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VOL. 18 NO.8

DECEMBER  
2023

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*A Ghetto child's*  
**CHRISTMAS  
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December 10th  
4pm-6pm  
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REHEARSAL DATES:  
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30 - 7:00PM  
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2023 - 5:00PM  
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2023 - 7:30PM

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## CHURCHIN' CHURCH NEWS MONTHLY

### MWJORDAN PUBLISHING

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## A-1 BARBERS NEEDED

**Beauty In The Boulevard Salon**, 2536 Oakland Blvd in Fort Worth is seeking Licensed Beauty Operators & Barbers. Reasonable Booth Rental. Call Georgia Thomas @ 817.536.1218, 9am - 4:30 daily



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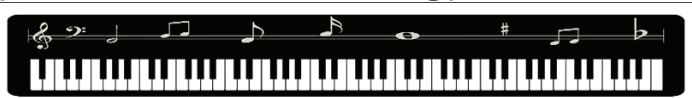
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## Black Musicians Association of Tarrant County

The Black Musicians Association of Tarrant County membership include access to workshops, hymn sessions, vocal and instrumental training, and a kaleidoscope of musical events. The BMATC invites you, ministers of music, vocalist, choir directors, and instrumentalists to join us in this season of growth. Interested? Contact us at bmatc2012@gmail.com.



## Bishop K.D. Davis and the Sixth Avenue Baptist Church

125 S. 5th St, Corsicana, Texas

See us on YouTube @ the Sixth Ave. Baptist Church of Corsicana, Texas, Bishop k.d. davis, sr.

Listen Each Sunday 8am-9am  
KAND 1340AM Radio Broadcast  
KNON 89.3 FM "Just Believe Broadcast"  
Thursday Morning 4am-7am

Community Cable TV Channel 28  
Sun 7:30p-8:30p; Wed 12n-1p; Sat 4:30p-5p

You are cordially invited to join us for our Annual Christmas Program, December 17th @ 5pm at the Sixth Avenue Baptist Church in Corsicana, TX; We will also celebrate our Watch Night Service, to bring in the New Year, December 31st @ 10pm. Please join us.

## BAKER CHAPEL A.M.E. CHURCH

### Food Pantry is Open

**Every Wednesday and Thursday @ 10:00 am to 12 noon**

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## Community of Hope Lutheran Church and Children Center

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817.534.8246 Children Center 817.534.8285 Church  
Children's & Sunday Morning Worship.....10:00am

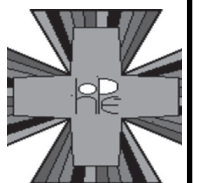
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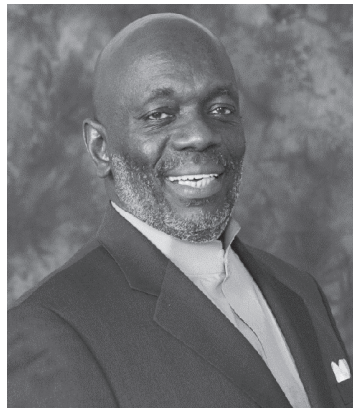
## "The LEADER'S EDGE" by drmichaelbell

As a pastor, I'm always encouraged whenever anyone says they feel the calling to serve in some aspect of ministry or leadership in the local church. There's always a great need of qualified laypersons to serve in such roles. However, I've been guilty, at times, of being so glad that someone decided to step-up-to-the-plate and volunteer to lead a ministry, a committee or a small group that I didn't do my homework and properly vet the ambitious volunteer. And we know that choices have consequences.

I've experienced firsthand the damage, hurt feelings and confusion that selecting, electing or recommending the wrong person for a church leadership post can cause. I've appointed deacons who've gone through diaconate training without a single hitch, but once they were licensed and assigned a responsibility, they revealed a discordant side I'd missed in the screening process. I've selected ministry leaders who had ulterior motives and conflicting agendas that I missed in assessing them because I was too eager to pass the baton.

Personally, I think many churches and pastors miss the importance of lay leadership. For those that do, I see that now or in the near future those churches will no longer exist or be relevant. Too many followers of Jesus Christ are groomed to sit in the pews and hope to be fed with not only the Word, but much of the basic frameworks and services that churches provide. Although many churches might retain some lay leadership, they generally suffer from the 80/20 rule with 20% of the churchgoers doing 80% of the work. Please don't misunderstand me; I don't intend to devalue the role of the pastor or any other key leadership roles within the local church. However, if a church is going to be healthy, it can only do so with healthy lay leadership, regardless of size.

It's the lay leaders who will remain in the congregation when the pastor moves on to another church or just moves on. They're the ones



who provide pastoral care when there's a death in the family, the ones who coordinate meals and keep tabs on the sick, shut-ins and grief stricken, the ones who clean the kitchens and chair the committees.

Lay leaders are the face of your fellowship. Each leadership role holds a lot of responsibility and regardless of how hard they try, church leaders, clergy or laity, aren't perfect. Pastor, by providing training and continuing education on how to plan, organize, lead, teach and evaluate, maintain a Christ-honoring life, and communicate with visitors/guests, you'll be able to build a leadership team that will take your church into the future.

