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**Newsletter Article
Submission Deadline**

The FBC Newsletter is published the first Sunday of each month. Articles MUST be submitted by the 15th of each month for inclusion. Please send all submissions to: medianews@fairfieldbaptistchurch.org

Prayer Request

Please remember our dear brothers and sisters in your prayers.

Gwen Franklin
Leo Patterson and Family



As you enter the Fairfield Baptist Church Campus, your drive will begin at the main entrance on Benton Blvd. You will encounter other thoroughfares all named after the former Pastors of our beloved Church.



Fairfield Baptist Church
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Congratulations

Congratulations to **Carlen Franklin** and **Jaden Lampkin**, the 2012 recipients of the Dr. M.L. King, Jr. Youth Awards. The presentations were made during the commemoration program of the life and legacy of Dr. King on Sunday, January 15, at the 10:45 AM worship service. The guest speaker was **Representative Billy Mitchell**, Georgia General Assembly 88th Legislative District. Representative Mitchell encouraged us with his message, **"Don't Stop Dreaming"**. **Carlen** is the daughter of **Rev. Leonard and Sis. Carol Franklin**. She will be graduating this year from the DeKalb School of the Arts. Carlen received this award for her outstanding essay entitled "The King and I". **Jaden** is the son of **Bro. Ivan and Sis. Janice Lampkin**. Jaden attends school in Rockdale County. He was chosen to receive this annual award because of his very active participation with Kingdom Kreation.

**Happy Birthday
& Anniversary**



Happy Birthday to mother and daughter, **Tavia Franklin-Moore and Lauryn Moore** celebrating birthdays on February 19 and February 20.



Happy Anniversary to **Jackie and Derick Wade** celebrating their 15th wedding anniversary.

Thank You

The Maudie Norman Mission Ministry at Fairfield Baptist Church wishes to thank ministries and individuals for their support in 2011 for "Feeding Our Friends" (homeless men, women and children). The mission ministry solicited various ministries and individuals for their support to feed our friends in a designated month. The request and response was well received. Our heart felt appreciation to: Kingdom Kreation Youth Ministry, Mrs. Elsie Alexander, The Combined Usher Ministries, Deacons and Deaconesses, The Beautification Ministry, The Singles Ministry and Veterans Supporters, The Welcome Committee, The Ministerial Staff, The Parking Ministry and Trustees, and The Choirs of FBC. A special thanks to: Rev. Cheryl Roulhac, who continues to provide pallets of beef stew, chili and canned meat from the Hormel Corporation to fill our food pantry for the needy. Also to, Sister Joanna Rhodes, who continues to provide book bags, new underwear, socks, and many other items. A special thanks to our bus drivers, Sis. Beverly Foster and Bro. Arthur Carlyle. We thank the Fairfield family and friends whose names were not mentioned for donating food and clothing last year.

**Welcome
New Members**

Clarrisa N. Randolph — January 1, 2012
Samuel J. Thomas, Jr.— January 8, 2012
Jalicia R. Williams— January 8, 2012
Yvonne Williams— January 8, 2012
Jueniyah C. Cleveland—January 8, 2012
Tamika A.Gatlin, and her children: Jakiyas Hemphill, Carey Brown and Christian Gatlin— January 8, 2012
Michael A. Brooks, Sr.— January 8, 2012 his wife: Donyelle Brooks, and children: Michael A. Brooks, Jr., Cydne Brooks—January 22, 2012
Joe Brown—January 22, 2012



Fairfield Baptist Church
6133 Redan Road, Lithonia GA, 30058

**Fairfield Baptist Church
Service times**

Mondays 7:00PM
Intercessory Prayer
C.L. Nall Chapel

Wednesdays
Bible Study
12 Noon
Zack Brown Admin.
Building
7:00 PM
C.L. Nall Chapel

Worship Services
Sundays
7:30AM & 10:45AM
The Son's House

Sunday School
9:15AM
Zack Brown
Admin. Building

Youth Church
4th & 5th Sundays
10:45AM
C.L. Nall Chapel

Need Help?

