



Welcome New Members

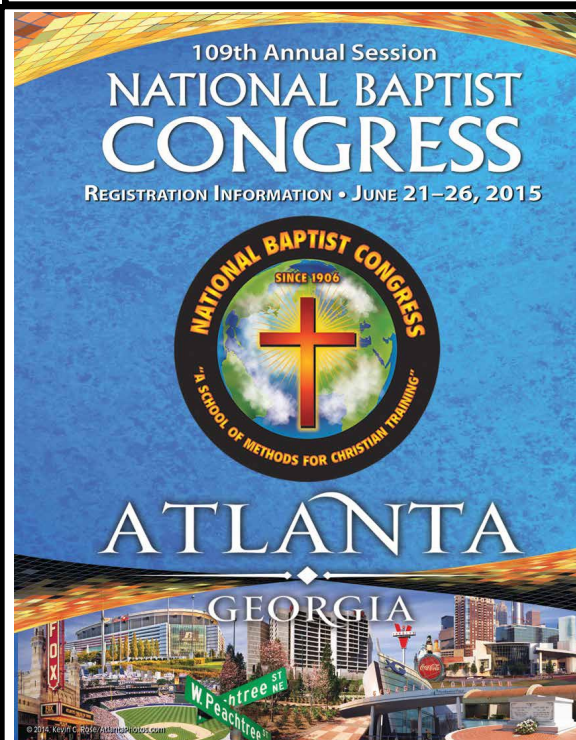
Denise Carnell
Sakinah Clarke
Nicole Rutledge



Contributing Communication Coordinators

Sister Sandra Crocker
Sister Robin Junious

Upcoming Events



Pastor Micheal Benton
Lecturer
Tuesday, June 23, 2015
10:00 PM
Atlanta Marriott Marquis
Fairfield's Deacons will open with Praise & Worship
Congress Musical Concert
Tuesday, June 23, 2015
7:00 PM
Marriott Marquis
Tickets are available in the Yoke Bookstore
Visit our website @ www.fairfieldbaptistchurch.org for information on registration, classes and activities.

CONGRATULATIONS!

The Micheal Benton Academic Excellence Program (AEP) invites you to attend their awards ceremony Sunday, June 28, 10:45 AM The Son's House 2014-2015 high school and college/university graduates are asked to be in attendance. Please wear your caps and gowns.

Recognition will also be given to all individuals completing their undergraduate or graduate

degrees during the period 2010-2015. Submit your name, graduation information and picture to the church office, bware@fairfieldbaptistchurch.org by June 15.

Students of all academic levels who made all 'A's' or all 'A's' and one 'B' on their final semester report card are eligible for the AEP recognition. Please submit report cards, along with contact information to

aep@fairfieldbaptistchurch.org or fax to 1-866-885-1739.

Avoid Dehydration

Dehydration is a condition which can occur when the body loses more fluid than it takes in. Changes in the season and higher temperatures increase the likelihood of outdoor activity. When there is activity (especially when the temperature is high) the body will more than likely lose fluid such as sweating, for example. If the body loses fluid over a period of time and the fluid is not replaced, dehydration can occur. Prolonged dehydration can lead to fatal complications. It is important to drink fluids during the activity. The risk is greater for young children and older adults. Some signs of dehydration are as following: Increased thirst, dry mouth, tired/sleepy, dizzy, headache and low urine output. Usually the first sign of decreased fluid in the body is thirst. Do Not Ignore Thirst. Besides water, fluids such as sports drinks or Gatorade are good sources of fluid to drink during activity because they contain electrolytes which also decrease with fluid lost.

Nurses Guild & FBC Crisis Team

Stay connected with us.



Rev. Micheal Benton
Visionary/Pastor
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Lithonia, GA 30058
Phone: (770) 482-7660
Fax: (770) 484-1483
www.fairfieldbaptistchurch.org

Newsletter Staff

Visionary.....Pastor Micheal Benton
Editor.....Sister Shalynda McIvory
Contributing Editor.....Deaconess Bonni Ware
Copy Editor.....Sister JoAnn Williams-West

Newsletter Article Submission Deadline

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



What's On Your Mind?

