



New Members

We Welcome You To Our Church Family!
May God Bless You!

Sister Christina Harris
Sister Nancy Peacock



SICK AND SHUT-IN

Sister Esther Jeffries **Sister Mary McCauley**
Sister Katie Roberson **Brother Henry Whitted**
Sister Geraldine Wilson **Brother James Wilson**

We pray that God will bless all of our Friends and Neighbors who are sick and shut-in with good health.

With Heartfelt *Sympathy*

Our deepest sympathy is extended to:

Brother Leon Lea and Family in the loss of his
Brother, **Nathaniel Lea**

The family of
Brother Paul "Stephon Clark" Jones

The **Mitchell** family in the loss of their loved one,
Sister Virginia Mitchell

Brother Shawn Bethea and family in the loss of his
Grandparents, **Joshua & Priscilla Bethea**

Sister Lacey Mtumwa and family in the loss of her
Aunt, **Fannie Bagley**

We extend our deepest sympathy to all those in our
Community who have lost their loved ones.



Almighty God,
Father of all mercies,
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks
for all your goodness and loving-kindness
to us and to all whom you have made.

We bless you
for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for your immeasurable love
in the redemption of the world
by our Lord Jesus Christ;
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.

And, we pray,
give us such an awareness of your mercies,
that with truly thankful hearts
we may show forth your praise,
not only with our lips, but in our lives,
by giving up ourselves to your service,
and by walking before you
in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory throughout all ages.

AMEN

Book of Common Prayer/Book of Divine Worship



First Community congratulates **Sister Ranika Wilkerson** who graduated from A & T University on December 12, 2015. **Ranika** received a bachelor's degree in Science of Criminal Justice and a minor in Psychology.

"JESUS CAME INTO THE WORLD TO SAVE THAT WHICH IS LOST"

VETERAN'S DAY

November 8, 2015



Litany - "For Those Who Protect Our Lives" – Deacon Johnny Jarrett, Jr.

Sermon – "Fires At The Altar" – Rev. William Richardson

Tribute To The Veterans – By: Romaine Waller



Music – The Mixed Choir

Ushers – The Senior Ushers

Greeter – Sister Cothene Watson

A Veteran's Prayer - Submitted By: Romaine Waller

Dear Heavenly Father, We thank you today for all the men and women who have served in our armed forces. We are grateful for their dedication, discipline, faithfulness and courage. From them may we learn the virtues of selfless service, unswerving loyalty to country, the discipline of teamwork for the good of all, obedience to authority and perseverance in difficult and challenging situations.

Bless the families of our veterans for the sacrifices made of the home front when duty called their loved ones away to serve. Following their military service, give each of our veteran's meaningful employment where they can enrich our workplaces and communities with their strong leadership skills, their self discipline and their hearts for service.

We pray that you will provide your care and healing power for our veterans who carry physical and mental wounds from their days of service. And we lift up to your care those families who have lost a member of our armed forces in the line of duty. May your constant presence and help be theirs.

We pray that today we will be able to express to our veterans our gratitude for their service to us. Keep our service men and women strong and determined. As we thank you for them we look forward to the day promised in your Word when our Prince of Peace will rule on earth and when the bearing of arms to protect our citizens will no longer be necessary. We pray in the name of our strong and powerful savior, Jesus Christ. Amen

Posted by Karen Barber

We pray that God will bless and protect all those who serve in the armed forces!

"JESUS CAME INTO THE WORLD TO SAVE THAT WHICH IS LOST"

20TH ANNUAL PRAYER SUNDAY

November 15, 2015

Music – The Young Adult Choir
Ushers – The Young Adult Ushers
Greeter – Sister Cherba Torain

Sermon – Rev. William Richardson – “We Have Good Reasons To Pray”

Intercessory prayer is the act of praying on behalf of others.
Each year First Community members come together to pray for our church and their organizations. May they continue to seek God’s guidance while serving Him. Beautiful prayers were prayed for each organization by First Community members.



Deacon Johnny Jarrett, Jr.