Call 770-482-7660

Pastor Benton/
Church Secretary
Ext. 101

Counseling Ministry
First Lady Benton
Ext. 104

Office Admin.
Alice Cunningham
Ext. 109

Superintendent
Deacon Dave Rollins
Ext. 119

Team of the Month
Ext. 172

Lost & Found
Usher Ministry
Ext. 180

Volume I, Issue 5

February 5, 2012

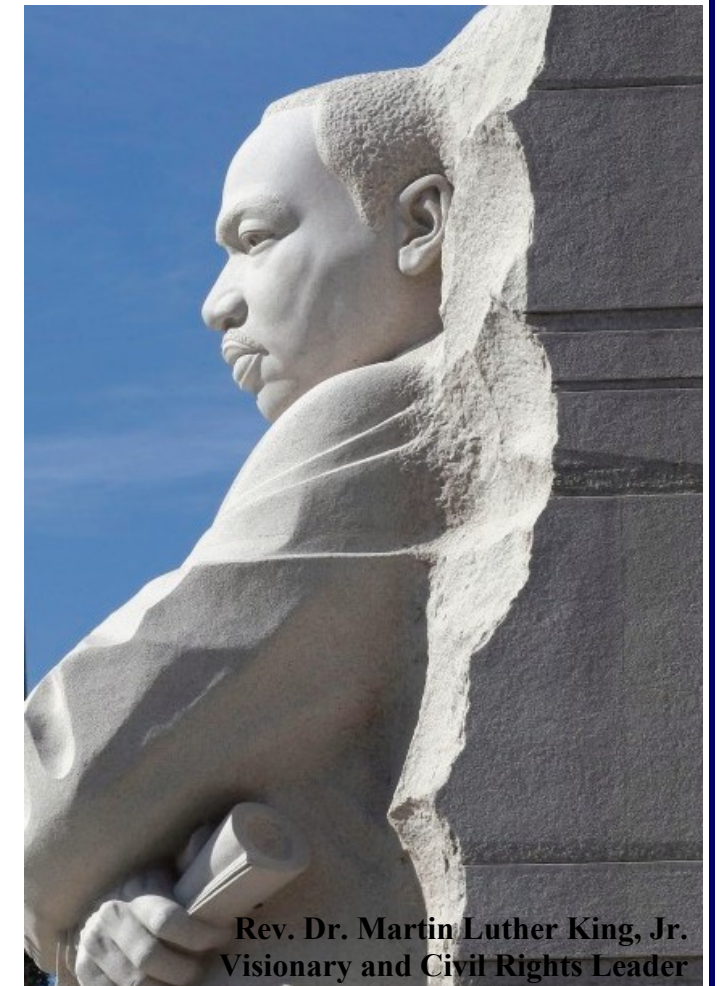
**"Remembering Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.:
A Man More Complex than One Speech"**

Celebrations of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s life often focus on his famous "I Have A Dream" speech, spoken on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C. in 1963. Americans born after Dr. King's assassination often relate to that speech as a definitive synopsis of Dr. King's beliefs.

That speech was a realistic, positive, and uplifting expression of Dr. King's dream and vision for a renewed America. However, there was so much more to Dr. King than that one speech. Dr. King was a complex and compelling human being.

"I have a dream that one day on the red hills of Georgia, the sons of former slaves and the sons of former slave owners will be able to sit down together at the table of brotherhood... I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin, but by the content of their character... I have a dream that one day... right there in Alabama, little black boys and black girls will be able to join hands with little white boys and white girls as sisters and brothers..."

It seems that such a vision would have appealed to God, but it did not appeal to all Americans then, nor sadly now. We still have a cultural tendency to not fully examine anyone's character without first making a judgment on, say, skin color.



Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
Visionary and Civil Rights Leader

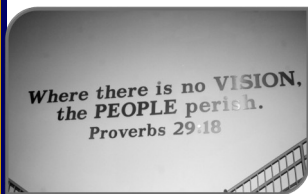
For the most part, we are easily swayed by the superficial features of individuals and public personalities, often content to limit our assessments of people to what appears on the surface.