The basic definition of a leader is "one who stands in front of." And of course, what they stand in front of is people. A leader is a role model who leads the way, who shows how it's done. Leaders must be good followers in order to be good role models. Usually a pastor will not have a problem encouraging the congregation to do what he's been able to get his leaders to do.

So then, choosing leaders to serve in our congregations is a great, big stuff and we shouldn't rush through it. The very first step (*not last resort*) is to pray and ask God's counsel and blessing. God has promised that if we ask for wisdom, God will liberally pour it out upon us (*James 1:5*).

*\*dr. michael bell is Senior Pastor of Greater St. Stephen First Church FtW, a seminary adjunct professor, and a certified Life Coach. He conducts leadership seminars and conferences across the country. He is the author of Finding God in Hard Places and a chapter in the recently published book, Justice Looks Like.*

**ONE PURPOSE**

**GROCERIES GIVEAWAY**

**Fall-Winter Schedule**

- Sep 23
- Oct 28
- Nov 18
- Dec 16

Join us for:  
 Sunday School - 9AM  
 Sunday Worship - 10:30AM  
 Tuesday Bible Study - 7PM  
 (for adults & children)

**10AM**  
**3351 Heritage Ln**  
**Forest Hill TX 76140**

MEET OUR PASTORS:  
 Pastor Walker, Pastor Washington and Bishop Butler

For more information:  
 817.841.0858 or 817.361.8860 | www.praisecenter.tx.org/one-purpose

**10TH DEC 4PM**

**CHRISTMAS CONCERT**

**PASTOR & LADY CRANE**

**ELISABETH DAVIS-JONES**  
 MINISTER OF MUSIC

**SAY HIS NAME**  
**"JESUS"**  
**ISAIAH 9:6-7**

**SPECIAL GUEST**  
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## The Greenway Church Virtual Services & Worship

Faith and worship don't happen in one room, they happen wherever you are. The Greenway Church offers virtual church services to customers in Fort Worth and beyond. We celebrate our shared faith and fellowship even when we can't physically come together, to nurture shared community and spiritual needs. [Http://thegreenwaychurch.mymobisite.us](http://thegreenwaychurch.mymobisite.us)



## Speak Life Thought

with First Lady & Co-Pastor Yolanda G. Butler

### "A Family Life"

*"And there by the Ahava Canal, I gave orders for all of us to fast and humble ourselves before our God. We prayed that he would give us a safe journey and protect us, our children, and our goods as we traveled." (Ezra 8:21)*

Family has always been very dear to my heart. The importance of it was birthed in my ancestors who lived during the era of harsh racial oppression and segregation in Southern Louisiana. They were taught always to remain close and endeavor to always be there for each other, especially during hard times. Consequently, family gatherings were very common. They handed down these family values and traditions to generations to follow. While there may have been many hardships and adversities in our family, it did not stop what was embedded in us, and that is to endeavor to stay together as a family.

We see the importance of family since the beginning of Creation through the spiritual trinity of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit (Genesis 1), and then the establishment of the earthly family first through marriage (Genesis 1:26-27), then the

blessing of children (Genesis 4:1). The family has been under attack since its inception in the Garden but our Father by His Love extended unto us grace to fight for our families. Though we face dangers and perils, known and unknown, faith in our Father has preserved us. And though seasons change often in families, be not discouraged. God is faithful to His promises.

As we come to the end of another year, I want to encourage you to not give up on your family. If your family is dysfunctional, divided, scattered, broken, or displaced, rise up as a family intercessor. Ask the Father to give you an anointing to break generational cycles through prayer. I join my faith with yours to speak and declare life over your family and trust the Father to work out all things that concern them (Rom 8:28). Fast and pray earnestly for your family for guidance, protection, salvation, healing, deliverance, reconciliation, forgiveness, and restoration. Here are a few prayer points you can begin to pray and declare over your family:

- Pray and declare peace over your family (Eph. 4:3).
- Pray and declare unity in the family (Ps. 133:1).
- Pray and declare togeth-



erness in the family (Acts 4:32).

- Pray and declare harmony in the family (Rom. 12:16).
- Pray and declare holiness in the family (Heb. 12:14). Pray and declare love to be the driving force for your family (1 John 4:11).

So dear hearts, be determined to bring your family together. Begin on your knees in prayer and leave the details up to the Father (Ps. 138:8). I pray during this Christmas holiday season that you begin to see your prayers manifest and flow into the New Year. From my family to yours, Merry Christmas and an abundantly blessed New Year.

*Dr. Yolanda G. Butler is Co-Pastor and Church Administrator of Praise Center Community Church, where her husband Bishop Donald H. Butler is the Senior Pastor. She is an intercessor, evangelist, mentor, and published author. Follow her on Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, and at [www.firstladybutlerministries.com](http://www.firstladybutlerministries.com).*

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## Dr. Clark Wayman Joseph, named Minister of Music for the Progressive National Baptist Convention, Inc.



Dr. Clark W. Joseph, a native of Lafayette, LA is a workshop clinician specializing in ministering the good news of Jesus Christ through the medium of music. He has earned Bachelor of Music and Master of Music degrees in Piano Performance from the University of Louisiana @ Lafayette. He also earned a Master of Science in Education from Fordham University in New York. He has done

post-graduate work receiving certification in Education Administration from The City College of New York. He was awarded the Dean's Honor Scholarship from Southern Methodist University, Perkins School of Theology (Dallas) where he earned a Master of Theological Studies. He was also awarded the Doctor of Ministry degree from the Bell Grove Theological Seminary of Baton Rouge, LA and earned the Doctor of Worship Studies degree from Liberty University School of Music of Lynchburg, VA.

