



Visit our  
Website

Click Here to register your email and receive Connection Points directly to your Email from  
Constant Contact

## First Mount Zion Baptist Church

**Our Vision:** "Sharing the light from the Promise, to Pentecost, to Points around the world!"

**Our Mission:** To connect people who have a desire to become fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ.

**Our Four-Step Strategy:**

- Worship
- Study of God's Word
- Stewardship
- Service

## CONNECTION POINTS

August 26, 2025

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.

### Bible Study Chosen Season 2

Join us each Wednesday beginning September 10th for Bible Study in person in the Chapel:

- 11:00 AM (except 3rd Wednesdays at 10:00 AM)
- 7:30 PM

Following each session, join us online for the discussion after the viewing.



## **Transition Plan Phases**

- ✓ Phase 1 – Church Governance & Selecting a Pulpit Committee
- ✓ Phase 2 – Defining Requirements and Expectations
- ✓ Phase 3 – Search and Recruitment
- ✓ Phase 4 – Evaluating and Shortlisting
- ✓ Phase 5 – Interview and Further Assessment
- ✓ Phase 6 – Presentation to the Congregation
- Phase 7 – **Decision Making**
- Phase 8 – Transition and Installation

**[Click Here](#)** for the FMZBC  
**Pastoral Search Voting Overview**



# Pastor Candidate Finalist



## A Season of Discernment: Reflecting on Our Pastoral Candidates

As we conclude the candidate visit process, we invite you to enter a time of intentional prayer, reflection, and spiritual listening. Below, you'll find information to help you recall each candidate's visit and message by scanning the corresponding QR Code or logging onto First Mount Zion Baptist Church's YouTube Channel. This is not about comparison—it's about seeking God's will together as a church family.



**SANDRA K.  
JAMES**

**Bible Study**  
April 26, 2025

[Bible Study Link](#)



**Sermon - They Not Like Us**  
April 27, 2025

[Sermon Link](#)



**STEVEN G.  
BLUNT**

**Bible Study**  
May 3, 2025

[Bible Study Link](#)



**Sermon - Your Faith Has  
to Do It**  
May 4, 2025

[Sermon Link](#)



**DREW K.  
ROSS**

**Bible Study**  
May 17, 2025

[Bible Study Link](#)



**Sermon - Learning to Handle  
Snakes**  
May 18, 2025

[Sermon Link](#)



**LAURENT S.  
GROSVENOR**

**Bible Study**  
May 31, 2025

[Bible Study Link](#)



**Sermon - Jesus Is On My Side**  
June 1, 2025

[Sermon Link](#)



**QR Codes above  
Clickable Links below**

**Sandra K. James**

Bible Study: [Sandra K James Bible Study](#)

Sermon Link: [Sandra K James Sermon](#)

**Steven G. Blunt**

Bible Study: [Steven G Blunt Bible Study](#)

Sermon Link: [Steven G Blunt Sermon](#)

**Candidate 3- Drew K. Ross**

Bible Study: [Drew K Ross Bible Study](#)  
Sermon Link: [Drew K Ross Sermon](#)

Candidate 4- Laurent S. Grosvenor  
Bible Study: [Laurent S Grosvenor Bible Study](#)  
Sermon Link: [Laurent S. Grosvenor Sermon](#)

**Join us for a Prayer Circle.**

**When: September 28<sup>th</sup>** (4<sup>th</sup> Sunday)  
**Time: Immediately After Service**  
**Location: Chapel**

**Note:** This time is for Prayer ONLY



Next time: TBD

**Pray with us.**  
**[Click](#) for this Week's**  
**Pulpit Committee Prayer**

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## **Attention E-Givers – First Things First!**

If you are currently enrolled with VANCO, please cancel your recurring contributions before making the switch to

**Pushpay!**

To give through Pushpay, simply:  
Scan the QR code below; OR  
Text FMZBC to (833) 735-8175

Thank you for taking this important step  
to ensure a smooth transition.



## WOMEN'S MINISTRY

### Attn: BEAUTIFUL WOMEN OF GOD

The Women's Ministry (WM) would like to extend a welcome invitation to participate in our monthly fellowships held on the 2nd Saturday of the month via Zoom. All women are considered part of the WM, however, please join us to hear the awesome, loving, and powerful words that God has placed in our speakers, and songstress. You will be blessed!