A complex blend of thought and peaceful agitation was at the core of what Dr. King brought to the United States in the late 1950s and 1960s. He was only 39 years old when an assassin claimed his life – hard to believe he accomplished so much in such a short time. Despite whatever else Dr. King represented, he was a man of deep faith and genuine conscience who left an indelible mark on America and upon the world awakening a nation's consciousness and elevating a nation's conscience.

That is why it is proper to honor him by remembering his life on this day.

Dennis Jamison, reporter for The Washington Times

Living the Word *Pastor Micheal Benton*



"The vision must be followed by the venture, it is not enough to stare up the steps - we must step up the stairs."
~ Vance Havner



Scriptural Lesson:
The Book of Romans

Paul's letter to the church in Rome gives a clear picture of the doctrinal and practical steps of salvation and Christian duties. As we read, we learn about what Christ did, the results, and how God interacted with us through Christ. If we focus more specifically on the 6th chapter of Romans, Paul

addresses sin and the significance of Christ's death to defeat sin in our bodies. He further speaks of freedom from sin and our opportunity to enjoy God's favor and mercy. The latter part of verse 4 in the 6th chapter tells us "that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in the newness of life"; or conduct ourselves in a new way of living. One might ask how we can walk in the newness of life. Many scriptures have been written for our edification on this matter. I suggest you take time to read them to gain a deeper understanding of this new way of living in Christ. Herein, I have listed some of those scriptures and their impli-

cation to us.
Walk:

- By faith (2Co. 5:7);
- In the Spirit (Gal. 5:16);
- Worthy of the vocation wherewith you are called (Ep.4:1);
- In love (Ep. 5:2);
- Circumspectly (Col.2:6);
- In the light (Jn. 1:7);
- As He walked (Jn.2:6);
- Before God (Gen. 17:1, et. Al);
- And in Truth (Ps.26:3, et. Al).

Walking involves taking a series of steps. "A good man's steps are ordered by the Lord". Watch where you step!

Act like a Christian in any circumstance. Follow Jesus' (the Son of God) greatest commandment: Love God completely and everybody even if they treat you wrongly whether you know them or not. Jesus said "love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you" Jesus says in John 13:15, "I have given you an example, that as I have done, so should you do."

I'm Just Saying *First Lady Y'Vonne Benton*

"What Does it Take to Raise a Village?"

Most of us are familiar with the saying that "it takes a village to raise a child" (credited to an African proverb). The concept behind this thought is that parenting goes beyond the immediate family environment and we should ascribe to communal discipline for our children. Like never before, this idea should resonate in our hearts and spirits today. Urbanization and globalization have affected the family to the point where a young parent rarely has the support from extended relatives. Harsh economic times also force families

to spend less time together due to imposing work schedules. If we are to survive, prosper and grow as a people, the "village" needs to step in. This begs the question, "What does it take to raise a village?" Indeed, the people of the village are affected by the same ills of urbanization, globalization and economic hardships. There is, however, some good news. There are many things we do not control, but we can control building a community. In order to raise a village there must be a group of like-minded people with common goals, beliefs, and determination. They must care, help, and be willing to cooperate instead of compete. A village



could be a neighborhood, community, social group, family, institution or a church among others. It takes singleness of purpose to raise socially balanced, successful children. The charge is here, the challenge is real, our children are in trouble. Will the real "village" rise up?



"Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path."
~ Psalm 119:105

Words of Wisdom

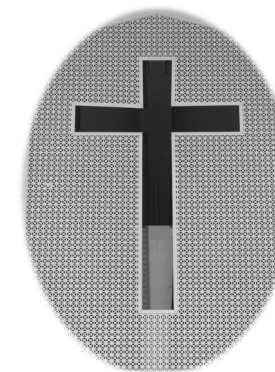
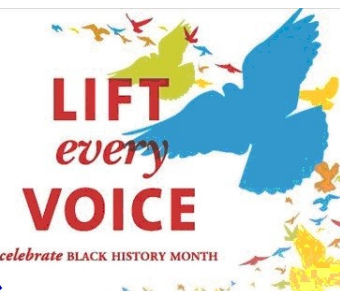
"Evidence of Black Africans in the Bible" by Dan Rogers (1992)

