

FMZBC Connection Points

First Mount Zion Baptist Church



Ecclesiastes 4:9

Let us stay connected

July 13, 2021!

Scroll to the green text for the latest information!

Reduced restrictions for in person corporate worship effective Sunday, August 8, 2021, 11:00 am service. Stay tuned to Sunday morning announcements for important details.

Until then....

Attending In Person Sunday Worship Service

Please complete both the Pre-Arrival COVID Screening Form and the EVENTBRITE Registration Form to attend each Sunday Service. **In person corporate worship each Sunday at 11:00 am.**

How do I get my name on the Sunday Check-In Roster each week?

Each week complete the following COVID-Pre-Screening form **by noon on Thursdays.**

Pre-Arrival COVID-Screening Form Link:

<https://forms.gle/tjJpzJK7Vzj5Tj2Q9>

How does FMZBC ensure occupancy limits do not exceed the VDH COVID restriction guidelines? (Note: There is no need to print nor show a ticket at check-in)

The Eventbrite calendar is open for each Sunday and events that occupancy is expected to exceed the limits determined by the VDH. The system will not permit "reservations" to exceed the VDH occupancy limit.

EVENTBRITE Registration Form Link:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/116151970671>

Join us every Sunday for **Worship at 11:00 am**. You may join us for in person corporate worship or via live stream by going to our website, <https://www.fmzbc.com>. Or subscribe to, First Mount Zion Baptist Church at any of the following social media platforms.

FMZ Life Stream: <https://www.lifestream.tv/fmz-live/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/fmzbcumfries>

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCzFC03nn-QRn0bzNDEefeGQ>

Bible Study Join us for Bible Study each week on Wednesday at 7:30pm.

FMZ/Life Stream: <https://www.lifestream.tv/fmz-live/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/fmzbcumfries>

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCzFC03nn-QRn0bzNDEefeGQ>

Study handouts are available online. <https://firstmountzionbc.org/bible-study-handouts/>

Sunday School (CED): [Sunday School Extended](#), **every Sunday at 9:45 am on ZOOM**

Register in advance for Sunday School Extended:

<https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJwrfu-upjlsH9VMx4eBFk3D3slWI9YJZAF4>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining Sunday School Extended. **This information includes the meeting link and dial-in phone number.**

Revive Us Again! August 3rd- 5th, 7:30 pm.



Rev. Dr. Gregory Howard

The Reverend Doctor Gregory M. Howard Pastor, Union Branch Baptist Church, Chesterfield, VA. will return to FMZ as this year's Revivalist. Revival will be held Tuesday, August 3rd through Thursday, August 5th each night at 7:30pm. The Rev. Dr. Gregory M. Howard is a native of Lancaster, Virginia and currently resides in Hampton Roads, Virginia. Dr. Howard is the Senior Pastor of Union Branch Baptist Church in Chesterfield, Virginia where he promotes kingdom-like living by unconditionally loving God and all of God's people. Pastor Howard has also served as Senior Pastor of First Baptist Church East End in Newport News, Virginia and Jerusalem Baptist Church in Sparta, Virginia. In addition, Dr. Howard has served as the Interim Dean and Associate Professor of Homiletics and Practical Theology at the Samuel DeWitt Proctor School of Theology. Dr. Howard is also the most recent past President of the Baptist General Convention of Virginia.

Pastor Howard holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Organizational Management and Development (Bluefield College), Master of Divinity degree (Virginia Union University), and a Doctor of Ministry degree in Preaching (Aquinas Institute of Theology at St. Louis University). He is the author of *Black Sacred Rhetoric: The Gospel According Religious Folk Talk* and *Voices Crying Out in the Wilderness: Theological Reflections Where Context Matters*. Civically, he is a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc. Above all, Pastor Howard loves God and the challenge of helping others see God's grace in their own lives by proclaiming that Jesus Christ is the Way, the Truth, and the Life. Rev. Howard believes that we have been blessed with life and created in the image of God to be with and for one another; therefore, he strives to tear down the many obstacles that keep us from coming together in godly communion. Dr. Howard shares the joy of four children with his wife, the Reverend Kimberly Gonxhe.

FMZ Church Meeting: Saturday, August 7, 2021, 10:00 am.

SHARE: Upcoming dates: Jul. 24; Aug. 28; Sep. 25; Oct. 23; Nov. 20; and Dec. 18.

Virtual Volunteer Screening

POC: Cynthia Zorn Pettigrew at 703 -730-5227, zornpettigrewcl@comcast.net
or Clarice Torian at 703-730-6353, toriancj@gmail.com.

Music and Arts Ministry

POC: Minister Sylstea Sledge, ssledge@firstmountzionbc.org

Kids' Kingdom (CED): Register, today for the, 3rd quarter [Kids Kingdom Worship](#) using the following link:

<https://vbspro.events/p/773820>

Kids Kingdom is **every third Sunday at 11 am** on **YouTube**. Subscribe to FMZBC *Kids' Kingdom Worship*, [YouTube Channel](#) or click on the Kid's Kingdom slider on the FMZ website to watch the latest Kids' Kingdom Worship Service.

POC: Dr. Tracey D. Holley, tholley@firstmountzionbc.org

[WOMEN'S MINISTRY PRAYER EMAIL-Women Uniting in Fellowship with Love, Praise, and Worship](#)

Greetings to all our sisters in Christ. God is so awesome! He has answered our prayers and He wants to answer yours too! The WM has established a dedicated email for the women of FMZBC to submit your prayer request. Our desire is to continually lift your prayer needs as they arise, so please use this email to submit your prayer request. Let the saints pray for you. Prayers of the righteous availeth much! Our Intercessory Prayer Team (IPT) will intercede and faithfully pray over your prayer request as you send them in.

