

First Baptist Church

103 North Main Street~ Lexington, VA 24450

151st Church Anniversary

FALL REVIVAL

Monday - Wednesday
September 24-26, 2018
7:00pm nightly

Guest Revivalist:

The Reverend Doctor Carl L. Washington Jr.
Pastor - New Mount Zion Baptist Church of NYC

GUEST CHOIRS SINGING EACH EVENING

CHURCH SCHOOL 9:45 AM
MORNING WORSHIP 11:00 AM

BIBLE STUDY & PRAYER SERVICE
WEDNESDAY @ 6:00 PM

CHURCH OFFICE ~ 540-463-4854
EMAIL ~ firstbaptistchurchlex@gmail.com

OFFICE HOURS:
TUESDAY - FRIDAY
10am to 5pm

Connect with us on Facebook @FirstBaptistChurchofLexingtonVA

First Baptist Church

103 North Main Street~ Lexington, VA 24450

Celebrates the 151st Church Anniversary



Theme: **“God’s Church Built on a Solid Foundation”**

Psalm 127

September 22-23, 2018

11am and 4pm

The Reverend McKinley Anthony Williams - Pastor

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From the Desk of Pastor McKinley A. Williams



The psalmist declares in Psalm 133:1, "How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity!"

Greetings to you on the Name of our Risen Savior Jesus the Christ! I am filled with joy and hope on this glorious occasion as celebrate together the 151st Church Anniversary of the First Baptist Church of Lexington, VA. The pioneers of the church could not predict the future on that Fall Sunday in 1867, but the band of African-Americans believers worked together and they put their trust in the God who created the world. Sunday, September 22, 1867 was the birth of the first independent African-American congregation in Lexington, VA.

As the Pastor of this Historic congregation, I urge that we to continue to be purpose-driven as we model our Lord and Savior Jesus the Christ. The rich history and heritage of First Baptist Church of Lexington must link the past as a bridge toward the future. As this church has served in our community for many decades, we must strive to continue to preach, teach and witness to a lost world. The people of God must unite and stand firm as we battle the opposing forces of the church and Jesus Christ.

I would like to thank our Anniversary Chairs, Charlotte Alexander, Irene Thompson, and Bernard Butler. Special thanks to Rebecca and Dana Richmond. Thanks to all of the program participants, members, guests and friends of the First Baptist Church of Lexington, VA.

Love and Anniversary Blessings,
Pastor McKinley Williams

Reverend F. Todd Gray

Rev. Gray is a native of Chillicothe, Ohio, the son of Rev. Franklin E. Gray and Mrs. Cheryl A. Hitchens. He is a fourth generation preacher as his father is, and grandfather and great-grandfather were ministers. He served in the U.S. Navy and entered the ministry shortly after his separation.



Rev. Gray is a graduate of Ohio University, and has Master's degrees from the School of Theology of Virginia Union University and Union Theological Seminary. He received an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree from the Richmond Virginia Seminary. He teaches Church History and Theology at his alma mater, the Samuel Dewitt Proctor School of Theology of Virginia Union University.

Rev. Gray has received numerous honors and awards including selection as National Merit Scholar, the D.C. Rice Theological Scholarship, Union Theological Seminar Graduate Scholarship, the NAACP Community Leadership award, the SLC Leadership Award, as well as being honored with the key to the city and having the mayor proclaim "Rev. F. Todd Gray Day" in his honor on two separate occasions.

Rev. Gray has served in the ministries of the Zion Baptist Church of Chillicothe, Ohio and the First Baptist Church of South Richmond, Virginia. He has served pastorates at the New Hope Baptist Church in Ohio, the Mount Olive Baptist Church of Wicomico Church, Virginia, and the Fifth Street Baptist Church of Richmond, Virginia.

Rev. Gray has been the co-chairman of the City's Commission on African American Males, chairman of the City-wide Men's Revival, moderator of the Shiloh Association, chairman of Virginia Churches of the National Baptist Convention, a member of the Private Industry Council, the Richmond Renaissance Board, the United Way, the board of the Baptist General Convention and many other activities.

Rev. Gray has led the Fifth Street Baptist in our commitment to diversified ministry and community ministry leading such programs as community festivals, citizens' patrol groups, celebrated the first ever community baptism at Hotchkiss field, mentoring programs and other partnerships with local schools, establishment of the Northside District Community Development Corporation, leadership of the Highland Park Community Revival, development of a full service health clinic, erection of the multi-million dollar GRACE Center (God's Redemptive and Community Empowerment Center) and establishment of the Fifth Street Baptist Child Development Center, which educates almost 200 children each day.

He is married to the former Diane Harris and they have three children and two grandchildren.

