

SICK AND SHUT-IN



My Prayer For You

I pray health and healing for you.
 May God heal any sickness you have,
 physical, mental, or spiritual.
 And may He give you good health,
 energy, and joy today!

Sister Torenda Duff
Sister Mary McCauley
Brother Henry Whitted
Brother James Wilson

Sister Esther Jeffries
Sister Katie Roberson
Sister Geraldine Wilson

Grandparent's and Senior Citizens' Day September 11, 2016

Scripture.....**Kenna Wells**
 Prayer.....**Graesyn Johnson**
 Litany.....**Asia Latta**
 "Prayer of Thanksgiving for Grandparents/Elders"

Music.....**The Mixed Choir**
 Special Song.....**Cyani Jacobs**
 Ushers.....**The Senior Ushers**
 Greeter.....**Sister Cothene Watson**
 Sermon.....**Rev. William Richardson**

"INFLUENCING GRANDCHILDREN"

Recognition of **Grandparents & Senior Citizens'**
 We wish you lots of love, happiness and joy!
 Cupcakes, lemonade and tea were served following the service.



All of us are ambassadors of Christ. When an ambassador goes to another country, everything he says and does, what he wears, how he eats, and the gestures he makes—all are reflective of the country he represents. Thinking of ourselves as ambassadors of our heavenly country and the God we are meant to represent, how are we doing in regard to the following:

1. What we wear. Do our clothing choices honor God? Or do we dress in a way that reflects the world?
2. What we eat. Do we reflect the world's bent toward gluttony and excess, or do our eating habits show that we will not be enslaved by our appetites (1 Cor. 6:12)?
3. How we treat our physical bodies. Do we maintain self-control, showing the world our bodies are the temple of the Holy Spirit (1 Cor. 6:19-20) and not harming ourselves with addictive or destructive behavior?
4. How we treat other believers. Jesus said that the world would know we are His disciples by our love for one another (John 13:35). Do we treat our Christian brothers and sisters so well that the lost want to become part of God's family?
5. How we treat the lost. Are our lives characterized by the forgiveness and grace of Jesus, or do we live with selfish gain in mind (Phil. 2:3)? In particular, Jesus' treatment of those considered less valuable was world-changing. How do we treat those our society devalues?
6. Our heart attitudes. What is inside us will come out. Do we "let the peace of God rule in (our) hearts" (Col. 3:15)? Are we thankful (Thess. 5:18)? Are our lives full of joy and love and the other fruit of the Spirit (Gal. 5:22-23)?

Just trying to shine will not work. If we want to show Jesus to the world, we must set ourselves aside and be filled with Him. Then our lives will reflect His glory, and the world will see Jesus.

Kimberly Rae
 Bible Expositor and Illuminator
 Fall Quarter – Lesson 5

REV. WILLIAM RICHARDSON
Welcome Back!



We hope that you received much needed rest and enjoyment in whatever you did while on vacation. Now that you have rested we pray that you have a renewed mind to teach, preach, counsel your congregation as you have for thirty years. God has given you good health, knowledge and power to continue your commitment to this congregation. Thank you for being a light for all of First Community.

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Guest Pastors and speaker while
Rev. Richardson was on vacation were:

August 14, 2016
Sister Cherba Torain – Presiding



Rev. Raymond Watkins
Associate Pastor at Union Baptist
Sermon: "I CAN HAVE IT ALL"

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August 21, 2016
Decon Lloyd Roberson - Presiding



Rev. George Ashby
Associate Pastor at Union Baptist Church
Sermon: "I AM A LIVING TESTIMONY"

August 28, 2016
Deacon Elizabeth Mayo – Presiding



Sister Cherba Torain
First Community Baptist Church
Sermon: "HOW DO YOU WORSHIP GOD?"

