

Flash Points



Issue 12, August 2018

First Rising Mt. Zion Baptist Church
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Ministry News

- ♥ August is vacation month. All ministries (with the exception of the Vacation Choir) are on vacation this month. Join the Vacation Choir for rehearsals every Thursday (7:30 p.m.) until Thursday, **August 23**.

In the House Spotlight

- ♥ Birthday shout outs to: Mrs. Marian Bridgeman (August 2), Mrs. Vivian Thompson (August 9), Deacon William Ford (August 25), Trustee John Croom (August 25), Mrs. Mattie Howell (August 25), Ms. Elizabeth Taylor (August 26), Ms. Stacey Watson (August 27), Deaconess Virginia Logan (August 31) and Mrs. Henrietta Murray (August 31). *Hope your day is full of pleasant surprises.*
- ♥ Wedding Anniversary wishes to: Deacon and Deaconess Derrick and Lolita Plummer (August 11), Deacon and Deaconess Clarence and Phyllis Thompson (August 19), and Deacon and Deaconess Roland and Harriett Penny (August 23). *May the love you share grow stronger with each passing day.*

All in the Family - Where are they now?

Some of our past members left and found a new church. Others are listed on the sick and shut-in list or have moved into nursing homes. Then there are those who slip through the crack, like Mrs. Syline Poindexter who, like the old adage says, 'is still kicking but not high.' The thought comes to mind, where the members who once were a part of First Rising are. Well ...

- ♥ Lucious and Emma Bernice Banks retired to Alabama some years ago. Their son, Kevin, lives in the family homestead and works as an HVAC technician for WMATA.
- ♥ Winston Bridgeman is a systems engineer for Lockheed Martin. He is also a Major in the National Guard and has served 22 years. Winston lives in Martinsville, West Virginia with his wife and two sons.
- ♥ Derek Eades bought a house in Clarksburg, Maryland where he lives with his wife and two daughters. Cedrick Eades and his wife expect a baby girl in October. They are in the process of buying a house.
- ♥ William O. "Billy" Fowlkes moved to New York and is now an attorney with a successful law practice. He is married and has a daughter.
- ♥ The Jones Brothers, Raymond and Moses, returned home to Kinston, North Carolina. Raymond is Co-Pastor of Jones Shekinah Church and Moses is an Associate Minister at Faith and Deliverance Church. Moses' wife, Debra, completed college and acquired a degree in social work.
- ♥ Jamil Jones lives in the area with his wife and two children. He is a mechanical engineer for the Navy.
- ♥ Crystal (Lewis) Reed moved to Atlanta, Georgia and has been happily married for 24 years. She works for the public school system as an art counselor for special needs children.
- ♥ Brittaney Logan attends New Life Church in Waldorf, Maryland, works for Kaiser Permanente and lives in Upper Marlboro, Maryland with her son. She is a member of the Cowgirls of Color—the only all-female Afro-American riding team competing in the rodeo circuit.
- ♥ Andrew Melton is in charge of the IT section of an area hospital and is about to buy his first home.
- ♥ Rachel Moore and Gary Packer are two of six children in a blended family. Rachel received a B.A. in Business Music and is an entrepreneur in the field as a singer, songwriter, promoter and producer. Rachel lives in P.G. County but occasionally attends church in Montgomery County where she is a choir section leader. Gary owns and operates an independent, long-distance truck business. He enjoys seeing the

countryside and delivering goods across the state. Gary resides in Charles County with his wife. They have six children.

- ♥ Chukk Obianyio is a certified medical assistant working with mentally-challenged adults. He also has a side business as a licensed car wholesale dealer. Chaz Obianyio is an optician at a popular vision/eyewear center.
- ♥ Derrick Plummer, Jr. is a crisis and reputation (C&R) management specialist with clients across the globe. Media outlets contact him to discuss C&R issues. Recently, he appeared on CBSN to discuss the backlash celebrities receive for their Twitter entries. Derrick lives with his wife and daughter in Bowie, Maryland.
- ♥ Lawanda (Abney) Spence attends Prince George's Community College for event planning and is a member of the National Society of Collegiate Scholars and Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society.
- ♥ Jarrel Thompson is a son of First Rising but is currently an Associate Minister at Guildfield Baptist Church where he works in a variety of ministries.
- ♥ Maurice Waller and his younger brother, Christopher Jones, both live out of state. Maurice is a Chief Warrant Officer in the Navy and is stationed in Florida with his wife and three children. He will soon be reassigned to San Diego, California. Christopher is married and has two children. He works for the U.S. Department of Agriculture as a veterinarian in Thomasville, Georgia.
- ♥ David Williams, Jr. is a member of First Baptist Church of Glenarden. He's active in the music ministry as a member of the praise team and two choirs. He also sings in a traveling gospel group, 'Jimmy Russell & Because of Christ.' The group did a live CD recording in 2017 that should be released by the end of the year. David purchased his first home last year.

Ephesians 1:5 states, 'God decided in advance to adopt us into his own family by bringing us to himself through Jesus Christ. This is what he wanted to do, and it gave him great pleasure.' Hopefully, you enjoyed this short update on those who were adopted as family into *this* branch of Zion.

Back to School Savings

Sadly, Virginia's tax-free weekend is over on Sunday, **August 6**, and the District stopped participating in 2010; but Maryland Tax-Free Week is Sunday, **August 13** until Saturday, **August 19**. Qualifying apparel and footwear \$100 or less (per item) are exempt from state taxes. Layaway sales paid for during the exemption period will also qualify. Why not make a list, and then hit the stores in Maryland!

Community Day

Maryland National Park Police will have an end of summer community day festival on Friday, **August 17**, from 12:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m. at Watkins Regional Park (301 Watkins Park Drive, Upper Marlboro, Maryland). There will be food, demonstrations, and fun attractions. Please register for your free tickets at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/park-police-community-day-tickets-47311031569>. Bring your family and lawn chairs and enjoys the day.

Thank You

Thanks to Ms. Gloria Abney, Mrs. Marian Bridgeman, Mrs. Chrisie Cobb, Mrs. Brenda Eades, Mrs. Dorothy Wells Fowlkes, Deaconess Vanessa Jones, Deaconess Irene Lewis, Deaconess Virginia Logan, Mrs. Melveana Moore, Ms. Renita Melton, Deaconess Lolita Plummer, Deaconess Yvonne Stewart, and Mrs. Arlene Williams for sharing info or directing me to members of the family. ♥ Vivian Jones Obianyio



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 Mt. Zion. Please share your birthdays, anniversaries, and other pertinent information with me at either of the contacts listed below. "The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brothers and sisters. Amen." Galatians 6:18 NIV

The next publication deadline is Sunday, August 19, for distribution on Sunday, September 2.

Send your Flash Point news to vivian.obianyio@gmail.com or call 301-322-4039 to leave a message.