



First Rising Mt. Zion Baptist Church
82 years of walking by faith.

MISSION STAR



Volume 18, Issue 2

June 2018

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Sis. Jean Whitley



Stand up for Jesus

Thanking our Lord and Savior for each of you beginning this New Year. It certainly has been a rewarding spiritual, educational, and learning one for all members of this church, especially for the children and young adults. Reviewing the Bible from the beginning to where we are now in Bible Study has been quite rewarding.

Recently, we happily celebrated 82 years of this church on the corner. Not only has First Rising Mount Zion Baptist Church been a beacon of light for this community, it is well known throughout the area for its mission work.

Celebrating Women's Day gave us another opportunity to thank and remember those women who with boldness and faith committed themselves not only to their individual church ministries, but to each other. These faithful women met the needs of the church and they did it all without claiming anything individually.

We want to stand firm on the foundation of their faith, holding on to God's unchanging hand. We want to seek and encourage women, men, children and this community of fellowship to come to Christ where there is healing, love, and strength to help one another Stand up for Jesus. Stewardship was their lifestyle. Let it be ours.

While we are retreating, vacationing, visiting, touring or however you choose to enjoy the summer, *Stand Up for Jesus!*



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EVENTS CALENDAR

| | |
|---------------|---|
| July 7- 8 | Vacation Bible |
| August 12 -16 | Lott Carey 121st Annual Session |
| July 29 | Missionary Sunday & Dime-A-Meal |
| September 3-7 | 138 Annual Session, National Baptist Convention, Inc. |
| September 14 | Pastor's Pre - Anniversary |
| September 16 | Pastor's Anniversary and Banquet |
| September 30 | Missionary Sunday & Dime-A-Meal |

INTRODUCING SISTER GERALDINE GREEN – A NATIVE WASHINGTONIAN

By Harriet Tweedy

Sister Geraldine Green was born in Washington, DC, on December 25, 1944 to Louella and Sidney Hawkins (the parents of one boy and four girls, which includes one set of twin girls). Her parents were hard workers and although they had limited financial resources, they insisted on their children finishing high school.



Even though Sister Green grew up and attended school in Washington, DC, segregation in schools was very much alive. African Americans had to work twice as hard to achieve what was automatically given to others. Sister Green graduated from McKinley Tech Senior High school in June 1962. Being too young to work for the Federal Government, she spent a year and a half working at the Holiday Inn as a bus girl/pantry helper. The fact that she was too young to take the Civil Service Exam upon graduation tells us how dedicated this young woman was to learning and the positive role her parents played in her upbringing. Upon turning seventeen, she was able to take and pass the Civil Service Exam after three tries. In January 1964, she was recruited by the Department of Labor to work as a GS-3 clerk-typist in the

payroll office. Over the years, working in many different positions, she moved up the ranks to become a Wage Garnishment Specialist. I was surprised to find out that she is still working after 54 years of service. When I asked her about retirement, she said she loves what she does and will continue to work until she no longer feels the satisfaction she now gets from her job.

Sister Green met her husband Wilbert at the Department of Labor. After a short courtship, they were married on October 18, 1969. Even though she has no biological children of her own, she has a stepson and has been both guardian and mentor to many family members, generously providing spiritual and financial support when needed.

After attending First Rising Mt. Zion faithfully for one year with her parents, Sister Green joined First Rising in May 1977. She is a willing participant in many activities of the church, offering her services where needed. She is a member of the Sunday School Adult Class #3 and the Chrysanthemums (MUMS) Missionary Ministry.

Sister Green has an engaging personality. She is kind, loyal and extremely energetic. Chatting with her I realized her strong faith is the key to her beautiful outlook on life. It is an honor to know her. Thank you Sister Green for sharing a small portion of your life.



First Rising Helping Hands Ministry



*For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat...
Matthew 25:35*

Congratulations are extended to the First Rising Mt. Zion Helping Hands Ministry for the wonderful job they are doing with the Out-Reach Food Distribution Program for persons in need. With the support and generosity of the Sydney Mudd Lodge #748 from Upper Marlboro, MD, First Rising is able to assist the 163 families registered under our program as their need arises. Food distributions are made biweekly. We are sincerely grateful to Sydney Mudd Lodge for their donations of food, money and other items to this Ministry. The Director of the FRMZ Helping Hand Ministry is Sister Virginia Toney. Pictured are: Bro. Maurice Cunningham (Sydney Mudd Lodge), Sisters Peggy Parker, Frances Claiborne and Gail Martin, and Bros. Larry Byrd (Sydney Mudd Lodge) and John Boyd.



THIRD QUARTER FLASH BACKS A FEW MOMENTS CAPTURED ...



Congratulations to Debutantes Shaolin White, Tajahara McBride, Tamara Wooten and Esquire Malik McRae on their debut into society at the **2018 FRMZ Cotillion** at Martin's Crosswinds on April 27.



FRMZ's Mother's Day Program has a new twist. In addition to the traditional Mother of the Year Award (whereby nominations are accepted from family and church members) a Senior Mother of the Year Award has been added (whereby the Program Committee honors our most senior mothers and/or guardians). During the Mother's Day service on May 13, 2018, (Left to Right) Sisters Geraldine Ford and Ruby Rice were crowned Mothers of the Year and Sisters M. Louise Fleming and Katie Crawford were crowned Senior Mothers of the Year. "Well Done, Sisters!"



Family Fun Week at First Rising



Wed. June 20: Family Prayer & Bible Study
Thurs. June 21: Family Bingo
Fri. June 22: Family Scavenger Hunt
Sat. June 23: Family Bowling

"A family that prays and plays together,
stays together."



