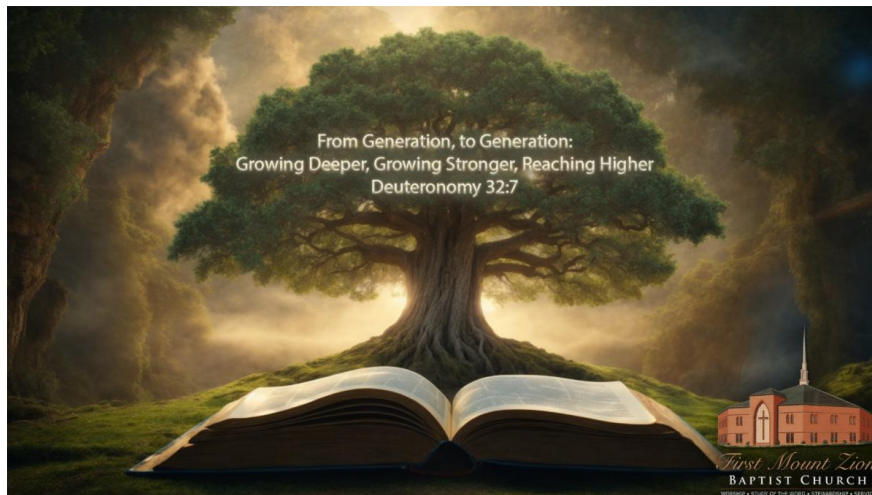




"Sharing the light from the Promise, to Pentecost,  
to Points around the world!"  
FMZBC's mission is to connect people who have a desire to  
become fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ.



## **Connection Points**

### **August 13, 2024**

Connection Points is a weekly communication to keep you connected by providing information on ways to be informed, to sign up for ministry activity, to serve, and to give.

## **NEWS**

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**First Mount Zion Baptist Church  
Celebrates the 5th Anniversary  
Healthy Start Mind & Body 5K**

**Registration is open until 9/8 ONLY**

Use the link [https://runsignup.com/fmzbc\\_signup](https://runsignup.com/fmzbc_signup)  
or Scan the QR Code  
For Registration & Information

You may register for one of the activities below:

5K Run/Walk \$25

1.5 Mile Run/Walk \$25

1 Mile Youth Fun Run - Ages: 12 under \$15  
(All 3 races will be electronically timed)

October 5, 2024 – 9:00 a.m.

Occoquan Regional Park - Lorton, Virginia

POC: Stephanie M. Craddock  
[Scraddock@firstmountzionbc.org](mailto:Scraddock@firstmountzionbc.org) - 703-670-0184

**GROWING TOGETHER  
MIDDAY  
PRAYER LINE**

**305-224-1968**

**Meeting ID: 881 0429 9549**

**Passcode: 752600**

**MONDAY - FRIDAY  
12 NOON - 12:15**

\*Line opens at 11:55



[WWW.FMZBC.COM](http://WWW.FMZBC.COM)

**REMAIN CONNECTED**

Please use the following link to update your contact information: [Member Update Form](#)

**FMZBC JOB VACANCIES**

FMZ is currently recruiting for the position of **Executive Assistant**. Check [Job Vacancies](#) for the vacancy announcement, updates to employment

vacancies; and where to express your interest by emailing to [Employment](#) . Note: The request to update the website has been made, If you do not see the announcement please check back.

## **PULPIT COMMITTEE**

Thank you for all the prayers and support you have given to this committee thus far. We are excited to announce that participation in our focus groups continues to grow and as a committee we are seeing trends in what the church desires in their next Under Shepherd.

Come share your heartfelt thoughts and desires for our future pastor and ask questions with your FMZBC Pulpit Committee.

- Listen to other member desires and questions.
- One hour in duration.
- Small groups of fewer than 26 members.
- Safe FMZ Family Space.
- Confidentially.

Remember the Keys to Success, The 3P's:

- Pray for God's will to be done.
- Pray for our community and our church.
- Pray for our next pastor and Under-Shepherd.

