

# FIRST MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

## 134<sup>th</sup> CHURCH ANNIVERSARY OBSERVANCE

*“Celebrating 134 Years...Rooted in Faith and Love, Serving with Purpose and Passion”*



*“Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.”*  
*Colossians 3:23-24*

*Sunday, August 24, 2014 at 8:00 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.*  
*Guest Preacher, The Reverend Dr. Howard-John Wesley, Pastor*  
*Alfred St. Baptist Church, Alexandria, VA*  
*Reverend Julius R. Scruggs, D.Min., Pastor*  
*3509 Blue Spring Road—Huntsville, Alabama — (256) 852-4318*



## **Rev. Dr. Howard-John Wesley**



Rev. Dr. Howard-John Wesley is the senior pastor of Alfred Street Baptist Church in Alexandria, Virginia. He is the 8th pastor in the 205 year history of this church. He is passionate about proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ, making the Word of God relevant in the lives of believers, and building the Kingdom of God in the congregation and community. Reverend Wesley represents the fourth generation of Baptist preachers in his family. He is a graduate of Duke University. He attended the Boston University School of Theology where he concentrated on Biblical Studies and African-American religious history. He graduated from the Northern Baptist Theological Seminary with his Doctor of Ministry degree in 2003.

Currently, Rev. Wesley is leading Alfred Street Baptist Church in participation with the National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc., National Baptist Congress of Christian Education, Progressive National Baptist Convention, Baptist World Alliance, the Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Convention, the Northern Virginia Baptist Association, and the Baptist General Convention of Virginia. He is highly sought after and preaches at revivals, conferences, and church growth seminars across the nation and lectures annually at the National Baptist Congress.



# HISTORY OF THE FIRST MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

*First Missionary Baptist Church of Huntsville, Alabama is “Striving to be one of the most loving churches in all the world.” For 134 years we have been on this path. But how did our journey of faith begin? Our history unfolds revealing the journey of saints who passed the torch through the years. Today, we stand on their shoulders and under the shadow of God’s unfailing grace.*

## ***The Formation of the Church in the Latter Half of the 19th Century***

In the late 1800’s a group of Christians from Aberdeen, MS, settled in Huntsville, AL. Among the families were the Herndons, Turners, and Furlows. Being Baptist, these families found no Missionary Baptist Church. Therefore, guided by the Holy Spirit, in 1880, they established the First Missionary Baptist Church (FMBC) in an old house on West Clinton Street under the leadership of Rev. Robert Green. Some of the descendants of these first families still live in Huntsville and carry on their families’ faith legacy within First Missionary Baptist Church.

Shortly after the formation of FMBC, in 1881 Rev. Pope Jones was named pastor. During his pastoral tenure, services were held in the United States Court Building at 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. each Sunday. Rev. Jones started a building program, and, with assistance from the Muscle Shoals Missionary Baptist Association, the FMBC purchased a lot on Steele Street. Construction of the church began in 1886 with Rev. Jones and Rev. M. J. Hooks erecting the structure.

Between 1888 and 1949, FMBC became a stronghold in the local community. During this period, many ministers played significant roles in guiding the Church and shaping its future. Among those demonstrating their ability to be a strong shepherd for God’s people were Reverends A. Trampe, A. Jones, J. Hampton, S. Robinson, J. Miller, J. Mastin, C. Perry, J. Butler, A. James, W. Walton, W. Howse, O. Tucker, Matthews and E. Drew. Many progressive strides were made under their spiritual leadership.

## ***FMBC at Mid-20th Century***

As FMBC grew and matured through the early to mid-1900’s, it underwent many periods of adjustment. In 1949, God sent a strong anchor and blessing in the person of the young, gifted, and well-prepared Rev. Horace P. Snodgrass. Rev. Snodgrass held earned degrees, including the Bachelor of Theology and Doctor of Divinity from American Baptist Theological Seminary and Selma University, respectively. He came to FMBC with a vision and a program and served the church faithfully for 24 years. His tenure ended the previous pattern of brief pastoral stints; thus enabling the church to experience a period of real stability.

Under the dynamic leadership of Rev. Snodgrass, the church evolved spiritually and physically. Rev. Snodgrass constantly reminded the membership that the mission of the Church was to lead souls to Christ. The missionary thrust resulted in a steady increase in membership. The church was, for the first time, united actively with the district, state, and national Baptist organizations and soon was represented on Executive Committees and staffs at each level. The internal organization of the church was strengthened with the founding of the Brotherhood Organization, a service auxiliary composed of the men of the church.

Rev. Snodgrass also led significant improvements in the physical plant of the Church. The acceptance by the Alabama Baptist Convention of the invitation to hold the 1953 annual session at FMBC led to the complete renovation of the church interior and the beautification of the building's exterior and grounds. The most notable renovations were the additions of an indoor baptistery, a central heating system, an updated kitchen, restrooms, and a sidewalk in front of the church. Shortly thereafter, the steep steps outside were remodeled to allow a rest between flights, thereby accommodating those members who found the task of climbing the steps very challenging. Also in 1953, another arm was added to the FMBC outreach ministry - the powerful arm of radio. Broadcasting from station WBHP, the opening words of the program were:

*"This is your hour of consolation; stop whatever you are doing and worship with us."*

The hymn *"We're Marching to Zion"* became familiar in the Huntsville community as the herald of the first radio broadcast emanated from a local Black church. The radio broadcast was later moved to station WEUP, from which it is still being broadcast.