The ministry of music has taken him throughout the U.S., Africa and Europe conducting workshops and seminars. He has been a guest presenter at the Gospel Music Worship of America and the Full Gospel Baptist Church Fellowship Conference. He has been a guest lecturer at Southern Methodist University (Perkins School

of Theology) in the Sacred Music Division since 2006. His compositions have been recorded with the GMWA Mass Choir, GMWA Men of Promise, the Northern California Chapter of GMWA, Modern Day Music Ministry Conference and the Mt. Sinai Baptist Church, Austin, TX. He is a member of the following organizations: Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia, Dallas Metropolitan Musicians Association, Gospel Music Workshop of America and the National Association of Negro Musicians. He is also a member of the National Convention of Gospel Choirs and Choruses and the Hampton University Ministers' Conference and the American Choral Directors Association.

Dr. Clark currently serves as Minister of Music at the prestigious St John Baptist Church, Grand Prairie, TX. where Dr. Dennis Davis serves as pastor.

## Samuel Baptist Church God's Grace 55th Reunion Homecoming Celebration, December 10th, 2023

Alice Talton-Reed, Program Facilitator  
Rev. Victor G. Harris, Pastor

*Psalms 127:1 "Except the Lord build the house, they labour in vain that build it: except the Lord keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain."*

Samuel Baptist Church started out in the Old Samuel Addition of Ft. Worth in 1968. Under the leadership of the late Dr. Joe. L. Talton Sr. and wife Roberta Ann, with the guidance of the Holy Spirit it was incorporated with officers, Trustees and By-Laws to govern the church body. In 1971 the church relocated to 1508 Judd Street on southside of the city. The first church sanctuary was erected in 1975. Our pastor saw the church as a hospital where the people could be healed. He cared for his members and their welfare. Many souls came to Christ under his leadership, a place where everybody was somebody. In 1985, a second sanctuary was built, where we now reside.

From 1968 to 2002, Dr. Talton, lead the church until God called him home from the labors of this life to his rewards in heaven. A petition was submitted to the city and the street name was changed from Judd to Talton Avenue in his memory.

The church went through a transition period, and



three ministers have served in the pastoral position: Richard L. Montgomery, 2003-2012, Marcus E. Harris, 2002-2014, and our current pastor, Rev. Victor Glenn Harris since 2014. Pastor Harris is a great leader with a humble spirit who allows the Lord to use him and direct his life, a servant in the church and community. As we reminisce over the past, we have served the community well, been a hospital for the hurt, feed the hungry with food programs with Tarrant Food banks, encouraged those in need, and extended the right hand of fellowship for souls to be saved. We've also worked with FWISD programs and Code Blue with Police Department, visited nursing homes and encouraged and assisted the elderly. It was the Grace of God that brought us this far and it will be His grace to carry us through. Today, we celebrate Fifty-Five years on the battlefield for the Lord. Many thought we wouldn't make it, but it's not about man, it's about God and His Amazing Grace. We pray God's blessings for another 55 years in service to Him, our community, and our city.



## THANK YOU FOR YOUR READERSHIP

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**Theology TUESDAYS**  
Each Tuesday @ 6pm  
**Wednesday MdWk CONNECTION**  
7 P.M. Pastor's Bible Study

### DECEMBER 2023 DISCIPLESHIP EMPHASIS

Exciting Greater St. Stephen First Church FW

## JOIN US SUNDAY

In-Person & Online 9:30 AM

facebook LIVE YouTube Live

Join Us Beginning Sunday, November 26, 2023 through December 31, 2023 for...

Dr. Michael A. Bell's New Preaching Series...

## WORSHIP

IT'S MORE THAN YOU THINK

Greater St. Stephen First Church, 3728 E. Berry St. FtW

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7 A.M.-7:30 A.M. Sundays Ark-La-Tex Area on KFTX 104.5 FM

10 A.M. Saturdays on 107.3 FM Waco Area

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Where? Exciting Greater St. Stephen First Church FW

When? Wednesday, December 27, 2023

What Time? 7:00 PM

facebook LIVE YouTube Live

Greater St. Stephen First Church, 3728 E. Berry St. FtW

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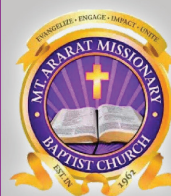
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## Mt. Ararat Missionary Baptist Church

1313 East Mulkey St | Fort Worth, TX 76104 | (817)-923-9761

"The Church That Cares About Your Soul!"



### – WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES –

Sunday School.....9:45 a.m.

Morning Worship.....10:30 a.m.

Streaming on Facebook Live

Wednesday Night Bible Study

Zoom Meeting.....7:00 p.m.



Pastor Donald F. Wilson Jr.

1st Lady Rebecca Mack Wilson



## HBCU Wiley College Renames Itself Wiley University

Wiley returns to its original name 'to embrace our past and see the future,' President Herman Felton says.