The committee wants to continue this momentum and inform you that focus groups end **August 29th**. If you have not registered for a focus group, please do so below.

Link: [Click Here to Register through Eventbrite](#)

Remaining Focus Group Dates:

**Thursday, August 15th (Virtual)**

**Sunday, August 18th (In-Person)**

**Thursday, August 22nd (Virtual)**

**Sunday, August 25th (In-Person)**

**Thursday, August 29th (Virtual)**

For all questions, please email the Pulpit Committee at [Pulpitcommittee@firstmountzionbc.org](mailto:Pulpitcommittee@firstmountzionbc.org)

Warm regards,  
Pulpit Committee

### SUNDAY SCHOOL

Join us each **Sunday at 9:45 a.m.** for Adult Sunday School. You may join us in person or via ZOOM.

### CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

Use this link to view the FMZBC Constitution and Bylaws

[Constitution and Bylaws](#) . You may also view the document on the FMZBC website. Note, it is password-protected. To access it, click on the Constitution and Bylaws slide and enter the code **fmzbcdocs2024**. Printed copies are available by contacting the front office at **703-670-0184**.

### WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY

Adult and Youth Bible Study will resume in September.

### YOUTH MINISTRY (CED)

Save The Date

"First Friday, **September 6, 2024, 6:30 p.m.-9:00 p.m.**

### Youth Council Applications

This is your opportunity to help the Youth Ministry improve and meet your needs. Applications for the 2024-25 FMZ Youth Council will be available starting this **Sunday, August 18, 2024** and due with 2 reference forms by, **4:30 p.m., September 9, 2024**. Hard copies will be in the "Youth Ministry" box in the narthex and will be sent out electronically via email by Rev. Beverly Jiggetts. Ideally, 3 high school and 3 middle school representatives would serve on the Council. Be a voice for our youth and help shape the youth ministry.

Contact Rev. Beverly Jiggetts  
[bjiggetts@firstmountzionbc.org](mailto:bjiggetts@firstmountzionbc.org) if questions.

## Pastoral Search Committee Focus Groups for Our Youth

You can register for a focus group by clicking the link below. If you need assistance registering or do not have technology to register, please email the Pulpit Committee and we will make ourselves available at the church to assist you. You will be requested to enter your first/last names, email address, and church membership number for verification purposes. (If you do not know your membership number, you can contact the church office or your zone leaders or stop by the leadership desk on Sundays.) Waitlists are available but limited. Upon completion, you will receive an email from the Pulpit Committee a week prior to your registered time slot as a reminder. It will include any additional details related to your focus group session. Focus group registration is now open. [Click Here to Register through Eventbrite](#). Please let me know if you register. They want to hear from our youth!

## Youth Ministry on Blast!

This is an opportunity to highlight the amazing youth at First Mount Zion and their notable accomplishments. If you know of a youth that you would like to have profiled in this section, send their name, picture, contact information, and accomplishments to Rev. Beverly Jiggetts- [bjiggetts@firstmountzionbc.org](mailto:bjiggetts@firstmountzionbc.org) or [youthministry@firstmountzionbc.org](mailto:youthministry@firstmountzionbc.org). Accomplishments can be in athletics, community service, scholastic, overcoming personal challenges, or simply a youth who needs encouragement.

The deadline has passed for article submission for the August Messenger magazine but there will be a September Messenger. I know some of our youth are

involved in exciting summer programs and have had notable accomplishments. Please share these so they can be recognized in the Messenger.

Voter Registration-If you will be 18 by the November 5, 2024, presidential election you can register to vote. Registration can be done online or in person. For detailed information and online registration, go to <https://www.elections.virginia.gov>  
Contact Rev. Beverly Jiggetts, Youth Minister, at [bjiggetts@firstmountzionbc.org](mailto:bjiggetts@firstmountzionbc.org) with any YM questions.