We also want to make sure you are receiving our emails which provide you with weekly Words of Encouragement, Monthly Fellowship, and upcoming WM events.

Additionally, the WM has established a dedicated inbox for all women to submit prayer requests. Our desire is to continually lift up your prayer needs as they arise, so please use this email address

[womensministryprayers@firstmountzionbc.org](mailto:womensministryprayers@firstmountzionbc.org) to submit your prayer requests. Our Intercessory Prayer Team (IPT) will intercede over your prayer requests as they are received.

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

First Mount Zion  
6<sup>th</sup> Annual



**JOIN US!**

October 18, 2025  
Race begins at 9:00 a.m.  
Occoquan Regional Park  
Lorton, VA

**Detailed brochure  
at leadership desk**

Online Registration is Open!  
Through September 14th (Only)

Please Open the Link or  
Scan the QR Code to Register \$25

<https://runsignup.com/Race/VA/>

[Dumfries/HealthyStartMindandBody5K](https://runsignup.com/Race/VA/Dumfries/HealthyStartMindandBody5K)



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

Bro. Gerry Griffin [Ggriffin@firstmountzionbc.org](mailto:Ggriffin@firstmountzionbc.org)

*Congratulations*

Interest Based  
Small Groups Ministry!

*Join Our*

10 Year Anniversary Celebration  
&  
Fall Small Groups Fair!

Sunday, September 28th

Following the 11:00AM

Worship Service  
FMZ - GYMNASIUM



## Small Groups Ministry

Are you looking for fresh produce or other products created or produced by local black farmers, bakers, and artisans? Then look no further than the

**GrowSomeGiveSome Small Groups Ministry Black Farmers' List** now available in the Narthex. The list also includes Farmers' Markets which spotlights black farmers. You can get fresh produce and products while supporting our local black farmers. Thank you in advance.

POC: Rev. Dr. Beverly Jiggetts  
[Bjiggetts@firstmountzionbc.org](mailto:Bjiggetts@firstmountzionbc.org)

# Youth Ministry Updates

**“Back to School” Block Party for children and youth.  
Saturday, September 6, 2025,  
from 12:00 p.m.- 4:00 p.m. at FMZBC**

We have reached capacity for this event, and registration is now closed. Reminder for those who have registered parent or guardian must accompany all children 12 and under.

There will be a 3 v 3 Basketball tournament. Each team needs one player under 18, one player aged 18-40, and one player over 40. We will help you complete your team if you don't have all the players.

**Volunteers** for the Back-to-School Block Party are needed. To volunteer, please scan the QR code.



## **September First Friday**

September 5th First Friday is canceled due to the Back-to-School Block Party, Saturday, September 6, 2025. First Fridays will resume October 3, 2025, at FMZBC from 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

## **Youth Ministry Bible Study**

Youth Ministry Bible Study will resume in person and via ZOOM on September 10, 2025. Below is the new registration link for Youth Ministry Bible Study. You only need to register once.

[Click Here to Register for Youth Bible Study](#)

### 2025-26 Youth Council

Middle Schoolers, we need you on the 2025-26 Youth Council! During our summer “Selah,” please consider applying for the council. Applications will be available this Sunday, August 31, 2025, in the Youth Ministry Box located in the Narthex or by emailing, Rev. Jiggetts, [bjiggetts@firstmountzionbc.org](mailto:bjiggetts@firstmountzionbc.org)

### Give-Away Closet

The Youth Clothing Give-Away Closet has new and gently-used free clothing for youth. It is located in Room 156 beside the Barber Shop. Confidential shopping is by appointment only. Point of contact: Deaconess Ledora Akanni - [Akanni\\_ledora@yahoo.com](mailto:Akanni_ledora@yahoo.com)

### Community Service Opportunity

“Clothing Give Away” Store is also located in Room 156. 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 MINISTRY ON BLAST!

Highlight the amazing youth at First Mount Zion and their notable accomplishments. To have a youth profiled in this section, please 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, scholastics, overcoming

personal challenges, or simply a youth who needs encouragement.