By Nigel Roberts



Wiley College, an HBCU in Marshall, Texas, announced Friday (Nov. 3) at a 2023 Homecoming event that the institution will be renamed Wiley University, station KYTX reports.

"Becoming Wiley University is not simply an exercise and a name change; it is an exercise in our ability to embrace our past and see the future," Wiley University President and CEO Dr. Herman J. Felton Jr., said at the event dubbed "Returning to Our Roots."

The rebranding returns Wiley to the original name at its founding in 1873, the Marshall News Messenger reports.

At the ceremony, Wiley also announced adding three master's degree programs in business administration, criminal justice and higher education administration, station KSLA reports.

"We've been preparing for this since our sesquicentennial, and it's an opportunity for us to look to the future with the name change as a signal of the institutional offerings, such as the graduate programs that are our new additions, and then to also uplift our continued commitment to excellence," Tashia Bradley, Wiley's chief operating officer, said.

Wiley is best known for the film The Great Debaters, about the school's 1935 debate team that defeated the defending national champions from the University of Southern California in a nationally broadcast competition.

## Cowan Place opens as part of historic Stop Six transformation

| FORT WORTH CITY NEWS



Stop Six residents, government leaders, developers and community partners celebrated the grand opening of Cowan Place Senior Living on Monday. The mixed-income community launches a new phase of residential housing as part of the Stop Six Choice Neighborhood Initiative.

Cowan Place is at 5400 E. Rosedale St.

What the opening means: Cowan Place signals a transformation of one of the city's treasured

African American communities. Cowan Place is named for Alonzo and Sarah Cowan, two of the first landowners in the southeast Fort Worth community and for whom the neighborhood was once named.

Former Cavile Place residents who relocated as part of the redevelopment process have the right to return to the community as new Fort Worth Housing Solutions properties – such as Cowan Place and Hughes House, which broke ground earlier this year – come online.

"Cowan Place Senior Living would

not have been possible without true community collaboration from Stop Six and our committed partners," said Mary-Margaret Lemons, Fort Worth Housing Solutions president. "We're excited to welcome new and former Cavile residents to a development they can call home."

The multiyear Choice Neighborhood effort is seeded by a \$35 million U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development grant. The HUD grant will be spread across six phases of development and is expected to leverage approximately \$500 million in investment for the neighborhood. In all, Fort Worth Housing Solutions will develop approximately 1,000 new units across the community.

What's next? The City of Fort Worth plans additional infrastructure improvements, including a new community hub and aquatic center. Fort Worth Housing Solutions also received an additional \$4 million from the federal government to assist with public infrastructure improvements.

"Cowan Place is the gateway welcoming all to Stop Six, Texas," said City Councilmember Gyna Bivens, whose District 5 includes Stop Six. "It is a beacon of light for senior citizens who want to return to Stop Six and those who were yearning for residential amenities that would make the community more attractive for them. This community is blessed."

"When Cavile Place was demolished, Housing Solutions leaders knew they had to deliver replacement housing, and they are delivering on that need in a very impressive manner as we look forward to residents who will soon call Hughes House Home," Bivens said.

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## Johnson Street

### Christ Holy Sanctified Church

4954 Ramey Ave. Ft. Worth, TX 76105 817.535.5707

**Sunday** Sunday School.....9:45am  
Morning Worship.....11:15am

**Wednesday** Faith & Family Night...7:00pm

*"Come Worship With Us"*

**Bishop Vernon L. James and First Lady Linda L. James**

4217 Avenue M Ft. Worth, TX 76105  
817.536.3033  
www.fwsoc.org

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**Serving Infants & Preschool Children & 1st thru 6th Grades**  
**CCMS Accepted, ACSI Membership, A-BEKA Curriculum**

*"Because we care, we give our best"*

## Greater First Missionary Baptist Church

421 S Ayers Avenue, Fort Worth, Texas 76103  
**Rev. J. L. Hunt Jr., Pastor**

### Sunday Services

Sunday School.....9:30 A.M.  
Morning Worship Service....11:00 A.M.

### Wednesday Services

Wednesday Prayer Service & Bible Study  
7:00 P.M.

*"Come Worship with Us; God, God Does"*



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## Around the Community with Pastor Sharon Ford-Turner



Pic 1) Apostle Lady Tyra Davis and Preshawn Ford at Best Western Plus Inn; Pic 2) Belinda Street, RN and Preshawn Ford at a Black Culture Event; Pic 3) Judge Maryellen Hicks and Preshawn Ford at Dock Book Shop.



# CHURCH DIRECTORY

**CAMPUS DRIVE UMC**

4301 Campus Drive  
Fort Worth, Texas 76119  
817.921.5673  
www.campusdrive.org  
www.facebook.com/campusdriveumc

**SUNDAY MORNING**  
Church School 8:30 am  
Worship Service 9:45 am  
Thursday Bible Study 6:30 pm

**Rev. Louis Carr,  
Lead Pastor**

**THE BODY OF CHRIST AT WORK**

**ELM GROVE  
Missionary Baptist  
CHURCH**

1344 E. Harvey Ave. Ft. Worth, TX 76104  
817-923-5431 www.elmgrovecmbc.org

Reverend T.J. Patterson, Jr., Pastor

**Sunday School.....9:45am**  
**Worship Service.....11:00am**  
**Wednesday Service.....7:30pm**

For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ. Ephesians 4:12

**Greater First  
Missionary  
Baptist Church**

421 S. Ayers Avenue,  
Fort Worth, Texas 76103

**Rev. J. L. Hunt Jr., Pastor**

Sunday School 9:30 A.M.  
Morning Worship Service 11:00 A.M.  
Wednesday Prayer Service & Bible Study 7:00 P.M.