### Community Service Opportunity

The Deaconess ministry has established a Clothing Give-away store (all items are free) for children and adults in room 156 next to the Barber Shop. Community Service hours can be earned by working in the store. Deaconess Ledora Akanni is the point of contact, [Akanni\\_ledora@yahoo.com](mailto:Akanni_ledora@yahoo.com)

### Youth Clothing Give Away Closet

The Youth Clothing Give-away Closet has new and gently used free clothing for youth. Youth may obtain up to 5 sets of clothing from Room 156. Shopping is by appointment only and is confidential.

Deaconess Ledora Akanni is the point of contact, [Akanni\\_ledora@yahoo.com](mailto:Akanni_ledora@yahoo.com)

### MEN'S MINISTRY (CED)

Bro. Edward Jones, Director, FMZBC Mens' Ministry, 703-623-0917

Leadership Team: Bro. Edward Jones (Director); Bro. James Gaskins (Co-Director); Bro. Xavier Bridges; Deacon Donnell Wright

### IT4U RETURNS THIS SEPTEMBER

If you are in need of immediate assistance, please

contact the CBA, Renee Woolfolk,  
[rwoolfolk@firstmountzionbc.org](mailto:rwoolfolk@firstmountzionbc.org).

### DEAF MINISTRY

ASL (American Sign Language) interpreters are onsite each Sunday during the 11 a.m. worship service. You may observe in-person and online at [www.fmzbc.com](http://www.fmzbc.com). The monthly ZOOM meetings are also held with an interpreter. **The next Deaf Ministry meeting will be Monday, September 9, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.**

For additional information, please email Deacon Vincent O'Neal at [Deaf Ministry](mailto:DeafMinistry@firstmountzionbc.org). Thank you for your support and assistance.

### HYBRID SUNDAY SCHOOL (CED)

Sundays at 9:45 a.m. Room 229/230 or via ZOOM (registration required).

(Ecclesiastes 4:9, GMT)

*"Behold, the former things are come to pass, and new things do I declare; before they spring forth, I tell you of them."* (Isaiah 42:9)

Join Hybrid Sunday School each Sunday. For those attending the class via ZOOM, please use the following link to register:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89762921587?pwd=UHd2RWVuWjJrbmhNMnpPYUJkZjE4Zz09>

We look forward to seeing you there.

Handouts are available for download from the FMZ website using the following link:

<https://firstmountzionbc.org/weekly-sunday-school-lessons/>

POC: Rev. Gillis Taylor, Sunday School Superintendent,  
[SundaySchool@FirstMountZionBC.org](mailto:SundaySchool@FirstMountZionBC.org)

### CHILDREN'S CHURCH (CED)

Children's Ministry/Kids' Kingdom worship for Pre-K to fifth grade. For additional information, please contact Dr. Holley via email at [tholley@firstmountzionbc.org](mailto:tholley@firstmountzionbc.org) or Sister Stephany Stewart at [stephanystewart@yahoo.com](mailto:stephanystewart@yahoo.com). Cannot wait to see you!

## NEW MEMBERS ORIENTATION CLASS NMOC (CED)

No class until September 8th

Enjoy wonderful and blessed August family time.

## ACADEMIC EDUCATION MINISTRY (CED)

The First Mount Zion Baptist Church (FMZBC) and Hinkitch Bell Memorial Scholarships applications are going paperless for the 2025 academic year. All 2025 graduating high school seniors who plan to attend an institution of higher learning will be able to apply for the scholarships exclusively online beginning in the Fall.

Beginning fall 2025, students will be required to participate in a FMZBC Ministry for at least six months prior to the application due date to qualify. Students can apply online at the church's website at [Scholarships](#). Once on the website, navigate to the Resources Tab, Scholarships - New and select 2025 FMZBC and Bell Scholarship Program. The deadline for submitting the scholarship applications with attachments is **4:30 p.m., April 01, 2025.**

Point of Contact: Brother Gerry Griffin, AEM Chair or Sister Sandra Grimes, Scholarship Committee Chair at [aem@firstmountzionbc.org](mailto:aem@firstmountzionbc.org) <https://firstmountzionbc.org/scholarships-2/> for details.