As FMBC entered the decade of the 60's, it continued to thrive. The property adjacent to the church was purchased for development of a paved parking lot. Meanwhile, the church interior underwent additional renovation to achieve a completely new look for the choir loft. While the church edifice was being improved, the spiritual aspects were advancing greatly. Persons within the church were answering the call to the ministry and other ministers were uniting with the church. The ministers listed below were part of this group: Reverends P.S. Swoope, Horace Snodgrass, Felix James, D.B. Sledge, Charles Wormsly, A.B. Walker, John Ewing, Elmore Hurt, Gerald Easley, M. C. Easley, E. E. Morton, Earl Densmore and G.W. Lindsey, Jr.

Also during the 60's FMBC was actively engaged in addressing social issues of the day. During the civil rights era, the FMBC opened its doors as a haven for those fighting for freedom and served as a willing partner in the quest for full rights for African Americans.

After nearly a quarter century of service to the FMBC, Rev. Snodgrass was called to his final reward while officiating at a funeral in the church pulpit on July 29, 1973. Upon Rev. Snodgrass' passing, Rev. Emuel E. Cleaver, who was serving as assistant pastor, served briefly as pastor, until 1975. During Cleaver's brief pastorate, renewed emphasis was placed on the financial responsibilities of individual members. Responding positively to this renewed emphasis, FMBC was able to liquidate its indebtedness and began planning a new, modern church facility. Cleaver left FMBC in 1975 and was succeeded by interim pastor, Rev. Wayne P. Snodgrass, who served until a new pastor could be assigned. Under his leadership, the church purchased a new parsonage. This period was also marked by a growing spirituality that seemed to permeate the church as it looked to the arrival of a new pastor. After an extended prayerful search, FMBC called as pastor the Rev. Dr. Julius R. Scruggs who accepted the call and agreed to begin his pastorate in January 1977.

### ***FMBC in the Last Quarter of the 20th and Early 21st Century***

Rev. Scruggs came to First Baptist in January 1977 as scheduled. He possessed superb academic credentials, holding the B.A. degree from American Baptist College and the Master of Divinity and Doctor of Ministry degrees from Vanderbilt University Divinity School. Scruggs' academic credentials were enhanced by 17 years of pastoral experience prior to coming to FMBC. Over the course of 37 years, Rev. Scruggs has molded and shaped the thrust of Christian Education, outreach ministry, stewardship, physical growth and spiritual maturity.

**Christian Education and Molding Christian Leaders:** With the conviction to become a stronger teaching Church, several classes were added to the Sunday School Department. Bible study classes for all ages are taught each Wednesday night and each Wednesday at noon. As a result of Bible Study, Sunday School, and biblically-based preaching, a consciousness regarding reaching people for Christ has escalated.

Fulfilling our vision and goals for ministry has required the placement of staff ministers over the years:

- In July 1983, Rev. Michelle Cobb became a part of the church's ministry in the capacity of Director of Christian Education/Assistant Administrator. After four years of faithful service in this capacity, Rev. Cobb resigned to return to graduate school.
- Rev. Frederick A. Davis was called to the staff as Associate Pastor in March 1987, and served faithfully in support of various church ministries. In 1991, Rev. Davis was called to a pastoral assignment in Durham, NC.
- Upon Davis' departure, the late Rev. A. Russell Bailey joined the staff as Minister of Christian Education and Discipleship Training and served for four years in this capacity before being called to a pastorate in Mesa, AZ.

- Rev. G.W. Lindsey, Jr., part-time staff minister, has served very faithfully as assistant in ministries to the Pastor for more than 30 years. His devotion and commitment to the membership is evident through his daily visitations. He provides leadership for the Wednesday Night Prayer Service and devotional period, monthly baptismal services, and jail ministry. He readily avails himself to serve as directed by the Pastor.
- Rev. Earla S. Lockhart joined the ministerial staff in 1993. She served effectively as Assistant Administrator/Business Manager for 10 years, before being reassigned as Staff Minister of Christian Education and Discipleship Training. Following her semi-retirement in December 2005, she assumed part-time duties as Staff Minister of Congregational Care.
- Rev. Troy Garner was appointed as Staff Minister of Christian Education and Discipleship Training, serving in this capacity from 1996 until called to his first pastoral assignment in Mobile, AL.
- Rev. Dr. Janette Kotey joined our church staff as full-time Minister of Music in November 2000. A gifted singer in her own right, she gives oversight to the entire music ministry and serves as music instructor for the FMBC Child Development Center and Academy.
- Rev. Morris (Marty) Tipton, II, joined the staff in 2003 as Manager of Ministries (the position formerly known as Assistant Administrator/Business Manager) and has become a very valuable asset to the church staff. In January of 2006, in an effort to address the changing and growing needs of the youth and young adults, Rev. Tipton accepted the responsibility of a new position, Staff Minister of Youth and Young Adult Ministries.
- Rev. Carolyn Landry, a faithful member of FMBC since 1985, was named Staff Minister for Church Administration in 2006. In addition to her administrative duties, Rev. Landry gives leadership to the Prayer Ministry which meets weekly at the church on Tuesday mornings and has participated in international missions trips to Haiti and the Dominican Republic.
- Rev. Chantaye Knotts was appointed as Staff Minister of Christian Education and Discipleship Training in 2007. Rev. Knotts has been instrumental in the addition of the weekly noon Bible Study class and has led several curriculum enhancements in the Christian Education ministry to include special Christian Education courses, training workshops, and short-term topical series for the Sunday School Ministry. Additionally, she served in the establishment and now in the ongoing administration of the FMBC Foundation.

