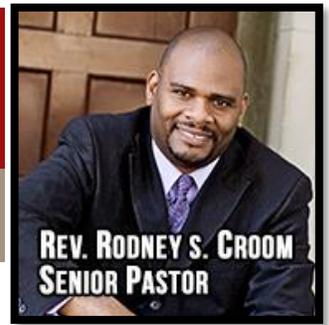


FIRST BAPTIST-PS TIMES

A monthly newsletter of First Baptist Palm Springs Vol. 1 Issue 6 September 2021

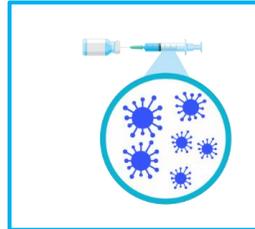


The more you know... Covid 19

EDITOR'S NOTE: The following article is from the National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases (NCIRD), Division of Viral Diseases. It is provided for informational purposes only.

Is the mRNA vaccine considered a vaccine?

Yes. mRNA vaccines, such as Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna, work differently than other types of vaccines, but they still trigger an immune response inside your body. This type of vaccine is new, but research and development on it has been under way for decades.



The mRNA vaccines do not contain any live virus. Instead, they work by teaching our cells to make a harmless piece of a "spike protein," which is found on the surface of the virus that causes COVID-19. After making the protein piece, cells display it on their surface. Our immune system then recognizes that it does not belong there and responds to get rid of it. When an immune response begins, antibodies are produced, creating the same response that happens in a natural infection.

In contrast to mRNA vaccines, many other vaccines use a piece of, or weakened version of, the germ that the vaccine protects against. This is how the measles and flu vaccines work. When a weakened or small part of the virus is introduced to your body, you make antibodies to help protect against future infection.

Do COVID-19 vaccines contain microchips?

No. COVID-19 vaccines do not contain microchips. Vaccines are developed to fight against disease and are not administered to track your movement. Vaccines work by stimulating your immune system to produce antibodies, exactly like it would if you were exposed to the disease. After getting vaccinated, you develop immunity to that disease, without having to get the disease first.

Is it safe for me to get a COVID-19 vaccine if I would like to have a baby one day?

Yes. COVID-19 vaccination is recommended for everyone 12 years of age or older, including people who are trying to get pregnant now or might become pregnant in the future, as well as their partners. Currently no evidence shows that any vaccines, including COVID-19 vaccines, cause fertility problems (problems trying to get pregnant) in women or men.

Will a COVID-19 vaccine alter my DNA?

No. COVID-19 vaccines do not change or interact with your DNA in any way. Both mRNA and viral vector COVID-19 vaccines deliver instructions (genetic material) to our cells to start building protection against the virus that causes COVID-19. However, the material never enters the nucleus of the cell, which is where our DNA is kept.

From the Pastor's Desk...

Hello, my beloveds, I want to let you know it is good to be in genuine fellowship and faith walk with you all. It is a true joy for us to be on journey with Jesus together. I want to encourage you through this pandemic; through all the bad news; the political climate and personal trials, to stay on the faith journey with Jesus. He wants to lead you to places that will develop your character into looking more like His character. Don't be deterred by your present circumstances or by what you see. Stay with Jesus. How do you stay on journey with Jesus? You pray and meditate on God's Word daily. You develop a daily dependence upon Him by seeking His will and purpose for your life through prayer and acknowledging that you need His wisdom versus your wisdom. Finally, when you read His Word, wherever the Lord bothers you, obey it without making excuses. Practicing all these leads to developing a strong trusting relationship with Christ and a wonderful faith journey with Him. Remember, you are not alone for you have Jesus leading you and many others who have walked before you as examples of what it means to journey with Jesus in faith. Enjoy the journey!!

Pastor "C"

Effective immediately, due to the most recent spread of the Covid-19 variant, the Delta Virus, we will no longer be doing inside, in person worship until further notice. Worship will be restricted to online only – Via YouTube, Instagram and Facebook. We will have the audio speaker out on the parking lot for those who desire to hear worship from the parking lot.

Many counties are going back to restrictions, but we as a church want to make sure we all stay healthy and safe from this new dangerous variant that is spreading rapidly amongst our nation.

We do sincerely apologize for the inconvenience, but our goal is the safety of everyone who enters the sanctuary. Please help spread this information. Thanks for your understanding.

Love, Pastor Croom

ARE YOU SAVED?

The Roman Road to salvation is a collection of verses from the book of Romans explaining God's free gift of eternal life. Follow these verses to learn why we need salvation, God's plan of salvation, how to receive salvation, God's promise of eternal life, and the results of salvation.

First stop on The Roman Road to Salvation...

God is the Creator of Life

Romans 1:20 – 21 (NIV) 20" For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse. 21For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened." God reveals himself to us – His divine nature and personal qualities – through nature. We must acknowledge God as the Creator and sustainer of life.

Second stop on The Roman Road to Salvation...