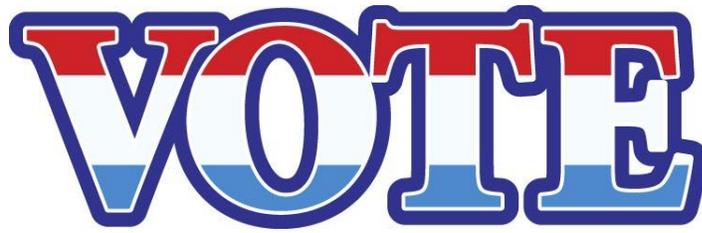
First Community is grateful to these Pastors and our own member for worshipping and preaching God's Word to us.
Thank you!

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*First Community worshiped with Victory In Jesus Ministries on July 20, 2016, in celebration of their Annual Founder's Week and Church Anniversary. **Rev. William Richardson** delivered the sermon, "From the First Day Until Now." Victory In Jesus Ministries celebrated 20 years of Restoring Lives through victorious living. The pastor is, **Rev. Marcus J. Morrow**. The first lady is, **Sister Marinda Morrow**. First Community choir, ushers and members accompanied the pastor.*

*First Community worshiped with Lee's Chapel Missionary Baptist church on September 15, 2016 for their annual revival. **Rev. William Richardson** delivered the sermon, "Because It's In Him." First Community choir, ushers and members accompanied the pastor. The pastor of Lee's Chapel Baptist Church is **Rev. T. E. Taylor**.*



Qualifications to Vote

To register to vote and vote in a North Carolina county, a person must meet the following qualification:

- Must be a U.S. citizen
- Must be a resident of the county, and prior to voting in an election, must have resided at his or her residential address for at least 30 days prior to the date of the election.
- Must be at least 18 years old, or will be at the time of the next general election, or be at least 16 years old and understand that you must be at least 18 years old on Election Day of the general election in order to vote.
- Must not be serving a sentence for a felony conviction (including probation or on parole). If previously convicted of a felon, the person's citizenship rights must be restored. Citizenship and voting rights are automatically restored upon completion of the sentence. No special document is needed.
- Must rescind any previous registration in another country or state.

General Election Calendar:

Oct. 14 – Voter registration deadline ([register to vote](#))

Oct. 20 – Early voting and same-day registration begin ([find an early voting site in your county](#))

Nov. 1 – Deadline to [request an absentee ballot](#)

Nov. 5 – Early voting and same-day registration end

NOV. 8 – ELECTION DAY (Polls open 6:30 a.m. – 7:30 p.m.)

[Find your polling place.](#)



**Your Vote
Matters**



DISCONNECT & DRIVE

AAA CAROLINAS FOUNDATION FOR TRAFFIC SAFETY

The use of electronic devices has become the most well-known and common source of distraction for drivers, which is why AAA Carolinas is reminding all motorists to disconnect and drive. These distractions could endanger drivers, passengers, or others sharing the road, such as bicyclists or pedestrians.

“While we’ve made some progress in the past few years by raising awareness about risky driving behaviors, distraction continues to be a contributing factor to deaths and injuries on our Carolina roadways,” said Dave Parsons, President and CEO of AAA Carolinas. “We all have a responsibility to avoid dangerous distractions while driving.”

Distractions were responsible for vehicle crashes leading to 3,179 deaths and 431,000 injuries in 2014, according to the most recent data provided by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

Text messaging behind the wheel is one of the riskiest behaviors a driver can do as it involves manual, visual, and mental distraction simultaneously. Any kind of cell phone use can be risky. There is a public misconception that using a hands-free cell phone reduces risk but research states otherwise.

The AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety recently completed groundbreaking research finding that mental distraction by itself dangerously affects behind the wheel. The research showed that hands-free features, increasingly common in new vehicles, are actually among the most mentally distracting. Just because a drivers’ eyes are on the road and hands are on the wheel does not mean that they are safely focusing on driving.