Minister Vickie Freeman



Last night, I started reflecting on the ABC's of the Living God for He is All Existing, Benevolent, and our Creator. In order not to be remiss, He is also Divine. Have you ever talked about someone as though they were not present with you as you conversed with another? Well, that is the way we treat our Heavenly Father at times. We act and behave as though He is not there practically every other moment of our day. Something, or someone else, or some other subject hooks our attention. It gets all the attention and devotion while our God goes unnoticed. That reminds me of King Jeroboam. Now, he had the audacity to covet all the attention. He decided that since his subjects, the ten tribes of Israel, known as the northern kingdom had to go to Jerusalem to worship

three times a year that they would turn their attention on King Rehoboam of the two tribes of Judah as their king. He chose to erect two golden calves in the cities of Bethel and Gad for the tribes of Israel to worship. He persuaded them and convinced them they were the gods who delivered them from Egypt. Then he built shrines, and appointed whomever he could find to act as priest throughout the land. He was deceptive and committed gross sin.

Sometimes, we are like King Jeroboam manufacturing idols in our lives, all our attention and commitment goes to us, our careers, our family, our cars, television, and yes Fb, Twitter, and entertainment of various kinds. Nothing is wrong when we put these things in their proper perspective. But, the question is, 'Is our hearts affixed on these things or our Most High God?' You get the picture. Our attention diminishes to the level of idol worship. It displaces all the attention, that God deserves and the vast majority of not only our focus, but also our commitment becomes wrapped up in an illusion.

When I find my thoughts wandering away from me I sing a favorite song that we sang when Anthony and I attended Abundant Life Church (now, Cross Culture Church), back in the mid 80's to late 90's, written by Donn Thomas called I Worship You:

When I look into Your Holiness

When I gaze into Your loveliness
When all things that surround me become shadows in the light of You.
When I find the joy of reaching Your heart
When my will becomes enthroned in Your love
When all things that surround me become shadows in the light of You
I worship You
I worship You
The reason I live is to worship You.

When someone is important to us, we make him or her a part of our lives spending quality time with him or her; we make them a part of our everyday conversation and they are constantly in our thoughts and mind. We cannot wait to count them in on our activities.

Let us make a commitment to Acknowledge God in all our ways. When we think of God in the Present Tense, each moment, it allows our senses to SEE HIM, if you will. Yes, He is the Invisible God, Omniscient-Ever Present and we see Him through our spiritual eyes. He is the Eternal God, who dwells among us. The Prophet Isaiah said, 'Emmanuel', God with us.

Happy 38th Pastoral Anniversary
Pastor Micheal Benton & First Lady Y'Vonne Benton
1st Sunday June

And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things! -Romans 10:15

Join us for the anniversary celebration during the month of September.





**Fairfield Baptist Church  
Service Times**

Mondays  
Intercessory Prayer  
7:00PM  
Sanctuary  
"The Upper Room"

Wednesdays  
Bible Study  
12 Noon  
C.L. Nall Chapel  
7:00 PM  
C.L. Nall Chapel

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

Sunday School  
9:15AM  
Zack Brown  
Administrative Center

Youth Church  
Last Sunday of Each  
Month  
10:45AM  
C.L. Nall Chapel

**Church Directory**

Call 770-482-7660

Pastor Benton  
Ext. 0

Counseling Ministry  
First Lady Benton  
Ext. 104

Office Administrator  
Alice Cunningham  
Ext. 109

Church  
Administrator  
Bonni Ware  
Ext. 115

Team of the Month  
Ext. 172

Lost & Found  
Usher Ministry  
Ext. 180

Maudie Norman  
Mission  
Food & Clothing  
Ext. 112

**Enjoy Life**



**Reverend Steven L. Minor**

God created the earth and every element that exist. June is a time when the earth experiences hurricanes and summer begins. Hurricanes can range from category one to five resulting from heat combining with cold creating strong winds throughout the ocean and drenching the inland. People are concerned about hurricanes while gearing up for the summer. Summer encourages people to dress in summer wear and fellowship among each other; to go to the parks, beaches and to have cookouts. The commonality we all live under is the elements God created. We know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose (Romans 8:28). Hurricanes are listed under the element of air/wind and characterized in five categories. The first category is wind rotating 74-95 miles per hour; detaching tree branches and moving unanchored mobile homes. Second are 96 -110 miles per hour; moving anchor mobile homes and some trees down. Third is 111 -130 miles

per hour; knocking down large trees and destroying mobile homes. Forth is 131 -155 miles per hour; destroying some buildings, roof tops and windows. Fifth is 155+ miles per hour; capable of destroying all living domain (Saffir-Simpson Scale). Summer time is a season with trees, flowers blossoming, birds chirping pleasant sounds and the weather allowing us to connect with Mother Nature.