*"Come Worship with Us; God, God Does"*

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Christian Center**

*"The Church Where Ministry Means People and Everybody Is Somebody"*

**Darrell W. Blair, Senior Pastor**  
4500 S. Riverside Dr. Ft. Worth, TX 76119  
817-534-1600 817-534-1612Fax  
www.newbreedchristian.com  
Church Office Hours: Monday - Thursday, 9am - 4pm  
Weekly Services

**SUNDAYS MORNING GLORY.....7:00 am**  
**EMPOWERMENT.....9:00 am**  
**MORNING WORSHIP.....10:30 am**  
**WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE.....7:00 pm**

*"Reaching Out To You Ministry"*

**Sixth Avenue  
Baptist Church**

**BISHOP K.D. DAVIS, SR.**  
125 S. 5th St., Corsicana, TX 76731  
817-744-4873

**Motto: "I Believe God"**  
**A PURPOSE DRIVEN CHURCH**

Listen Each Sunday 8-9am  
KANON 1340AM Radio Broadcast  
KNON 89.3 FM "Just Believe Broadcast"  
Thursday Morning 4am-7am  
Community Cable TV Channel 28  
Sun 7:30-8:30p; Wed 12n-1p, Sat 4:30p-5:30p

**Christ Centered  
Missionary  
Baptist Church**

**ED JUSTICE (Senior Pastor - CCMBC)**

5200 David Strickland Rd. Ft Worth, TX. 76119  
817-330-3774  
eddukejustice@sbcglobal.net

**Sunday School.....9AM**  
**Worship Service.....10:00AM**  
**Wednesday Prayer.....6:30PM**  
**Bible Study (Wed).....7:00PM**

**EMPOWERMENT LIFE  
Cathedral**

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www.EmpowermentLife.org  
8000 W. Elizabeth Lane  
Fort Worth, TX 76116  
(817)759-9035  
Empowermentlifecathedral@gmail.com

*"A Spiritual Hospital for All"*  
Sunday.....11:00 a.m.  
Wednesday Evening.....7:15 p.m.  
Monday Morning Manna.....6:00 a.m.  
Weekly Prayer Call (605) 472-5574  
Access Code 587722  
Join us... Be Equipped, Encouraged and Empowered !!!

**Pastor D. Aundray Hornsby, I.  
Chief Servant**

**Greater New Hope  
Missionary Baptist Church**

3920 E. Rosedale Ft Worth, TX 76105  
817.534.0774

**Reginald Andrews, Pastor/Teacher**

**Sunday Bible Study.....9:30 a.m.**  
**Sunday Worship .....10:30 a.m.**  
**Wednesday Bible Study.....7:15 p.m.**

**"O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the LORD our maker."**

**Mt. Ararat Missionary  
Baptist Church**

*"The Church That Truly Cares About Your Soul!"*

1313 E. Mulkey Street  
Fort Worth, TX 76104  
Church: 817.923.9761  
Pastor Study: 817.826.7208

**SUNDAY SCHOOL.....9:45AM**  
**MORNING WORSHIP.....11:00AM**  
**WEDNESDAY (Prayer & Teacher's Meeting) .....7:00PM**

**REV. DONALD F. WILSON, JR.  
PASTOR**

**ST JOHN MBC**

**TEMPLE OF  
PRAISE**

**PASTOR C.E. CUNNINGHAM**  
3640 Avenue F  
Fort Worth, TX 76105

**SERVICE TIMES**  
SUNDAY SERVICE.....9:00 AM  
WEDN. NIGHT PRAYER...6:00 PM - 6:30 PM  
INTERACTIVE BIBLE STUDY  
6:30 PM - 7:30 PM

*Join Us In Person or on Facebook & YouTube*

**Chimney Rock  
Ministries Church**

www.chimneyrockministries.net  
1916 Everman Parkway  
Fort Worth, TX 76140  
(817) 720-6771

**Rev. Gilbert Tezeno,  
Senior Pastor**

**Weekly Services**  
Sunday School.....9:30 a.m.  
(Participation also available via Zoom)  
Sunday Morning Services.....11:00 a.m.  
Communion Service.....Monthly  
Bible Study (Wednesday via Conference Call).....7:00 p.m.

