

**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

Administrative  
Assistant  
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

**Happy New Year**

**Dean of Deaconesses Ardelia Rollins**



**We have been  
blessed to see the  
dawn of a new year.**

Let this year be our most prayerful year ever: for our families, church family, communities and the nation. We say we love one another, but in many cases these words do not line up with our actions.

This year, we have a monumental change that is going to take place. Our Pastor for thirty-nine years is retiring. We have the task of joining him in selecting a new spiri-

tual leader. This is going to be a huge adjustment for all of us.

We must first come together as a family and be on one accord, remove self and work on what is best for Fairfield. We are blessed to have a God sent Pastor. We must all pray for him that he will hear from Heaven on this matter. God has spoken to him for the last thirty-nine years regarding Fairfield. I am sure he will give him instructions now. How can we hear without a preacher and how can he preach unless he is sent. We must have enough faith in God to trust His ultimate plan. Psalms 119:105 says, "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path."

God listens attentively to our cries and His spirit is our constant companion that will guide us correctly. We know that God did not bring us this far to leave us.

**A New Year's Resolution Worth Making**

**JoAnn Williams-West**

It is a tradition for many to make New Year's resolutions, right? Yet, we all know that after a few weeks into the new year, they have all been tossed! Why not make a resolution that you can keep? Most of us, as adults, have known Christ for many years, but it would be great to get to know Him even better? As Christians, we should all agree that there is not a better New Year's resolution than resolving to get to know Jesus better by spending time in His word, going to Him in prayer, meditating upon Him, and asking Him to help us. The Apostle Paul in Philippians 3:7-8 writes, "But whatever was to my profit, I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. What is more, I consider everything a loss compared to the surpassing greatness of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord for whose sake I have lost all things." He goes on to say in Philippians 3:8-9, "I consider them *rubbish* [the word he uses literally means *manure*] that I may gain Christ and be found in him not having a righteousness of my own, that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ—the righteousness that comes from God and is by faith." Paul is not talking about any virtue found in himself—he is actually setting aside all of his credentials and saying

they are worth *nothing*. They are worthless. But his resolution is, "I want to know Christ more and better." We should resolve to know Him better, too? We should want to know Christ and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in His sufferings, becoming like Him in His death, and so, to attain to the resurrection from the dead" (Philippians 3:10-11). In short, we all need to know Christ and live by faith in His finished work. That is my New Year's resolution this year. Will you join me in making getting to know Christ better yours too? Let us link arms as part of the body of Christ to challenge each other to know Christ better. We need to challenge each other the whole year, until God calls us home to be with Him.



**Dr. Martin Luther  
King, Jr.  
Commemorative  
Service**

Sunday, January 15, 2017  
7:30 AM & 10:45 AM Worship Services  
Featuring the youth of Fairfield

**United Ministerial Alliance  
5th Sunday Fellowship**

Sunday, January 29, 2017  
3:00 PM  
The Son's House

Song Service - The FBC Mass Choir  
Messenger - Minister Torey Fountain

**Ministries News**

**Tribal Bible Study Resumes...**

All Tribes are asked to participate in the evening Bible Study classes by presenting a synopsis of the First Sunday Worship Service's prayers, praise in songs and the message. Presentations should be \_\_\_\_\_ The schedule is as follows:

January 4	Judah	July 5	Ephraim
February 8	Issachar	August 9	Manasseh
March 8	Zebulon	September 6	Benjamin
April 5	Reuben	October 4	Dan
May 10	Simeon	November 8	Asher
June 7	Gad	December 6	Naphtali

**Veterans and Supporters Ministry**

The Veterans and Supporters Ministry would like to thank Fairfield for your prayers and support for our 2016 activities. The Veterans and Supporters Ministry meet the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month. Our next meeting is Thursday, January 11, 2017 in the Administrative Building, Room 222. If you are a Veteran or supporter, please join us to plan our Annual Veterans Appreciation Dinner in April, our Flag and Wreath Ceremony as well as our Seminars for 2017. Please continue to keep our troops, their families and our country in your prayers.

**Singles Ministry**

Happy New Year, single Christians. Thank you for participating in our monthly Bible Studies, our fellowships and outings for 2016. The Singles Ministry meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday, monthly for Bible Study. Our next class is Thursday, January 18, 2017, 7:00 PM, Eli McKenzie, Jr. Media Center. Please tell your friends and co-workers. Spreading the word of God is always good. The Ministry would like to thank Rev. Brenda Rush for teaching the class and sharing her wisdom with us. Invite your friends and co-workers.

If you are interested in joining, planning activities and/or outreach activities, please contact the Trinitarians of the Ministry: Terry Scott, terryscott19@bellsouth.net; Tamika Foster, tia\_marie18@yahoo.com or Robin Junious, robinjunious@yahoo.com.

