

MARCH 2023

The

Epistle

First Baptist Church of Vienna, Va. | "Fruit Bearing Disciples"



From
Pastor
Walton's
Desk

Grace and peace First Family!

Vision Sunday has passed and our 2023 servant leaders are in place. With that, I am excited about the work ahead. However, I must echo the words of our savior to his disciples. The harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest." The ministry needs your help to make this year's vision a reality.

This year, more than ever, we are being intentional about our work, our worship, and our witness. That cannot happen without you. As with any congregation, volunteers are crucial to the life and success of the ministry. Jesus modeled for us how a community of believers accomplishes the work. When he started his public ministry, he enlisted the disciples to assist in getting it done. They were responsible for everything from praying to crowd control to caring for the needs of others when Jesus was not physically around. As sons and daughters of the faith, it is our duty to ensure no one is

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First Baptist Welcomes NEW LEADERS

By Stacey Seay
Special to the Epistle

At our Congregational Meeting Held on February 28, we voted and affirmed new candidates for deacon, new trustees, and new candidates for deaconess. Take a few moments to learn more about them:

LEADERS, continued on page 3

WOMEN'S
DAY

2023

MARCH
19TH
2023

10:00 AM
WORSHIP

GUEST PREACHER:

**REV. SANETTA
PONTON**
METRO COMMUNITY CHURCH,
ENGLEWOOD, NJ



April is Frangelism Month: Let's Get Ready!

Pastor Walton identified April as our first Frangelism month during his presentation on Vision Sunday. Now is the time to begin preparation!

What is Frangelism?

Simply put, Frangelism is an intentional effort to reach Friends, Relatives, Acquaintances, and Neighbors without a church home. We learn in Mark 5, that after Jesus healed the demon possessed man, the man begged to stay with Jesus. However, Jesus had a different plan. Mark 5:19 says: "However, Jesus did not permit him, but said to him, 'Go home to your friends, and tell them what great things the Lord has done for you, and how He has had compassion on you.'" This is the essence of our call to Frangelism.

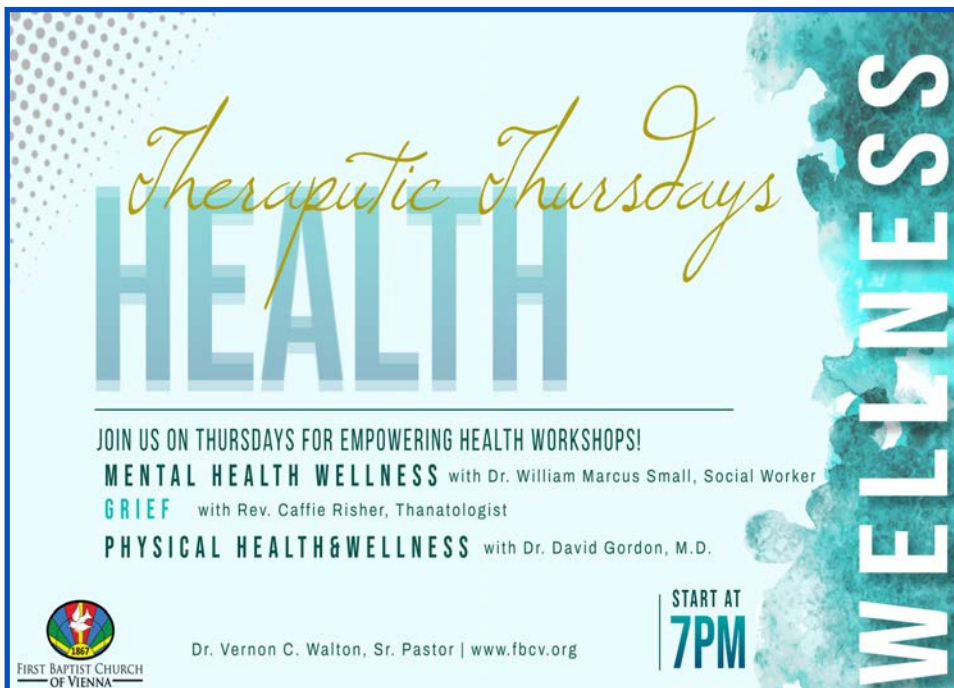
Why Frangelism?

There is a huge body of research that examines what brings people to church. This research suggests that 86% of people come to church as a result of an invitation from a friend, relative, associate or neighbor. The statistics are clear, we each have a responsibility to share our faith in our personal relationships.

What's Next?