**Freshly  
Anointed  
Baptist Church**

3507 Crenshaw St. Ft. Worth, TX 76105  
817.534.5131 www.freshlyanointedbc.org

**PASTOR G.L. DURHAM**

**Sunday School.....9:45AM**  
**Morning Worship.....11:00AM**

**Wednesday Services**  
Mission and Brotherhood.....6:00PM  
Prayer and Teacher Meeting.....7:00PM

*The church where we anticipate and receive a fresh anointing in each worship experience.*

**GREENWAY  
CHURCH**

1816 Delga Street - Ft. Worth, TX 76102  
817.714.4680

**Sunday Bible Study (Classes for all ages).....9am**  
**Sunday Morning Worship.....10:45am**  
**Wednesday Intercessory Prayer.....6:30pm**  
**Wed. Bible Study (Classes for all ages).....7:15pm**

*Come and Be A Part of True Worship and Praise!!*

**MYRON SCOTT  
Lead Pastor & Servant**

**NEW PROVIDENCE  
MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH**

3900 VAUGHN BLVD.  
FORT WORTH, TX 76119  
817-308-1131  
PASTOR HOWARD & FIRST LADY SHEILA MCLEAN

**SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30AM**  
**MORNING WORSHIP 11:00AM**

**BIBLE TEACHING 6:00PM**  
**MISSION/BROTHERHOOD 6:45PM**

**CHOIR PRACTICE 5:00PM**

**SUNDAY**  
**WEDNESDAY**  
**SATURDAY**

**Tastebud  
Ministries  
Church**

*"Where the Word of God is Food for the Soul"*

**SERVANTS/PASTOR  
Gea & Kim  
Anderson**

**SUNDAY SCHOOL .....9:15 am**  
**SUNDAY SERVICE.....10:30 am**  
**SUNDAY EVENING SERVICE.....4:00 pm**  
(Every 2nd & 3rd Sunday)  
**BIBLE STUDY (Wednesday).....7:00 pm**  
**PRAYER MEETING (Wednesday).....6:30 pm**

**7101 Wichita St - Forest Hill, TX 76140**  
**Office: 817.446.9408 / Cell 817.675.3402**

**Community of Hope  
Lutheran Church &  
Children Center**

4301 Miller Ave Ft Worth TX 76119  
817.534.8285.....Church  
817.534.8246.....Children Center

**Children's &  
Sunday Morning  
Worship  
10:00am**

**Pastor Nicholas Chove**

**GENESIS UNITY  
BAPTIST CHURCH**

4505 Foard St. Fort Worth, TX 76119  
817.536.2936  
Email: genesisunitybc01@att.net

**WORSHIP & STUDY  
SERVICES**

**Sunday School.....9:00 AM**  
**Morning Worship.....10:30 AM**  
**Bible Study (Sun).....5:00 PM**  
**Youth Classes.....Saturday**

**DR. RICHARD L. MONTGOMERY, Pastor**

**INSPIRING HIGHER  
PURPOSE MINISTRIES**

4912 Lancaster Ft. Worth, TX 76103  
Church: 817.420.6350 817.225.5554

**Sunday School 9:00am - 9:45am**  
**Sunday Service 10:15am - 12:30pm**  
**Wednesday Bible Study 7:00 pm**  
**Prayer Line 8:00am - 1:00pm**  
Call 817.363.3553

*Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us. Ephesians 3:20*

**Patrick & Jeannette Gratts, Pastors**

**Praise Center Community Church**

*"Learn, Grow, Go and Do the Work"*  
**3351 Heritage Lane  
Forest Hill, Texas 76140**

**Sunday School - 9:00AM**  
**Sunday Service - 10:30AM**  
*Children's Church available*  
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**Tuesday Adult and Children Bible Study 7:00PM**

**Daily Devotion & Prayer Line**  
551-258-5618  
6am M-F 7am S-S

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Every 4th Saturday 10am

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**The Church at Philadelphia**

4716 Wichita Street  
Fort Worth, Texas 76119

**Service Times**  
Sunday School (In-Person or Virtual) 9:00am  
Morning Worship (In-Person or Virtual) 10:30am  
Tuesday Night Bible Study (Virtual) 7:00pm

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CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST**

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5434 Fletcher Avenue (Lake Como)  
Fort Worth, Texas 76107 817/738-6854

**Prayer/Sunday School.....9:00 A.M.**  
**Sunday Worship Service.....10:45 A.M.**  
**Sunday Night Services.....2nd & 4th**

**Tuesday Noon Day Prayer**  
**Wednesday Prayer Adult & Children Bible Study 7:00 P.M.**  
**World Intercessor Prayer 1st Thursday Monthly @ 6:30 P.M.**

Transportation Call 817/738-6854

**GOD'S MISSIONARY  
BAPTIST CHURCH**

*"Miracles Do Happen"*  
**H.E. RICHARDSON, Pastor**

**SUNDAY SCHOOL.....8:30AM**  
**SUNDAY SERVICE TIME.....10:00AM**  
**WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY.....5:45PM**

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**-- Service Times --**  
**SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30 AM**

**SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP 10:30 AM**

**WEDNESDAY PRAYER MEETING & BIBLE STUDY @ 7:00 PM**

**Mark S. Fitz, Pastor**

*The Rising Star*  
**Church of God in Christ**  
3909 Reed Street  
Fort Worth, TX 76119  
817-534-6963 ~ Fax: 817-413-7422  
Email: therisingstarcofc@att.net

**Elder Leonard D. & Lady Debra D. Collins, Sr.**

**Sunday School.....9:30 am**  
**Morning Worship .....11:00 am**  
**Prayer (Tuesday & Friday mornings).....11:00 am**  
**Bible Study (Tuesday Night).....7:00 pm**

