

# EQUIPPING AND CONNECTING THE GENERATIONS FOR SERVICE IN CHRIST, CHURCH AND COMMUNITY (Acts 1:8 NKJV)

St. John Baptist Church
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#### The Pastor's Greetings

I greet you in the matchless name of Jesus Christ our Lord! It is Homecoming again and as we look back on the past year, it is amazing to see how much we have accomplished together as a church and community through Christ Jesus. This year, Homecoming is an opportunuity for our spiritual family and friends to gather, reflect and celebrate our shared journeys of faith, hope, and victories in God.

Sunday, August 20th is our annual church Homecoming Service and first Pastoral Anniversary. On behalf of myself, First Lady Craddock (Lady C), the Leadership and members of St. John Baptist Church, we invite you to help us celebrate this significant day in the history of the church, recognizing 157 years of service as a beacon of strength to the Caroline County Community, and the Kingdom of God.

Our Guest Preacher for the 10:00 am Homecoming service is Dr. Luke E. Torian, Senior Pastor, First Mount Zion Baptist Church, Dumfries, VA, accompanied by their Men's Choir. Our Homecoming Theme is "Pressing Towards the Goal Together, in Christ, Church and Community" Philippians 3:14 NKJV.

We thank you for supporting St. John through your sacrificial giving, and also ask that you join us in person or virtually for our 157<sup>th</sup> Revival services on Tuesday, August 22<sup>nd</sup>, Wednesday, August 23<sup>rd</sup>, and Thursday, August 24<sup>th</sup> with prayer and praise beginning at 7:00 pm.

Grace and peace be yours in abundance

Rev. Tony J. Craddock, Sr. D.Min Pastor

### **Homecoming Guest Preacher**



Dr. Luke E. Torian, Pastor

First Mount Zion Baptist Church

Dr. Luke E. Torian, a native of Roxboro, North Carolina has dedicated his life to helping others through ministry and public service. His strong belief in education and preparation motivated him to earn his Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from Winston-Salem State University, followed by graduate studies at both the Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary and the School of Theology at Virginia Union University where he completed his Masters of Divinity degree. In 1987, he earned his Doctor of Ministry degree from the School of Divinity at Howard University.

Throughout his 35-year career in ministry, Dr. Torian has served several churches and ministries in the capacities of youth minister, associate pastor, chaplain, Fellowship of Christian Athletes Area Director and Pastor. In June of 1995. Dr. Torian was installed as Pastor of First Mount Zion Baptist Church (FMZBC) in Dumfries, VA. where he currently serves a congregation of 4500. Dr. Torian's dedication to ministry, leadership and community service has been recognized by others. In 2002, he was awarded the James Floyd Jenkins Pillar of Faith Award from Howard University for outstanding contributions to his church and the community. In the fall of 2003 and 2004, Dr. John Maxwell, renowned expert in leadership development, selected Dr. Torian as one of 50 leaders from across the country to participate in his prestigious leadership institute in Atlanta Counseling by Governor Mark Warner.

#### Dr. Luke E. Torian, Continued

In 2004, he was appointed to the Virginia Board of Counseling by Governor Mark Warner.

Dr. Torian is a community leader in Prince William County and has been involved with organizations such as the Creative and Performing Arts Center (CPAC), Project Mend A House, the Boys and Girls Clubs, and Action in Community Through Service (ACTS), an organization designed to alleviate hunger, homelessness, and domestic violence in the community. Dr. Torian is a founder of Virginians Organized for Interfaith Community Engagement (VOICE), an organization dedicated to bringing people together to make positive change. Dr. Torian's strong belief in "ministry beyond the walls" of the church has resulted in the development of many outreach ministries at FMZBC, that include: SHARE – a program providing reduced cost groceries and meals to struggling families; the Mary Elizabeth Ministry which serves pregnant teens and teen parents; and the Juvenile Detention Ministry.

