

FIRST BAPTIST-PS TIMES

A monthly newsletter of First Baptist Palm Springs Volume 1 Issue 3 June 2021



Rev. Reginald Powell retires

His teaching career spans 32 years



⁷Show yourself in all respects to be a model of good works, and in your teaching show integrity, dignity, ⁸ and sound speech that cannot be condemned..."

Titus 2:7-8 ESV

After 32 years of teaching, Rev. Reginald Powell recently retired. Having taught grades 2- 8, all subjects, language arts, history and math, Rev. Powell found changing lives to be the most rewarding experience.

"When I look back over the years and talk with all the students who have become successful. Their responses are that their success is largely a reflection of the things I taught them," Rev. Powell said. "Not just academic, but also about life. My lessons focused on how to be successful with many examples of life lessons for them to draw from in their own struggles and successes."

Rev. Powell has degrees in Sociology, Criminal Justice, and Psychology as well as a Teacher Credential in Education (Multiple Subject) and Educational Administration and a master's degree in education management. The COVID-19 pandemic posed the greatest challenge says Rev. Powell.

"My most challenging aspect of the 32 years was trying to keep students engaged in the distance learning/online teaching that was so prevalent during COVID19," he said. "Keeping students engaged and being successful was a big struggle throughout this past year."

The many awards he has received include three times named "Teacher of the year in Desert Sands"; Teach of the Heart Award - 1998/Wilson Middle School; One of The Best Teachers of Top 5,000 Teachers in United States, 1999; Lighting The Pathway Award From: Lawndale Elementary School District; Director/Instructor - 12Years/ Red Hot Ballroom Dance Organization; in all three School Districts of The Coachella Valley Author/Public Speaker: Company: ClimbingProduction; Book: Climbing the Stairs A Walk Through Life California Veteran of Year 56 District 2018.

From the Pastor's Desk...

Hello my beloveds, I pray this communication finds you blessed and prosperous.

As I was thinking what to say to you all for the month of June, I thought about our Lord, Christ Jesus and how faithful He is toward us!

The scriptures declare, *"The Lord is merciful and gracious, Slow to anger, and abounding in mercy. He will not always strive with us, Nor will He keep His anger forever. He has not dealt with us according to our sins, Nor punished us according to our iniquities. For as the heavens are high above the earth, So great is His mercy toward those who fear Him; As far as the east is from the west, So far has He removed our transgressions from us. As a father pities his children, So the Lord pities those who fear Him. For He knows our frame; He remembers that we are dust."* (Psalms 103:8-14) NKJV

When I read this scripture, I began to get excited about our God because it shows His faithfulness and kindness toward us is not predicated on our good or performance. He has not dealt with us according to our sins or rewarded us according to our iniquity. If He did, we would deserve death, but because His faithfulness toward us is not based on our faithfulness to Him, we don't get what we deserve. This is called "Mercy". Who wouldn't serve a God like this? Who wouldn't worship a God like this? The next time you enter into worship and fellowship, think about all that God had held back from you that you deserve. Think about how merciful He has been to us and then begin to worship Him for the good and gracious God He is!!

Until the next time May God bless you!



Prayer requests...

Pastor Croom & Family
Church Leadership – Wisdom
Unity in the Family of God
Pastor Ellis – Health & Healing
Rev. Mike Green – Health & Healing
FBC Seniors & Members – Protection from COVID-19
Sis. Brianna Berry
Sis. Gayle Crawford – Family
Bereaved Family of Sis. Pauline Goree
Sis. Gouldlock – Health & Healing
Bro. Orlando & Michelle Harding – Study & Application of the Word
Sis. Sydney Harding – Hearing the voice of the Lord & responding w/obedience
Sis. Tanera Harrell – Hedge of Protection around her life
Sis. Taunya Hartwell – Time with the Lord
Sis. Sharita Hawkins & Family
Sis. Melva Lucas – Health & Memory
The Bereaved Family of Bro. Manning
Sis. Nibia Miller – Health
Sis. Ola Roberts – Health & Healing
Sis. Regina Robinson – Rest in the body
Bro. Sam & Sis. Keisha Thompson – Family Healing
Family & Friends of Bro. TJ
Pastors, Churches & Families affected by COVID-19

KIDS KORNER



Speaking of Fathers...

