

# FIRST COMMUNITY MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

## FIRST COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

July 1, 2015 – October 30, 2015

Volume LXXI



**Rev. William Richardson, Pastor**

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22 Church 29<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
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#### December

19 Christmas Presentations  
20 Christmas Sunday Service  
25 Christmas Day (Friday)  
31 Watch Night Service

### FROM THE PASTORS DESK ....

On the fourth Sunday in November we will be celebrating the church's twenty-ninth anniversary. One might ask for what reasons are we exerting so much physical, mental and spiritual energies, toward this special day. First, it is my personal belief; that First Community church has an indispensable asset in the eternally valuable task of sharing Christ with others. Secondly, this is of ultimate importance with us, we believe in the affirmation of God's desire for this community. We understand and know that it is God's desire that worship service serves as a blessing to his people. Blessing God's people began when the Lord said to Moses, tell Aaron and his sons, this is how your are to bless the Israelites, say to them; the Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn his face toward you and give peace. So they will put my name on the Israelite, and I will bless them (Numbers 6:22-27).

Another reason for celebrating is, plain and simple. This congregation, worship services, and other ministries are reminders of God's care and blessing to everyone, individually and collectively. So, while we continue to celebrate anniversaries, let us remind our friends, to stay focused and connected to our Christ. It remains in my prayers that the Lord continues to bless and keep you, and make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you.

*"My Help Comes From the Lord, Who Made Heaven & Earth."*

## SICK AND SHUT-IN LIST



Sister Esther Jeffries  
Sister Mary McCauley  
Sister Katie Roberson

Brother Henry Whitted  
Sister Geraldine Wilson  
Brother James Wilson



### OUR HEARTFELT SYMPATHY TO:

Brother Martin Torain, Sisters Patrice Richardson Sneed, and  
Diane Beasley in the loss of their Aunt,  
Betty Ruth Beasley Morrow

Sister Jessica Byrd and family in the loss of her Son,  
Antonio Byrd

Sister Rhonda Turrentine in the loss of her Aunt,  
Lola McClinton

Sisters Shereen Johnson, Marsha Johnson, Brothers Jeffery  
Brooks, Eric Brooks and their families in the loss of their love one,  
Sister Geneva Brooks.

Brother Shawn Bethea and family in the loss of his mother,  
Mary Bethea

Brother Leon Lea and family in the loss of his brother,  
Nathaniel Lea

Dedicated To The **Brooks** Family From  
First Community Church Family

May you see God's light on the path ahead  
When the road you walk is dark  
May you always hear  
Even in your hour of sorrow  
The gentle SINGING of the lark.  
When times are hard may hardness  
Never turn your heart to stone,  
May you always remember  
When the shadows fall -  
You do not walk alone.

Irish Blessing – The Comfort Company

# Welcome

## NEW MEMBER

WE WELCOME YOU TO OUR CHURCH FAMILY!  
MAY GOD BLESS YOU!

**Nasheka Clark**

Our God is the same yesterday, today, and tomorrow. He does not change. Our God is faithful to all generations. His mercy endures forever. If we want to know whether God will deliver us today, we just have to look back and see how He delivered us yesterday. Sometimes we need to encourage ourselves and remember what the Lord has already done in order to increase our faith for what He will do. (Bible Expositor)

## DO YOU KNOW HIM? DO YOU REALLY KNOW HIM?

Whatever you're going through, just have a little faith. I have been crucified. I put it in the hands of the Lord. God will turn things around. The bread of life is in the bread. God said, "I am the Living Bread." He is a living God. He lives in US. Learn how to bring a little bit of faith to God. He stood right beside me. I thank you for helping my body. You're not to be influenced about any body else's teachings. Don't forget that I took a little bit of bread and fed a lot of people. We must have confidence and trust in the Lord. She had just a little bit of flour. God has blessed you with something that you can bring to Him. You and I belong to Him. He is our savior. It lasted and it lasted until the famine was over. He is a Mighty God.

