



A Ministry Exhibiting a Spirit of Excellence!

2020 Theme: *Living in God's Assurance*
— Isaiah 41:10

Message from the Pastor

The Season of Change



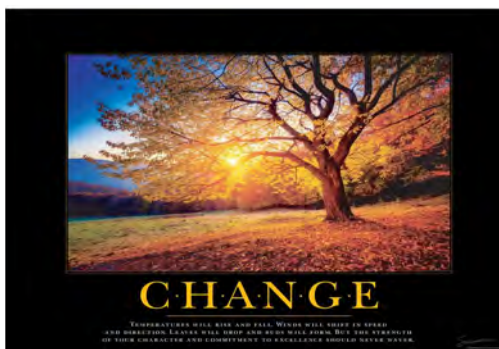
To everything there is a season, a time for every purpose under heaven. Ecc 3:1

The days are getting shorter and the evenings are getting cooler. These are indicators that the time has come for the season to change. This year has been a year of abrupt changes as COVID-19 shut things down. Life as we knew it changed in a moment. Masks are now a part of our daily attire, physical distancing, and virtual education are the "new" normal.

The Book of Ecclesiastes has been around for centuries, but Chapter 3:1 is still relevant for us today. We are living in

strange days, but the Scripture reminds us that this is just for a season. But in the midst of all the civil unrest, the cries for social justice, political uncertainty and the longing to gather in corporate worship again, what has not changed is God is still in control. Therefore, be encouraged as we all live through these times, for it is just a season.

Living in God's Assurance
Pastor Luke E. Torian



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Happy 56th Wedding Anniversary



FMZ/Zone D-1 Family Members, Robert Palmer, Sr. and Betty Palmer celebrated their 56th Wedding Anniversary on September 1, 2020!! The lovely couple met on the Jersey Shores at Allen Chapel AME Church, As-bury Park, NJ. They have three children: Robe't Jr., Remond, and Nicole, with a host of grandchildren. Robe't, Jr. and Nicole are pictured here with their beloved parents.

May God bless our beloved Brother and Sister Palmer to see many, many more!!

To all those celebrating in October!





MESSAGE TO OUR YOUTH



MOVING FROM “STAY WOKE” TO “PRAY WOKE” SERIES: DO NOT LOSE HEART!

YOUTH & FAMILY PRAYER

“...as for me and my house we will serve the Lord.” (Jos. 24:15)

How would you describe the value and worth of prayer in your life? Gardner Taylor, a late pastor, described it as “A Christian’s native breath.” He wanted us to think of a life without prayer being like a life without oxygen. In other words, we can’t live for long spiritually that way. Another minister and friend described it as “Chatting with God.” Are they both right? Yes! While Taylor desired to communicate the essential and universal nature of prayer, my friend sought to emphasize that God can be as close as a friend and prayer is common to us all. Therefore, we all need prayer!

In 2018, the YM Spiritual Guides and I developed a Youth and Family Devotional Toolkit to affirm, strengthen and support the FMZ Youth and Families. The Youth & Family Weekly Devotional Toolkit was designed to encourage families to take 15 minutes a week to pray together, read scripture, and share prayer requests in an effort to draw closer to the Lord and to one another as supportive family members.

This was to challenge us to open our hearts to God’s presence, love, and wisdom at home with our families. In our Baptist tradition, generations would lift their voices and hearts to read a covenant. Some of the words from that traditional covenant says that we will “...engage in family and secret devotion... to religiously educate our children...”

The wise counsel of Proverbs 14:16 asserts, “He who fears the Lord has a secure fortress, and for His children it will be a refuge...” *Prayer Saturated Kids* author, Cheryl Sacks, shares that “Prayer builds unity and intimacy. We become intimate to whom we pray, for whom we pray, and with whom we pray.”

Next month, we will unpack the three parts (e.g. singing, reading, and praying) of the youth & family devotional time.

Important Dates for the 2020 Election

*Reverend John C. McNeill, Jr.
Youth Pastor*

**VOTE LIKE YOUR
RIGHTS AND
YOUR LIVES
DEPEND ON
IT ...
BECAUSE THEY
DO!!!**





LEADERSHIP THE CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Every first Friday of the month, your FMZ Trustees, Deacons and Deacon Teams, pray and fast over a chosen topic. Sharing nuggets from the September 4, 2020 Devotional below:

Prayer and Fasting Topic: Becoming Highly Effective Leaders for God's People

7. Source: The Holy Word



8. Lesson/Discussion: Many of you may have heard of the Best-selling Franklin Covey book entitled, *The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People*. The book was first published in 1989. This book and Leadership classes have had profound and measurable positive effects on leadership teams all over the world. So FMZ Leadership Team how do we measure up to the 7 Habits below?