During Rev. Scruggs' pastorate several men and women have been called to preach. Among them are: Brothers Edward Anderson, Russell Bailey, Fred Batts, Jerome Bell, Emanuel Burks, James Cox, Errol Davis, Wiley Day, Sr., Jonathan Ford, Sr., Michael Gilchrist, Earl Johnson, Nicholas Hammonds, Charles Lee, Stephen Morgan, Charlie Nelson, Mitchell Reed, Michael Rice, Chauncey Robinson, Melvin Summerhill, Stanley Torain, Justin Vickerstaff,

Terrance Vickerstaff, Mark Whigham, W.F. Williams and Marvin Winston; and Sisters Bridgitt Brown, Cynthia Carter, Jennifer Davis, Rhonda Daniels, Louise Freeman, Janice Patton Gaines, Carolyn Landry, Evelyn Felicia Matthews, JoAnita Miley, Priscilla Montgomery, Arnatta Poole, Mary Robinson Posey, Adria Dianne Smith, and Angela Taylor.

Other ministers have united with the church during Pastor Scruggs' tenure, including Willie Alexander, Eugene Brown, Carlisle Hammonds, Jeremy Hammonds, Gregory Haygood, John Holden, Benjamin Horne, Edward Jones, Ritzal King, Chantaye Knotts, Gregory Lunn, Eileen Marshall, Wilmer Marshall, Anthony McCoy, Delvick McKay, Timothy Perryman, Tharon Rankins, W. Temple Richie, Jr., Jim Stewart, and Bessie Whitaker.

Understanding the importance and impact of Christian Education in the early years, the Church instituted a program for the care and education of children. A licensed Child Development Center (CDC) for children 2 1/2 years through Kindergarten was instituted in 1982. In 1992, the CDC was expanded to include an academy. The Child Development Center and Academy (CDCA) serves children from 2 1/2 through third grade. The academy allows students to develop spiritually, academically, socially, and morally under the direction of competent Christian directors, staff, teachers and other personnel.

**Outreach Ministries:** The Church ministries are growing and through them an impact is being made in the community. The Outreach Ministries include the Annual Revival, Witnessing Teams, Bus Ministry, Storehouse Ministry, Jail Ministry, a Sunday Radio Broadcast and an affordable housing assistance program. In January 2001, the Church launched a television ministry, broadcasting Sunday evenings on WHDF, an affiliate of CW Television Network.

In 1992 and in 2003, First Missionary Baptist Church totally built and paid for two houses in partnership with Habitat for Humanity. Since 1993, the church has allocated \$10,000 a year for Habitat for Humanity. Additionally, members of the Church congregation have also helped build nine other Habitat Houses in partnership with other congregations, for a total of eleven homes. Other ministries include the ministry of Pastoral Care, which has expanded to include Congregational Care (a ministry provided by lay ministers caring for members); and a male discipleship class established in 1991. These expanded aspects of our Church's ministry have added a new life and vitality to the Church's overall ministry.

It is also significant to note that the church holds life membership with the NAACP and local meetings are held at the Church. Presently, Rev. Scruggs serves on the National Board of Directors for the NAACP.



Home and Foreign Missions is another ministry that has received special emphasis under Rev. Scruggs' leadership. Over the years, the FMBC budget allocation for missions has steadily increased. From the mission budget, contributions are made to American Baptist College, Selma University, Alabama A&M University, Morehouse School of Religion, Birmingham Baptist College, Huntsville Bible College, Drake State Technical College, etc. The Church also sponsors a child in India. In 1992, we helped to endow the Chair of Excellence at American Baptist College by giving \$110,000. In 1996, we began underwriting the Dean's salary at the University of Haiti, by giving \$12,000. In 1997, we gave Selma University \$100,000. In March 2001, FMBC gave \$500,000 to endow the Chair of Pastoral Leadership-Preaching at American Baptist College. This was an unprecedented gift for a church of our size and the announcement received national attention. Our church also helped to build a Chapel/Medical Clinic in Swaziland, Africa.

Several scholarship funds have been established to aid young people and ministerial students of FMBC in their educational endeavors. The first scholarship award was made in the summer of 1978. The Nathaniel Griffin Scholarship Fund was awarded in the amount of \$1,000 in 1987, and is awarded annually. Other scholarship funds have been established: the Dorothy Bowen Ammons Scholarship (1991); the Calvin Parker Scholarship (1999); the four year Alabama A & M University Scholarship (1998); the John Riche Scholarship (2005); the Ann Benson Scholarship (2004) and the Pokie Mose Scholarship (2007).

The church has also established a very successful program of recreational fellowship. Through the years, this program has included golf, basketball, and a church bowling league.

**Stewardship, Physical Growth, and Spirituality:** Since 1977, over 4,877 new members have united with the church. The annual budget has increased from \$72,000 to more than \$3 million.

The twelve-acre lot on Blue Spring Road was purchased in 1977 and construction of the Church began soon after. On March 9, 1980, the members of the First Missionary Baptist Church family along with friends and well-wishers marched into the new structure which cost \$1,092,000. Since moving into the Church, the Educational Unit was dedicated as a memorial to Reverends Horace P. Snodgrass and Emuel E. Cleaver. The library was named the John W. Benson Memorial Library as a result of a donation from the Benson family.

In August of 1985, a new parsonage, costing \$127,000 was paid for and dedicated. In 1988, the Francina Bannister Scruggs Educational Complex was dedicated to the glory of God and the edification of humanity in loving memory of Francina B. Scruggs, first lady of First Missionary Baptist Church from 1977 until her death in 1987. This complex houses classrooms for the Sunday School and the Child Development Center/Academy, and a Fellowship Hall. The cost of the complex was \$650,000.