Dr. Torian was first elected to represent the 52nd district in the Virginia House of Delegates in 2009. He serves a constituency of approximately 80,000 Prince William County citizens. He is responsible for the passage of legislation that: improved education and criminal justice policies; promoted security in retirement; benefited the lives of veterans and their dependents; and enhanced the well-being of individuals in assisted living facilities.

The Virginia Education Association has honored Dr. Torian with their Solid as a Rock Award five times since 2011. He received the 2013 Special Service Award and the 2018 Political Leadership Award from the National Coalition of 100 Black Women, Prince William County Chapter. In 2019, Dr. Torian received: the Legislator of the Year Award from the Military Officers Association of America, Virginia Council of Chapters; and the Free Enterprise Award in Fiscal Stewardship from the Virginia Chamber of Commerce. Dr. Torian has been awarded three Citizen of the Year Awards and a Man of the Year Award from Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. In addition, in 2019 he was delighted to serve as the Achievement Week Speaker and to receive the Founders Lifetime Achievement Award from Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., Pi Lambda Lambda Chapter. In May 2021, Dr. Torian was recognized with an honorary Doctor of Divinity from Virginia Union University.

Dr. Torian serves on the Rules and General Laws Committees in the House of Delegates. He was appointed to the House Appropriations Committee in 2014 and in 2019, designated Chairman of the Appropriations subcommittee on General Government and Capital Outlay. In 2020, House Speaker Eileen Filler-Corn selected Dr. Torian as Chairman of the House Appropriations Committee. Dr. Torian is the first African American in Virginia's history to lead the powerful budget-writing committee.

In 2021, Dr. Torian was honored to be named Legislator of the Year by the Treasurers' Association of Virginia. He was also honored to receive a John Jenkins Good Scout Award in support of the Prince William County Boy Scouts.

In January 2023, Dr. Torian was awarded the Joseph R. Biden Jr.'s 2022 President's Lifetime Achievement Award for his lifelong commitment to building a stronger nation through volunteer service.

Dr. Torian lives in Woodbridge, VA with his wife Clarice and daughter Constance. He is a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc, Pi Lamdba Lambda Chapter and Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity, Epsilon Sigma Boule. In his spare time, Dr. Torian enjoys spending time with his family and golfing.



"And I will give you shepherds after my own heart, who will feed you with knowledge and understanding"

Jeremiah 3:15

#### VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



"For I can do everything through Christ, who gives me strength" Philippians 4:13 NLT

The youth and adults enjoyed the VBS curriculum this past June. The evening started out with dinner consisting of Subway Wraps and Pizza all three days. They were treated with ice cream on Thursday night. The lessons were taught by Deacon Michael Rollins, Deacon Darlene Boxley, First "Lady C" Stephanie Craddock, and Deacon Tammie Ballard.

The VBS program shared how "Victory, Strength, Prayer and Praise" in Christ are blessings and opportunities for familes, individuals, churches and communities to share who Jesus is in their lives. "I've Got this With Jesus!" serves as a model of encouragement for all to follow highlighting practical beliefs we can use every day!









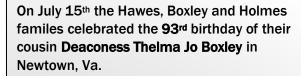






# Birthdays Celebrated!!!







her son Lydell Fortune, her granddaughter, Layah Fortune and a hosts of family and friends

"To God Be The Glory...."

# DEACONESS PAULINE BOXLEY CELEBRATES 75™ CLASS REUNION AT VIRGINIA **STATE UNIVERSITY (VSU)**

On May 12, 2023, Pauline Boxley and many of her Virginia State Trojan Alumni participated in the VSU President's

Luncheon and Reunion Celebration. It was a grand event that highlighted alumni from all of the classes with their graduating year ending in either a 3 or 8. Pauline and Mrs. Ruth Coles Harris (her classmate) represented the class of 1948. They were the oldest alumni at the event and were "shown their flowers" by fellow alumni and especially by the VSU President, Dr. Makola M. Abdullah. During his speech, he spoke admirably how it was blessing to see 75-year alumni still showing their dedication to their alma mater.

Pauline was on "Cloud Nine" all during the event. Give all Honor to our Lord and Savior for allowing her to be a part of that special occasion.