Deaconess Shirley Byrd



Brother Shawn Bethea



Sister Marjorie Vanhooke



Nia Bullock



Sister Cherba Torain



Sister Stephanie Brodie



Sister Brenda Breeze



Brother Larry Pettiford



Sister Jasmine Foust

Church Officer

Deacons – Deacon Johnny Jarrett, Jr.

Deaconesses - Sister Shirley Byrd

Trustees – Brother Shawn Bethea

Doris M. Richardson Missionaries

Senior – Sister Marjorie Vanhooke

Youth - Nia Bullock

Christian Education

Sunday School - Sister Cherba Torain

Drama Department – Sister Stephanie Brodie

Usher Department

Senior – Sister Shirley Byrd

Young Adults – Sister Brenda Breeze

Music Department

Senior Choir - Male Chorus - Youth Choir - Mixed Choir

Ensemble Choir - Young Adult Choir – Brother Larry Pettiford

Youth

Sister Jasmine Foust

“JESUS CAME INTO THE WORLD TO SAVE THAT WHICH IS LOST”

TWENTY NINTH CHURCH ANNIVERSARY

1986 – 2015

November 22, 2015

“ALWAYS ABOUNDING IN THE WORK OF THE LORD”

Deacon Johnny Jarrett, Jr., Presiding

Praise Dance – “If You’re Happy And You Know It” – **Nia Bullock**



Nia Bullock

Call To Worship & Invocation – **Deacon Johnny Jarrett, Jr.**

Scripture – **Sister Linda Snipes**

Prayer – **Deaconess Shirley Byrd**

Greeting Of Guests & Announcements – **Sister Novella Baines**

Memorial – Lighting Of Candle – **Brother Earl Brown**

Recognition Of Charter Members – **Sister Seletha Pherribo**

Offertory Prayer – **Sister Cherba Torain**

Music – **Male Chorus & The Ensemble**

Special Music – “I Want You To Move” & “Somewhere To Lay My Head”

Brother Martin Torain



Deacon Johnny Jarrett, Jr.

“I Won’t Complain” - **Deacon Leonard Graham** – Union Baptist Church

Rev. Raymond Watkins – Key Board



Reverend Raymond Watkins



Altar Prayer – **Deacon Lloyd Roberson**



Rev. William Richardson

First Community celebrated twenty-nine wonderful years of Christian fellowship under the leadership of our dedicated pastor, **Rev. William Richardson**.

First Community has been a place where you can find comfort, hope, peace, joy, love and guidance. First Community is a place where you learn how to live a life that will be pleasing to God.

A memorial service was held by **Brother Earl Brown** for the fifty three members who have gone to their eternal rest. **Sister Seletha Pherribo** recognized all of the charter members. There were 45 charter members, 20 are deceased, 10 are inactive, and 15 are still active members.

Our guest minister was **Rev. Raymond Watkins**. **Rev. Watkins’s** sermon was “Building A Strong Foundation.” We thank God for His grace and mercy during these 29 years. We pray that God will continue to be by our side as we strive to do His will.

Dinner was served in the fellowship hall following the service.

Anniversary Church Committee

Sister Seletha Pherribo, Chairperson **Brother Earl Brown** **Sister Linda Snipes** **Sister Elizabeth Mayo** **Sister Lacey Mtumwa**

Thank you to the committee members, the kitchen and table decoration committees.

“JESUS CAME INTO THE WORLD TO SAVE THAT WHICH IS LOST”