## Summer Fitness

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**Pickleball:  
Free, Fun and Social!  
For all levels, two  
courts (beginner/  
more advanced)**

Equipment and instructions are provided.

Mondays, Thursdays and Saturdays. See Fitness Calendar for details on dates and times (calendars located in Narthex & on the FMZ website). You must be a member of the Church. Members are allowed two guests per visit. For more information, email Lori at [LValkenburg@FirstMountZionBC.org](mailto:LValkenburg@FirstMountZionBC.org) or call 703-670-0225.

## Spiritual Gifts

The Spiritual Gifts Ministry was established to support the mission and vision of FMZBC by assisting members in discovering and developing Spiritual Gifts; providing resources to nurture spiritual giftedness through

**Gym and Fitness  
Center is open  
during August  
(Summer Hours)**

The gym and fitness center will be open on Tuesday and Thursday evenings as well as on Saturdays.

**The Fitness Center will be closed for SHARE and over the Labor Day weekend.**

**Line Dancing will resume this fall on Thursday evenings.**

For more information email

Lori at

**[LValkenburg@FirstMountZionBC.org](mailto:LValkenburg@FirstMountZionBC.org)** or call

703-670-0225.

## CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS (C&B) Committee

To review the Constitution and Bylaws, go to the Church Website, [www.fmzbc.com](http://www.fmzbc.com), or use

Christian education; and identifying FMZBC Ministries that provide opportunities for continued spiritual growth and Christian service.

We are currently seeking members who desire to be part of a dynamic Ministry with the goal of helping individuals discover their giftedness within the Body of Christ. If you are interested in exercising *your* gift(s) as a part of this Ministry, please contact us at [SpiritualGifts@firstmountzionbc.org](mailto:SpiritualGifts@firstmountzionbc.org) or [teach4God2003@yahoo.com](mailto:teach4God2003@yahoo.com)

the QR code below, and enter the **passcode:**  
**[cbldocs2025](#)**

Point of Contact is Ken Spencer, Chair, C&B Committee, at [cbl@firstmountzionbc.org](mailto:cbl@firstmountzionbc.org)

## Constitution and Bylaws Committee

[Click Here - Two Constitutional Amendments Approved, 8.2.25](#)



## HYBRID SUNDAY SCHOOL for Adults and Young Adults (CED)

Each Sunday at 9:45 a.m. Check the monitors in the Narthex for classroom locations or via Zoom (registration required).

(Ecclesiastes 4:9, GMT)

*“Behold, the former things come to pass, and new things do I declare; before they spring forth, I tell you of them.”*

(Isaiah 42:9)

For those attending the class via Zoom, please [Register Here](#). We look forward to seeing you there.

[Click for Sunday School 8.31.25](#)

POC: Reverend Gillis Taylor, Sunday School  
Superintendent, [sundayschool@firstmountzionbc.org](mailto:sundayschool@firstmountzionbc.org)

## **New Members Orientation Class**

Time: Sep 7, 2025 09:45 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88672190571?  
pwd=o1NvLFfkKUJU9MTYRiebhqWdbdEmA6.1](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88672190571?pwd=o1NvLFfkKUJU9MTYRiebhqWdbdEmA6.1)

Meeting ID: 886 7219 0571  
Passcode: 164818

September 7	<b>NMOC Orientation &amp; Tour of Building -Hybrid</b>	
September 14	The Bible & Studying the Bible	
September 21	Small Groups	Stephanie Craddock
September 28	Prayer ( Hybrid)	Rev. Josephine Cherry
October 5	Holy Communion	Deacon Seth
October 12	Overview of CED	Rev. Dr. Tracey Holley
October 19	ABC of Worship	Rev. Kathy Russell
October 26	No class Attend Regular Sunday School	
November 2	No class Attend Regular Sunday School	
November 9	Spiritual Warfare	Rev. Sandra James
November 16	Graduation	
November 23	No class Attend Regular Sunday School	
November 30	No class Attend Regular Sunday School	