Why We Need Salvation – The Fact of Our Sin

Romans 3:23 (NIV) 23 "for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,"

We must recognize that we are sinners and that we do not meet God's perfect standards. Sin is serious in God's sight and that sin includes thoughts, words, and actions. All sin (i.e. hatred and lust) makes us sinners not just the big obvious sins, like murder and adultery (Romans 5:12).

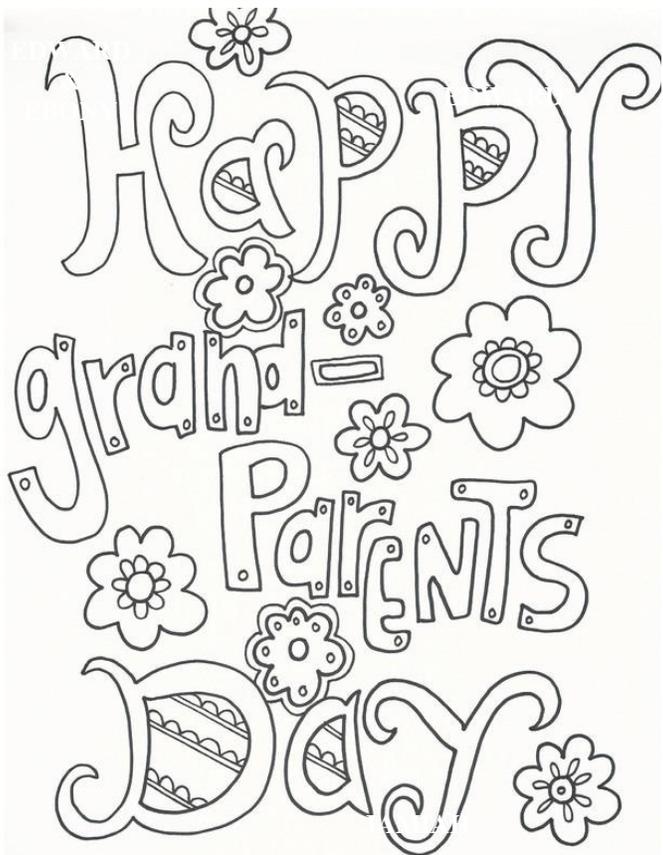
Third stop on The Roman Road to Salvation...

Man's Inability and Responsibility

Romans 10:9 – 10 (NIV) 9 "That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. 10 "For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved."

We must believe that the Lord Jesus Christ is the Son of God, who died on the cross, rose from the dead, and is Lord. We must trust in

KIDS KORNER



September 14 YOUR vote COUNTS

Sunday, September 12

Mt. Sinai Church celebrates Pastor & Wife's 5th year appreciation for Pastor & First Lady Williams

- **11:30 a.m. Speaker:** Pastor Duane Spencer from End Times Ministries -Moreno Valley, CA
- **4:00 p.m. Speaker:** Pastor Todd Wheelock from Antioch Baptist Church Oakland, CA

Palm Desert Country Club (Alice P. Hall Building)
77800 California St. Palm Desert, CA

Sunday, September 19 – 4:00 p.m.

Second Baptist Church Indio celebrates the anniversary of Pastor Lloyd Ellis via Facebook Live.

Theme: Honoring our Pastor for putting his heart into knowing and caring for those entrusted to him by God.

"Be diligent to know the state of your flocks, and attend to your herds"
Proverbs 27:23 (NKJV)

Prayer requests...



- **Pastor Croom & Family**
- **Church Leadership – Wisdom**
- **Unity in the Family of God**
- **The church will seize the opportunity to be a witness for Jesus**
- **FBC Seniors & Members – Protection from COVID-19**
- **Bro. Orlando & Michelle Harding – Application of the Word**
- **Sis. Sydney Harding – Obedience to the Lord**
- **Sis, Taunya Hartwell – Spending time with God**
- **Sis. Kym Humphrey – Family unity**
- **Sis Kiana Johnson – Health**
- **Sis. Nibia Miller – Family Relationships**
- **Sis. Regina Robinson – Health & Healing**
- **Sis. Fenita Kirkwood – Family Unity**
- **Sis. Toya Thigpen – Discipline – Studying the Word of God**
- **Bro. Sam & Sis. Keisha Thompson – Family Healing**
- **Sis. Doreen Torrance – Her personal relationship with God**
- **Sis. Thelma Ware – Traveling grace**
- **Bro, Kenneth & Sis, Karen Williams – Family**
- **The sick, shut-in, and those struggling with addiction**
- **Pandemic Doctors & Nurses on the frontline**
- **Our nation & world to acknowledge God & repent of its sins**
- **The gospel to go forth in the world unhindered**

Please give the names for the Prayer List to Sis. Taunya Hartwell

Deacon and Sis. Lucas share 64 years—That's love



September is a special month for Deacon Howard and Sister Melva Lucas. September celebrates National Grandparents Day (12th) – and they have a “lot of grandchildren” – he has a birthday (15th) and they celebrate their wedding anniversary (29th)!