The indebtedness for Phase I of the Church was retired in 1990. The indebtedness of Phase II was retired in 1997. In August of 1995, the church erected and dedicated a New Christian Family Life Center and Academy at a cost of \$1,306,729.53. The three phases of our church facility cost over \$3,300,000. The indebtedness has been totally liquidated. In 2006, the new Administrative/Educational Wing was dedicated at a cost of more than three million dollars.

Rev. Scruggs, is not only a visionary leader, but also a noted scholar, a gifted writer, and published author. He has written four books: Meditations on the Church, Baptist Preachers with Social Consciousness: A Comparative Study of Martin Luther King, Jr. and Harry E. Fosdick, God is Faithful, and How to Study and Teach the Bible.

But, even more significant than Rev. Scruggs' many pastoral accomplishments and academic credentials, is his genuine love for the people of God. He is a "tender shepherd" who takes his calling seriously. On July 1, 1989, the church family was blessed by the union of Rev. Scruggs and the former Josephine Stewart Tipton. Mrs. Scruggs (Sister Jo) has blended beautifully into the FMBC family. She continuously looks for ways to minister and serve. She initiated the FMBC card ministry and served for 10 years as the Assistant Administrator for the CDCA, and, in August 2008 she served an additional one-year term as Interim CDCA Administrator. Dr. Annie Savage currently serves as CDCA Administrator.

Being a man of vision, Rev. Scruggs, has always been receptive to new ideas as they are revealed to him by God. Ongoing initiatives under his tenure have included the Pictorial Directory (every fifth year since 1985); an 8:00 a.m. worship service which began in 1997; and the Rites of Passage Program for youth which started in 1998. Seeing a need to address the enthusiasm of members ages 18-45, Pastor Scruggs launched YAM — Young Adults in Ministry in 2000. Shortly afterwards, in early 2001, the YAM Choir was formed. The changes brought by growth, diversity and spiritual needs of the FMBC family have been the guiding force for program developments that would nurture and uplift the church body.

In the last quarter of 2001, a more in-depth thrust of witnessing was begun. Under the umbrella of "2000 by 2002," we reached approximately 1800 unsaved, unchurched, or delinquent souls for Christ by the end of 2002 (just 200 short of the goal to reach 2000 persons!). In 2003, the Church initiated an HIV/AIDS Ministry (The Healing Touch Ministry) and has been accepted as a Partner in AIDS Ministries by the Balm in Gilead, a nationally-known initiative to mobilize and empower Black congregations for HIV/AIDS ministry.

In 2008, The FMBC Children's Church Ministry was launched to serve children ages 2 through 5th grade during the 8 a.m. worship service. This special setting provides a unique worship experience that fosters the dynamics of the larger corporate worship, lovingly tailored for the children of FMBC. Children's Church provides the children and youth of FMBC with a safe and loving environment where they are led in a deepening of their understanding of God through worship, singing and sound teaching. Since its inception, many children have come to saving faith through the Lord Jesus Christ.

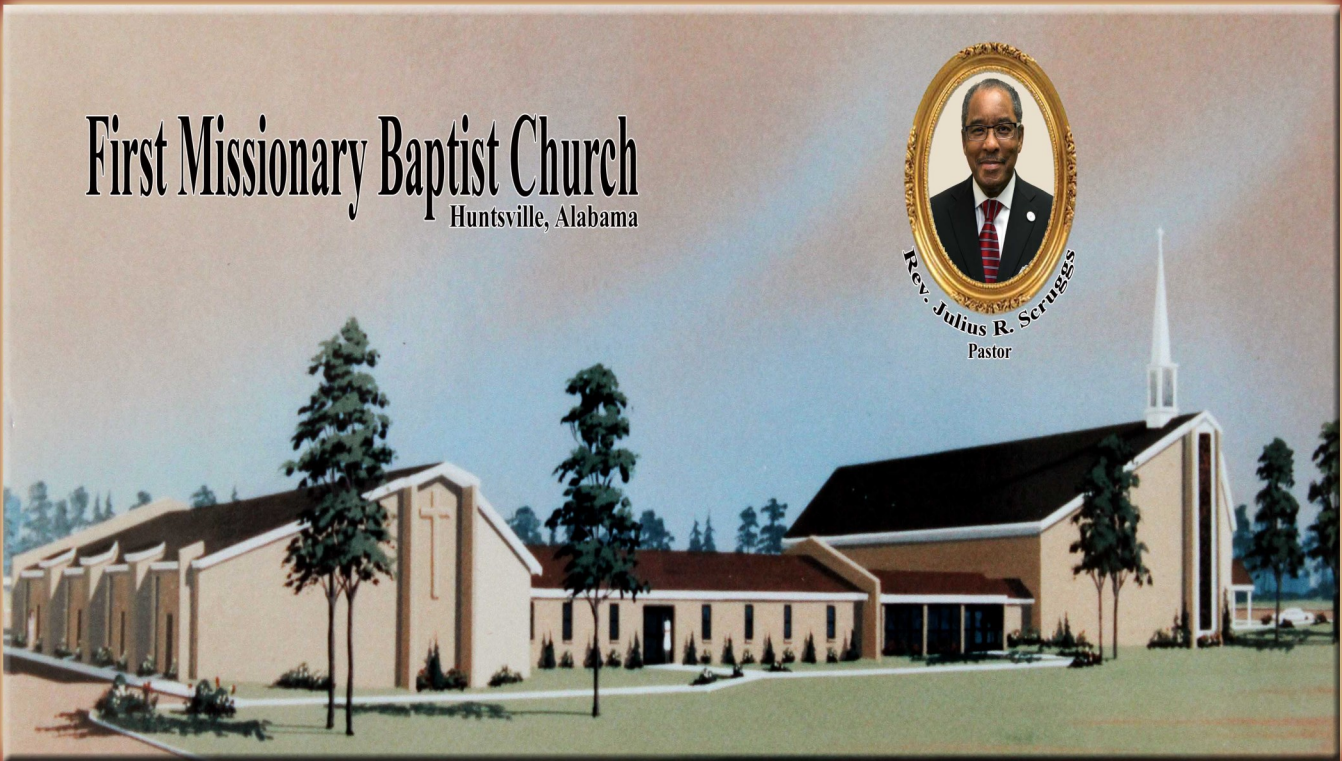
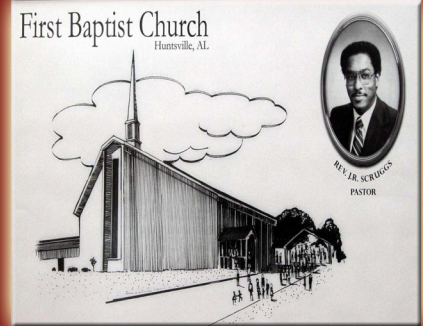
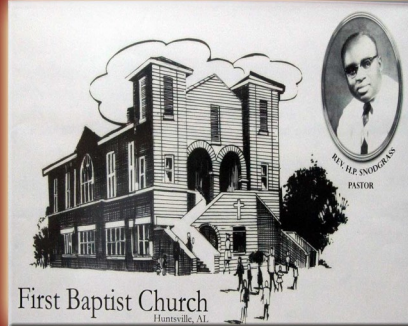
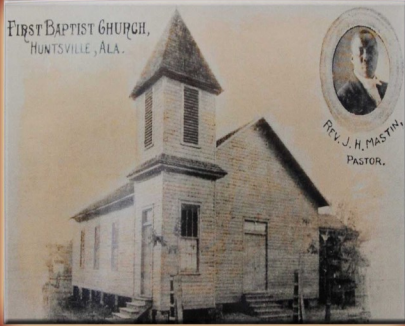
### **Leadership- National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc.:**

