



We are on the Web!  
Fairfieldbaptistchurch.org

### Welcome New Members

Ethelia Hartman  
Soduerw Reonke  
Dialla Richards  
Myles Rodgers  
Paula Rollins  
Charles Sandridge



### Contributing Communication Coordinators

Sister Sandra Crocker  
Marilyn Dukes  
Sister Robin Junious

## Upcoming Events

**Saturday, May 9, 2015**

FAIRFIELD BAPTIST CHURCH  
WINGS MINISTRY

### MOTHER'S DAY BRUNCH

**PAMPERING, PASTA & PRAISE**  
A TIME TO CELEBRATE THE  
PURPOSE AND POWER OF WOMEN

*"Give her the reward she has earned,  
And let her works bring her praise at the city gate."  
Proverbs 31:31 NIV*

Micheal Benton Family Life Center  
Inspirational Speaker, Evangelist Patti Rose McGrew  
Guest Soloist, Kelsie Broughton

For more information, contact  
Blanche Johnson, 678.446.8121  
Monica Cotton, 404.660.1475

### Elecia Fulton Productions presents "Lord Why Me"

Saturday, May 9, 2015, 3:00 PM and 7:00 PM  
Micheal Benton Family Life Center  
Featuring our very own Little Nyla Baxter  
For more information visit  
www.eleciafultonproduction.com

*Are you caring for some one with memory loss?  
Then do not miss this informative conference!*  
Antioch Lithonia Missionary Baptist Church and  
Emory ADRC  
invites you to a

### Caring for the Caregiver Conference

Saturday, May 30, 2015, 9:00 AM  
2152 Rock Chapel Road—Lithonia, GA 30058  
Registration Required...Register Online via email  
dorbin@emory.edu or call  
Cornelya Dorbin, 404.712.1416  
For more information  
www.antiochcaregiving.eventbrite.com

### A Black History Fact

### Tribe of Issachar

The **Tulsa Race Riot** was a large-scale, racially motivated conflict where whites assaulted the Greenwood District in Tulsa Oklahoma known as **"The Black Wall Street"**, the wealthiest black community in the United States. It was burned to the ground on May 31 and June 1, 1921. During the 16 hour assault more than 800 blacks were admitted to the hospital, 6,000 blacks were arrested, 10,000 blacks were left homeless and 35 city blocks composed of 1,256 black owned residences were destroyed by fire.

### Spreading Germs

### Nurses Guild & FBC Crisis Team

This topic is not intended to create a sense of fear but rather to increase awareness. A short while ago, there was a lot of communication regarding a health condition which was spread from person to person, among children and in schools, and among animals and sometimes, the outcome was death. The best place to start decreasing the spread of germs is with you being sure to wash your hands frequently. Remember,

1. Cover your mouth when you cough or sneeze.
2. Do not cough or sneeze into your bare hand. Cough into the bend of your arm if tissue is not available.
3. Avoid walking through the grocery store tasting food; many hands may have touched it.
4. Wash your hands after using the bathroom.

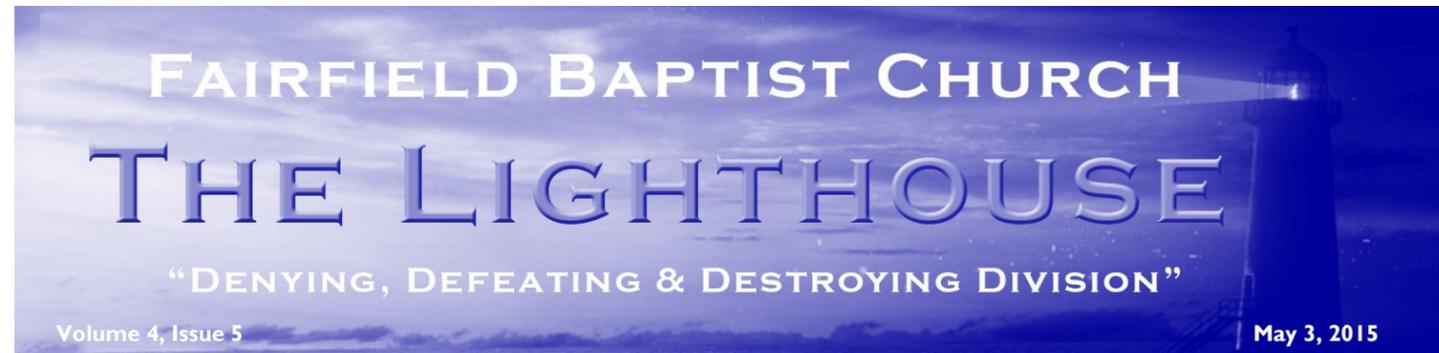
### Newsletter Staff

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.