Darius Tucker gives
Father's Day Tribute

#### ST. JOHN BAPTIST CHURCH FATHER'S DAY TRIBUTE SUNDAY JUNE 18, 2023

Good morning Pastor, Church Family here and our Virtual Family on line. Today we take time to honor Fathers, Grandfathers, Uncles, Father Figures, also Mothers and Grandmothers who have been both.

We have been taught that fathers are the authoritative figure or the disciplinarian in the home and most carry out the role. But today some fathers "Dads" are more engaging with their families especially in the world we live in. It takes a real father or father figure to know their child's thoughts, hopes and dreams. A real father or father figure approaches their responsibility to raise up a child to the best of their ability, in the way he or she should go so as they grow older they will not depart from it. Because they may not openly show how much they love us, but we always know they do. Sometimes by taking time to explain the little things in life, like respecting yourself and being respectful to others. Or reminding us to honor those who paved the way so we could have a better life.

Fathers that look to God as the authority for life's lessons will always reflect and share their knowledge and understanding while growing in their relationships through all stages of a child's life.

This Father's Day, you can celebrate God's promises to you:

- God has reserved a place for you at His table. Ephesians 2:6
- He will give you strength when you're weak. <u>Isaiah 40:29</u>
- The Lord will love you always. Psalm 118:1
- We must never forget our ultimate Father God, will never leave you or abandon you. <u>Hebrews 13:5</u>

So, before I close, I would like to add Happy Father's Day to my father, Madrice Hamn. Even though I don't live with him he does his duties to assure I have what I need. He provides, shows up, participates, cares deeply, protects, is always involved, teaches and trains me on life to help me become a young man that the world and everyone else would be proud of. Life is not easy since I am in a blended world, but my Pop does a great job. I love my dad and I love my Jesus.

A Very Special Thank You with Love and Admiration on Father's Day

### **Our Children Our Future Leaders**



Pastor Craddock presented certificates on Graduates Day to the children for their school promotions and accomplishments. After service the entire church body was treated to an ice cream social.



Aiden D. Wright

Hi, My name is
Aiden. I graduated
from kindergarden
to first grade at
Battlefield Elem. in
Spotsylvania. I am
the son of Daniel
and Tesherra BoxleyWright and the
grandson of Vivian
and Deacon Darlene
Boxley.



#### AMINA D. WRIGHT

Amina is moving from middle school to high school. She will be attending James Monroe High School in Fredericksburg. She is the daughter of Daniel and Tesherra- Boxley Wright and granddaughter of Vivian and Deacon

Darlene Boxley.



#### LAYAH FORTUNE

Layah completed her first year at Hampton University (The Real HU) in Hampton, Va. She is proud to have been on the Dean's List. She is the daughter of Brother Lydell Fortune and the granddaughter of Deaconess Myrtle Fortune and Brother Lucius Fortune.



#### MY SUMMER ADVENTURE

Hello, my name is Coreah Rollins. I was privileged to go to the United Kingdom this summer through The Mandarin Language Intensive Program. We got to stay at the Alnwick Castle in the study abroad college dorms. Some of my favorite memories were walking through the royal garden, traversing the Dunstanburg Castle ruins and eating 3 ice cream cones with my roommate, Lily. I especially had fun watching the Harry Potter movies at my friend's movie night. Alnwick Castle is where the movies were filmed after all! I made a ton of friends, but my "new" three best friends were all from Minnesota and I was sad to say goodbye at the airport. I will always remember Morgan, Lily and Lulu.

I am the daughter of Steve Jr. and Youshea Rollins, the big sister to Sienna and the granddaughter of Steve and Deacon Joyce Rollins.