After serving for many years in various capacities within the Alabama State Baptist Convention (including two terms as State President), in September 1999, Rev. Scruggs was elected Vice President-at-Large of the National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc. serving under the administration of the Rev. Dr. William J. Shaw of Philadelphia, PA. Founded in 1886, the Convention is the nation's oldest and largest African American religious convention with an estimated membership of 7.5 million.

On September 10, 2009 during the Convention's 129th Annual Session, held in Memphis, TN, Rev. Scruggs was elected President of the National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc. Building on a message of "Let's Go Forward!" and his campaign theme of "Solidarity with the Savior," Rev. Scruggs has led the largest African American church organization in the nation in maintaining accountability and integrity.

As we move through the twenty-first century, under the leadership of Rev. Scruggs with Christ forever at the helm, more rich chapters will be added to the history of FMBC.

***“Celebrating 134 Years...Rooted in Faith and Love,  
Serving With Purpose and Passion”***



# ORDER OF WORSHIP

8:00 A.M.

**Worship Leader, Reverend Earla Lockhart**

\*7:55 Prelude.....Organist/Pianist

CALL TO WORSHIP.....Reverend Earla Lockhart

\*HYMN....."Called To Gather As God's People".....Daw  
(Tune:Nettleton - Come Thou Fount)

SCRIPTURE.....Reverend Marvin Winston

PRAYER ..... Deacon Maurice Cowan

CHORAL SELECTION.....Sanctuary/Brotherhood Choir

BIRTHDAY RECOGNITION ..... Brother Jesse Nunn

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS.....Sister Judith Orr

PASTORAL COMMENTS

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

Offertory Sentences

Offertory Prayer.....Sister Nadia Stewart

Offertory Music

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

\*Offertory Response: "All things come of Thee, O Lord, and of Thine own have we given  
Thee." A-men

INTRODUCTION OF GUEST PREACHER.....Pastor

CHORAL WORSHIP.....Sanctuary/Brotherhood Choir

**SERMON ..... The Reverend Dr. Howard-John Wesley**

**Pastor, Alfred St. Baptist Church**

**Alexandria, VA**

\*INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP.....Pastor

\*SONG OF AFFIRMATION.....Sanctuary/Brotherhood Choir

\*CLOSING SONG....."God Has Smiled On Me".....Congregation

BENEDICTION.....Pastor

POSTLUDE



**ORDER OF WORSHIP  
10:45 A.M.**

**Worship Leader, Minister Terrance Vickerstaff**

\*10:45 PRELUDE.....Organist/Pianist

CALL TO WORSHIP.....Minister Terrance Vickerstaff

\*HYMN....."Called To Gather As God's People".....Daw

(Tune:Nettleton - Come Thou Fount)

- 1. Called to gather as God's People,** We assemble in this place;  
To unite our hearts and voices, in thanksgiving for God's grace:  
For the birthing of creation, For Christ's rising from death's hold,  
For the coming of the Spirit, Week by week claimed and retold.
- 2. Taught and formed by proclamation,** We await Gods promised word:  
Song and story, psalm and precept, All the range of scripture heard.  
By this ancient, living witness We are summoned to confess  
How we fall short, yet can trust that God will hear, forgive, and bless.
- 3. Fed at Christ's abundant table,** We partake of holy food,  
Wake the gifts of hope and mem'ry, Taste and see that God is good.  
So our mingled lives are taken, Blessed and broken for Christ's sake,  
Given out to feed and comfort Bodies, minds, and hearts and ache.
- 4. Sent to share the Spirit's blessing,** We go forth renewed, restored,  
Humbled by the task before us, Strengthened by the Love outpoured.  
Finding faith confirmed in action, Led by hope through each new day,  
We are called to be God's people, Living what we sing and pray.