Many Old Testament scholars, particularly European scholars of the 18th, 19th and early 20th century, wrote their books and commentaries on the Old Testament from the perspective that there were no people of color mentioned in the Scriptures. The overall and surely indisputable message is that God has created us all in His image and has included all members of the human race in the saving work of His Son. Nowhere does the Bible give any indications that Black people, or any people, whether "of color" or not, are outside the embrace of His love. But the fact remains that people have believed and taught this error, and sadly, it has been a teaching that still affects the way many of us think about each other, and perhaps even ourselves. The Bible does not focus on skin color as any form of criterion. All have sinned, all have fallen

short of the glory of God, and all are recipients of His grace through Jesus Christ. Admittedly it is difficult to build a definitive case, based on textual evidence, to prove beyond all doubt that Black people are mentioned in its pages. But why should we have to? The stories of the Bible took place in and around what we now call the Middle East, and people moved on and off its stage based on their relationship with the nations of ancient Israel and Judah. Consequently, the vast majority of the world's ethnic and racial groups are not specifically identified. But some of those who are identified were black. There is a strong tradition that some of the descendants of Noah through his son Ham were black. Ham had a son named Cush, which means "black" in Hebrew. Cush is the most common term designating

color in reference to persons, people or lands used in the Bible. It's used 58 times in the King James Version. The Greek and Latin word is Ethiopia. In classical literature, Greek and Roman authors describe Ethiopians as black. Archaeology has found these people to be black. It can be argued that there is a black presence in the Old and New Testaments. But either way, what is certain is that the Bible teaches that God has made all people of one ancestry. All humans — male, female, black, white, red, yellow and brown, are God's children. They are all made in the image of God for salvation through Jesus Christ. We could sum it up in the words of the popular song: Red and yellow, black and white, all are precious in his sight. Jesus loves the little children of the world.

"What Are You Using Your Voice to Change?"



The Cross from the awning of the Fairfield Baptist Church Family Life Center

Journey through the Bible

Topic from Wednesday Night Bible Study

We have now begun a new study in the Book of Colossians where we will further pursue Christ. The main outline is as follows:

"CHRIST IS ALL AND IN ALL"

Author: Paul

Key Verse: Colossians 3:11 – "Where there is neither Greek nor Jew, Circumcision nor Uncircumcision, Barbarian, Scythian, Bond nor Free: but Christ is all, and in all"

Key Thought – "Preeminence of Christ"

- Chapter 1: CHRIST OUR INHERITANCE
- Chapter 2: CHRIST OUR INDWELLER AND SUFFICIENCY
- Chapter 3: CHRIST OUR MOTIVATION
- Chapter 4: CHRIST OUR MASTER

FBC USHERS MINISTRY

The Ushers Ministry is responsible for the management of lost and found items. If you have lost/misplaced an item please contact the church office at 770-482-7660, ext 180, to provide details on the item. Also, please provide contact information so you can be reached if your item is located. Last year a number of unidentified Bibles were found. Please insure that your Bible always contain identifying information. Items retrieved are normally maintained for a period of six months.

Coca-Cola Product Campaign

February 12 - March 10, 2012



All ministries and members are asked to participate in this capital campaign to improve the FBC campus. Trinitarians, please check your mailboxes for sales information.

In addition to the ministries' sales, products may also be purchased from the kiosks in the sanctuary after each worship service.

Products may be picked up by the sellers, in the garage area of our sanctuary, on March 17.

For more information, please contact Sister Margaret Jones, 770-482-5113 or Deaconess Mary Jackson, 770-482-6424.

What do you want your Christian legacy to be?

What good things do you want to pass on which will make a positive difference to the next generation of Christians?

CS Lewis, Corrie Ten Boom, Martin Luther King... they're just a few people whose legacy has enriched the lives of others and changed the world for future generations.

"What treasure will you leave behind?"

Did You Know?



During the Reconstruction period, 21 African Americans, including 10 former slaves, were elected to the United States Congress.