*"If You Go With Us, We Will Do You Good!"*

**East St. Paul  
Baptist Church**

*"The Church Where Everybody is Somebody, but we all recognize Jesus as the Head."*

**Dr. Darrell Ward, Sr.  
Senior Pastor**

5300 Oak Grove Rd. W.  
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817.293.5067

**Sunday School.....9:30am**  
**Sunday Morning Worship.....11:00am**  
**Wednesday Bible Study (at the church).....12:00pm**  
**Wednesday Prayer Meeting.....6:30pm**

Sunday Service Live Streamed at www.espbcc.com and Facebook | Temperature checked for In-Person Attendees  
"Masks highly recommended, but not required"

**Greater Eleazer  
Baptist  
Church**

5025 Sunshine Drive  
Fort Worth TX, 76105  
817 536-9237

**Rev. Lawrence Barrett &  
Lady. Rebecca Barrett**

**Sunday School .....9:30am**  
**Morning Worship.....10:45am**  
**Wednesday Night Bible Study....7:00pm**

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First Baptist Church**

*"Compel them to come in"*

6600 Ellis Road Ft. Worth, TX 76112  
817.457.4362 mfbchurch@netzero.com  
Website: meadowbrookfirstbaptist.com

**SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:45AM**  
**MORNING WORSHIP 11:00AM**  
**WEDN BIBLE STUDY 7:00PM**

**DR. C. L. PERKINS.  
PASTOR**

**BIBLE  
SAMARIA  
Baptist Church**

4000 E. Berry St.  
Fort Worth, TX 76105  
Phone: 817-536-6421

**PASTOR  
WILLIAM MCKINLEY JACKSON**

**Sunday School.....9:30 am**  
**Sunday Morning Worship.....10:30 am**  
**Wednesday Prayer.....6:00 pm**  
**Wednesday Bible Study.....7:00 pm**

*"The Church That's Moving To The Next Level"*

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EXALT THE SAVIOR, EQUIP THE SAINTS AND EVANGELIZE THE SINNERS

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**Evangelist Sharon Mason-Turner, Overseer**  
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Email: stford@academicplanet.com

*"The Work Lives On"*  
**9:00 am.....Sunday School**  
**10:00 am.....Worship Service**  
**7:00 p.m.....Bible Study**

**EVERY 2nd Sunday at 10:30 am**  
**Services at Village Creek Nursing Home**  
**Bible Study - Tuesday @ 6:00pm**  
**3252 Oak Timber, Forest Hill, TX 76119**

**Prayer / Spiritual Counseling / Teaching**  
**Visitation of Sick & Shut In**  
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**College Scholarship Foundation**



## Report: What We Know About the Post-COVID Church

James Emery White

A yearlong study of more than 1,000 pastors and leaders, conducted by ChurchSalary and the Arbor Research Group on the impact of COVID-19 on the American church, has been completed and the results released.

Here are the headlines:

More than one in three churches saw attendance declines between 2020 and 2022.

The reasons for the departures include disagreements over health policies, other disagreements, because they moved, or no reason was given at all.

Churches in large cities and suburbs were most likely to see a decline in attendance, rural churches the least. Majority black congregations were among the hardest hit, with 64% reporting decreased attendance since 2020.

Church attendance was most impacted by reactions to pandemic restrictions in no-win scenarios. Churches who shut their doors for long periods, or required masks, lost attenders who wanted to return to "normal" more quickly; churches that responded with less stringent restrictions equally lost attenders who were more cautious, had health concerns, or felt the church was not being more compassionate about ensuring COVID did not spread.

Church leaders were of one mind in regard to the Catch-22 COVID presented. No matter what they did, what they said, or how they responded, someone was going to be angry or upset and leave.

Post-COVID, leaders cite a decline in commitment and involvement among those who are attenders.

A five-year research project led by the Hartford Institute for Religious Research, "Exploring the Pandemic Impact on Congregations," is reaching similar conclusions. Compared to three years ago, a higher percentage of churches are facing serious declines in attendance. In 2020, 27% of churches said they had lost more than a quarter of their weekend attendance. In 2023,

instead of a rebound, the number of churches reporting that steep of a drop climbed to 30%. More than half (54%) are in some form of decline.

Lifeway Research finds similar results among Southern Baptist churches with 81.5% reporting that they are either plateaued or declining in terms of growth.

As disheartening as these studies may be, the Hartford research presented the most distressing news of all. In the spring of 2020, almost three in four churches (73%) said they were willing to change in whatever way was needed for the church to flourish. That climbed to nearly 90% during 2021. Now, the number of churches expressing any willingness to change has dropped to 66%.

And the health of those churches who have gone hybrid?

Hartford seems to have tailored the research along the lines of those who emphasize in-person instead of virtual, and those churches that emphasize virtual over in-person attendance. That is not what a true hybrid model is (for more on what truly constitutes a hybrid church, I would recommend my book Hybrid Church: Rethinking the Church for the Post-Christian Digital Age).

Nonetheless, they found that those churches that embrace the virtual have higher virtual attendance, more total attending worship, greater likelihood to have grown in worship attendance, and, overall, higher giving rates.

But let's return to the nearly one-third of all churches now expressing an unwillingness to change. It brings to mind the title of an old book: The Seven Last Words of the Dying Church.