SCRIPTURE.....Sister Patricia Martin

\*PRAYER OF INVOCATION.....Minister James Cox

\*CHORAL RESPONSE....."Spirit of the Living God".....YAM/Youth Choir

\*RESPONSIVE READING.....Deacon Willie Fitzpatrick

**CHURCH ANNIVERSARY LITANY**

**LEADER:** We have come another year's journey as a congregation of baptized believers in Jesus Christ.

**CONGREGATION:** We praise You, O God, as we, Your people, reflect upon our journey. We praise You for the joys and challenges of being the church.

**LEADER:** The Foundation upon which we build is none other than Jesus Christ, the Lord. The church is “His new creation, by water and the word.”

**CONGREGATION:** We praise You, O God, as we, Your new creations, reflect upon our journeys. We celebrate our common bond as brothers and sisters.

**LEADER:** Jesus gave His life for the birth of the church. He sought the church to be His holy bride.

**CONGREGATION:** We praise You, O God, that Jesus paid the penalty for our sin. He died, was buried, and rose from the dead “to set us right with You, to make us fit for You.”

**LEADER:** Jesus declared, “Upon this Rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.” We are grateful that He has kept this commitment in our local congregation.

**CONGREGATION:** We praise You, O God, that as we have “borne our burdens in the heat of the day, we glorify You for making a way.” You have kept us in Your care through many dangers, toils and snares”

**LEADER:** As this congregation looks to the future, be reminded that “we are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.”

**CONGREGATION:** We are committed to “redeem the time,” to “occupy until the Lord comes back.” We will continue to “let our lights shine before others that they may see our good works that the Father will be glorified.”

**ALL:** We praise You, O God, for the union we have with You, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit—the Three in One. We praise You for the “mystic sweet communion we have with those whose rest is won. As happy and holy ones, we pray for grace that we, like them, the meek and lowly, on high may dwell with Thee.” Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

**\*HYMN 414....."We've Come This Far by Faith".....Goodson**  
**We've come this far by faith, Leaning on the Lord; Trusting in His Holy word, Jesus never failed me.**  
**Oh, can't turn around, we've come this far by faith.**  
**Don't be discouraged with trouble's in your life. He'll bear your burdens, And move all misery and strife, That's why we've come this far by faith.**  
**Just the other day I heard a man say he didn't believe in God's Word; but I can truly say, that God has made a way.**  
**Jesus never failed me. Thank God we've come this far by faith.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS.....Sister Ann Davis

PASTORAL COMMENTS.....Pastor

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

    Offertory Sentence

    Offertory Prayer.....Brother Steven H. Kenney, Jr.

    Offertory Music

    Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

    \*Offertory Response: “All things come of Thee, O Lord, and of Thine own have we given Thee.” A-men

BIRTHDAY RECOGNITION ..... Brother John Mark Debro

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS..... Sister Janet Slaughter

INTRODUCTION OF GUEST PREACHER.....Pastor

CHORAL SELECTION.....YAM/Youth Choir

**SERMON..... The Reverend Dr. Howard-John Wesley**

**Pastor, Alfred St. Baptist Church**

**Alexandria, VA**

\*INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP.....Pastor

ALTAR CALL.....Pastor

SONG OF AFFIRMATION.....YAM/Youth Choir

\*CLOSING HYMN.....”God Has Smiled On Me”.....Congregation

\*BENEDICTION.....Pastor

# OUR KNOWN SICK AND SHUT-IN MEMBERS

## Sick and Shut-In

Sis. Betty Adams            Sis. Catherine Hatchett  
Sis. Shirley Armstead    Sis. Lucille Hines  
Sis. Lora Bass            Sis. Cheryl Horne  
Sis. Sadie Bailey        Bro. Carl Jackson  
Bro. Mark Barkley        Sis. Gussie Jackson  
Sis. Margarete Betts     Sis. Barbara S. Jones  
Bro. Robert Booker      Sis. Jewel Joiner  
Sis. Rosemary Brown    Sis. Rosa Kilpatrick  
Sis. Charlotte Camble    Sis. Sheryl Lunn  
Sis. Mary Carroll        Sis. Phyllis McCaulley  
Sis. Laura Daniel        Sis. Lynell Moore  
Sis. Vickie Debose      Sis. Sylvia Oakes  
Sis. Jean Dillard        Bro. Earl Phillips  
Rev. Robbie Evans      Sis. Claudia Rhen  
Sis. Barbara Freeman    Bro. Leonard Smith  
Bro. Kenneth Gurley     Sis. Fannie Strong  
Bro. Willie Hall         Sis. Dorothy Thomas  
Sis. Betty Harris        Sis. Beatrice Thompson  
Sis. Marquita Harris    Dea. Robert Walker  
                                  Sis. Pearl Watson

## Hospital

### Out Of The City

Bro. Benny Rogers, Sr. Atlanta, GA  
Sis. Georgia McCloud, Decatur, GA  
Sis. Carita Mitchell - Philadelphia, PA

### Healthcare Facilities

Bro. Samuel Martin, Gardens of Madison  
Bro. Paul Crittenden, Floyd E. "Tut" Fann  
Bro. Charles E. Whitfield, Floyd E. "Tut" Fann  
Sis. Ruby Brown, Valley View Nursing/Rehab. Ctr.  
Sis. Cora Johnson, Valley View Nursing/Rehab. Ctr.  
Sis. Mildred Seay, Valley View Nursing/Rehab. Ctr.