The Women's Auxiliary, Baptist Convention of DC and Vicinity sponsored an **Annual Prayer Brunch** at St. John Baptist Church on June 23. Rev. Pamela Newton, Vice President At-Large was the Keynote Speaker. First Rising members served in the following ways: Sis Addie Watson decorated the room, Sis. Dorothy Wells Fowlkes cooked and served the meal, and Sis. Jean Whitley gave out gifts. We thank these missionaries for their willingness to serve.



The **82nd Anniversary of First Rising Mt. Zion** was celebrated on May 17 - 20, 2018. Our theme was *"Looking Back with Thanksgiving: Moving Forward in Faith"* (Proverbs 3:5-6). Our colors were shades of green. The pre-anniversary speaker on May 17th was Rev. Dr. E Jean Brockington (Pastor of Abundant Life Christian Ministries, Lanham, MD), who gave us a rousing sermon and we enjoyed their wonderful choir, officers and members.

On Friday, May 18th, the Young Adult Gospel Café was held at 7:00 p.m. On Saturday, May 19th our Church Parade and Fellowship Day was cancelled outside because of the weather, but everyone came inside to the Eva Cook Fellowship Hall and played games, sang songs, fellowshiped and enjoyed the food.

On Sunday, May 20th, our 9:30 a.m. guest speaker was one of the Sons of our church, Rev. Anthony Motley. Although he was recuperating from a stroke, he was able to bring us a wonderful themed message. Our 1:00 p.m. anniversary dinner was served, and enjoyed by all. Our 3:00 p.m. guest speaker was Rev. Charles W. McNeill, Jr., (Pastor, Unity Baptist Church) who gave us a soul-stirring, encouraging message. We will be "Moving Forward in Faith" in the coming year 2019.



The **Church Sunday School Picnic** was held at Sandy Point, MD on June 16, 2018. While there weren't as many attendees as last year, a great time was had by all. The food was good, the games were fun and the children had a blast at the beach.



Bravo, to our **Women's Day** Committee and Team Captains (lead by Sisters Dorothy E. Fowlkes, Chair, and Ann Gilliard, Co-Chair) for a job well done! The Pre-Women's Day "Yellow Rose Tea," held on June 2nd, was something special this year. The meal was scrumptious and the Parade of Hats was amazing. First Lady Linda Young captured the Winner's Spot for the best looking hat; Sis. Mattie James was the First Place Runner Up; Sis. Shirley Martin was Second Place Runner Up and Sis. Veletic Devane received honorable mention. In addition to the Hat Parade, there was a spectacular Fashion Show featuring youth, young adults, women and men models. Rev. Lori Davis, FRMZ Associate Minister, was the speaker.

Women's Day services were held on June 24th. "Women Serving With a Purpose" was the theme. Rev. Lorise White Wolf, 19th Street Baptist Church, preached at the 9:30 a.m. service. The Rev. Dr. Carolyn Gilmore, Pastor of Galatians Baptist Church, was guest speaker at the 3 p.m. service. She was accompanied by her choir. Rev. Gilmore reminded us that we are God's masterpiece and each of us has been created for a special assignment. It is time for us to take action in furthering His kingdom.





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Members of the Girls Auxiliary and others enjoy **First Friday**. This was a team race to put the books of the Bible in order. **THIS TEAM WON!**

Except for summer break, the first Friday of each month is set aside as Youth Fellowship Night. The children enjoy Bible Study quizzes, group discussions, games and good food. Children are encouraged to bring a friend.



BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

| | | | |
|---------|--------------------|-----------|--------------------|
| June 7 | Lee Ann Clark | July 11 | Annie White |
| June 7 | Julia Gibbs | July 16 | Carlotta Teal |
| June 7 | LaShaunte Wooden | July 23 | Annette Fouch |
| June 9 | Odessa White | July 24 | Louise Fleming |
| June 10 | Vickie Fouch | July 26 | Gloria Williams |
| June 10 | Dorothy E. Fowlkes | July 27 | Alisa Gilliard |
| June 12 | Anna Smith | July 28 | Dorothy Davis |
| June 14 | Priscilla Coleman | July 29 | Catherine Parks |
| June 19 | Shaolin White | July 30 | Pearlie Stanfield |
| June 22 | Carolyn Fouch | August 1 | Shirley Lovelace |
| June 22 | Agnes Taylor | August 2 | Marian Bridgeman |
| June 23 | Sharon Debose | August 8 | Sirina Bowser |
| June 23 | Hazel Williams | August 9 | Vivian Thompson |
| June 27 | Catherine Brown | August 10 | Valerie Randolph |
| June 30 | Louise Barnes | August 11 | Patricia Martin |
| July 1 | Dora Jones | August 15 | Elizabeth McFowler |
| July 2 | Harriett Penny | August 21 | Inez Jones |
| July 2 | Gloria Veney | August 26 | Mattie Howell |
| July 7 | Synphane White | August 26 | Elizabeth Taylor |
| July 8 | Verletic Devane | August 26 | Stacey Watson |
| July 11 | Phyllis Thompson | August 27 | Virginia Logan |

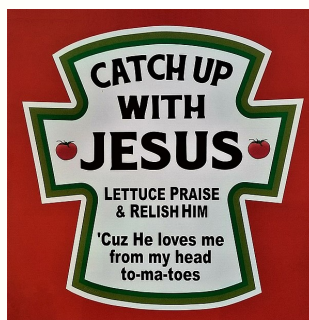
Count not the candles...see the lights they give. Count not the years, but the life you live. Wishing you a wonderful time ahead. Happy birthday.



Special thanks to Aaron and Alexis Williams who served as host, hostess and servers at First Rising's 82nd Anniversary Banquet.



Scene from Church Anniversary **Fellowship Day**, May 19, 2018.



**138th Annual Session
 National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc.
 Minneapolis, MN
 September 3-7, 2018**