WomensMinistryPrayers@firstmountzionbc.org

For questions, please contact us via the WM email POC: WM Director, Veronica D. Hackett and WM Co-Director, Gwen L. Holland womensministry@firstmountzionbc.org

Men's Ministry (CED): POC: Brother Edward Jones; MensMinistry@firstmountzionbc.org

Youth Ministry (CED): POC: Rev. John C. McNeill, FMZ Youth Minister;
jmcneill@firstmountzionbc.org

Small Groups Ministry

**This event is Sponsored by the Small Groups Ministry
in Partnership with the C.O.R.E.
& Fit by God Ministries**

SAVE THE DATES

**First Mount Zion Baptist Church
Healthy Start Mind & Body
Virtual 2nd Annual 5K Run/Walk**

September 23-25, 2021

Registration begins August 1st - September 1st

(more information to follow)

Leading a Small Group

Consider leading a small group while utilizing your gifts, passions and talents. We'd love to hear from you. Please contact the Small Group Director, share the topic of interest and name of your prospective group, along with the date and time of your online meetings. You will receive essential tools, an initial small group leader training as well as training throughout the year with fellow group leaders. Your group will be placed in the FMZ online small groups directory where others can locate your group and register throughout the Fall and Spring semesters. We believe God uses Small Groups in a creative way while implementing our mission to Make the Connection – Make Disciples – Make a Difference. As a Small group leader, you are an essential part of that transformation.

Point of Contact: Sister Stephanie M. Craddock, Small Groups Director @
Scraddock@firstmountzionbc.org or 703-670-0184

Office Hours are **Tuesday and Thursday from 11:00 am-2:00 pm**. Before your arrival, please complete the COVID Pre-Screening Form using the following link:

<https://forms.gle/hv7sHNHFJGizTS6g9>

Remain Connected with us by keeping your contact information current. Please submit change of contact information online using the following link:

<https://form.jotform.com/12155242234>

IT Help Desk. Have questions about ZOOM or OFFICE365? Email or password resets? Please email us for assistance at, IT4U@FirstMountZionBC.Org

Giving Tithes and Offerings (Point of Contact: Ms. Sherry Hilliard, financial secretary, shilliard@firstmountzionbc.org)

- Online. WWW.FMZBC.COM and click on ONLINE GIVING(VANCO), at any time. To avoid failed transaction fees, please regularly review your online giving account to ensure contact and payment sources are up to date. When submitting a change of address to the Church, please also logon to VANCO to update your address. If you are interested in learning more about VANCO or have any questions as a VANCO online giver, please contact, Ms. Sherry Hilliard by email, shilliard@firstmountzionbc.org, or by phone, (703) 670-0184.
- Mail. First Mount Zion Baptist Church, 16622 Dumfries Road, Dumfries, Va. 22025.
- Schedule a time for pick up, from your home with your Zone Leader.

ATTENTION ALL ZOOM MEETING HOSTS In order to protect our ministries from potential “Zoom bombing” by miscreants and hackers, it is no longer recommended to post meeting I.D.’s and pass codes to the website or social media. As an alternative, Zoom offers a registration feature for meeting participants to register for a meeting using a registration link. Once the registration link is established by the host, the link can be shared as usual via Connection Points, email, text etc. The organizer/host will receive a roster of registrants and if necessary, can use the list to verify people before they are allowed in the meeting.

- For those who schedule ZOOM meetings, to follow is a short video on how to enable the registration feature to Zoom meetings.

- How to set up Zoom registration link for better security: <https://youtu.be/VqomCzNii4>

Please check the FMZ website regularly for a complete listing of ministry activity and updates regarding weather closings during office hours. As always, during these times of uncertainty safety is of the utmost importance as we do our best to keep the congregation connected and informed while maintaining the health and welfare of all. Please check your email and the Church website for regular updates. Looking forward to our return in the future!

FEMA provides funeral assistance for COVID-19 related deaths. FRAUD ALERT: Note, FEMA will only contact those who have applied for benefits.

Criteria to apply for benefits:

- An applicant may apply for multiple deceased individuals.
- The COVID-19-related death occurred in the United States, U.S. Territories, or District of Columbia.
- This assistance cannot exceed a maximum financial amount of \$9,000 per funeral and a maximum of \$35,500 per application.
- Funeral assistance will assist with expenses incurred for funeral services, interment, or cremation.

In the coming weeks, FEMA will provide a dedicated 800 toll-free telephone number to help individuals with their applications. In the meantime, we encourage potential applicants to begin gathering the following documentation:

- An official death certificate that attributes the death to COVID-19 and shows that the death occurred in the United States. The death certificate must indicate the death “may have been caused by” or “was likely the result of” COVID-19 or COVID-19 like symptoms. FEMA considers similar phrases that indicate a high likelihood of COVID-19 as a sufficient attribution.
- Funeral expense documents (receipts, funeral home contract, and so on) that include the applicant’s name, deceased individual’s name, amount of funeral expenses, and the date you incurred the funeral expenses.
- Proof of funds received from other sources specifically for use toward funeral costs. Funeral assistance may not duplicate benefits received from burial or funeral insurance, financial assistance received from voluntary agencies, federal/state/local/tribal/territorial government or agency programs, or other sources.

You will find more information regarding this assistance [at COVID-19 Funeral Assistance | FEMA.gov](#)