## BEREAVEMENT CONCERNS

Pray for these families and continue to pray for persons who are still dealing with grief and depression following the death of loved ones.

Funeral service for Sister Ariedell Stewart's great-niece (Ms. Melissa Primer) was Thurs 8/21/14—Canton, MS.

Funeral service for Sister Elizabeth Rice Hall's first-cousin (Mrs. Patricia H. Rogers) was Sat 8/23/14—Huntsville, AL.

Funeral service for Sister Carolyn Lundy's mother (Mrs. Clara Moore) will be Sat 8/30/14 @ 12:00 noon @ St. Bartley PB Church. VISITATION: FRI 8/29/14 FROM 6:00 TO 7:00 PM @ Royal Chapel of Memories.

Funeral service for Sister Shirley Riche's nephew (Mr. Joel Jones) will be 8/28/14—Philadelphia, PA.

August 2014						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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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
31						

## CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

### AUGUST 25-30, 2014

<b>Monday</b>	6:00pm 7:00pm	Senior Ushers Meeting YAM Choir Rehearsal
<b>Tuesday</b>	5:00am 6:00pm 6:00pm 6:15pm 7:00pm	Intercessory Prayer Boy Scouts Cub Scouts Health & Fitness Ministry Mass Choir Rehearsal
<b>Wednesday</b>	12:00pm 6:00pm 6:30pm	Noon Bible Study Prayer Time Bible Study
<b>Thursday</b>	6:00pm 7:00pm	Youth Choir Rehearsal Mass Choir Rehearsal
<b>Friday</b>	5:15pm	Sunbeam
<b>Saturday</b>	—	

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**Sunday School Class # 7 has moved to the stage area of the Fellowship Hall!**

#### **Mark your Calendar:**

- All leaders and ministers are asked to attend the 2014 Christian Education workshop, September 19-20, 2014.
- The Cancer Support Ministry will not meet during the months of September and October 2014.



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## **Thank You Cards Received**

**100 Black Men of America, Inc. Greater Huntsville Chapter**

**Sister Vickie DeBose**

**The Family of Annie Frances Horton**

**American Baptist College**

**Sister Akeeta Barnaby**

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## **Don't Miss This Momentous Occasion – our Pastor's final President's Address:**

Most of us are aware that this is our Pastor's last year as president of the NBC, USA, Inc. If you would like to "be there" in New Orleans to support him and witness his final address on Thursday, September 4, 2014 please read on. We are planning an overnight bus trip that will leave our church Wednesday morning, September 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7:45am and return Thursday night, September 4<sup>th</sup> by 10pm. The trip includes roundtrip transportation and overnight hotel accommodations. To witness this momentous occasion, please contact Brother Alfred Smith (256-694-0466) or Deacon Huey Thompson (256-851-9941) before August 24<sup>th</sup> for additional information and to reserve your space.

## **Medical Aid Ministry Blood Drive**

According to LifeSouth, "Every 2 seconds someone in the U.S. needs blood." Please join FMBC as we host a blood drive at the church on Sunday, August 31, 11:00am-2:00pm. If you would like to sign up for the blood drive, you can sign up at the LifeSouth table during the Health Fair at the Church picnic August 23, 10:00am - 2:00pm. If you have any questions, please contact Minnetta Williams, 256-655-7087.

## **FOOD DONATIONS – Huntsville Assistance Program (HAP)**

Thanks to all ministries who have supported the Benevolence Ministry's 2014 partnership with HAP. Since February, your monthly donations of food and supplies have touched the lives of hungry, hurting people in our communities. As we continue to give specified items through the end of this year, remember the words of Jesus: "For I was hungry, and you gave me food..." Thank you for making a difference.

- **AUGUST: Church Family (All)**
- **FOOD ITEMS: Canned Meals (Chili, Spaghetti O's and Soup)**

Help us make a good showing by placing your items in the designated box in the breezeway.

Thank you in advance.

# **CHURCH ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEES**

## **STEERING COMMITTEE**

Brother E. Quinn Headen, Coordinator

Sister LaFreeda Jordan, Coordinator

Sister Yvonne McDonald, Coordinator

Sister Pastenna Nunn, Coordinator

Sister Teresa Batts

Brother Angelo Coleman

Brother Fred Frost

Reverend Janette Kotey

Sister Beth Martin

Sister Carol Parham

Brother Carlton Rice

## **PUBLICITY COMMITTEE**

Brother Angelo Coleman, Co-Chair

Sister Beth Martin, Co-Chair

Sister LaBreesha Batey

Sister Sarah Drake

Brother Steven H. Kenney, Jr.

Sister Pam Patton

Brother Chris Robinson

Sister Erica Washington

Sister Angelina Williams

Brother Richard Williams

## **DECORATING COMMITTEE**

Brother Fred Frost, Co-Chair

Sister Carol Parham, Co-Chair

Sister Jada Alexander

Sister Aysia Bouldin

Brother Matthew Frost

Sister Janice Summerhill

# CHURCH STAFF AND CHURCH LEADERS

## STAFF MINISTERS

Reverend Janette Kotey  
Reverend Morris Tipton  
Reverend Carolyn Landry  
Reverend Chantaye Knotts  
Reverend G. W. Lindsey, Jr., Part-time  
Reverend Earla S. Lockhart, Part-time