## WOMEN'S MINISTRY (CED)

Attn: BEAUTIFUL WOMEN OF GOD

The Women's Ministry would like to inform you that we will be having a "Welcome Back from Sabbatical Tea Fellowship, You are a Daughter of the King." Though portions of the event will be streamed online, join us in person for the complete experience on **September 21, 2024 @ 9:00 a.m.**

Registration is **now open through Tuesday, September 3rd**, on the FMZBC website at <https://firstmountzionbc.org>.

In addition, there will be a Teapot Decorating Contest, so get started. We cannot wait to see what creative designs you come up with. More details forthcoming!

For questions or assistance with registration, please contact WM Director, Gwen L. Holland at [womensministryprayers@firstmountzionbc.org](mailto:womensministryprayers@firstmountzionbc.org)

### Women's Ministry Prayer Line

WM has established a dedicated email address for the women of FMZBC to submit prayer requests. Our desire is to continually lift up your prayer needs as they arise, so please use this address to submit your requests. Our Intercessory Prayer Team (IPT) will intercede and faithfully pray over your requests as you send them in. Remember, the prayers of the righteous availeth much. Let the saints pray for you!

For more information, please contact WM Director Gwen L Holland at [Womensministry@firstmountzionbc.org](mailto:Womensministry@firstmountzionbc.org).

### VOLUNTEER SCREENING

**September 21** and November 16, 2024.  
Training begins at **9:00 a.m.**

Visit FMZBC website's resource tab for application and authorization forms. Bring completed forms to the training session.

TO SIGN UP, contact Brenda Byrd at [571-237-0111](tel:571-237-0111), [byrdbj@comcast.net](mailto:byrdbj@comcast.net), or Cynthia Zorn-Pettigrew, [Cynthia Zorn-Pettigrew](mailto:Cynthia.Zorn-Pettigrew@firstmountzionbc.org) at [703-730-5227](tel:703-730-5227)

## SMALL GROUP MINISTRY

Interest-based small groups meet for two semesters each year. Upcoming sessions are: Fall, October 2024-January 2025 and Spring, February 2025-June 2025.

Consider joining an Interest-Based Small Group. We have a variety of groups within three categories from discipleship, sports, shared interest, outreach, health, support, and book groups for all ages. Regardless of the type of group, through that common interest, we seek to love God, grow in God, serve God, and share God together as a group and with others. There is a group for everyone, including YOU! Visit the [Small Groups Directory - First Mount Zion Baptist Church \(firstmountzionbc.org\)](http://firstmountzionbc.org).

Point of Contact:  
Stephanie M. Craddock,  
Small Groups Director, 703-670-0184  
[scraddock@firstmountzionbc.org](mailto:scraddock@firstmountzionbc.org).

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

### Receptionist.

A volunteer receptionist is needed to answer the phones while the staff receptionist attends staff meetings or trainings or is on leave. If you are interested and able to volunteer between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday and until 1:30 p.m. on Fridays, please call Renee Woolfolk, Church Business Administrator, at 703-670-0184 or email her at [rwoolfolk@firstmountzionbc.org](mailto:rwoolfolk@firstmountzionbc.org)

**FMZ Print Shop.** Volunteers are needed to print large-format posters for ministry events. If you are interested and/or have experience, please contact Walter Holmes, Assistant Facilities Manager, at [wholmes@firstmountzionbc.org](mailto:wholmes@firstmountzionbc.org).

**Ministry Event Set-up and Break-down.** Are you looking for a way to serve others? Are you in need of volunteer hours or do you simply want to support the ministry activities of the church? If so, please contact Ernest Robbins, Facilities Manager, at [erobbins@firstmountzionbc.org](mailto:erobbins@firstmountzionbc.org). For opportunities to serve in food service at the Grain of Heaven, contact Sherise Campbell, Food Service Director, at [scampbell@firstmountzionbc.org](mailto:scampbell@firstmountzionbc.org).