By: **Kenna Wells**



**Kenna** wrote the article above during a sermon preached by **Rev. William Richardson** on August 30, 2015. His sermon, "The Use Of Little Things For God," Matthews 16:5-12 and 1 Kings 17:8. **Kenna** is 9 years old. She has an amazing ability to listen and comprehend. Thank you **Kenna** for a very important lesson for all of us to listen and let God's Word sink deep within our souls and live according to the Word of God.

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## WELCOME BACK

We welcome our pastor, **Rev. William Richardson**, back from a short vacation.  
Because of his love for his church family and his church he only took half of his vacation.  
During **Rev. Richardson's** vacation we were blessed to have the following ministers deliver the sermon.

August 9, 2015

**Deacon Johnny Jarrett, Jr.** Presided  
Scripture – **Deacon Johnny Jarrett, Jr.**  
Prayer – **Deacon Johnny Jarrett, Jr.**

**Rev. Frankie McLean,**  
Associate Pastor Union Baptist Church  
Sermon, “The Lord Is With You.”

Music – **Mixed Choir**  
Ushers – **The Senior Ushers**  
Greeter – **Sister Cothene Watson**

Your Salvation does not insolate you from trouble  
but it insulates you until you can get to the other side.  
God has a surprise ending for your life, let God get you to the end.



August 16, 2015

**Deacon Elizabeth Mayo,** Presided  
Prayer – **Deacon Elizabeth Mayo**  
Special Prayer – **Graesyn Goodman**

**Rev. George Ashby**  
Associate Pastor Union Baptist Church  
Sermon – “Leaving Egypt”

Music – **The Youth Praise Team**  
Ushers – **The Young Adult Ushers**  
Greeter – **Sister Cherba Torain**



August 23, 2015

**Rev. William Richardson,** Presided  
Scripture – **Rev. William Richardson**  
Prayer – **Rev. William Richardson**

**Rev. George Ashby**  
Associate Pastor Union Baptist Church  
Sermon – “Holding On To Hope”  
Hope helps me persevere.  
Hope is essential to my survival.  
There is Good News in Hopeless Situations

Music – **The Male Chorus**  
Ushers – **The Senior Ushers**  
Greeter – **Sister Iris Folk**



Special Song – “I learned How To Live Holy”  
←----- **Brother Leonard Graham**  
Our guest from Union Baptist Church



*“My Help Comes From the Lord, Who Made Heaven & Earth.”*



## FAMILY AND FRIENDS DAY

Family and friends day was held on July 19, 2015. First Community members invited their family and friends to worship with The First Community Church Family. Following the morning service, we ate and fellowshiped with our family and friends in the fellowship hall. Thank you to all our family and friends for worshipping with us.

[illegible]

The proceeds from the fashion show were presented to **Rev. William Richardson** by **Sister Karen McGhee** on October 4, 2015.

## “Takin’ It On The Road”

A fashion show was held here at First Community on October 3, 2015, "Takin' It On The Road," by Cato Fashion of Hillsborough.

Call to Order - **Karen McGhee**      Music – **Nia Bullock**  
Scripture – **Christy Shields**      Prayer – **Cherba Torain**

Casual Wear and Dressy Wear were modeled by:

Tish Bradsher	Briana Bradsher	Stephanie Brodie
Shirley Byrd	Tierra Corbett	Jessica Long
Mia Mack	Judy Pettiford	Cherba Torain
	Marjorie Vanhooke	

A song was dedicated to **Stephanie Brodie** and all cancer survivors "I'm So Glad The Lord Let Me Live On' sung by William Wilkerson.

The Cato Fashion Hostesses were:

**Christy Shields      Karen McGhee      Pattie Shaffer**  
**Karen McGhee** is an employee of Cato Fashion and  
 would like for you to stop by and check out their  
 wonderful selection of clothing.

We Believe,  
With God First We Can Accomplish Amazing Things.