## ASSOCIATE MINISTERS

Reverend Willie Alexander  
Reverend Fred Batts  
Minister Bridgitt Brown  
Minister Eugene Brown  
Minister Cynthia Carter  
Minister James Cox  
Minister Wiley Day, Sr.  
Minister Jonathan Ford, Sr.  
Minister Louise Freeman  
Reverend Bobbie Evans  
Reverend Carlisle Hammonds  
Minister Nicholas Hammonds  
Reverend Benjamin Horne  
Reverend Edward Jones  
Reverend Ritzel King  
Minister Christopher Love  
Minister Juanita Love  
Minister Gregory Lunn  
Minister JoAnita Miley  
Minister Janice Patton–Gaines  
Minister Arnatta Poole  
Minister Mary J. Posey  
Minister Tharon Rankins  
Reverend Michael Rice  
Reverend W. Temple Richie, Jr.  
Minister Adria D. Smith  
Minister Jim Stewart  
Minister Melvin Summerhill  
Reverend Stanley Torain  
Minister Terrance Vickerstaff  
Reverend Bessie Whitaker  
Reverend Marvin Winston

## OFFICIAL BOARD

Deacon Anthony Adams, Chair, Dea. Min.  
Deacon David Thompson, Co-Chair, Dea. Min.  
Deacon Melvin Mayo, Sec. Dea. Min  
Deacon Maurice Cowan, Asst. Sec. Dea. Min.  
Deacon Tommie Batts, Treasurer  
\*Brother Douglas Bonner, Chair, Trustee  
\*Sister Shelia Stevenson, Co-Chair, Trustee  
\*Sister Julie Peters, Secretary, Trustee  
\*Brother Sam Morris, Asst. Sec, Trustee  
Deacon Denver Betts, Sr.  
Deacon Charley Burruss  
Deacon Willie Campbell  
\*\*Deacon Frederick Carodine  
Deacon Gilliam Carpenter  
Deacon Leonard Chalk  
Deacon Charles Curry  
\*Deacon Ronnie Davis  
Deacon Earnest Davis  
Deacon Robert Davy, Sr.  
\*Brother J. Mark Debro,  
\*Brother Ron Eady  
Deacon Isaac Edmond, Jr.  
Deacon Willie Fitzpatrick  
Deacon Erwin Gray  
Deacon McCleney Greene  
Deacon Leonard Harris  
Deacon Joseph Henderson  
Brother Thomas Holden  
\*\*Deacon Sydney Hutchinson  
\*\*Deacon Leonard Jackson  
Deacon Joe Lampley  
Deacon Willie Littlepage  
Deacon Carlos Long  
\*Brother Ben Long  
Deacon Davian Matthews  
Deacon Johnny McAlpine  
Deacon Melvin McCann  
Deacon Sam McElroy  
Deacon Alfred Moore  
Deacon Daniel Mose, II  
Deacon Donald Outland  
Deacon Wilman Pidgeon  
\*Brother Darryl Pope

## OFFICIAL BOARD (Cont'd)

\*\*Deacon Judge Posey  
\*\*Deacon Prince Preyer, Jr.  
Deacon W. A. Rice, Chaplain  
Deacon Charles Scruggs  
Deacon Michael Scruggs  
Deacon Morris Smith  
Deacon John Stallworth  
Deacon Huey Thompson  
Deacon Richard Twitty  
\*\*Deacon John Vickers  
\*\*Deacon Robert Walker, Jr.  
Deacon Robert Ware  
Deacon Arthur Wesley, II  
Deacon Eddie Williams

\*Trustees

\*\*Emeritus Deacon Ministry



**Radio Broadcast 11:30 am - 12:30 pm--Sunday (WEUP Radio 103.1 FM & 1700 AM)**  
**Television Broadcast 9:00 pm - 9:30 pm-- Sunday (WHDF - CW), Direct TV (channel 15),**  
**Mediacom (channel 6 & 8), Knology (channel 15), Comcast Cable (channel 13).**

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Please call the church office (852-6665 or 4318) or email [elockhart5@comcast.net](mailto:elockhart5@comcast.net) to report sick and shut-in members, to indicate when you're entering the hospital, or when there is a death in your family. Please share this information with us. **We also ask that you notify us of any change of address or phone number.**

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#### **A WORD ON GIVING**

There are three kinds of giving: grudge giving, duty giving, and thanksgiving. Grudge giving says, "I hate to," duty giving says, "I ought to," thanksgiving says, "I want to."

#### **A WORD ON BUDGETING**

Give God the first tenth, save the second tenth, and live on the remaining eight tenths.

**Nursery Workers: Contact Sister Chana Johnson**

**Security POC: Chief Usher Brother Donald Lawrence**

**Custodian on duty: Brother James Sharp**

**Medical Aid on duty: 8:00am– Sis. Mary Vickers 10:45am—Sis. Stacy Langford**

#### **LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCES**

Worship Service - 8:00 am.....	624
Sunday School - 9:30 am.....	461
Worship Service - 10:45 am.....	402
Bible Study - 12:00 pm.....	168

# *Sermon Notes*



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We graciously thank Pastor Scruggs for his confidence in us to glorify God and serve the First Missionary Baptist Church for our 134<sup>th</sup> Church Anniversary. We also thank each program participant and committee member for their willingness to serve. Furthermore, with much gratitude and appreciation, we thank the FMBC Administrative Staff for their unwavering support and guidance. It has truly been our honor to work with everyone as we celebrate *“134 Years...Rooted in Faith and Love, Serving with Purpose and Passion.”*

Blessings to all,

Church Anniversary Coordinators:

*Brother E. Quinn Headen*

*Sister LaFreeda Jordan*

*Sister Yvonne McDonald*

*Sister Pastenna Nunn*