Throughout the month of March, we will be providing tools and resources that will assist you as we prepare for our first Frangelism Month. This is also the perfect opportunity to restock the invite cards you received on Vision Sunday and share them with your "FRANs. We also want to ensure that the guests we will receive experience First Baptist's "Radical Hospitality." We need you to volunteer to serve as a greeter or as part of our new Welcome Team, but most importantly, we want to create a welcoming environment for all who will come. Finally, let's be intentional about covering our first Frangelism month with our prayers.

—Stacey Seay



DEACONS-IN-TRAINING



ANTOINETTE GUIDRY

- Native of Louisiana. Currently employed at Northrop Grumman. Before joining Northrop, practiced law for 15 years as an In-House Counsel. Married to Duke Meekins for 28 years, and mother to Sydney Meekins.
- Accepted Jesus Christ and God turned my life around at the age of eight. FBCV member for 27 years.
- Served in Evangelism, Sound/Media, HANDS, Greeter's, Women's, Worship & Arts, Praise Team, and CLA, Connection Group and VBS Teacher and member of the FBCV Credit Union.
- Graduate of The Evans-Smith Institute of Church Leadership Training Program Virginia Union University Samuel Dewitt Proctor School of Theology School and the FBCV Discipleship Training Program.
- Her favorite scripture is Romans Chapter 12.



JULIAN PURVIS

- Member of FBCV for 24+ years
- Active Trustee of FBCV for 8+ years
- Hometown of Jacksonville, NC
- Currently working towards a Master's of Arts in Religious Studies with a concentration on Ethics Social Justice (Howard Univ/ School of Divinity)
- Twenty-four years of marriage to Shawn Chambliss-Purvis with three boys (Javon, Jamari and Justin)



LAMONT RUFFIN

- Joined FBCV in December of 2020
- Born in Greensboro, NC and raised in Durham, NC.
- Married to Natalie M. Ruffin for 16 years. Father to Preston Daniel (13) and Aaron Patrick (9)
- B.A. Political Science from The North Carolina A&T State University and Master of Professional Studies from the University of Memphis.
- Currently a Deputy U.S. Marshal Investigator for the last 22 years.
- Member of Plum Bush Masonic Lodge, Life Member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., and Life Member of Blacks In Government (BIG)
- Enjoy golf, bowling, traveling and coaching youth travel baseball.

DEACONESS-IN-TRAINING



MARGARET CHICHESTER

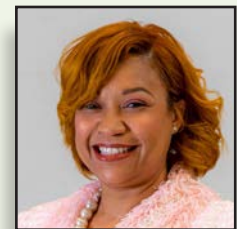
- Joined First Baptist on Dec. 24, 1989 and currently is an active member and serves in whatever areas there is a need.
- Serves on the following ministries: Worship & Arts, Women's Ministry and Finance staff/team.
- Mother to Jessica Devona Ligon and Tracy Chichester Jr. Grandmother to Liliana Naomi Chichester.
- Favorite Scriptures are Proverbs 3:3 and 6; Philippians 4:4-9
- She is thankful for God's grace and the opportunities to grow and fellowship with my church family.



KISHA LEE

- Wife and mother of one
- Loves working with the youth; currently working as a tutor with the FBCV Excellence Academy.
- Enjoys swimming, music, and dancing
- A new dog mom

TRUSTEES



ARNITRA DUCKETT

- Vice President, Product Marketing at Scholastic Education Solutions.
- Holds a B.S. degree in Mathematics from Spelman College and is an active member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.



JOHN SEAY

- Army Combat Veteran
- Married 24 Years, with two children
- B.S. In Business
- Project Manager w/ Leidos
- African-American Leidos Association National Lead for Membership and Engagement