God's system for life never stops. Four people are born every second and nearly two people die each second of the day. Life expectancy is around sixty-seven (ecology.com). On a scale of one to a hundred; do the math according to your age. Not many people live over 100 years old.

Love is inextricable from God towards creation and especially mankind. For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come; nor height, nor depth, nor any, other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord (Roman 8:38-39). Despite our insurmountable difficulties; maybe rated category one or five, God is in control. Therefore, we can enjoy life peaceably and the way to enjoy life is, one day at a time. God directs us to choose a day and begin. The day will cover the hours, minutes, and moments. Put it all in God's hand and enjoy life in Jesus Christ.

**Thoughts on Faith**

**The Origin of the Deacon's Work**

As the early church in Jerusalem grew rapidly, there arose a "murmuring" among some of the members. The misunderstanding arose between Jewish Christians who continued to follow ancient Hebrew traditions and other Jewish Christians who had accepted the language and social customs of Greece and Rome. The actual misunderstanding developed over the methods used for administering the daily food distribution to their Jewish widows. The incident, as recorded in Acts 6, was only an outward symptom of a deeper problem. The major problem was a potential break in Christian fellowship. The Acts 6 account does not use the word "deacon" but rather refers to "the seven". It is generally agreed that "deacon" soon evolved from the precedent set by "the seven".

The Holy Spirit led the Jerusalem congregation to choose these seven men of proven spiritual maturity to aid in resolving a fellowship problem. These Christian leaders were chosen and then ordained following the ancient Hebrew custom of laying on of hands as an expression of confidence and affirmation.

This account of "the seven" is the first organized use of church members to help the young church achieve its divine mission. "The seven" were obviously successful in resolving the fellowship problem because the Scriptures indicate that "the word of God increased; and the number of disciples multiplied in Jerusalem greatly; and a great company of the priests were obedient to the faith" (Acts 6:7).

The ministry of the deacon grew rapidly in the early churches, for the Scriptures show that Paul's greetings to the churches often had references to the deacons. In 1 Timothy 3, Paul set forth the spiritual qualifications for both the deacon and his wife.

After the second century A.D., the Roman church began to form its elaborate hierarchical structure. The deacons gradually became a part of the clergy. It was not until the Reformation that the deacon was again viewed as a lay leader rather than a member of the clergy.

As Baptist churches were established in America during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, deacons played a significant leadership role in the life of these churches. Being servants of the church, as the very word "deacon" implies, they served wherever there was a need. Because the churches were small and leaders were few, deacons were called on to provide significant leadership responsibilities. In many churches the business matters were handled totally by the deacons. The unfortunate term "board of deacons" arose. This phrase, however, is foreign to the way Baptists should work together under the leadership of the Holy Spirit. A Baptist congregation makes corporate decisions as each member seeks to vote his conviction under the leadership of the Lord. The following comment was shared during a deacon ordination service, "A person is not made a deacon just for the honor, although it is an honor beyond most of the things that can come to a man's life. The deacon is set apart to serve; he is committed to serve God and his fellowman. As a new deacon, you must understand that you have not been elected to an "official board" to exercise authority in the life of the church. The office of deacon is not an office of authority but one of service. A man who agrees to serve as a deacon in a New Testament church agrees to be an example, to the limit of God's endowment, in all the life of the church. He is to be an example in spirit, love, devotion, and loyalty."

*Excerpt from "Now that You're a Deacon"  
by Howard B. Foshee*



**Vacation Bible School 2015  
Ages Youth to Adult  
June 17 - 19, 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM**

**Zack Brown  
Administrative  
& Educational  
Center  
& C.L. Nall  
Fellowship Hall**

**Ministries' News**

**R3 presents...  
Love and Relationships Forum  
Part II**  
(from a woman's perspective)  
June 30, 2015, 7:00 PM  
Eli McKenzie Media Center  
Take a deeper look into human  
relationships regarding dating, courtship,  
marriage and divorce.