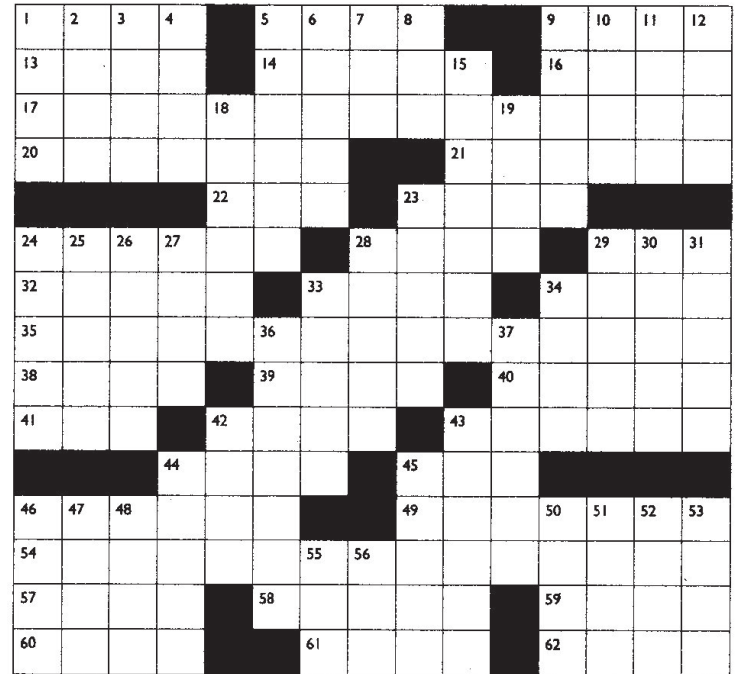
And what are those seven words?  
"We never tried it that way before."

For those that actually die, they surely add, "And never will."

That will kill more churches than any pandemic ever could.

## BIBLE CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Topic: ACTS 19-20

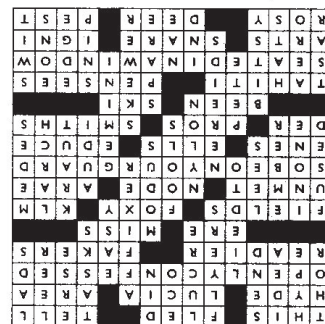


### ACROSS

- 1 "We receive a good income from \_\_\_\_ business" (Acts 19:25, NV)  
5 "They \_\_\_\_ out of that house naked and wounded" (Acts 19:16, KJV)  
9 "So do what we \_\_\_\_ you" (Acts 21:23, NV)  
13 Jekyll's alter ego  
14 St. \_\_\_\_, a Caribbean island near Barbados  
16 A kind of code  
17 What the Ephesians did about their evil deeds (Acts 19:18, NV; 2 wds.)  
20 More equipped  
21 Frauds  
22 Previous to  
23 Mademoiselle  
24 "Open your eyes and look at the \_\_\_\_! They are ripe for harvest" (John 4:35, NV)  
28 Wily or attractive  
29 Dutch airline  
32 Not greeted  
33 Swelling  
34 Altars (Lat.)  
35 Paul's charge to the elders (Acts 20:31; NV; 5 wds.)  
38 Chemical endings  
39 Wings  
40 Draw out  
41 German article  
42 Wealthy athletes  
43 Demetrius and friends (Acts 19)  
44 "After I have \_\_\_\_ there, ... I must visit Rome also" (Acts 19:21, NV)  
45 Visit Aspen  
46 Brando's resort  
49 Pascal's ruminations  
54 Where Eutychus was, for a while (Acts 20:9, NV; 4 wds.)  
57 "Many of them also which used curious \_\_\_\_ brought their books together, and burned them" (Acts 19:19, KJV)  
58 "May their table become a \_\_\_\_ and a trap" (Rom. 11:9, NV)  
59 Fire, prefix  
60 Optimistic  
61 Buck  
62 Gnat or little brother

### DOWN

- 1 Norse lightning technician  
2 Puff  
3 Philosophy  
4 "Go; I will \_\_\_\_ you far away to the Gentiles" (Acts 22:21, NV)  
5 Lindros and company  
6 Profit  
7 Environmental, prefix  
8 Hubbub  
9 What Paul was given in Acts 20:24 and others like it  
10 Gaelic  
11 Amorous look  
12 People like Eutychus  
15 Glue, for one  
18 Deceived (2 wds.)  
19 Comfortable  
23 The M in a criminal's m.o.  
24 Welded together  
25 Hole- \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_  
26 Coal  
27 Shelters  
28 They rush in where angels fear to tread  
29 What Hogan might rudely call Schultz  
30 A tree  
31 Darius and company  
33 Hose material  
34 Fancy car  
36 Sea nymphs  
37 Two-man spacecraft  
42 Rose, for one  
43 Run through  
44 Companion of itsy  
45 "Savage wolves ... will not \_\_\_\_ the flock" (Acts 20:29, NV)  
46 Russian ruler in 1800s  
47 Flight, prefix  
48 Derbies and toques  
50 Cut a corner  
51 Rim  
52 Ages  
53 "M\*A\*S\*H's" Loretta  
55 Neighbor of Ill.  
56 Natl. Assoc. of Evangelicals



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Hab. 2:1-4      Matt. 28:18-20

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