#### FUN ON THE WATER

Hello my name is Sienna Rollins. So far, This summer I spent a lot of time on the water. I participated in a week-long sailing camp where I learned how to rig and sail a boat and how to tie a variety of sailors' knots in Gibson Island, MD. I also participated in the Living Classroom Foundation's Junior Mariner program where I spent three days abroard the Mildred Belle in the Chesapeake Bay. The junior mariners navigated the Potomac River, studied the ecology of the Chesapeake Bay, and interacted with native wildlife. After each day, we set up camp along the Potomac River and spent the night in tents (after roasting marshmallows of course). My best accomplishment was working with the other mariners to save a drowning Osprey bird





# Young Artist





#### MASON Washington

Mason won 2nd place at the Caroline County Fair for this Pencil drawing of Kobe Bryant.





#### COREAH ROLLINS

Coreah won 2<sup>nd</sup> place at the Caroline County Fair for her acrylic painting



#### SIENNA ROLLINS

Sienna won 6<sup>th</sup> place for her artistic work.







#### JACE FOX

Jace is a rising 4<sup>th</sup> grader at Cools Spring Elementary. He maintained A/B honor roll this past school year. Jace enjoys being creative with freehand art. He is currently a Yellow belt in Karate, scheduled to test for his Orange belt at the end of July. This summer Jace is enjoying the pool and playing basketball for Team Warriors in Hanover. Jace is the son of Anthony & Cristina Fox, grandson of Gwendolyn Pleasant and the late Harry Rock, Sr.







#### **JAYLIN FOX**

Jaylin is a rising  $10^{th}$  grader at Atlee High School with a 4.0 Grade Point Average. She is a first year Archery Team Member. Jay and her team placed in the State Tournament, National Tornament and Open World Championship this year. The team ranked 16 out of 32 in the 3-D Challenge and 31 out of 36 in the Bullseye Challenge.

Jay has enjoyed embracing her artistic interest in Art class this year. Her artwork was on display at the 2023 Hanover County Public Schools Festival of the Arts and Sciences. She enjoys freehand art. This summer Jay is learning to become a safe driver and obtain her Learner's permit.

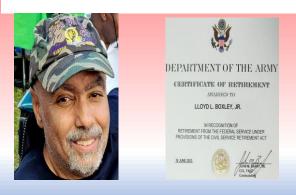
Jay is the daughter of Anthony & Cristina Fox, granddaughter of Gwendolyn Pleasant and the late Harry Rock, Sr.

# "Time to do Something Else"

BY Lloyd Boxley, Jr.

I retired from Federal Civil Service after 17 years on June 30, 2023. My last job was at the Army Training Support Center at Fort Eustis, Va. Over those years, I spent time in different jobs, locations, and experiences as an Air Force, Navy, and finally Army employee. It was a good ride, but it's time to do something else.

Combined with my military service, this gives me a total of **39** years of service.



#### Happy Retirement Lloyd Boxley, Jr.

### Congratulations Mr. Gregory Goings!



# Gregory C. Goings | Bowie State University | Administrator/ Sports Information

Goings began his illustrious career in the sports information profession in 1988 at Virginia State University, serving in the role of Sports Information Director until 2000. While at VSU, Goings also served as President of the CIAA Sports Information Directors Association from 1993-1999.

From 2003 until his retirement in June of 2021, Goings led the athletic media relations and sports information department at Bowie State University. During his time at BSU, Goings held several leadership positions throughout the athletic communications field to include an At-Large Representative for the College Sports Information Directors Association (CoSIDA) Board of

Directors (2011-2015) and President of the NCAA Division II Sports Information Directors Association (2011-2014), becoming the first ever African-American to hold this position. Additionally, Goings has served as a high school and college basketball official for nearly 40 years and, since 1992, has served as a public address announcer and statistician for several prominent tournaments and televised events, including the CIAA Basketball Tournament, Black Entertainment Television (BET), and many others.

Goings is a three-time recipient of the John Holley CIAA Sports Information Director of the Year award and received the CoSIDA Lifetime Achievement Award in 2021. He is a 1981 graduate of Virginia State University and a Lifetime Member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.

Among his most recent honors, Goings was inducted into the CIAA John B. McLendon Hall of Fame in 2022.

Goings was a long-time member of the Black College Sports Information Directors Association (BCSIDA) and a former member of the Harlon Hill Division II Football Player of the Year Advisory Committee. In the summer of 1995, he was selected as a as press officer for the United States Olympic Festival in Denver, Colorado.