**"Save the Date"**  
Singles Ministry's Study of Wisdom  
July 10, 2015, 7:00 PM  
"Authentic Relationships,  
Being Real in an Artificial World"  
C.L. Nall Fellowship Hall

**The Music Ministry**

The Music Ministry invites you to "Stir Up The Gift". If you love to sing but have yet to join the choir of your choice, The FBC Music Ministry invites you to do so now. All you need is a voice and a willingness to sing and learn. Also, the Praise Team will be holding auditions for members. Contact Sister Cathrene Howard at (404) 284-3849 or hcathren@bellsouth.net.

**Veterans Ministry**

The Veterans and Supporters Ministry would like to thank the Fairfield Baptist Church family for your support and participation in our Memorial Day Flag and Wreath Laying Ceremony. We honor our military members who gave the ultimate sacrifice for our country. Our ministry works throughout the year to bring awareness to our church family and the community on the needs of our veterans. Please join us every 2nd Thursday at 7:00 PM in the Zack Brown Administrative and Educational Center. You do not have to be a veteran or active duty military to support our ministry. Remember 'Freedom is not Free'.

Trinitarians Lee Thompson, Michael Wright & Robin Junious

**Pastor's Engagement**

Sunday, June 14, 3:00 PM, Pastor Benton will be ministering at Holsey Chapel CME for their church anniversary. The church is located at 416 Cole Street, Marietta, Georgia. Rev. Ricky Hammonds serves as pastor.

**Events**

**June 7  
Communion Worship Services**  
7:30 AM & 10:45 AM

**Sunday School**  
Zack Brown Administrative and  
Educational Center Classrooms  
**New Member Class**  
Executive Conference Room  
**Baptism Class**  
2nd & 3rd Sunday  
Computer Lab  
9:15 AM

**June 21  
Happy Father's Day**

**Intercessory Prayer Ministry**  
Monday Nights, 7:00 PM  
The Upper Room  
"The effectual fervent prayer of a  
righteous man availeth much".  
- James 5:16b

**Wednesday Bible Study**  
**12 Noon**  
C.L. Nall Chapel  
**7:00 PM**  
**Adults**  
C.L. Nall Chapel

**June 3**  
The Tribe of Manasseh Presents  
The Book of Ephesians

**June 10 & 24**  
The Tribe of Benjamin Presents  
The Book of Philippians

**Youth**  
Zack Brown Administrative &  
Educational Center



**In Loving Memory  
of  
FBC Departed  
Members**

Derek Alexander Harris  
Nori Amoni Crenshaw  
Edward Charles Ross  
Alphonza Ware

*There will always be a heartache,  
and often a silent tear,  
But always a precious memory  
of the days when you were here.*



2015



Brittany Alexander  
Le Cordon Bleu College  
Future: Pursuing BA in  
Culinary Management  
Entrepreneurial aspiration:  
bakery/live music and  
spoken word lounge

Jarius Huddleston  
Georgia Southern University  
Major: Information  
Technology  
Minor: Information Systems  
Pursuing SAP Terp I  
Certificate

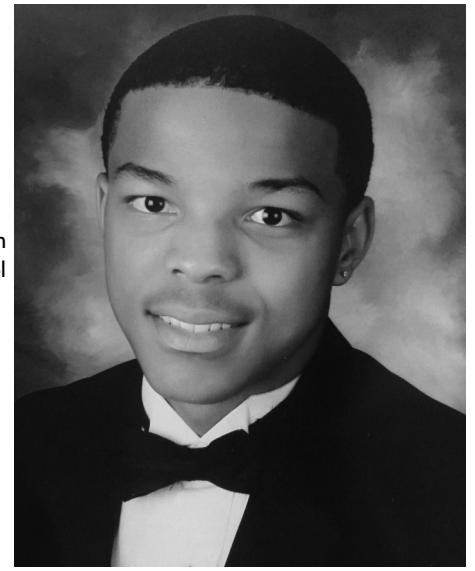


Maya Simone Ferguson  
Woodland High School  
Valdosta State University  
Major: Exercise Science