## GRANDPARENT'S / SENIOR CITIZEN'S DAY

Grandparent's and Senior Citizen's Day was held on September 13, 2015. A program was held in the fellowship hall after the morning service. The children made posters thanking grandparents for their loving care. The children also verbally expressed their love for their grandparents. The adults of First Community talked about the memories they had of their grandparents. **Deaconess Geneva Brooks** sang the Lord's Prayer. A delicious menu of ham, turkey and roast beef sandwiches, meat balls, chicken salad, crackers, fruit and ice tea was served. It was a great fellowship celebrating Grandparents and Senior Citizen's Day. We would like to thank the committee, **Sister Seletha Pherribo** and **Sister Shereen Johnson** and all those who served on the food committee for a job well done.

## The Lord's Prayer

**Deaconess Geneva Brooks**



**Sister Brooks** always had a song in her heart.  
We will miss her lovely voice in our congregation.



*“My Help Comes From the Lord, Who Made Heaven & Earth.”*





## PASTOR'S APPRECIATION REVEREND WILLIAM RICHARDSON



First Community members enjoyed a wonderful fellowship with our **Pastor, Reverend William Richardson** on October 9, 2015. In appreciation of all the love shown to us, the prayers prayed for us, the middle of the night visits if needed and all his efforts to get us into the Kingdom, we at First Community wanted to do something special for our Pastor. Organized by Sister **Seletha Pheribo**, members arrived with covered dishes and the sweets that our Pastor specifically requested. We all enjoyed the excellent food and fellowship. Later members spoke words of love and appreciation to Reverend Richardson. Some even spoke of how the community had expressed how Reverend Richardson and First Community is always willing to serve the community. **Reverend Richardson** responded by thanking everyone for the acts of kindness and words of love. Not an exact quote, but he said give me my flowers now while I can enjoy them. **Reverend Richardson**, it is our prayer that God will continue to bless you and keep you in His care.

**Tonya Myers**

**Rev. Richardson's Family**



**Sister Mary Wells**



**The Clarks Sisters / Brother Martin Torain**



**Rev. William Richardson**

On Sunday October 11, 2015, we concluded our celebration or Pastor's Appreciation Day with special presentations to **Reverend Richardson**. Reverend Richardson's family visited and worshipped with First Community. The music was rendered by First Community's **Mixed Choir**, a special song, "Blessed Assurance" by **Tonya Myers**, songs by the **Clark Sisters** accompanied by **Brother Martin Torain**. **Reverend Richardson** delivered the sermon, "Love Is Something You Do, Watch The Little Foxes," Song of Solomon (2:15 -18). **Reverend Richardson** talked of two people who fell in love and how anxious they were to see each other. The two were speaking to each other and she spoke about how she can't wait to see his face and how she misses his voice. We should miss God's voice and be anxious to come to church, bible study and Sunday school. Nobody or nothing should take the place of Christ and the church. Little foxes can get into your life and your church. Don't let the little foxes disrupt your life or keep you from your worshipping. Wait for the Lord and He will renew your strength. Song of Solomon (2:15). Our vineyards are in blossom; we must catch the little foxes that destroy the vineyards. Some interpreters believe that the man and woman stand for God and his people or Christ and the Church.

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## Orange County Gives Tips for Fire Prevention Week

Orange County Emergency Services invited the public to participate in fire Prevention Week from October 4 through 10. This year's theme is, "Hear the Beep Where You Sleep." Orange County Fire Marshal Jason Shepherd encourages all Orange County residents to develop a home fire safety plan and practice it. The following tips serve as a checklist for home smoke alarms.

- Install smoke alarms inside and outside each bedroom and sleeping area. Install alarms on every level of the home. Install alarms in the basement.
- Large homes may need extra smoke alarms.
- It is best to use interconnected smoke alarms. When one smoke alarm sounds, they all sound.
- Test all smoke alarms at least once a month. Press the test button to be sure the alarm is working.
- There are two kinds of alarms. Ionization smoke alarms are quicker to warn about flaming fires. Photoelectric alarms are quicker to warn about smoldering fires. It is best to use both types of alarms in the home.
- A smoke alarm should be on the ceiling or high on a wall. Keep smoke alarms away from the kitchen to reduce false alarms. They should be at least 10 feet from the stove.
- People who are hard-of-hearing or deaf can use special alarms. These alarms have strobe lights and bed shakers.
- Replace all smoke alarms when they are 10 years old.

