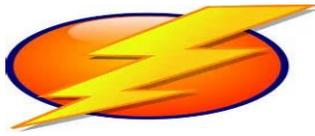


Flash Points



Issue 11, April 2017

First Rising Mt. Zion Baptist Church
602 N Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20001

Rev. Oran W. Young, Pastor

202-289-4480 (Office)
202-289-4595 (Fax)

Website: www.firstrising.org

From the Pastor's Pen

Greetings in the marvelous name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, the One who allows us to live, move and to have our being. Spring is in the air which brings on a transition from the dreary conditions of winter to the newness of life in the spring. It reminds us of the newness we celebrate in the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Believing in the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ brings hope in this life and the life to come. He is the first fruit of the resurrection and promises to return for His Church. In the meantime, He has given us the Holy Spirit, the Comforter to give us life and to give it to us more abundantly. So, we celebrate being brought from a spiritual death to being alive in Christ. Mark your calendar and let's come out in good numbers to worship during the Holy Week.

I need to let you know that the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) has put out a report on bicycle lanes in our area. There were four alternatives and it appears they have eliminated two which would be most favorable to the church. I noticed that they recorded the number of responses to come to their conclusions. It doesn't seem there are any immediate meetings scheduled and they have re-opened the comment section of the website. If its comments they want, then it ought to be comments that we will give. Go to <http://www.dccycletrack.com/get-involved.html>; submit your email address and comment to let our voice be heard. We have been a stabilizing presence in the community for nearly 62 years, fifty-four percent of our congregation lives in the city, we appreciate the current parking situation which is a strain, and anything less than our current parking situation is unacceptable. Let's be proactive and get out in front of this. Making *your* voice heard is vital to *our* existence.

Rev. Oran W. Young

Ministry News

- ☆ First Friday Youth Fellowship Night is on Friday, **April 5**. Youth ages 4 to 17 are encouraged to attend. There will be food, fun and entertainment for all. Food will be served at 6:30 p.m. The fun and entertainment begins at 7:00 p.m. Feel free to bring your friends, family and classmates out on Friday, **April 7** and on Friday, May 5!
- ☆ Saturday, **April 8**, the Missionary Society Ministry will hold a prayer breakfast. The program will begin at 11:00 a.m. A donation will be accepted.
- ☆ **Hosanna in the highest!** Palm Sunday (**April 9**) marks the beginning of Holy Week with Jesus triumphant entry into Jerusalem. Give Him glory, honor and praise!
- ☆ Come and give reverence at the Pre-Easter Services celebrated nightly at 7:00 p.m.:
 - Maundy Thursday (**April 13**) commemorates the last supper of Jesus with His disciples.
 - Good Friday (**April 14**) symbolizes the crucifixion and burial of our Lord, the Christ.
- ☆ On Friday, **April 14**, the Breakfast Ministry will have a fish fry from 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. A love offering will be accepted.
- ☆ The Breakfast Ministry will serve brunch after the worship service on the fourth Sunday of each month. On Sunday, **April 23**, there will be good eating and good fellowship. Donations accepted.
- ☆ **He lives!** **April 26** is Easter Sunday when the Lord was resurrected. Rejoice in the Lord Always!
- ☆ Sunday, **April 28**, is Choir Day. The BTU will be in session at 12:00 p.m. A choir day dinner will be served at 1:00 p.m. and the program begins at 3:00 p.m. Please show your support!

- ☆ A Pre-Mother's Day Luncheon will be held on Saturday, **May 6**, beginning at 11:00 a.m. The meal is sponsored by the Deaconess Ministry. Donations will be accepted.
- ☆ It's almost time to select a 2017 Mother of the Year! This event is sponsored by the Missionary Society Ministry. Details will be forthcoming but you can begin writing your one-page nomination essay now! Mother's Day is Sunday, May 14.
- ☆ Heads up! The Career Development Young Christian Achievers Program will soon be accepting young ladies and gentlemen as Debutantes and Esquires for the 2018 Cotillion. More information to come.

In the House Spotlight

- ☆ Birthday greetings to April's babies: Ms. Harriet Tweedy (April 3), Mrs. Maryella Shirley (April 12), Mrs. Leona Norwood (April 13), Ms. Addie Watson (April 17), and Mrs. Leona Person (April 28). May your day bring you countless happiness and endless joy! Happy birthday!
- ☆ Trustee Barbara VanHagen, Deacon Derrick Ford, Mr. Ernest Gibson, Jr., Ms. Tanya Penny, Trustee Gary Moore, and Mrs. Arlene Williams are members of the Spiritual Wholeness Task Force. The Task Force was created to assess the spiritual health of the church. They have designed a questionnaire to help with the formulation of the Pastor's vision of the church. Your input is key! When you receive the form, please fill it out, bring it to church and drop it in the lobby boxes by or before Sunday, **April 9**. A celebratory brunch will be served after the morning worship service (on the ninth) for those who have turned in their form.
- ☆ Miss Shaolin White and Master Wendell Wray, Jr. recently participated in the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority Youth Advisory Group Meeting. Miss White even won a Subway gift card. (Shaolin is the granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Richard and Odessa White. Wendell is the grandson of Ms. Trovander Wray.)

Religious Scholarship

The CM CARES Religious Scholars Program is offering 50 scholarships of \$5,000 each for the 2017-18 academic school year. The scholarship is for religious scholars from all faith denominations. Applications will be accepted until Saturday, **April 15**. Go to churchmutual.com/cmcares-scholars for more information. Interested students should not delay. Scholarships will be awarded in May

NAACP ACT SO PROGRAM

This year-long program covers business, culinary, humanities, STEM, performing arts, and visual arts activities and provides a great opportunity for students in grades 9-12 to share and develop their talents. The program culminates with competitions from April - July. To request recruitment information, contact Ms. Ruby Lewis at 202-841-1832 or at actso.naacpdc@gmail.com. Applications should be returned by **April 15**.

Thanks

The following are to be thanked for sharing information for this issue: Rev. Oran W. Young, Deaconess Ann Gilliard, Deacon Harold Gilliard, Ms. Mary Jackson, Mrs. Tamara McRae, Deaconess Yvonne Stewart, Trustee Barbara VanHagen, Mrs. Odessa White and Mrs. Arlene Williams.

	<p>SHARE YOUR NEWS! Flash Points is a news sheet developed to point out activities in the church, accomplishments of its members, and opportunities available to all members of First Rising Mt. Zion. Please share your information with me at either of the contacts listed below. <i>Acts 3:15 states, "You killed the author of life, but God raised him from the dead. We are witnesses of this." NIV</i></p>
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Publication deadline is Saturday, April 22 for distribution on Sunday, May 7.

Send your Flash Points news to vivian.obianyo@gmail.com or call 301-322-4039.