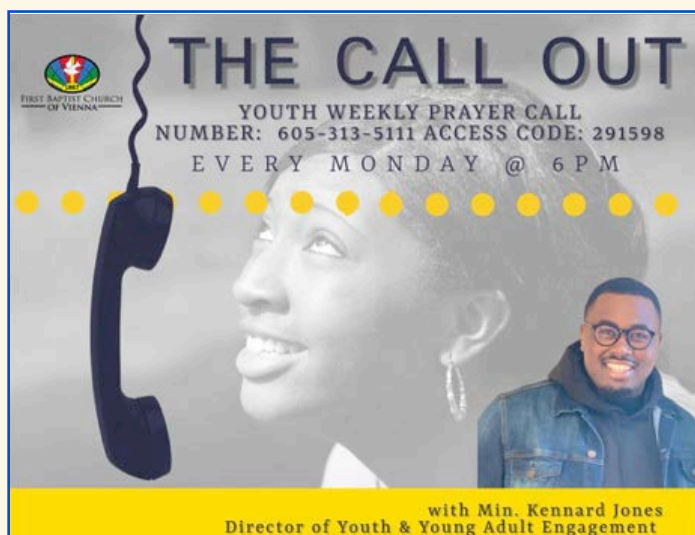
Youth and Young Adult Update

Greetings FBCV family! We have some exciting opportunities coming up this month! I am excited to announce the return of our Liturgical Dance Ministry. The liturgical dance ministry will be dancing on Resurrection Sunday. If your child/ren are interested please email me at kjones@fbcv.org. We are so excited and looking forward to all the great things God will do through the liturgical dance ministry! I am also so excited about Chat and Chew w/ Min KJ, where our youth will get the opportunity to have one on one lunch with me at their school. Please be on the lookout for the registration link.

Lastly, please know it is my desire that we aim to create experiences that broaden perspectives, empower each other, ignite passions, expose possibilities, and inspire pursuits. I am looking forward to the great things God is doing through our youth and young adult ministry!

Peace and blessings!

—Min. KJ



The Call Out

We have a new time for the Youth Prayer Call! The Call Out Prayer Call will begin at 7:30pm. Be sure to have your prayer journal during our devotional time. This is going to allow us to journey together during our prayer call. If you do not have a prayer journal, you can still join the prayer call! I can't wait for you to join me!

Excellence Academy

The First Baptist Church of Vienna Excellence Academy provides individualized attention and group assistance for students. Tutors participate in a collaborative training to understand best practices and plan effectively for students. Tutors help to motivate students' participation and engagement in the classroom, as well as help to provide additional support for students that will aid them in the learning experience. We also have our Purpose Academy music enrichment program which allows students to utilize their musical gifts and talents through the arts. Excellence Academy assists students in grades K-6 to identify strategies to support learning and enhancing academic performance. Tutoring and music enrichment is conducted in a constructive atmosphere of learning using a variety of learning techniques tailored to each student's individual learning style. Excellence Academy's main goal is to inspire students to become confident, independent learners prepared to meet academic and personal challenges. Be sure to register at www.tinyurl.com/fbcvacademy



★ COLLEGE CONNECTION ★

May God's blessings be upon you today and every day. May you be guided by His love for you and find comfort in His care. May you grow to know and love Him more each day. Amen

MARCH BIRTHDAY

Happy Birthday to our March scholar: **Jarell Brown**, a freshman at Southern Virginia University.

SHOW US THE MONEY (for SCHOOL, that is)

Scholarship/Internship/Fellowship Opportunities

If you have information that you are willing to share about scholarships or internships that could benefit our high school and college scholars, please email that information to Arnitra Duckett (arnitrad@mac.com). We will forward that information to our scholars to assist them in finding funding for school and gaining valuable professional experiences.

THERE'S STILL TIME TO APPLY

JP Morgan Chase Advancing Black Pathways; 6-week full-time paid fellowship; Must be a college sophomore that graduates between December 2024 and May 2025. More info: www.jpmorganchase.com/impact/people/advancing-black-pathways/fellowship-program

The Congressional Black Caucus Foundation has scholarships and lots of them. Visit <https://www.cbcbfnc.org/programs/scholarships/> to apply now.

ATTENTION ALL HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS...

Who's Been Accepted? We Want to Know? We want to know where you are applying to school. Send the College Connection a note letting us know where you have applied for early admission. All information can be sent to Arnitra Duckett (arnitrad@mac.com)

THE COLLEGE CONNECTION MINISTRY WELCOMES YOU... JOIN US FOR OUR NEXT MEETING.

The College Connection Ministry meeting for this month is scheduled for March 21 at 7 p.m. We have been meeting virtually. Please send Arnitra Duckett an email (arnitrad@mac.com) to request the contact information for our next meeting.



Valerie Smith and family
for the loss of her sister,
Loretta F. Blue

Joyce Lansdown for the
loss of her sister -in-law,
and Tracy Sparks
for the loss of her aunt,
Charlene L. Simmons

Missions Updates

We are blessed to be a blessing! In our continued effort toward Risk Taking Mission and Service, we resumed our monthly fresh food distribution in February. We distributed over a 1000 pounds of fresh produce to our community in February and will provide even more food in the coming months. In addition, we have distributed over 800 weekend snack packages to our partner schools in Fairfax County. As a result of our commitment to addressing food insecurity in the area, we provided direct food assistance to five area schools and are committed to seven schools starting in March.

How Can You Help?

Continue to pray for our mission and outreach efforts.

Continue to provide financial support by giving to missions.