Gregory Goings is the son of the former Irma Boxley and the grandson of Otis and Ollie Boxley. He is also the nephew of Deaconess Pauline Boxley and the cousin to Deaconess Lucille Bush.

#### **Academic Achievements**



Bryanna N. Washington graduated from San Diego State University in San Diego, CA on May 13, 2023, with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration and Management. Bryanna is employed with the Diversity Dimensions Consulting in Washington, DC, which provides diversity, equity, and inclusion consulting and training for commercial entities and educational institutions throughout the United States. Bryanna is the daughter of George and Nichole Washington, the granddaughter of Rebecca Deyo and the late Boyd Deyo.



Brooke G. Washington graduated from Langley High School in McLean, VA on June 7, 2023. Brooke earned an advanced studies diploma with academic honors for achieving an overall 4.2 grade point average throughout her high school career. She received the National Honor Society stole, Governor's Seal and Board of Education's recognition for her scholastic and academic excellence. In the Fall, Brooke will attend Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University and pursue a degree in Kinesiology. Brooke is the daughter of George and Nichole Washington, the granddaughter of Rebecca Deyo and the late Boyd Deyo.



Kannon Lee will be attending the University of Louisville's School of Dentistry in Louvislle, KY where she will pursue a Doctor of Dental Medicine Degree as a member of the class of 2027. Kannon is the daughter of Terry Lee and the granddaughter of Mrs. Jeanetta R. Lee and the Late Rev. C.C. Lee of Milford, VA.

#### A New Life in Christ!

Master Mason Washington was baptized on July 30th 2023. He received the Right Hand Of Fellow on the First Sunday in August. The members of St. John welcomed Mason into the fold. He is the son of Mr. Dwain Washington and Ms. Alease Washington.







#### Community Outreach...

#### ST. JOHN BAPTIST CHURCH COMMUNITY OUTREACH JOINED CAROLINE'S PROMISE "COMMUNITY OF PROMISE SCHOOL SUPPLY GIVEAWAY"

On July 29th St. John Baptist Church (SJBC) participated in "Caroline's Promise School Supply Giveaway." SJBC joined the team collaboration with the NAACP, Masons and Eastern Star to provide 400 out of 800 requested three ring notebooks for the Youth of Caroline County for the giveaway. The event took place at Caroline County High School's Cafeteria. Mrs. Shermeka Baker-Latney is the organizer from Caroline's Promise. She stated each year the need gets larger, and the turn out keeps growing! We were glad to participate on behalf of SJBC and Pastor Tony Craddock Sr. Our volunteers turned out in great numbers (Trustee Reuben Rock SJBC, NAACP and Welcome Lodge #125 Free and Accepted Masons, Dcn. Donnetta Rollins, Sis. Deneen Monroe-Stewart, Sis. Kiara Monroe-Butler, Dea. Joyce Rollins, Dea. Tammie Ballard, and Dea. Michael Rollins all SJBC). We were joined by Caroline County School Board Candidate Lydell Fortune and Trustee Eric Williams SJBC, NAACP and Welcome Lodge #125 Free and Accepted Masons, Sis. Paulina Ashton-Williams from the Eastern Star, SJBC and NAACP and Sis. Sherry Rock NAACP, SJBC.













Dcn. Donnetta Rollins will be our contact for next year's Caroline's Promise Community of Promise School Supply Giveaway. By doing outreaches such as this in the community, we are helping to make our Mission Statement move forward "Equipping & Connecting the Generations for Service in Christ, Church & Community (Acts 1:8 NKJV).

#### **Church Contribute to Homeless Shelter**



The Deacons Ministry of SJBC collected items from Church members to donate to the Thurman Brisben Center.

Pictured above are Deacon Vince Smithers, First "Lady C" Stephanie Craddock, Pastor Tony Craddock, Sr.,

Deacon Darlene Boxley and a Coordinator for the Brisben Center.