Ephesians 6:4: "Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord."

Proverbs 1:8: "Hear, my son, your father's instruction, and forsake not your mother's teaching."

2 Corinthians 6:18: "And I will be a father to you, and you shall be sons and daughters to me, says the Lord Almighty."

Psalms 103:13: "As a father has compassion on his children, so the Lord has compassion on those who fear him."

Proverbs 22:6: "Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it."

2 Samuel 7:14-15: "I will be a father to him, and he'll be a son to me. When he does wrong, I'll discipline him in the usual ways, the pitfalls and obstacles of this mortal life. But I'll never remove my gracious love from him."

Proverbs 23:22: "Listen to your father, who gave you life, and do not despise your mother when she is old."

Proverbs 23:24: "The father of a righteous child has great joy; a man who fathers a wise son rejoices in him."

Psalms 32:7-8: "You are my hiding place; you will protect me from trouble and surround me with songs of deliverance."

Proverbs 4:11-12: "I will guide you in the way of wisdom and I will lead you in upright paths. When you walk, your steps will not be hampered, and when you run, you will not stumble."

Spotlight on First Baptist Deacons



Top left: Bro. Orlando Harding and Bro. Samuel L. Thompson

Top right: Bro. Daniel Caldwell and Bro. Samuel L. Thompson

Bottom left: Bro. Samuel L. Thompson, Bro. Jarvis Crawford, Bro. Marcus Hawkins, Bro. Anthony Wilson and Bro. Kenneth Williams



Ushers Needed

Your willingness to commit, to arrive on time and to be a welcoming presence to those coming to First Baptist Church is what we need. Are you willing to serve? Instruction will be given for ushers & for those who would like to be a part of the usher board.

- **Date:** Sunday, June 13th
- **Time:** Immediately following service
- **Duration:** 45 minutes

If you are interested, please contact Sis. Lela Adams (760-774-9391) or Sis. Janice Cain.

Birthdays – We want to recognize *YOUR* birthday, please submit your name and day of the month you were born to:
michelle@firstbaptistpalmsprings.org

Discipleship Class

The purpose of our discipleship classes is to equip Christians with the knowledge & skills to apply biblical truth to their lives. It is also to help people grow into spiritual maturity. If you were a part of our Experiencing God Classes, then you **MUST** attend these classes. If you missed out, **DO NOT MISS OUT** again. **YOU WILL BE BLESSED!**

- **1st Class:** Sunday, May 16th
- **Duration:** 12-15 weeks
- **Where:** Every Sunday morning in the sanctuary & Zoom (Meeting ID: 341 628 3746)
- **Time:** 8:15 a.m. to 9:15 a.m.
- **Book:** Spiritual Disciplines for the Christian Life by Donald S. Whitney
Books are available for purchase from the church (while supplies last) – \$12

FBC Marriage Retreat

One of the most impactful marriage retreats with the focus on intimacy.

July 29 – August 1, 2021

Omni Scottsdale Resort & Spa at
Monteucia
Scottsdale, AZ

Registration: \$100 per couple

Room Rate: \$\$143 per night (includes resort fee)
No deposit required

Contact: Bro. Sam Thompson
sam@syncmm.com

Ministry of the Month



The FBC Usher's Ministry serves to greet the members and visitors with excellence. Also with great care and courtesy, they keep order in the sanctuary to assure as few distractions as possible during our worship experience.

Ministry Scripture:

"...Serve the Lord with gladness."

Psalms 100:2a NAS

In your time
of sorrow, my
Thoughts
ARE WITH YOU

Sis. Detavia "Taye" Miller



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

A Church where LOVE is displayed
and the Word is proclaimed

588 Rosa Parks Road
Palm Springs, CA 92262
(760) 325-2650

Discipleship Class-Sunday 8:15 a.m.

Sunday Worship 10 a.m.

Tuesday Bible Study 6:30 p.m.

Friday The Word Proclaimed 7 p.m.

Rev. Rodney S. Croom, Senior Pastor