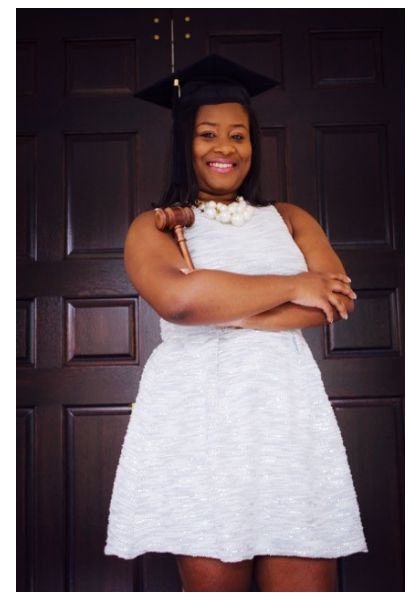
**Congratulations**



Antonio Jackson  
Arabia Mountain High School



Set your goals,  
take the action,  
live your  
dreams.

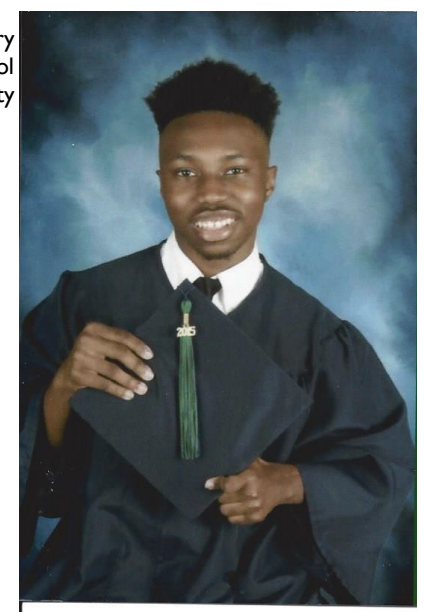


Arie Smith  
Emory University  
Magna Cum Laude  
Major: Economics & Mathematics  
Minor: Spanish  
Columbia University Law School, New York



Tashenna Hinds  
University of Georgia  
Major: Psychology  
Minor: Human Development and Family  
Science

Terrell McGilberry  
Arabia Mountain High School  
Tennessee State University



Khadijah Cantrell  
Arabia Mountain High School  
Kennesaw State University  
Major: Communications



Kelli Sigler  
Southwest DeKalb High School  
University of Georgia  
Major: Graphic Design  
Minor: Marketing

**May God's Blessings  
be upon each of you.**

**FBC  
Salutes You!**



2015





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Miles Cleveland  
Arabia Mountain High School  
University of Georgia  
Major: Business Management  
Information Systems



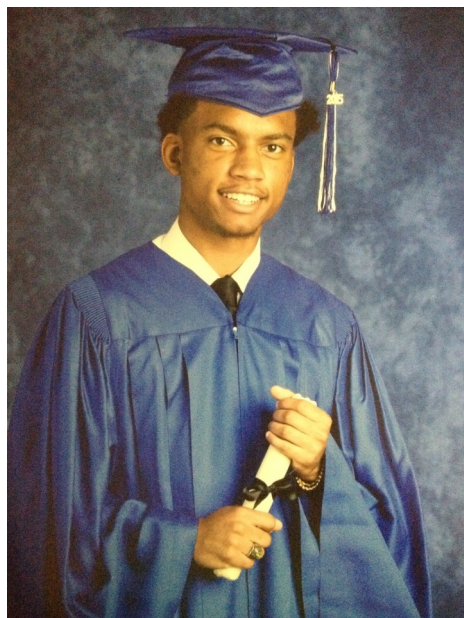
Danielle Lockhart-Hammond  
Arabia Mountain High School  
Tuskegee University  
Major: Nursing



Kayla Nealey  
South Gwinnett High School  
A university in Georgia  
Major: Forensic Science  
Minor: Dance



Danyelle Marie Stevens  
Stone Mountain High School



Greg Johnson  
Stephenson High School  
Georgia Southern University

The future lies before you like a field of driven snow, be careful how you tread it, for every step will show.



Juwan Watts  
DeKalb Early College Academy  
Georgia Perimeter College

**Best Wishes!**



Kris Smith  
Redan High School  
University of Kentucky

Reach for the stars no matter how hard it seems and fly like a bird with the knowledge this journey brings.

Brianna Smith  
Arabia Mountain High School  
Georgia Southern University or  
Georgia State University  
Major: Mass Communications



Effort and courage are not enough without purpose and direction.



Joy Denise Nealey  
Miller Grove High School  
University of West Georgia



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