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88672190571?  
pwd=o1NvLFfkKUJU9MTYRiebhqWdbdEmA6.1](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88672190571?pwd=o1NvLFfkKUJU9MTYRiebhqWdbdEmA6.1)

Meeting ID: 886 7219 0571  
Passcode: 164818

**"I WAS SICK AND YE VISITED ME."**

Keep the following known, sick, and/or shut-in members in

## prayer:

Benjamin Bond [N]  
Teresa Bridges [I]  
Jessica Butler [B]  
Terry Carey [F1]  
William Daily [E1]  
Denyse Farquharson [E1]  
Edwin Green [M3]  
Cardell Hunter [M1]  
Beulah (B.J.) Harper [D1]  
Ronald Kent [F2]  
Janet Mulubah [M2]  
Betty Palmer [C1]  
Murray Parker [H1]  
Reggie Pickett [G1]  
Arthur White [K1]

### GRIEF SHARE HOSTED by FMZBC JOURNEY TO JOY MINISTRY

GriefShare is a support program for people who have lost loved ones -- a spouse, child, other family member, or friend through death. GriefShare considers the loss of a pet as the loss of a loved one. For additional information, contact Reverend Kathy Russell, [journeytojoy@firstmountzionbc.org](mailto:journeytojoy@firstmountzionbc.org)

**WOMEN'S MINISTRY  
PRAYER LINE**  
WM offers a dedicated



### ONLINE GIVING

Giving at FMZBC is easy!

-Scan the QR code above

-Use the following link,  
[Pushpay Online Giving Link](#)

-Text, GIVE at (833)735-8175.

You may also give by mail: First Mount Zion

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 Director, Gwen L. Holland at [Womensministry@firstmountzionbc.org](mailto:Womensministry@firstmountzionbc.org)

## IT4U

Do you need assistance navigating Microsoft, TEAMS meetings, or Zoom? For tech support, email [IT4U@firstmountzionbc.org](mailto:IT4U@firstmountzionbc.org)

## DEAF MINISTRY

American Sign Language (ASL) interpreters are onsite each Sunday during the 11:00 a.m. worship service. You may observe in-person and online at

Baptist Church, 16622 Dumfries Road, Dumfries, VA 22025; OR, you can schedule a time with your Zone Leader, for pick up from your home.

Please contact FMZBC at 703-670-0184 if you have questions about E-Giving.

## AEM Gazette Ministry Scholarship Newsletter

POC: Brother Gerry Griffin, AEM Chair or Sister Sandra Grimes, Scholarship Committee  
[aem@firstmountzionbc.org](mailto:aem@firstmountzionbc.org)

## CHILDREN'S CHURCH (CED)

Our children need YOU! Children's Church needs servants in several areas to support our children. If you want to make a difference in the life of a child, please register today by clicking the link below. Please note that volunteer screening is required of all servants who work with children. Contact information for the screening is on the form. Thank you in

[www.fmzbc.com](http://www.fmzbc.com). The monthly Zoom meetings are also held with an interpreter.

Have questions? Please email [fmzdeafministry@firstmountzionbc.org](mailto:fmzdeafministry@firstmountzionbc.org)

### **VOLUNTEER SCREENING**

Contact Sister Brenda Byrd at 571-237-0111, [byrdbj@comcast.net](mailto:byrdbj@comcast.net)

### **SMALL GROUPS MINISTRY**

Interest-based small groups meet for two semesters each year. Consider joining an Interest-Based Small Group. We have a variety of groups for all ages, in three categories, from discipleship, sports, shared interests, outreach, health, support, and book groups. Regardless of the type of group, through that common interest we seek to love God, grow in God, serve God, and share God together, and with others.

There is a group for everyone, including YOU! Visit the [Small Groups](#)

advance for registering!

### **FMZ Children's Church Servant Registration**

For additional information, please contact Dr. Tracey Dawkins Holley via email at [tholley@firstmountzionbc.org](mailto:tholley@firstmountzionbc.org) or Sister Stephany Stewart at [stephanystewart@yahoo.com](mailto:stephanystewart@yahoo.com).