**Institute of Biblical Studies**

We would like to hear from you. Please complete the survey monkey on the church's website to help us serve you better. Visit [www.fairfieldbaptistchurch.org](http://www.fairfieldbaptistchurch.org) and follow the link.

**Upcoming Classes for 2017**

Old Testament Part I  
Fundamentals of the Bible Part I  
The Believers Authority Part II of the Overcomer Series  
Spiritual Warfare Part III of the Overcomer Series  
Detours by Dr. Tony Evans

**Events**

January 1  
10:00 AM  
Communion Worship Service

January 8, 15, 22, 29  
Worship Service  
7:30 AM & 10:45 AM  
9:15 AM

Sunday School  
Zack Brown Administrative and  
Educational Center  
New Member Class  
Executive Conference Room  
Baptism Class  
2nd & 3rd Sunday  
Computer Lab

January 15  
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.  
Commemorative Service  
7:30 AM & 10:45 AM  
The Son's House

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  
C.L. Nall Chapel

Youth  
Zack Brown Administrative &  
Educational Center

**Our Healing &  
Convalescing**

"Beloved, I wish above all things that  
thou mayest prosper and be in  
health, even as thy  
soul prospereth."  
- 3 John 1:2

Bridgett Allen  
Bryan Davis  
Mother Lucille Durden  
Margaret Freeman  
Cathy Gardner  
Oscar Giles  
Ola M. McGuire  
Lois Miles  
Blontine Moody  
Ansley Robinzine  
Barbara Saunders  
Mary Lou Smith  
Ann Delores Yarborough  
Yvonne Williams

We are on the Web!  
Fairfieldbaptistchurch.org

Welcome  
New Members



Contributing  
Communication  
Coordinators

Sister Sandra Crocker  
Sister Marilyn Dukes  
Sister Robin Junious

Stay connected with us.



Rev. Micheal Benton  
Visionary/Pastor  
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### 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.

### Youth News



Congratulations to Nyla Baxter for winning 1<sup>st</sup> place in the Speech Division II competition at the Georgia Junior Beta Convention in Macon, Georgia on November 19. Nyla will be representing the state of Georgia at the National Junior Beta Convention, Walt Disney World in Orlando, Florida in June 2017. We are so proud of her accomplishments!



Join in on the  
fun  
2016-17

Basketball &  
Cheerleader  
Season  
Ages 5 -17

Games  
Friday & Saturday  
Micheal Benton Family Life Center



Upcoming Dates  
Friday, January 10  
Friday, January 24

6:30 PM—8:00 PM  
Youth Ages 4—17 and  
Adult Fitness Center Classes  
  
8:00 PM—9:00 PM  
Open Gym for Adults

Sponsored by the DeKalb County Board of Health

### A Moment in Black History

### Tribe of Issachar

Kwanzaa is a week-long celebration held in the United States and in other nations of the Western African diaspora in the Americas. The celebration honors African heritage in African-American culture, and is observed from December 26 to January 1, culminating in a feast and gift-giving. It was created by Maulana Karenga and was first celebrated in 1966–67, as the first specifically African-American holiday. According to Karenga, the name Kwanzaa derives from the Swahili phrase *matunda ya kwanza*, meaning "first fruits of the harvest". A more conventional translation would simply be "first fruits". It was established as a means to help African Americans reconnect with their African cultural and historical heritage by uniting in meditation and study of African traditions. It celebrates the "seven principles of African Heritage" which Karenga said "is a communitarian African philosophy". Each of the seven days of Kwanzaa is dedicated to one of the following principles, as follows:  
*Umoja* (Unity): To strive for and to maintain unity in the family, community, nation, and race.  
*Kujichagulia* (Self-Determination): To define and name ourselves, as well as to create and speak for ourselves.  
*Ujima* (Collective Work and Responsibility): To build and maintain our community together and make our brothers' and sisters' problems our problems and to solve them together.  
*Ujamaa* (Cooperative Economics): To build and maintain our own stores, shops, and other businesses and to profit from them together.  
*Nia* (Purpose): To make our collective vocation the building and developing of our community in order to restore our people to their traditional greatness.  
*Kuumba* (Creativity): To do always as much as we can, in the way we can, in order to leave our community more beautiful and beneficial than we inherited it.  
*Imani* (Faith): To believe with all our hearts in our people, our parents, our teachers, our leaders, and the righteousness and victory of our struggle.