Share information about our monthly free food distributions to those who may benefit. We currently distribute food from three sites on the second Saturday of each month:

First Baptist Church Parking Lot (9 a.m. – 12 p.m. or while supplies last)

Brookfield Elementary School (10 a.m. – 12 p.m. or while supplies last)

Unique Reflections Barbershop (10 a.m. – 12 p.m. or while supplies last)

Volunteer! We need your hands to help make this possible even if you cannot commit to serving the entire time, come for as long as can. We especially need men (and anyone who can manage) to assist with the heavy lifting required on both days. We need volunteers to drive food to the offsite locations, package food onsite and to assist with Saturday distributions.

Thursday before 2nd Saturday (10 a.m. until complete). Needs: Food sorting and

packaging Second Saturday (8 a.m. until complete). Needs: drivers needed, food sorting and packaging, distribution of bags at all sites

Sign up at: www.fbcvbearsfruit

IN THE COMMUNITY

Vienna's African American Trailblazers

FBCV Members Gloria Runyon, Dee Dee Carter, and Sylvia Taylor have compiled a new exhibit at the Freeman Store and Museum entitled "Vienna's African American Trailblazers," which opens on Sunday, March 13. The exhibit highlights:

- **Keziah Hatton Carter and Lucy Hatton Carter**—Indigenous community leaders
- **William "Buck" McKinley Carter**—Community leader and the force behind Patrick Henry Library; grandfather of Hoyt Carter
- **Charles and Esther "Tippy" Carter**—First family who participated in Vienna Little League and Babe Ruth League; parents of Dee Dee Carter
- **Douglas Brown**—Established the Negro Baseball League; ancestor of Dee Carter and Gloria Runyon
- **Lillian Blackwell**—Civil Rights Activist; Community Leader
- **William Alexander West**—West St. NW named for his family; an organizer of the Fairfax Co. NAACP in 1944
- **Andrew Minor**—Founded Union Baptist Church
- **Theodore "Ted" Thomas**—Protector of Vienna's African American history and historic sites; late husband of Lorraine Thomas, Uncle of Gloria Runyon
- **Louise Reeves Archer**—Principal of Vienna Colored School, later renamed Louise Archer School
- **Odessa Thomas Carter**—First Negro employee at Town Hall; great-aunt of Dee Dee Carter
- **George E Brown**—First Negro Town of Vienna Police Officer; uncle of Gloria Carter and Edward Hansborough

• **Raymond Williams**—First African American licensed as an electrician in Fairfax County (1945); father of Ann and Louise Williams

The exhibit is located in the hallway adjacent to the Store and the stairway that leads to the upstairs Museum. It will be on display for the rest of the year.

Gloria, Dee Dee, and Sylvia are members of Historic Vienna, Inc. Gloria and Sylvia are also Board Members.

The Freeman Store and Museum is located at 131 Church St. NE, Vienna. Hours are Wednesday–Sunday, 12 p.m.–4 p.m. Please visit the exhibit and learn this fascinating history of the featured trailblazers.



Gloria Runyon



Sylvia Taylor



Dee Dee Carter

Worship and Arts

Around the entire world, March is considered the special month celebrated as Women's History Month. Starting March 1 and throughout the month, First Baptist will honor women. We will turn the celebration up on March 19, our annual Women's Day, by celebrating women who tell our stories.

To be a part of this momentous occasion, join the Women's Day Choir. For the link to Zoom rehearsals and more information, please contact me at mcknightk@fbcv.org

Monday 3/6 at 7 p.m.—Zoom
Saturday 3/11 at 10 a.m.—Zoom
Tuesday 3/14 at 7 p.m.—In-Person
Saturday 3/18 at 10 a.m.—In-Person

—Kwan McKnight



DeAmond "Dee Dee" Carter and family to commemorate the 89th birthday of their mother Esther "Tippy" Carter. Also to commemorate the 72nd birthday of their brother, Gordon Carter.

Compiled by Ceola Allen

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PASTOR, *continued from page 1*

working alone.

In addition, every member is asked to be an evangelist. Everyone is not asked to preach a sermon, but everyone is asked to share our faith with others. We are providing the tools necessary to aid in this process. I want to encourage you to use the invite cards provided on Vision Sunday. If you are need of more, please contact the church office because that is a great problem to have. It is my desire that we engage in the principle of Radical Hospitality. This month we want to do the work that will help produce a harvest next month, which will be our "FRAngelism" Month. Tell someone about Jesus and invite them to worship with us. This is how we fulfill the Great Commission. We must go out and make disciples. We cannot make them disciples, if we do not first, engage with them. I am waiting in anticipation to see how God honors our efforts to become a more fruitful congregation!