AAA’S TOP 10 TIPS TO AVOID DISTRACTED DRIVING

- 1. Fully focus on driving and don’t allow any activity to divert your attention. Actively scan the road, use your mirrors and watch out for pedestrians and cyclist.*
- 2. Store loose items that could roll around in the car, so you don’t feel tempted to reach for them on the floor or the seat.*
- 3. Make adjustments before your drive. Address vehicle systems like your GPS, seats, mirrors, climate controls and sound systems before hitting the road. Decide on your route and check traffic conditions ahead of time.*
- 4. Finish dressing and personal grooming at home-before you get on the road.*
- 5. Snack smart, if possible, eat meals or snacks before or after your trip, not while driving.*
- 6. Secure children and pets before getting underway. If they need your attention, pull off the road safely to care for them. Reaching into the back seat can cause you to lose control of the vehicle.*
- 7. Don’t use cell phones while driving-handheld or hands-free except in absolute emergencies. Never use text messaging, email functions, video games or the internet with a wireless device, including those built into the vehicle, while driving.*
- 8. If you have passengers, enlist their help so you can focus safely on driving.*
- 9. If another activity demands your attention, instead of trying to attempt it while driving, pull off the road and stop your vehicle in a safe place. To avoid temptation, power down or stow devices before heading out.*
- 10. As a general rule, if you cannot devote your full attention to driving because of another activity, it’s a distraction. Take care of it before or after your trip, not while driving behind the wheel.*

-Tiffany Wright, Public Relations Manager



CHURCH NEWS

CONGRATULATIONS HAPPY RETIREMENT

Shirley Byrd



Congratulations to **Deaconess Shirley Byrd** on her recent retirement. **Sister Byrd** has been in the workforce for about fifty years. After working at AKG of America in Mebane for twelve years, Sister Byrd retired on June

29, 2016.

Sister Byrd became a member of First Community in October 1993. She serves faithfully as a Deaconess, Supervisor of the **Doris Richardson** Senior Missionary Circle, member of the Senior Choir, the Senior Usher Board and interim Sunday School teacher. **Sister Byrd** loves her church and is often the first to volunteer when there is a call for service at First Community. She is a practicing Christian, always praying and working on improving her life. **Sister Byrd** is an inspiration to us all as we strive to improve our spiritual life.

Larry Pettiford



Congratulations to **Brother Larry Pettiford** who retired from Orange **Public Transportation**. **Brother Larry** has worked as a driver for twenty three years. **Larry** retired in

March 2016. I am sure he will be missed at Orange Public Transportation, but we look forward to him using his extra time and talents at First Community.

Brother Pettiford has been a member of First Community since 1989. He is the President of the Male Chorus, serves on the Missionary Circle, sings in the Mixed Choir and serves as a Senior Usher. **Larry** has been a faithful, constant presence at First Community and it is a rare Sunday when he is not present for worship service.

MISSIONARY PROJECT

Karen McGee



On July 7th 2016, **Sister Karen McGee** journeyed with the Manness Mission Projects to Les Caynes, Haiti. New Brook Missionary Church in Roxboro, NC recruited Sister McGee to help build a Christian Education Center for the deaf in Haiti.

First Community and the **Doris Richardson** Senior Missionary Center donated money to help with this project. Per **Sister McGee**, she did not know what to expect on this journey. She was aware that the purpose of this trip was to build the foundation for a school for the Christian Education for the Deaf, but was unprepared for how this experience would change her life. **Sister McGee** worked with a variety of people including the Haitians, Jamaicans, French speaking and those who could not speak or hear. All

worked together, towards one common goal, to build the foundation for the school by making rebar, mixing concrete, moving rocks and carrying mixed concrete and water. "Everyone worked so well together that you could feel the love in the air. Church services were held and you could see and feel the blessing of the Lord there," said **Sister McGee**.

Sadly **Sister McGee's** brother passed while she was in Haiti. She was feeling overwhelmed so people there and her fellow missionaries started a prayer circle to comfort her.

Sister McGee said she went to build a foundation for the school, but felt when she returned on July 17th, her life had changed. She experienced God opening up her heart and feels this experience has changed her life forever.

While interviewing **Sister McGee**, she kept trying to redirect the focus on the Manness Mission Projects and the building of the Christian Education Center for the Deaf. **Sister Karen** recently joined the Senior Missionaries and I can see she is already truly a missionary at heart.

First Community Missionary Baptist Church

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Fax Number: (919) 732-1129

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