Habit 1: Be Proactive ... Romans 10:9 (*that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.*)

Habit 2: Begin with the End in Mind ... Revelation 1:8 (*I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End, says the Lord, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.*)

Habit 3: Put First Things First ... Ex 20:3 (*You shall have no other gods before Me.*)

Matthew 6:33 (*But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.*)

Habit 4: Think Win-Win ... Philippians 4:13 (*I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.*)

Habit 5: Seek First to Understand, Then to Be Understood ... Proverbs 4:7 (*Wisdom is the principle thing; Therefore, get Wisdom. And in all your getting, get understanding.*)

Habit 6: Synergize ... Matthew 18:20 (*For where two or three are gathered together in My name, I am there in the midst of them.*)

Habit 7: Sharpen the Saw ... Proverbs 27:17 (*As iron sharpens iron, So a friend sharpens the countenance of a friend.*)

Franklin Covey didn't have anything on God, Jesus, and Holy Spirit!!! So, FMZ....let us meditate this Friday on becoming "Highly Effective People of God!!"

9. Supporting Scripture: See above.

10. Supporting Song: Safe in His Arms (Vicky Winans)
<https://youtu.be/gUrbJRnPg>

*Deacon Ron Cooper
on behalf of the FMZ Leadership Chaplains*

Associate Ministers ENCOURAGEMENT AND ASSURANCE FOR THE SOUL SEASONS

The leaves are changing, Fall will soon step aside for...Winter. There is a season for everything, in weather and in life, and they both begin and end according to God's sovereign will. We read in Ecclesiastes: "To everything there is a season, A time for every purpose under heaven." (Ecclesiastes 3:1 NKJV). We find lessons in the seasons we are in -- the pandemic, the "Black Lives Matter" movement and the upcoming election.

"A time to weep, and a time to laugh" (Ecclesiastes 3:4) We weep for family and friends who have transitioned during the pandemic. Whether the loss was due to COVID 19 or another cause, the grief is still the same. Although we weep, God is a comforter, in Him we find peace in this season of weeping.

I laugh at myself and my panic over the shortages of paper products, cleaning supplies and chicken. Where will I get them? Will I have to raise chickens to cook my Sunday dinner? Eventually, I came to my senses and remembered that my source is not Amazon or Purdue—my source is God. God who is faithful in supplying "all" of my needs.

"A time to keep silence, and a time to speak." (Ecclesiastes 3:7a) For centuries we have waited for this country to honor its declaration that **"All** men are created equal..." At times we waited in silence and as we waited, another life of a black or brown-skinned brother or sister was lost (lives not just names) Ahmad Arbery, Breonna Taylor, George Floyd, and now Jacob Blake paralyzed by seven bullets in the back. Waiting for God is not always easy, but for the believer, it is necessary.

The season of silence is shifting to a "time to speak!" It's the season we've been waiting for. Speak to God for guidance on ways to protest peacefully but impactfully. Speak to the country and the world -- we are tired of the hatred, violence, and inequality against our people. Speak loudly for change through our VOTE!

Yes -- "To everything there is a season, a time for every purpose under heaven."

*Submitted by
Reverend Cynthia Ball*





October is . . .

Clergy APPRECIATION MONTH

Let's show appreciation for the Vessels that God is using here at First Mount Zion Baptist Church and wherever HE leads them!
We thank Almighty God for you and the service you render to His people!



REV. DR. LUKE E. TORIAN



REV. DR. SANDRA K.
AGNEW JAMES



REV. DR. TRACEY
DAWKINS HOLLEY



REV. JOHN C. MCNEILL, JR.



REV. JOSEPHINE P. CHERRY



REV. BRIAN D. WOOLFOLK



REV. GLENDA BROWN



REV. CHRIS D. PETERSON



REV. CAROLYN TAYLOR



REV. KARL FREDERICK BROWER



REV. HELEN JOHNSON PARKER



REV. DR. TONY J. CRADDOCK, SR.