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



### Celebrate!

### Reverend Cheryl D. Roulhac



This month is a special time for the Fairfield Baptist Church family. We are celebrating the 130th anniversary of this church. It is truly the hand of God that has kept this body for so many years. God used several families to come together to birth Fairfield Baptist Church and I am sure that with every year came new challenges, but it is clear to see that Fairfield weathered them all.

This celebration gives us time to thank God for His blessings and allows us to reflect on the history of the church. You see, it is a time to celebrate because God has been so good. As members of this church, we can celebrate not just its birth but some of the history such as God's unconditional love; His healing power; His delivering power; His blessings and favor. The Fairfield family has a lot for which to be thankful. To celebrate means to do something to show that a day or event is important.

Every day that God allows us to wake up should be a celebration. I am reminded of King David's celebration when the Ark of the Covenant was brought back to the city of David. It was a big celebration (II Samuel 6). Now, as we celebrate the birth of Fairfield Baptist Church, I invite you to go a step further and celebrate the birth of

the church in you. Reflect upon that important event or day. Yes, it is time for a celebration.

How can we celebrate? Just reflect and look at how far God has brought us. Give God a great big thank you each day. Remember His mighty works and thank Him for His saving power, delivering power, healing power, blessings and favor in our lives. Now, every celebration will not be the same. However, the way in which we celebrate it will bring glory to our God. So, while you take the time to celebrate with our church family, make it personal. Our celebration can be in our praise, prayer, worship, walk, talk, studies or obedience. If you feel that you do not have a celebration in you, then read Romans 10:9-10 and celebrate.

### Asserting Yourself With Godly Wisdom

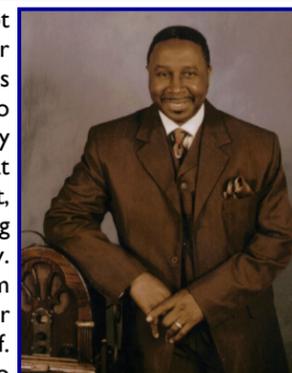
### Reverend Anthony L. Freeman

Genesis 1:1 states, In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth, and then in verse 1:3, God said, Let there be light, and there was light. And God saw the light, that it was good, and God divided the light from the darkness. God called the light, day, and the darkness, he called night. And finally on the sixth day, Genesis 1:26, God said, "let us make man in our image, after our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth on the earth."

As a child, when I first read these passages of scripture, I was amazed at the awesomeness of God and proud to be made in His image. And the more I read, the bigger my God got, for not only did He create the earth, but in Hebrews 11:3, it says, Through faith we understand that the

worlds were framed by the spoken word of God. God stepped out on faith, and called those things that were not as though they were, meaning He did not make the things that were made by things that were visible, but rather, by that which was invisible. Now I know some of you say, "But we are only mere mortal men, and that is true." But Hebrews 11:1 says, Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. And then I found out in Jesus' covenant promises, He says we will be able to do the same and even greater works. I am just reckless enough to believe, that if I have the faith, the size of a mustard seed, and say to the mountain, be thou removed, then that mountain shall move. Tell God whatever that mountain is in your life, be it, joblessness, loneliness, homelessness, or wounded relationship. Whatever

it is, its not too hard for my God. Life's lesson is to learn to play the hand that you are dealt, without having a pity party. Always esteem others higher than yourself. Always seek to make good and positive choices, but even if, something goes awry, know this, trouble don't last always, for my God sits high and He looks low, and just as He heard the prayers of the Israelites, He also hears ours.



# Kingdom Kreation News

## Vacation Bible School 2015

“The Jesus Connection Continues”

June 17 - 19, 2015

6:00 PM - 8:30 PM

Classes will be held for all age groups

Volunteers are needed!

Please contact us at [KingdomKreation@fairfieldbaptistchurch.org](mailto:KingdomKreation@fairfieldbaptistchurch.org).



