddy!

I'll love you always,

– Latrell



WRITTEN BY SIS. JENNIFER JONES



What is Juneteenth?

“June 19th,” or Juneteenth, is celebrated each year, marking a significant moment in American History. The day commemorates the arrival of Union General Gordon Granger in Galveston, Texas, in 1865 to announce the end of slavery. This announcement enforced the Emancipation Proclamation issued by President Abraham Lincoln over two years earlier. Texas was the last state to enforce slavery, marking a symbolic end to the institution in the United States.

Juneteenth embodies more than just a historical date; it represents the ongoing struggles for freedom and identity among African Americans. Many view Juneteenth as the second Independence Day, celebrating the liberation of a marginalized group.

Origins of Juneteenth

The origins of Juneteenth date back to 1866, initiated by African American communities in Texas. As spontaneous celebrations erupted with the announcement of freedom for enslaved people, Juneteenth was born. As African Americans migrated to other parts of the country, Juneteenth observances spread. In December 1865, slavery in the United States was formally abolished with the adoption of the 13th Amendment. The year following 1865, freedmen in Texas organized the first of what became the annual celebration of "Jubilee Day" or "Emancipation Day" on June 19.

The Juneteenth Flag

The Juneteenth flag is the brainchild of activist Ben Haith, founder of the National Juneteenth Celebration Foundation (NJCF). Haith created the flag in 1997 with the help of collaborators, and Boston-based illustrator Lisa Jeanne Graf brought their vision to life. The flag was revised in 2000 into the version we know today, according to the National Juneteenth Observation Foundation. Seven years later, the date "June 19, 1865" was added. The star represents Texas, the nova, bursting outline around the star represents a new beginning, the arc that extends across the width of the flag represents a new horizon. The colors, the red, white, and blue, represent the American flag, a reminder that slaves and their descendants were and are Americans.

Juneteenth becomes a Federal Holiday

At the age of 89, Opal Lee began walking across America in 2016 to raise awareness of Juneteenth. Many states had declared Juneteenth a state holiday, but it was not until the murder of George Floyd and global protests surrounding his killing in 2020 that Juneteenth became a Federal holiday on June 17, 2021.

Juneteenth is considered the longest-running African American holiday.

RECENT EVENTS

National Day of Prayer

WRITTEN BY ELDER AC EVANS



Grace and peace to the Friendship family, friends, and acquaintances. It is with great joy that I would like to share our experience at the National Day of Prayer. Friendship Baptist Church was excellently represented in Historic Downtown Duluth by Rev. Stanley Jackson, praying for families. Mother Gerald Baker and Elder Chris Evans were among those in attendance, along with the Mayor of Duluth and other local Pastors and residents. I would like to share this Prayer of Protection with you all today.

"God of Mercy, God of Light, protect us with your glorious might. Hear our prayer of protection today, direct our paths in a righteous way. Endow us with strength so we may endure, anoint us with your spirit so we may be pure. Regulate our hearts and minds today, reveal to us a more excellent way. Manifest in our lives your mercy and grace, so we run in patience in this Christian race. And whatever things are righteous and true, let this be the prayer we offer to you. Amen."



UPCOMING EVENTS

Happy Anniversary



Pastor and Sister Debbie's Wedding Anniversary
Friday, June 20th

FRIENDSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH PRESENTS ...

Graduate Appreciation Day 2025

SUNDAY, JUNE 8, 2025 - 11:00 AM

"THE FEAR OF THE LORD IS THE BEGINNING OF WISDOM; AND THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE HOLY IS UNDERSTANDING." PROV. 9:10

A colorful poster for FBC Vacation Bible School. It features a butterfly, a ladybug, and the text "MAGNIFIND! PSALM 5:1". The text "FBC Vacation Bible School June 2nd - 6th 6-9 pm Family Life Center" is prominently displayed. At the bottom, it says "Registration Open on Fbcduluth.org". A small tagline at the bottom right reads "DISCOVERING THE BUSINESS OF GOD IN THE SMALLEST OF THINGS".

FBC VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



JUNE 2ND - 6TH
6 - 9PM

JOIN US IN OUR SPIRIT NIGHTS

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

**FRIDAY: WEAR AN FBC SHIRT OR FBC COLORS
(PURPLE & GOLD)**

MAGNIFIED! VBS 2025

NIGHTLY SCHEDULE

6:00PM - 6:30PM : REGISTRATION & DINNER SERVED

6:30PM - 7:00PM : WELCOME & PRAISE & WORSHIP

7:00PM - 8:45PM : CLASS

8:45PM - 9:00PM : CLOSING

LESSON OUTLINE

MONDAY	MAGNIFY GOD- JOHN 1:1-3,12; MARK 10:13-16
TUESDAY	MAGNIFY GOD'S CARE- MARK 4:1, 35-41
WEDNESDAY	MAGNIFY GOD'S LOVE- JOHN 4:1-42
THURSDAY	MAGNIFY GOD'S FORGIVENESS- JOHN 3:1-21; 18-20; 1 CORINTHIANS 15:6
FRIDAY	MAGNIFY GOD'S FAITHFULNESS- MATTHEW 6:25-34