### **NEW MEMBERS ORIENTATION CLASS (CED)**

New Members' Orientation Class will resume on Sunday, September 7, 2025 at 9:45 AM

### **ARCHIVES COMMITTEE**

The Archives is open each **5th Sunday** **Join us on August 31st**, immediately following the 11am Worship service on the ground floor. For more information, email [archives@firstmountzionbc.org](mailto:archives@firstmountzionbc.org)

### **CANCELLATIONS DUE TO INCLEMENT WEATHER**

As always, during times

[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**

There are numerous volunteer opportunities available. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Renee Woolfolk, Church Business Administrator, or the Ministry's point of contact. Here are a few volunteer opportunities currently available.

-Receptionist, contact  
[rwoolfolk@firstmountzionbc.org](mailto:rwoolfolk@firstmountzionbc.org)

-Facilities  
FMZ Poster Print Shop  
Ministry Event Set Up and Breakdown. Contact  
Walter Holmes, at  
[wholmes@firstmountzionbc.org](mailto:wholmes@firstmountzionbc.org)

-Grain of Heaven, contact  
Sis. Sherise Campbell,  
Food Service Director, at  
[scampbell@firstmountzionbc.org](mailto:scampbell@firstmountzionbc.org)

-Audio-Visual Ministry,  
contact Bro. Dijae North,  
Audio-Visual Director, at  
[dnorth@firstmountzionbc.org](mailto:dnorth@firstmountzionbc.org)

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.

Please check your email, the Church website, and the Church calendar for cancellations and/or office closures.

Visit the Church Website:  
[WWW.FMZBC.COM](http://WWW.FMZBC.COM)  
Church Calendar  
Call the Church at (703) 670-0184 for a recorded message.  
Email your Zone Leader.  
Tune in to WTOP

## **WEEKLY SUBMISSIONS**

Due by noon each  
Tuesday

Connection Points entries to  
[rwoolfolk@firstmountzionbc.org](mailto:rwoolfolk@firstmountzionbc.org)

Weekly announcements to  
[announcements@firstmountzionbc.org](mailto:announcements@firstmountzionbc.org)

Purchase Requisition (PR) forms to  
[pr@firstmountzionbc.org](mailto:pr@firstmountzionbc.org)

## **CAPTURING MINISTRY MOMENTS**

-IT support for ministry meetings. Contact Sis. Renee Woolfolk, Church Business Administrator, at [rwoolfolk@firstmountzionbc.org](mailto:rwoolfolk@firstmountzionbc.org)

## **BE IN THE KNOW**

### **Building Use Request (BUR)**

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

### **FITNESS CENTER Closed on Saturday August 23rd for S.H.A.R.E. and over the Labor Day Weekend**

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.

Please check the website for changes in hours of operation.

FMZ in action. Click on the link below to share your photos! We will incorporate them into the weekly Bible Study and Sunday Worship Countdown.

[Capturing Ministry Moments](#)

## FMZBC JOB VACANCIES

### Full Time Custodial Technician

Contact Renee Woolfolk, CBA, to learn more at  
(703) 670-0184 or [rwoolfolk@firstmountzionbc.org](mailto:rwoolfolk@firstmountzionbc.org)

## A new way to request IT support for @FIRSTMOUNTZIONBC.ORG users.

If you have an email that ends with [@firstmountzionbc.org](mailto:@firstmountzionbc.org), then this is for you! As an extension of IT4U, Pronto Tech-Help Desk, MS365 user support is available twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week-24/7.

How to Access Pronto Tech-Help Desk?

By Phone: (571) 657-0105

By Chat: [Chat with us!](#)

By Email: [helpdesk@pronto-tech.com](mailto:helpdesk@pronto-tech.com)

You will be asked to provide your name and the best number to reach you. Additionally, you will provide the organization name: First Mount Zion Baptist Church and the FMZBC email address. Note the email must be an [@firstmountzionbc.org](mailto:@firstmountzionbc.org) email address.

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Wednesday Hybrid Bible Study:  
Wednesdays at 11:00 a.m

Sunday Service Worship:  
Service: 11:00 a.m.  
Kids' Kingdom Worship Service:  
Returns in September

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

### 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 [cpm@firstmountzionbc.org](mailto:cpm@firstmountzionbc.org)



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

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