Order of Worship

Sunday - September 23, 2018

11:00AM Worship Service

THE CALL TO WORSHIP PSALM 127

THE MORNING HYMN "Oh How I Love Jesus" HYMN #10

THE PRAYER OF INVOCATION

MUSICAL SELECTION The Choir

THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Morgan Hope

THE WELCOME & CHURCH HISTORY

Deacon Irene Thompson

MUSICAL SELECTION The Choir

THE FAMILY ALTAR PRAYER

THE OFFERTORY PERIOD

THE PRAYER OF DEDICATION

WORDS OF FELICITATIONS

Dr. Lena Hill, Dean, Washington and Lee University

The Honorable Frank Friedman, Mayor, City of Lexington

Order of Worship

Sunday - September 23, 2018

11:00AM Worship Service

MUSICAL SELECTION The Choir

THE SCRIPTURE LESSON

Ephesians 2:17-22

Ms. AnnJoy Gichane

Student, Washington and Lee University

THE INTRODUCTION OF THE PREACHER

THE SERMON

The Reverend Doctor Rashaan Armand

Mount Zion Baptist Church - Clarksburg, West Virginia

THE INVITATIONAL HYMN "Amazing Grace" HYMN #135

(Those who wish to unite with our Church may do so at this time)

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

THE BENEDICTION

Pastor McKinley Williams

151st Church Anniversary

Order of Worship

Sunday - September 23, 2018

4:00PM Worship Service

- THE CALL TO WORSHIP Psalm 127
- THE HYMN of CELEBRATION "O How I Love Jesus" HYMN #10
- THE PRAYER OF INVOCATION
-
- MUSICAL SELECTION The Choir
-
- THE SCRIPTURE LESSON *St. Matthew 16:13-18*
-
- THE WELCOME & CHURCH HISTORY
Mrs. Priscilla Baker
-
- THE OFFERTORY SELECTION The Choir
-
- THE INTRODUCTION OF THE PREACHER
-
- MUSICAL SELECTION The Choir
-
- THE SERMON Pastor F. Todd Gray
Fifth Street Baptist Church, Richmond, VA
-
- THE INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP
-
- MUSICAL SELECTION The Choir
-
- THE BENEDICTION Pastor McKinley Williams

The Reverend

Doctor Rahsaan Armand



Pastor Rahsaan Armand was born to Joseph and Rona Armand on May 26, 1975 in Chicago, IL. He is a product of the Chicago Public School System. At the age of 16, Rahsaan gave his life to the Lord Jesus Christ. One year later, he trusted the Lord and accepted the call to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ at the Monumental Baptist Church of Chicago under the leadership of Dr. Christopher A. Hill, Jr.

Pastor Rahsaan Armand obtained his BA from Northwestern University, Evanston, IL in Journalism and Religion. He continued his education and received the M.Div. and D. Min from the Trinity International University, Deerfield, IL.

Dr. Armand has authored two publications and has written extensively about Church growth and administration. He has lectured and taught in the National Baptist Convention, USA, INC. He has facilitated youth conferences and preached in several churches around the USA.

Since March 2007, Pastor Armand has been the Senior Pastor of the Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church of Clarksburg, West Virginia. He is the representative of the faith community that provides ministry and insight to the members of the Clarksburg City Council which has improved race relations in the city.

In May 2013, Pastor Rahsaan Armand married the love of his life, the former Ms. Anita Johnson of West Virginia. They together have three beautiful daughters.

The Sick and Shut-In

*Mrs. Mary C. Lewis
The Crossings at Harborview
5871 Harbour View Blvd
A 216
Suffolk, VA 23435*

*Mrs. Joan Jones
209 Thrift Lane
Hopewell, VA 23860
(540) 319-3445*

*Mrs. Isca King
Mr. and Mrs. Edward Walker
Mrs. Gladys Dorkins
Mrs. Brenda Miller*

First Baptist Church of Lexington, VA

Church History

In the 1800's a number of African Americans worshipped in the three of the Lexington, Virginia white churches: Manley Memorial Baptist Church, the Grace Episcopal Church (formerly Robert E. Lee Church), and the Lexington Presbyterian Church. On Sunday, September 22, 1867, these African-American members, many who were former slaves, were permitted to withdraw from their churches and organize the Lexington African Baptist Church of Lexington, VA.

Meetings were held in various locations, led by the Reverend. Milton Smith, who was reared in the community and baptized in the Manley Memorial Baptist Church in 1841 served as the first pastor, the Lexington African Baptist Church.

More than 25 years later, the Lexington African Baptist Church purchased a lot next to their existing church with the intention of erecting a new building. Almost 30 years from the date of organization, the First Baptist Church of Lexington, VA's edifice was completed, and the cornerstone was laid on Wednesday, July 4, 1894.

Friends and laborers gathered after working all day to dig the foundation. The women held lanterns to provide light as there was no electricity in Lexington, VA. Masons from Amherst, Virginia came to help build the church. Local residents helped with the carpentry. Thousands of people gathered to attend the Opening Day Worship Service at the First Baptist Church of Lexington, VA. Eleven years later, September 1905 the record states that 1400 persons attended the Mortgage Burning Services.

The Sanctuary is fully utilized today as the Worship site for the First Baptist Church of Lexington, VA. More than 30 pastors and several Interim Pastors have served this congregation. On Sunday, July 30, 2017, the congregation called the Pastor McKinley A. Williams of Detroit, MI to be the Pastor of the First Baptist Church of Lexington, VA. Pastor Williams accepted the call and started his pastoral ministry in First Baptist Church on Sunday, November 5, 2017. The First Baptist Church has been serving the city of Lexington for more than 150 years.