UPCOMING EVENTS

SAVE THE DATE

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

- Date: Saturday, August 9th, 2025
- Time: 12PM - 2PM
- Location: Family Life Center

Registration Date
May 1st - June 30th



COMMUNICATIONS MINISTRY OPEN RECRUITING



We're looking for ministry workers in the following areas:

- Audio/Visual Support
- Sound Engineering
- Live Stream Assistants
- Camera Operators
- Website Technicians & Innovators
- Digital Creators & Content Designers

FMI Contact Louie Malone at 404-353-0943
"The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few..."
Matthew 9:37

FATHERS IN THE BIBLE MATCH UP GAME

ANSWER KEY

1. Abraham
2. Isaac
3. David
4. Elkanah
5. Jacob
6. Amram
7. Zechariah
8. Adam
9. Zebedee
10. Kish
11. Bethuel
12. Laban
13. Saul
14. Jonah
15. Nun
16. Joash
17. Jesse
18. Lamech
19. Manoah
20. Boaz

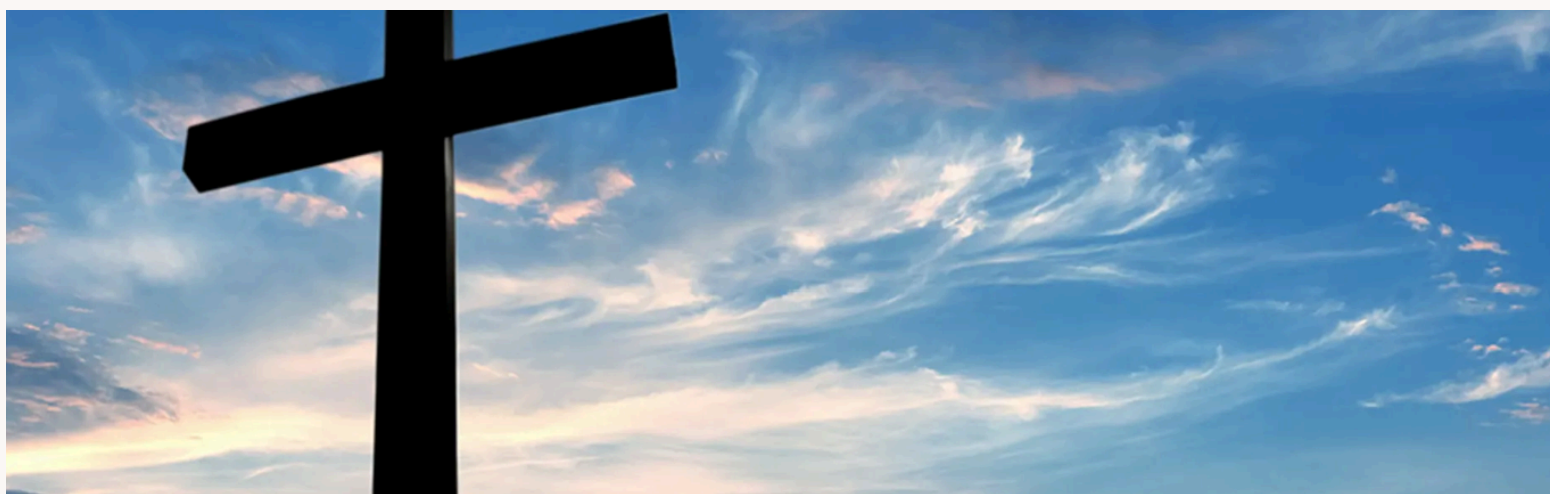
"So we have to worship God in Spirit and Truth."

Thanks for reading

Friendship's Voice

Stay tuned for next month's Newsletter!

The deadline for July Newsletter articles is Friday, June 20th



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Louie Malone

Vice President

Tina Patterson

Secretary

Hyacinth Chung

Assistant Secretary

DeLaurn Brown

Treasurer

Michal Patterson

Chaplain

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Louie Malone

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Hyacinth Chung

Jennifer Jones

Diane Russell

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

Church Address and Contact Information

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Monday - Thursday 9:00am - 4:00pm

Friday 9:00am - 3:00pm

Email: fbcduluth@att.net

Website: www.fbcduluth.org

Leadership

FBC ASSOCIATE MINISTERS

Rev. Ken Blacknell

Elder Chris Evans

Rev. Garfield Garner

Rev. Eugene Graves

Min. Shurron Green

Rev. Stanley Jackson

Rev. Artis Johnson

Min. Larry Jones

Rev. Timothy Twyman

Rev. Stanley Williams

Rev. Alton Wilson

FBC MINISTERS OF EVANGELISM

Min. Karen Blackwell

Evg. Geneva Burse

Evg. Valerie A. Montague

Evg. Ruthell Morris

Evg. Kimberly Rogers

Min. Monique Stroman

Min. Barbara Williams