**Audio Visual:** Audio-Visual Ministry opportunities are available in support of Wednesday Night Bible Study, Sunday worship, homegoing services, weddings, and ministry activities. Please contact Bro. Dijae North, Audio-Visual Director, at [dnorth@firstmountzionbc.org](mailto:dnorth@firstmountzionbc.org)

**IT (Information Technology) Support:** If you are interested in supporting ministry meetings using computers, projectors to display PowerPoint presentations, YouTube videos, ZOOM, or live stream events, contact Renee Woolfolk, Church Business Administrator, at [rwoolfolk@firstmountzionbc.org](mailto:rwoolfolk@firstmountzionbc.org)

## BE IN THE KNOW

### **Building Use Request**

All meetings and events begin with a Building Use Request Form. Use the following link to schedule your next FMZBC ministry or committee meeting:

[\*\*Building Use Request Form\*\*](#)

FITNESS CENTER hours are as follows:

- Monday-Thursday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
  - Tuesday and Thursday, 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
  - Friday and Saturday, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- Pickleball courts are now open on Saturdays.

Please check the website for schedule changes in support of ministry activities.

## CLOSINGS AND CANCELLATIONS DUE TO INCLEMENT WEATHER

As always, during times of inclement weather, 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.

During times of inclement weather, please check your email and the church website and calendar for listing of ministry activities and updates regarding weather closings.

**Good to know.** Connection Point entries: Submission of weekly announcements and Purchase Requisition (PR) forms are due by noon each Tuesday. Announcements and PRs submitted after the deadline will be processed the following week.

### **Vanco On-line Giving**

Vanco, FMZBC's on-line giving and mobile app platform, operates with an elevated level of security. As a result, access to users on the same network (FMZ IP address) will be blocked. When offsite, individual users may be denied access temporarily because of excessive failed login attempts. After some time (up to 4 hours), the account will automatically reset to allow users to select the forgotten password option. To avoid this issue onsite, please consider using the Vanco/FMZ mobile app for giving. As a Vanco registered user, you should see this option when you sign in.

Note: The development of the mobile app is ongoing, to include a text box to enter your FMZ membership number. Using the mobile app is encouraged if you are onsite and blocked from the Vanco site. Otherwise, revert to using your mobile data.

You may give online at this link:

## [Online Giving Link](#)

Or access the link through the FMZBC website: [FMZBC](#) 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 log on 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 the front office, [703-670-0184](#).

You may give by mail: [First Mount Zion Baptist Church, 16622 Dumfries Road, Dumfries, VA 22025](#). You may also schedule a time for pick up, from your home, with your Zone Leader.

**CAPTURING MINISTRY MOMENTS** FMZ in action. Share your photos here! Photos will be incorporated into the weekly Bible Study and Sunday Worship Countdown. Click on the following link to share your photos.

[Capturing Ministry Moments](#)

**Attention Zoom Meeting Hosts.** To protect our ministries from potential “Zoom bombing” by miscreants and hackers, it is no longer recommended to post meeting ID and passcodes 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 into 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 a Zoom registration link for better security: <https://youtu.be/VqomCzNnii>

**Wednesday Bible Study:**  
To resume in September.

**Sunday Service Worship:**  
Service: 11:00 a.m.  
**Kids' Kingdom Worship Service:**  
First & Third Sundays at 11 a.m. on YouTube

**Sunday School:** 9:45 a.m. in-person or via ZOOM

**Fitness Center**  
Monday -Thursday, 9 a.m.-4:00 p.m.  
Tuesday and Thursday, 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m. (no evening hours on the 3rd week of the month)  
Friday and Saturday, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.  
Please check the Fitness Calendar  
[Fitness Calendar](#)



First Mount Zion Baptist Church | 16622 Dumfries Road | Dumfries, VA 22025-1920 US

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