REV. TARRA L. TAYLOR



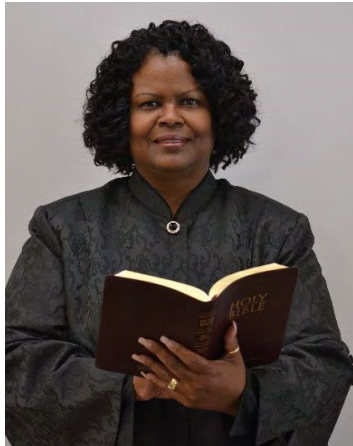
REV. WILLIAM R. FETERS



REV. GILLIS M. TAYLOR



REV. CYNTHIA M. BALL



REV. KATHY M. RUSSELL



REV. GARY L. THOMPSON



REV. MAXINE WRIGHT
THOMPSON, M.Div., FH



REV. SHELBY HOLLEY



REV. SHARON L. WALLACE



REV. COZY BAILEY



REV. JUANITA P. STOKES



REV. DR. TJ OWENS





REV. DELORIS BROWN
AA, BS, MDiv



REV. MCKINLEY DAVIS



REV. BEVERLY JIGGETTS



REV. KARA FRANKLIN-TAYLOR



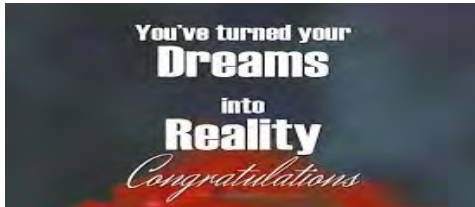
REV. MARLENE M. JOHNSON

FMZ CLERGY - -

WE SALUTE YOU!

MAY GOD BLESS
AND KEEP YOU
ALL!!

Pastor's Aide Ministry



Our congregation is blessed to have members who are gifted, intelligent, persistent, and service-oriented in their careers and professional endeavors. Brother Kevin Williams, Zone G2, is an example of that steadfast dedication to excellence. His diligence was recently highlighted through the award of a patent from the United States Patent and Trademark Office. Brother Williams is the CEO of TekConnX LLC, an award-winning leader in innovative and emerging technologies. The patented technology includes sensors for thermal detection, which have become an invaluable attribute in smart cities and smart facilities. The sensors are part of solutions that save lives, reduce liabilities, and assist first-responders with actionable intelligence in seconds rather than minutes or hours.

Congratulations, Brother Williams, and to your team at TekConnX!

Living in God's Assurance!

2020 Consecrated and Ordained Leaders



Trustee
Renae J. Allen



Deacon
Samuel L. Bagwell



Deacon
Everett L. Griggs, Sr.



Deacon
Derrick M. Grimes



Deacon
Randolph Hardy



Deacon
Mark A. Jessup, Sr.



Deacon
Darnell O. Sims



AATL . . . All About the Ladies!!!



All About The Ladies is a group of women from Seniors' Ministry who came together four years ago, because of similar interests. The group was the vision of Sis. Mary Melton who saw a need for women to come together for encouragement, education, and interest-based activities. The group has participated in many projects including a food drive during Covid-19, and last year, a successful Purses with a Purpose project. The group has over 40 members and continues to connect through various means.

The group recently conducted their first ZOOM meeting. What a delight it was to see faces that have been missing during these Coronavirus times.

Sis. Shirley Hardy did a phenomenal job of setting up the first ZOOM meeting and we want to take the time to show our appreciation for her vision in putting this meeting together. Thank you, Sis. Hardy!!

We opened the meeting with prayer by Sis. Barbara Tankins and Scripture by Sis. Denise Thomas. Sis. Mary Melton encouraged us to stay the course even through these abnormal times. We thank God for his healing of Sis. Mary and that she is now able to return to the group. Sis. Shirley Hardy diligently kept the group on course during Mary's illness, making **All About the Ladies**, an awesome group for Senior ladies.

During the ZOOM call, we had the opportunity to interact with each other. We were asked the question, "What Makes You Smile?" Most people responded that they liked having quality time with their families, as well as spending more time with the Lord and reading their Bible. Also mentioned was just being able to get up in the morning, in their right mind, knowing God is in control.