# The Lighthouse

Denying, Defeating & Destroying Division  
...guarding the truth

## Remembering Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Volume 6, Issue 1 January 1, 2017

### Prayer and Intercession

### Reverend Doris Malcom

Every believer is called to pray always as noted in Luke 21:36. "Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man." However, there is another aspect of prayer, which is intercession. God has called us to be a mediator for His people. The one that stands in the gap is called an intercessor that seeks relief and answers for those who are weak. The intercessor is empowered by the Holy Spirit in fervency to bring deliverance, healing and salvation. As an intercessor, one is required to stay in constant prayer, supplication, and in studying the Word of God in order to pray according to the written word, which is the will of God. Sometimes, the intercessor is taken to a place of travailing through the Holy Spirit, where words are not known and cannot be clearly spoken. However, the Holy Spirit does His work through the intercessor. God has a way of sending His word to do His mighty acts. Psalms 107:2-21 reminds us accord-

ingly, "He sent his word, and healed them, and delivered them from their destructions. Oh that men would praise the LORD for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men!" God will always respond to His word. An intercessor has a great responsibility to stayed prayed up and continues to ask for forgiveness, so as not to hinder the prayer from going forth because it was prayed with empty words. An individual does not always have to ask another to intercede on their behalf; they just need to follow the direction of the written, revealed, and inspired word of God. Hezekiah gives a good example of God's response to his prayer and restoration. 2 Kings 20: 2-6 states, "Then he turned his face to the wall, and prayed unto the LORD, saying, I beseech thee, O LORD, remember now how I have walked before thee in truth and with a perfect heart, and have done that which is good in thy sight. And Hezekiah wept sore, And it came to pass, afore Isaiah was gone out into the middle court, that the word of the LORD came to him, saying, Turn again, and tell Hezekiah the captain of my people, Thus saith the LORD, the God of David thy father, I have heard thy prayer, I have seen thy tears: behold, I will heal thee: on the third day thou shalt go up unto the house of the LORD. And I will add unto thy days fifteen years." Jesus serves as an example of an intercessor who is

sitting at the right hand of God interceding on behalf of God's people. God is faithful to forgive us, but we must confess our sins and continue to walk righteously. A few years ago, I was given an illustration that an intercessor is like a woman who labors in childbirth. Intercession is laboring in prayer, pushing hard to bring deliverance for another. However, there is another aspect of prayer which must be accompanied with fasting (Mark 9:29). The Bible tells us some things will not happen without fasting and prayer. One does not have to be a gifted intercessor to pray. We all have a mandate to pray according to Luke 18:1. Likewise, one should pray for those who are in authority. In these times that seem so worrisome, one must get busy praying for the Government (authority), and the body of Christ. There are several examples of intercession in the Bible: Moses interceded for Israel, Zachariah interceded for his wife, and Job interceded for his sons. The challenge for us today is to seek God through prayer and intercession. The body of Christ has a mandate, whether we get the results of our prayer instantly or not, a delay is not a denial. It is time to pray. Be bless as you go into prayer and intercession.

### Hope for Tomorrow

### Reverend Leonard Franklin

WOW, here we stand again at the threshold of another year! GOD has kept us from seen and unseen dangers but the newness is still unknown. There is HOPE for tomorrow! The Baker Encyclopedia of the BIBLE says that HOPE is an expectation or belief in the fulfillment of something desired. Present hurts and uncertainty over what the future holds create the constant need for hope. Worldwide poverty, hunger, disease, and human potential to generate terror and destruction create a longing for something better. Historically, people have looked to the future with a mixture of longing and fear. Many have concluded that there is no reasonable basis for hope and therefore to hope is to live with an illusion. Scripture relates being without hope to being in the world without GOD: "remember that you were at that time separated from CHRIST, alienated from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the

covenants of promise, having no hope and without GOD in the world" (Ephesians 2:12). 2016 was a full year, some people came into our lives while others left, the election cycle was unlike anything we can recall. Crime is rampant in our country, respect for each other is at an all-time low but GOD is still in control! There is HOPE for tomorrow! As the newness of 2017 settles upon us and we get on with the year, remember that there is still HOPE. The songwriter wrote, "My HOPE is built on nothing less that JESUS' blood and righteousness, I dare not trust the sweetest frame but wholly lean on JESUS' name!" Regardless of what it looks like in the natural, your HOPE reaffirms that GOD is still in control leading and directing us! There is HOPE for tomorrow! The reason we can have HOPE is only because of JESUS!

HE is our help in time of need. Omnipotent, Omnipresent, and Omniscient is the GOD we serve. Promises HE made are surer than all the riches of the world.. Eternal life is our earnest desire where we will be with HIM forever. As we move through 2017, keep in mind what Paul says in Romans 8:24-25, "For we are saved by HOPE, but hope that is seen is not HOPE: for what a man seeth, why doth he yet hope for? But if we HOPE for that which we see not, then do we with patience wait for it."