The Brisben Center provide temporary shelter and equin

residents for employability to resolve povety and obtain

Housing. They have been serving our community since 1988.



# **Seeking Seat on School Board**



Lydell Fortune, the son of Lucius and Deaconess Myrtle Fortune, is running for a seat on the Caroline County School Board representing the Mattaponi District. Lydell is a proud member of the 1992 graduating class of Caroline High School.

Lydell currently serves as a board member of C.E.R.V.E. (Caroline Emergency Relief through Volunteer Efforts) and as Worshipful Master of Welcome Lodge #125 Free and Accepted Masons, Prince Hall Affiliated. Lydell also served on the College Board of Germanna College from July 2019- June 2023 and is the immediate past president of the Caroline County NAACP.

# **Seeking Seat on Board of Supervisors**



Deacon Milton Bush is running for a seat on the Board of Supervisors for the Mattaponi District. He is the husband of Deaconess Lucille Bush and has two children and two grandchildren.

Milton is a member and Deacon at St. John Baptist Church. He has received honors and awards from The Army Achievement Medal, Fort A. P. Hill, Virginia, The Outstanding Instructor Award, U. S. Army Reserve, Alumni Recognition Virginia State University, Goochland Middle School Outstanding Principal Award and Toastmaster's International Public Speaking Award.



#### AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

4

Ellen Wright

6

Harry Rock, Jr. Eugene Thompson

7

Paula Wilson Jeanice Washington

8

Roxanne Carter Kathy Williams

9

Dcn. Gloria Abrams Rev. James Parmer

1

**Deacon Milton Bush** 

**12** 

Sonya S<mark>amue</mark>l Repenzela Boulware

**13** 

Latoya Blaze Lewis

14

Joseph Woolfolk Shaquelle Wright

**17** 

Michael Coleman Lydell Fortune Maliek Smith

18

Myrna Adams

20

Jonathan Shabazz

23

Lelia Carter Angela <mark>R.</mark> Minor

24

Carolyn Dudley Ronald Samuel

25

Tesherra Boxley-Wright
Jack Boulware
Cedric White
Florence Millhouse
Deneen Monroe- Stewart

**?** 26

Felicia Jordan

**27** 

**Trustee Larry Rock** 

28

Valerie Armstead Tony Barner Robert Monroe, Jr. Daronte Rollins

29

Ann Smith Chelsea Jones Steve Rollins, Sr.

**30** 

Rev. Robert Wright

31

Beverly Bertrand Sarah Smith Whitney Washington

Philippians 2:13 NKJV

For it is God who works in you, both to will and to do for His good pleasure.

#### HOMECOMING & REVIVAL SCHEDULE

Homecoming Theme: "Pressing Towards the Goal Together, in Christ, Church and Community" Philippians 3:14 NKJV.

Sunday, AUGUST 20, 2023 10:00AM Service

Dr. Luke E. Torian, Pastor

And Men's Choir

First Mount Zion Baptist Church, Dumfries VA

Luncheon

Homecoming &

Pastor Craddock Sr. 1st Anniversary Celebration

#### **Revival Services**

TIME 7:00 PM

Tuesday, August 22<sup>nd</sup>

Praise & Worship

Guest Preacher/ Pastor Gilbert Garcia/Mt. Tabor Baptist Church and Choir

Wednesday, August 23rd
TIME 7:00PM

Praise & Worship

Guest Preacher/Pastor Raleigh Harris, Jericho Baptist Church and Choir

Thursday, August 24th
TIME 7:00PM

Praise & Worship

Guest Preacher/ Dr. Charles Wormley, Mt. Zion Baptist Church and Choir, Spotsylvania VA

#### CELEBRATING MARRIAGE ANNIVERSARIES



AUGUST 30TH PASTOR TONY J. CRADDOCK SR. AND FIRST "LADY C" STEPHANIE CRADDOCK **37 YEARS!!** 

AUGUST 1ST TONY J. CRADDOCK JR. AND DANIELLE CRADDOCK 8 YEARS

THANK YOU!