News of Orange Staff Reports



## Back To School Safety

Every fall, thousands of children across the Carolinas head back to school. With nearly 15 percent of those children typically walking or biking to their classes, AAA warns drivers to be especially vigilant for pedestrians before and after school hours. The afternoon hours are particularly dangerous – over the last decade, nearly one in four child pedestrian fatalities occurred between 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. AAA offers six ways to keep kids safe this school year.

### 1. **TALK TO YOUR TEEN.**

Car crashes are the leading cause of death for teens in the United States, and more than one in four fatal crashes involving teen drivers occur during the after-school hours of 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. Get evidence-based guidance and tips at [TeenDriving.AAA.com](http://TeenDriving.AAA.com).

### 2. **COME TO A COMPLETE STOP.**

Research shows that more than one third of drivers roll through stop signs in school zones or neighborhoods. Always come to a complete stop, checking carefully for children on side walks and in crosswalks before proceeding.

### 3. **WATCH FOR BICYCLES.**

Children on bikes are often inexperienced, and unpredictable. Slow down and allow at least three feet of passing distance between your vehicle and the bicycle. If your child rides a bicycle to school, have them wear a properly-fitted bicycle helmet on every ride.

### 4. **SLOW DOWN.**

Speed limits in school zones are reduced for a reason. A pedestrian struck by a vehicle traveling at 25 mph is nearly two-thirds less likely to be killed compared to a pedestrian struck by a vehicle traveling just 10 mph faster.

### 5. **ELIMINATE DISTRACTIONS.**

Children often cross the road unexpectedly and may emerge suddenly between two parked cars. Research shows that taking your eyes off the road for just two seconds doubles your chances of crashing.

### 6. **REVERSE RESPONSIBLY.**

Every vehicle has blind spots. Check for children on the sidewalk, driveway and around your vehicle before slowly backing up. Teach your children to never play in, under or around vehicles-even those that are parked.

GO WITH OUR EXPERTS / Traffic Safety  
By Tiffany Wright

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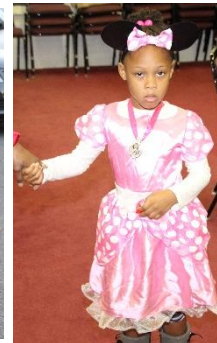


## TRUNK OR TREAT

The annual Trunk or Treat was held October 30, 2015 at First Community. The children of First Community and surrounding communities met in the Fellowship Hall before going outside to obtain treats from the decorated car trunks of the members of First Community. Afterward everyone came inside to participate in games, a costume contest and refreshments. First place winner of the costume contest was **Dave Jenkins**, second place winner was **Aiden Wilkinson** and third place winner was **Cynai Jacobs**. Last year was great, but we were happy to see more children participating this year. The children enjoyed themselves as evidenced by the laughing and playing observed during the evening.

Sister **Seletha Pheribo** facilitated the program and Sister **Stephanie Brodie** was in charge of entertainment. Sister **Wandra Richardson** and her kitchen committee provided delicious hot dogs, various chips, drinks and cupcakes. Other First Community members, too numerous to name helped with dispensing candy, decorating and monitoring the children. Our Pastor, **Reverend Richardson** got in on the fun by filling his car trunk with treats for the children. This was another successful year for the Trunk or Treat event and what better or safer place for the children to be than at church.

**Dave Jenkins, 1<sup>st</sup> Place    Aiden Wilkinson, 2nd Place    Cynai Jacobs, 3rd Place**



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First Community Missionary Baptist Church  
P.O. Box 1047  
509 Eno Street  
Hillsborough, NC 27278  
Church Phone: (919) 732-6135  
Fax Number: (919) 732-1129

Our website: [firstcommunitymbc.org](http://firstcommunitymbc.org)



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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Hillsborough, North Carolina



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

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