SAFETY TIPS FOR THE WINTER MONTHS

5 TIPS FOR SAFE WINTER DRIVING

1. Clean Off Your Car. Remove snow and ice from headlights, tail lights, windows, mirrors and your vehicle's roof to make sure you can see and be seen.
2. Slow Down. Posted speed limits are made for ideal road and weather conditions, not snow or ice. While driving on snow and ice, take it easy during starts, stops and turns and avoid hard acceleration and braking. High speeds and jerky movements could send your vehicle into a skid or spin.
3. Give Yourself Space. When roads are slick, stay eight to ten seconds behind the vehicle ahead of you – give yourself enough time and space to stop. At zero degrees Fahrenheit, a car needs twice as much distance to stop as it does at 32 degrees Fahrenheit.
4. Don't Be Overly Confident. Four-wheel drive may help you get out of a snowy driveway, but it won't help you stop on icy roads any better.
5. Be Prepared. Check headlights, battery, brakes, tires, windshield and windshield wipers to make sure they work properly and keep a full tank of gas to keep the fuel line from freezing. Visit your local AAA Car Care center for battery and tire pressure checks. To prepare for winter emergencies, travel with a winter kit that includes: shovel, blankets, flashlights, gloves, ice scraper, jumper cables, snacks and water.

5 TIPS FOR KEEPING YOUR HOME SAFE DURING WINTER

1. Thermostat Settings. Keeping your thermostat at the same temperature both day and night could potentially prevent a more costly repair job due to frozen pipes. This also helps to reduce the stress on your HVAC unit when it is attempting to catch up to a higher temperature, rather than staying at a consistent temperature.
2. Preventing Frozen Pipes. Low outside temperatures can cause pipes to burst. If the temps are expected to drop below freezing, let the cold water drip from the faucet – just a trickle helps prevent pipes from freezing.
3. Milk and Bread. We are all quite familiar with the rush to the store for milk, and bread before a big storm. Make sure you have water, foods that are easy to prepare, flashlights, first-aid-kits, warm clothing and extra Blankets.
4. Sand, Rock Salt or Kitty Litter. Keep a bag of sand, rock salt or non – clumping kitty litter on hand. Sprinkling one of these on walkways, steps and driveways can help make them less slippery.
5. Be Prepared. Check the batteries in your smoke and carbon monoxide alarms. Have your heater and/or heating system checked before colder temperatures arrive and make sure everyone in your home knows where the main water shut-off is located.

Jim McCafferty, Senior Vice President of insurance Service

FIREFIGHTERS: USE SPACE HEATERS PROPERLY

As the weather gets colder, residents often turn to space heaters, which can be dangerous if used incorrectly.

"The use of space heaters, wood-burning stoves and fireplaces are popular alternatives to warm homes, but if not used properly, these sources may contribute to residential fires," Durham Fire Marshal Edward Reid said. "The best tips to remember are to follow the manufacturer's instructions for these units, and to always keep yourself, children, pets and anything else that can burn at least three feet away from heat sources."

It's also important to have working smoke alarms on every level of the home. Residents with alternative heating sources and attached garages should also have working carbon monoxide alarms, he said.

To help prevent fires in the home, the department offers these tips:

For kerosene heaters:

- Never use fuel-burning appliances without proper room venting. Burning kerosene, coal or propane can produce deadly fumes.
- Be sure the heater works correctly and has an emergency shut-off in case it tips over.

For woodstoves and fireplaces:

- Woodstoves should be UL listed.
- Have the chimney inspected and cleaned as needed.
- Don't use flammable liquids to start or accelerate fires.
- Keep a glass or metal screen in front of the fireplace opening to prevent embers or sparks from jumping out.
- Before going to bed, be sure the fireplace flames are out.
- Never close the damper with hot ashes in the fireplace, because this can cause the fire to reignite.

Other safety tips:

- Never use a range or oven as a heating device.
- If using an electric heater, don't overload the circuit.
- Don't use electrical space heaters in the bathroom.
- Plan and practice a home escape plan with your family.

By Keith Upchurch
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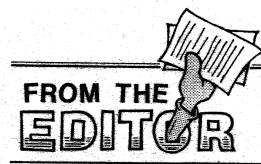


Please call the church office, when...

- A member of your family is admitted to the hospital, so that visits can be made and the proper people notified.
- You have death in the family so that you can receive helpful advice and assistance from the pastor and the church family.
- Your group plans to have a meeting or program so that it can be placed in the church bulletin.
- Your home phone number is changed or you have a new address, so that the church records can be corrected.

Please feel free to call the church. We are here to serve. May God Bless You.

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The First Community Spotlight is edited by Connie George
Co-Editor Linda Snipes
All Contributions are welcome!

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