Money Matters: How a Federal Tax Credit Differs From Deductions

Tax season is upon us. For some, it may be your first time filing. And even for those who have filed for years, taxes are not the easiest task to tackle.

From credits to deductions, tax terminology can be confusing. So, here's what you should know about tax credits, what they are, how they work, and what makes them different from deductions.

What is a federal tax credit?

A tax credit is the dollar-for-dollar amount of money that taxpayers subtract directly from the income taxes they owe. There are different types of tax credits, including: Nonrefundable, refundable, and partially refundable

Both federal and state governments give tax credits such as the Child Tax Credit or Lifetime Learning Credit to sustain and benefit the economy. A federal tax credit is granted by the federal government.

Tax credit vs. tax deduction

While they may appear similar, tax credits and tax deductions are two separate things. A tax credit refers to the specific amount taken away from what a person owes. For example, if you receive a tax credit of \$2,000 on a \$4,500 tax bill, it would be reduced to \$2,500.

On the other hand, a tax deduction reduces the amount of your income that is taxed. For example, let's say you have a taxable income of \$60,000 and you receive \$10,000 in deductions. This would reduce your taxable income to \$50,000. The main difference is tax credits impact the total tax, while deductions only affect the amount of your income that is subject to tax.

If you have tax questions, your First Baptist Federal Credit Union can help. Feel free to contact us for your money management matters.

—Submitted by Willie Boykin (Based on an article written by Olivia Munson, USA TODAY)



First Baptist Church of Vienna

MONTHLY DRIVE-THROUGH FOOD GIVEAWAY

FRESH PRODUCE / PANTRY STAPLES / MORE!

★★★★★

- FRESH - FREE - HEALTHY -

SATURDAYS:

(2/11, 3/11, 4/8, 5/13, 6/10)

(While supplies last!)



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF VIENNA

DAILY NOON-DAY Devotion

MON-FRI

CALL -IN 605-313-5111
ACCESS CODE: 291598



CONNECT WITH US!

- Facebook First Baptist Church of Vienna
- Instagram Firstbaptisvienna
- Twitter fbc_vienna
- Youtube First Baptist Church of Vienna



Special dates in MARCH

Girl Scout Day
March 12

Daylight-Saving Time begins
March 12

St. Patrick's Day
March 17

First Day of Spring
March 20



FIRST BAPTISTCHURCH

450 Orchard St. N.W.,
Vienna, Virginia 22180
(703) 938-8525 • www.fbcv.org
Dr. Vernon C. Walton, Pastor

March

April 2023

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
26	27	28	1 7:00 am Prayer Call 12:00 pm Prayer Call 7:00 pm Mid-Week Worship	2 12:00 pm Prayer Call	3 12:00 pm Prayer Call	4 9:00 AM Serving Leader Meeting
5 Communion 8:00 am CLA 10:00 am Worship	6 12:00 pm Prayer Call 6:00 pm The Call Out: Youth Prayer	7 12:00 pm Prayer Call	8 7:00 am Prayer Call 12:00 pm Prayer Call 7:00 pm Mid-Week Worship	9 10:00 am Food Packaging 12:00 pm Prayer Call 7:00 pm Therapeutic Thursdays: Mental	10 12:00 pm Prayer Call	11 9:00 am Food Distribution
12 8:00 am CLA 10:00 am Worship	13 12:00 pm Prayer Call 6:00 pm The Call Out: Youth Prayer	14 12:00 pm Prayer Call	15 7:00 am Prayer Call 12:00 pm Prayer Call 7:00 pm Mid-Week Worship	16 12:00 pm Prayer Call 7:00 pm Therapeutic Thursdays: Grief	17 12:00 pm Prayer Call 7:00 PM Women's Weekend Prayer	18 12:00 pm Wings & a Word: Women's Edition
19 Women's Day 8:00 am CLA 10:00 am Worship	20 12:00 pm Prayer Call 6:00 pm The Call Out: Youth Prayer	21 12:00 pm Prayer Call	22 7:00 am Prayer Call 12:00 pm Prayer Call 7:00 pm Mid-Week Worship	23 12:00 pm Prayer Call	24 12:00 pm Prayer Call	25
26 8:00 am CLA 10:00 am Worship	27 12:00 pm Prayer Call 6:00 pm The Call Out: Youth Prayer 7:00 pm SJM: Crucial Conversations	28 12:00 pm Prayer Call	29 7:00 am Prayer Call 12:00 pm Prayer Call 7:00 pm Mid-Week Worship	30 12:00 pm Prayer Call 7:00 pm Therapeutic Thursdays: Heart Health	31 12:00 pm Prayer Call	1