## Toastmasters International

### Youth Leadership Program



This summer, Fairfield Kingdom Voices will host the fifth Toastmasters International's Youth Leadership Program. The program is designed to develop the speaking and leadership skills of young people. Participants will learn how to prepare and present a speech and conduct meetings. The first meeting will be on June 1, 2015. The program consists of eight classes which will be held in the Zack Brown Administrative and Educational Center on Tuesdays from 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM beginning on June 2. The age requirement is 10 to 18 years old. For more information, contact Deacon Micheal Morris at 404-502-5806.



Attention  
2015 Graduates

We congratulate you on your achievements and would like to highlight all high school and college/university grads in the June's edition of the Lighthouse. Please forward your picture, the name of the school, diploma information and your future plans to  
[medianews@fairfieldbaptistchurch.org](mailto:medianews@fairfieldbaptistchurch.org)



**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

**Fairfield Baptist Church Celebrates 130th Anniversary**



Fairfield, the hand of God has always been on our church. Built in 1885, Fairfield Baptist Church, formally known as Fairfield Brush Arbor, was the first black church in the Redan community. The name Brush Arbor was given because it was built from old limbs or brush picked from trees on the flat ground in the field. We are grateful to the Carol, Daniel, Durden, Mapp and Moore families for coming together and allowing the Holy Spirit to lead them in organizing a church just nineteen years after slaves were freed. The church was built in a field on two acres of land that was donated by Johnny Johnson, a white merchant. One acre was used for the

church and the other, a cemetery to bury members. Under the leadership of the first pastor, Rev. A. D. Freeman, the second edifice was built and the church was renamed Fairfield Baptist Church. Rev. Freeman served Fairfield for thirty-three years. Through the grace of God, Fairfield has been blessed to have only five pastors from 1885 to 1977, in the persons of Rev. A. D. Freeman, Rev. A. C. Collins, Rev. Zack Brown, Rev. C. L. Nall and Rev. Micheal Benton, who is still serving as Shepherd after thirty-eight years. It is now a time of celebration, our **130th Church Anniversary**. Join us May 13 – 17, as we rejoice in "The One-Ness of God". Our church anniversary revival will be held May 13 – 15, at 7:00 PM with guest speakers: Bishop William Davenport, pastor of Corinth Baptist Church in Social Circle, Georgia; Rev. Ken Jelks, pastor of Mt. Tabor Missionary Baptist Church, Columbus, Georgia; and Rev. Richard Allen Farmer, pastor of Crossroads Presbyterian Church, Stone Mountain, Georgia. The Twelve Tribes of Israel, along with all of our ministries will participate in this milestone celebration. Beginning on Wednesday, May 13, the Eastern Tribes of Judah, Issachar and Zebulon and the Word and Service Ministries will be representing. On Thursday, May 14, the Southern Tribes of Reuben, Simeon and Gad and the Support and Music Ministries will be representing. The Western Tribes of Ephraim, Manasseh and Benjamin and Kingdom Kreation will be representing on Friday, May 15. Our anniversary will culminate on Sunday May 17, with ONE service at 10:00 AM. Pastor Micheal Benton will bring the spoken word. The Craig Lewis Band will be our special musical guests. The band performed on stage in the blockbuster play, *Madea's Big Happy Family*, written by Tyler Perry. They have also performed on the Oprah Winfrey Show. The Northern Tribes of Dan, Asher and Naphtali will be presenting. We pray for God's continued blessings as we celebrate 130 years of His grace and favor upon Fairfield.

May 3

Happy Birthday!  
First Lady Y'Vonnæ Benton

**Awesome God**

God likes music. Maybe that is one reason He created angels. We like music too—at least certain kinds of music. Music and Christian worship have grown up together for two thousand years. The Apostle Paul wrote of singing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs, thus recognizing that followers of Jesus can worship God with various musical tasks. In the past one hundred years, Christians have been introduced, sometimes painfully, to more of a variety of church music than ever before, and we are still learning music appreciation from younger generations. Here at

Fairfield Baptist Church, we have great musicians and choirs, but have you ever wondered where some of the songs we sing came to be? I know that I have. Well, here is what I found when I researched the song, **Awesome God**. Rich Mullins, the author of "Awesome God" was raised in a Quaker church that celebrated quietness and waiting upon God in stillness. But when he went to Bible college, he formed a rock band and later, a touring group called the Ragamuffin Band. He says that when he wrote "Awesome God" he was driving