In 1940, Hattie McDaniel was the first African-American performer to win an Academy Award (the film industry's highest honor) for her portrayal of a loyal slave governess in *Gone With the Wind*.

Hiram Rhodes Revels was the first African American ever elected to the United States Senate. He represented the state of Mississippi from February 1870 to March 1871.

Maudie Norman Mission Ministry

We are making a difference, one life at a time. 2 Corinthians 9:12 "For the administration of this service not only supplieth the want of the saints, but is abundant also by thanksgiving unto GOD." The mission ministry feeds our friends on the last Sunday of each month. We have dedicated people that drive the vans and bus downtown to Peachtree and Pine where we pick up our friends. We bring our friends to the 10:45am service so that they can be fed the word and then we travel to the C. L. Nall Fellowship Hall to serve them a delicious hot meal. We also provide our friends with a to-go-plate or box. We take them to our clothes closet and let them pick out clothing, shoes, socks, underwear, coats, hats, blankets and gloves. They also receive hygiene items. We have been servicing our friends for over seven (7) years.

Fairfield Baptist Church has a dedicated phone line that any member can call that needs food and clothing. The number is (770) 482-7660, ext. 112. The phone line is manned seven (7) days a week. The food pantry is open every Friday from 10:00am to 12:00 noon in the Administration Building.

The Maudie Norman Mission Ministry's purpose is to develop Christian character to aid in carrying out the Great Commission, to impress upon our minds and hearts the fact that the spirit of Mission is the real Spirit of Christ and to provide an opportunity for Christian fellowship. We are to always express our gratitude to GOD for HIS favor. We are to seek opportunities to help and service others with kindness, love and gentleness. The true spirit of a missionary seeks to highlight others rather than self.

Fairfield Kingdom Voices

1st and 3rd Monday of each month
7:00 PM

Simple Steps to Help Your Child Achieve Academic Success

In today's technology world, any child can learn to be an "A" student with the proper guidance.

At this time of the year - (Spring Semester), most students know if they are doing well in school or not. As a parent, it is a tough job, but an important one, for we begin sensing if our child is motivated emotionally to learn or not. A father recently responded to concerns about his child's academic prowess by stating, "My son doesn't seem interested in school work. All he cares about is sports. How can I get him to do his homework?"

Is your child an eager, motivated student or a reluctant learner? There are many reasons why children are not motivated to do school work. Sometimes they may be frustrated by learning disabilities, or they may have had a bad experience with a teacher, have social problems, feel rejected and disliked by peers.

Parents can do a lot to help motivate a child to learn: establish an atmosphere that encourages learning by giving attention to our child; use praise and positive reinforcement to provide encouragement; and give attention and praise to our child's efforts to do school work and perform well.





Above all, be positive. No child wants to hear that they cannot learn and cannot improve. I couldn't agree more that fostering a positive attitude to learning can go a long way to improving a child's interest in learning for learning's sake. Encourage the child's interest in sports, by telling him/her that if he/she completes homework every day for a week, the reward will be a trip to a sporting event. Ask the child to write an essay about his/her favorite sport or do a word problem with the child using football or any sport that interests him/her.

A parent can show affection, acceptance, appreciation, and attention. These are words that help foster the 'A' in a child's academic attitude. A parent should keep these four A's in mind and aim to come up with the fifth 'A' which is - a positive learning atmosphere. A positive atmosphere just might translate into a more highly motivated child at school.



FBC Institute of Biblical Studies

Did You Know?...

-  About 2000 years ago, God sent an angel to Israel. The Angel announced Christ's birth to Mary, Zacharias, and Joseph.
-  The law of Moses required mothers to present an offering 40 days after a son was born. Mary and Joseph went to Jerusalem to present this offering at the temple.
-  Jesus had brothers and sisters. Although his sisters are un-named, his brothers were James, Joseph, Simon, and Judas.
-  Jesus worked as a carpenter until his ministry began. He was about 30 years old at that time. Some believe Joseph died before Jesus began preaching.



These thoughts and more can be explored in the *Life of Christ Class* next semester beginning in August. By taking this class you will be able to say...

"Yes! I did know."