

Flash Points



Issue 12, July 2018

First Rising Mt. Zion Baptist Church
602 N Street, NW
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

First Rising, the first six months of the year has been busy. The activities and events are too numerous to mention but our church calendar shows how we have been busy lifting up the name of the Lord. We are only half way through the year and there are other areas the Lord wants us to work in. Recently, I used an illustration in a sermon about ants. Ants live in colonies, and instinctively know the mission of the colony, are together in carrying out their task, and they can carry twice their weight. Ants are natural at what they do. It's the same with the church. We come together in one body, know the mission of Christ, and we carry out the tasks of the church. I look forward to us being supernaturally energized to build up one another, reach out into the community and be more proficient at sharing the good news about Jesus Christ. With the Lord's help, we'll be able to carry twice our weight!

Ministry News

- ♥ Don't forget the start of Vacation Bible School (**July 9 – July 13**) from 7:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.
- ♥ Youth and Young Adult Day is on Sunday, **July 15**. An anniversary dinner will be served at 12:00 noon.
- ♥ A family activity night is scheduled for Friday, **July 27**, at 6:45 p.m. More information to come.
- ♥ Inquiring minds want to know. A special edition of Flash Points is being planned for August to include an update of family members who are past church members of First Rising. Don't be shy! Send your info to vivian.obianyo@gmail.com or call 301-322-4039 to leave a message. The deadline date is **July 22**.
- ♥ August is vacation month. The Vacation Choir will be rendering the worship service music. Rehearsals will be on Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. from **July 5** through **August 23**. Men, women, and children are welcome to participate!
- ♥ Belated thanks to the Ethel Dudley Missionary Circle and Flower Ministry for the beautiful corsages and lapel flowers they made and provided to the congregation on Father's Day. Such talented ladies.

In the House Spotlight

- ♥ Greetings to our birthday babies: Rev. Oran W. Young (July 1), Deaconess Harriett Penny (July 2), Mrs. Verletic Devane (July 9), Ms. Jaya Jones (July 10), Deaconess Phyllis Thompson (July 11), Deaconess Annie White (July 11), Mr. Paul Brown (July 16), Mr. Paul Eades, III (July 18), Mrs. Louise Flemings (July 24), and Mrs. Dorothy Davis (July 28). May your day be filled with the happiest of smiles!
- ♥ Happy Wedding Anniversary to: Deacon and Deaconess Prince and Lillian Jones (July 9), Rev. and Mrs. Reginald and Olivia Green (July 11), Trustee and Mrs. McKinley and Leanna Clark (July 29), and Rev. and Mrs. William and Dorothy Wells Fowlkes (July 29). Praying that you continue to feel love and good cheer!
- ♥ Please support Rev. Reginald Green at a prayer breakfast for the 20th Anniversary Celebration of the African American Civil War Memorial & Museum at the Unity Church of Washington (located at 1225 R. Street, NW) on Thursday, **July 19**, at 9:30 a.m. The donation is \$50. Call the church office for transportation.
- ♥ Mr. Lasterza Hunt dedicated a plaque to the church that list all the men who held the position of Deacon during the church history from 1936 to 2018! Thank you, Mr. Hunt, for your gift in memory of your granddaughter, Ava V. Hunt, and of your kind remembrance of the Deacon Board.
- ♥ Congratulations to First Rising's 2018 Fathers of the Year: Mr. Louis Coe, Mr. Reginald Mason, Mr. Furman Sims and Mr. Raymond Wade!

- ♥ Myles Jenkins has joined his older sister, Mayla, in the field of dance. He especially likes hip hop dancing. Mayla received a six week scholarship to attend the Dance Theatre of Harlem's summer intensive program in Bethesda, Maryland. In May, she auditioned for and was chosen to perform on the Disney Channel. Mayla will work with professionals over the next seven months to prepare for her showcase at Walt Disney World from December 16 to 23! (Dr. Wanda Govan Jenkins is the proud parent of Mayla and Myles.)
- ♥ Synphane White plays the violin with the Kettering Middle School's orchestra. In June, the orchestra performed at a community concert with Largo High School's Concert and Jazz Band at Largo High School. (Synphane is the granddaughter of Mrs. Odessa White.)
- ♥ Ms. Trovander Wray is a busy, busy bee. She wears many hats in the church but also has found a way to serve the community as a trainer to D.C. election poll workers. Buzz, Buzz, girl!
- ♥ Wendell Wray, Jr. has travelled a lot as a Global Youth Ambassador Leader for Ronald Brown Preparatory School. He will be entering a new charter school in the fall under the 'gentleman's scholar' program and would like to make the world smaller by bringing the globalization program to the District. It's a project he will work hard to make happen! (Wendell Jr. is grandson of Ms. Trovander Wray.)

Promotions and Graduations

Congratulations to the youth and young adults of First Rising on their promotions and graduations to the next grade level and/or entry into the workforce. Keep up the good work!

- ♥ **Kindergarten through Elementary School Promotions:** (1st grade) Cody White, Trinity Samuels and Trenton Samuels; (2nd grade) Israel Plummer and Cameron Wray; (4th grade) Myles Jenkins; (5th grade) Jordan James, Sasha Plummer and Alexis Williams.
- ♥ **Middle and High School Promotions:** (6th grade) Mayla Jenkins and Kendall Wray; (7th grade) Sirina Bowser, Christian Eades, Synphane White and Aaron Williams; (11th grade) Wendell Wray, Jr.; (12th grade) Malik McRae, Shaolin White and Tamara Wooten.
- ♥ **High School Graduate:** Tejhará McBride will attend C. Johnson Smith University in Charlotte, N.C. and plans to major in political science.
- ♥ **College Students:** Laesha Shelton is a freshman and Andrew Hetmeyer a junior at the University of the District of Columbia (UDC). Seniors Breana Carraway attends Morgan State University, Allyson Jones goes to Cornell University, and Constantine Shelton is at North Carolina A&T University.
- ♥ **College Graduate:** Melanie Matthews received a degree in Music Education from UDC.

New Educational Assistance for Marylanders

In 2015, President Barack Obama proposed making community colleges across the country tuition-free. Rhode Island, Tennessee, Oregon, and New York jumped on the band wagon. Last week, a bill was signed into law offering the same to thousands of Marylanders. The scholarships will be worth as much as \$5,000 to low- and middle-income students starting community college within two years of high school graduation. The bill also allots monies to help older students who are close to finishing degrees. The program will go into effect in 2019. More information will be released to the public as details are finalized.

Thank You

I would like to thank Rev. Oran W. Young, Deaconess Sharon Carraway, Mrs. Chrissie Cobb, Ms. Isis Collins, Master Jordan James, Mrs. Louise Flemings, Dr. Wanda Govan-Jenkins, Deacon Terrence Jones, Master Israel Plummer, Miss Sasha Plummer, Ms. Ruby Rice, Deaconess Yvonne Stewart, Mrs. Arlene Williams, Mrs. Odessa White, Miss Synphane White and Ms. Trovander Wray for sharing information for this issue. ♥ Vivian Jones Obiano



BE A SHARE GIVER! 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. Please share your birthdays, anniversaries, and other pertinent information at either of the contacts listed below.