**Joann Williams-West**

across country on his way to a youth conference. He started to doze off. To keep himself awake, he started preaching to himself. The sleepier he got, the more exuberant he got in his preaching; by the time he arrived at the conference, he had written a new song, "Awesome God". He did not think it was great but the kids at the conference loved it, and soon its popularity spread across the country. You know the words: **Our God is an awesome God. He reigns from heaven above with wisdom, pow'r and love. Our God is an awesome God.**

**Thoughts on Faith**

**Deaconess Jackie Mitchell**

**Faith**



My journey with faith has been favored with blessings, storms and a miracle of life. I praise God daily and I am so glad I have Him in my life. I am fortunate to have been introduced to God at an early age. Being the granddaughter of a strong, hard-working Baptist preacher, helping others and praising God began early in my life. As children, my siblings, cousins and I journeyed every Sunday morning with our grandfather to a small church in our neighborhood where he ministered. We made up the Sunday School, choir, and usher board. From being in our grandfather's

church we learned to work in the church and fellowship. He stood as a tower of strength for his family and church. His faith never wavered. He knew God, he loved God, and he praised God, and this gave him joy. When I reached the age to know the source of this joy, I asked my grandfather if I could be baptized. This was a celebration that I will never forget. This is also when I made my vow to believe in the power of God forever. I knew I wanted to know the Man my grandfather praised and prayed to for good health, strength and thanksgiving. I knew that I wanted to experience that wonderful joy and protection he experienced. My grandfather would always pray and praise God for a covering over his children and grandchildren. He did not know the future but he knew that whatever may come, God could handle it. He told us to just call on God. He will answer your prayers. Through many obstacles and heart breaking events, God has been my source of comfort and

resurrected joy. God has never left me or forsaken me, even when my imperfect mind could not see the breakthrough. God provided, God healed, and God held me through it all. My decision to accept the Lord into my life has been the most important life choice I have made. I thank my grandfather for his words that still rang deep within me to "Hold on to God's unchanging hands and He will direct your path". *Matthew 21:22, "And everything you shall ask in prayer, believing, you shall receive."* As I continue my journey, I will continue to walk in faith so that I too can be an inspiration to others, inspiring them to accept Jesus Christ and experience the infinite and everlasting joy that only God can provide. Parents and grandparents, pray and cover your children. Encourage them to continue their education. Support their dreams and goals, praise their accomplishments, and provide them guidance in their time of discernment.

**Ministries' News**

**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 FBC Veterans and Supporters Ministry would like to thank all attendees and participants that helped make our 5th Annual Veterans and Supporters Appreciation Dinner a success. We invite all veterans and supporters to meet with us every 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month at 7:00 PM in the Zack Brown Administrative and Educational Center. Our next event is the Memorial Day Ceremony which will be held in the Son's House on May 24. We need volunteers to be flag bearers. Please help honor our fallen soldiers who gave their lives for the freedom to worship our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. The ministry is also updating our troop roster. Please inform us of your or your family member's duty station mailing address. Thank you for your continued support. Keep our troops and their families in your prayers. Remember, 'Freedom is not Free'.

Trinitarians Lee Thompson, Michael Wright, & Robin Junious

**Events**

**May 3**  
**Communion Worship Services**  
7:30 AM & 10:45 AM  
Sunday School  
9:15 AM  
Zack Brown Administrative and Educational Center  
**New Member Class**  
Executive Conference Room  
**Baptism Class**  
2nd & 3rd Sunday  
Computer Lab

**May 10**  
**Happy Mother's Day**

**May 13 - 15**  
**Church Anniversary Revival**  
The Son's House  
7:00 PM

**May 17**  
**130th Church Anniversary**  
The Son's House  
10:00 AM

**May 24**  
**Memorial Day Service**  
7:30 AM & 10:45 AM

**May 31**  
**Baptism**  
**Micheal Benton Family Life Center**  
7:30 AM

**Baby Dedication Service**  
The Son's House  
10:45 AM

**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

May 6 & 20  
*The Tribe of Gad Presents*  
*The Book of 11 Corinthians*

May 27 & June 3  
*The Tribe of Ephraim Presents*  
*The Book of Galatians*

**Youth**  
Zack Brown Administrative & Educational Center