Our keynote speaker on the call was Dr. Gail Hamilton. Dr. Gail holds a Doctorate, Masters and a plethora of certifications, from many well-known institutions. She has also served in the Public Health Services under two senators. Gail is a retired Captain under the Office of the Secretary of Defense. She is a co-author of the book, **Wisdom from Queens, Vol.3**. Her story in the book is of a poor black girl's journey through the south with racial unrest, segregation, desegregation, gender/racial discrimination and social unrest, to rising as a successful black woman in America. Gail's story interested all on the call, and some Queens on the call were able to share their personal story.



Congratulations go out to Sis. Mittie Gary and Sis. Flossie Knight who won books for being the oldest Queens on the call. Sis. Edna Turner was also one of our oldest Queens. Three other ladies won books.

The AATL group will meet again in November to share, laugh, and fellowship. There is always something good to look forward to with AATL. You are always welcome to join us! Contact Shirley Hardy at ShirleyBHardy@gmail.com or 703-459-4321.





MESSAGE TO ALL YOUTH:

MORE INFORMATION WILL BE FORTHCOMING SHORTLY REGARDING THE UPCOMING ON-LINE ACTIVITIES SCHEDULED FOR THE YOUTH MINISTRY. IN THE INTERIM, IF YOU NEED ASSISTANCE, PLEASE DO NOT HESITATE TO CONTACT:

Reverend John C. McNeill, Jr.
Youth Minister
703-670-0184
jmcneill@firstmountzionbc.org

STAY TUNED FOR AN UPDATE IN THE NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER ON THE SUCCESS OF OUR FIRST FMZBC Virtual 5K Run/Walk! ALL PARTICIPANTS PLEASE REMEMBER TO UPLOAD YOUR PHOTOS!!!

THANK YOU!



All activities are postponed until further notice. Please contact the below-named individual for further information.

POC: Pamela Knight
singlesministry@firstmountzionbc.org



SHARE FOOD DISTRIBUTION IS PRESENTLY SCHEDULED FOR OCTOBER 24, 2020. PLEASE CALL BRO. THOMAS BATES AT 703-330-6371 FOR FURTHER INFORMATION!!



SUBMISSIONS FOR NEWSLETTER:

All members are encouraged to submit articles, photos, and events for inclusion in the Newsletter. Please be sure to clear all submissions with your Ministry Leader before sending to the Communications and Publicity Ministry. Submissions should not exceed 300-350 words and must be received no later than 12 noon on the 15th of each month to be considered for the upcoming newsletter. Please note that we reserve the right to edit as necessary.

Submissions should be sent to:

cpm1@firstmountzionbc.org

or through our web form at:

http://bit.ly/FMZBC_Articles

We look forward to your participation!!

Thank you!

Communications and Publicity Ministry

Joseph Boutte, Chair	
Oonagh Bell	Benson Blake
Beverly Grant	James Hawkins
Sylvia Moore	Rev. Kathy Russell
	Claudia Woolfolk

Rev. Dr. Luke E. Torian, Pastor
Rev. Dr. Sandra K. James, Assistant Pastor
Sylvia Moore, Executive Assistant
Renee Woolfolk, Church Business Administrator
Chesley Doctor, Chair, Trustee Ministry
Jeffrey Manning, Chair, Deacon Ministry
Carole Roney, Chair, Deaconess Ministry

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ADJUSTED SERVICE SCHEDULE DURING PANDEMIC

Sunday School – 9:45 AM (VIA FB, LIVE STREAMING & CONFERENCE CALL-IN)

Worship Service – 11:00 AM ONLY (VIA FB, LIVE STREAMING)

Wednesday Night Bible Study – 7:30 PM (VIA FB, LIVE STREAMING & CONFERENCE CALL-IN)

COMING SOON:

KIDS' KINGDOM WORSHIP SERVICE STARTING OCTOBER 18, 2020 ON YOUTUBE CHANNEL 11:00 AM—12 P.M.

Connect with us on Social Media:

Facebook: www.facebook.com/fmzbcdumfries
Twitter: [@fmzbc1](https://twitter.com/fmzbc1)
Instagram: [@thecore_fmzbc](https://www.instagram.com/thecore_fmzbc)
Vimeo: vimeo.com/25203195
Linked In: <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/1890924/>



The TRANSPORTATION MINISTRY has been temporarily suspended due to Covid-19 and will resume when full activities at the Church have been restored!