The Texas natives met “here in the Desert.” According to Sis. Lucas, the key to maintaining a long and happy is “finding someone you love and are compatible with”. But, she admits, there will be differences of opinions.

“We disagree on how to squeeze the toothpaste,” she says with a laugh. “He squeezes it in the middle and I squeeze it on the end.”

Members of First Baptist Church – Palm Springs or more than 40 years, he was ordained as a deacon and she has served on the Deaconess Board, the Usher Board, Mission president, and a member of the Permanent Organization.

They enjoy dining out, but the pandemic has put a bit of damper on that. Most church members know that Sis. Lucas is a fantastic cook and she make a phenomenal pound cake. “I love cooking,” she says.

Sis. Lucas enjoys reading God’s Word, especially the books of Titus and Ephesians. They also love the church, Pastor Croom and his family.

Deacon Lucas retired from General Telephone and Sis. Lucas also worked for a while as they raised their three children.

Tips for a Happy, Successful Marriage

Laugh with each other.

Life is stressful, so it helps if you can find lightness even when you’re in the thick of it. Whether it’s through little inside jokes, a silly unexpected text, or even just watching your favorite comedy together, connecting with your spouse with laughter can increase your bond, she says.

Be kind to one another.

It’s so important to be respectful and understanding of your spouse. If you are critical and judgmental it usually ends in defensiveness and resentment. So to keep things happy within the marriage, avoid attacking your partner’s character when you’re upset.

Celebrate small, good, moments.

Good things actually happen more often than bad, but couples often miss those opportunities to connect. So the next time your spouse shares something positive—like a compliment from their boss, immediately stop what you are doing and focus your full attention. Help them savor the moment by asking questions and actively celebrating the good news. In doing so, you’ll show gratitude for the happy moments in your marriage.

Appreciate each other.

When you’re with someone all the time, it’s easy to take them for granted, but you should verbally express your appreciation every day. Whether you’re calling positive attention to something thoughtful they’ve done or letting them know something you like about them.

Accept and expect change.

To be truly happy in marriage, couples must be willing to grow and adapt. Our needs are always changing, people are growing, and relationships evolve. What we need today may not be what we need years from now. It’s crucial to bend, flex, and pivot with each other in a balanced dance. Because in successful marriages, each person supports the other so that they can grow to become the best person they can be, and that means maturing as individuals and together as a team. Until death do you part.

Meet the Editor: Jeannetta Edwards



Jeannetta G. Edwards likes to say she's from "the Land of Oz." Born and raised in Kansas, she took flight as Dorothy – however, not in a tornado. Jeannetta left Kansas "on a jet plane" in 1971 (after finishing high school, modeling school and junior college) to become an airline stewardess. Twelve years later, she met and married a passenger on one of her flights and settled in the San Francisco Bay area, where they owned and operated California Pacific Travel Service. Her professional career includes holding a Series 6 & 7 license, having a Life, Health and Accident insurance agency, and of course, being a Managing Editor for a daily newspaper in Mississippi. She also owned and published her own newspaper, The Messenger, in southeast Missouri.

Her hobbies include cake baking, knitting, painting (oil, acrylic and watercolor), and poetry writing (she has two published books of poetry). Additionally, she teaches etiquette and social graces for all ages. She loves traveling and has visited 49 states, England, France, Italy, Spain, Canada, Mexico, and the Caribbean. While living in Mississippi she was elected to the Municipal Democratic Executive Committee and served two 4-year terms as Chairman.

An ordained minister, she founded and directs Young Women on the Move – a ministry dedicated to helping young women, ages 16 – 26, achieve/fulfill their God given purpose in life.

Jeannetta spends a portion of her time doing genealogical research for African American families, editing and publishing two newsletters, writing freelance magazine articles, assisting small nonprofits with organizational setup and grant proposal writing.

She holds a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology, a Bachelor of Science in Broadcast Journalism (she has worked in radio, television and print media), and a Masters degree in Biblical Studies. She says, with a laugh, that she is thinking of returning to school to become "Dr. Jeannetta." Her favorite quote is "Trust the Lord and live your dream!"

She's the mother of three (two daughters and a son), grandmother of 12 and great grandmother of two. Her favorite scripture is

2 Chronicles 7:13 – 14, which says:

"If I shut up heaven that there be no rain, or if I command the locusts to devour the land, or I send pestilence among my people; If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land."

We practice "Five Core Values" that will help build the Christian Community. They are: We **Worship** the Risen Christ, we hear the **Word** and practice it, we **Work** for the Kingdom of God, we **Watch** over one another in Christian Love and we **Win** souls for Kingdom of God.



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Howard Lucas 15

Ministry of the Month

THE KING'S
MEN
MINISTRY

The King's Men ministry exists to encourage genuine spirit-led fellowship and study of God's Word. These men have a heart for each other and a heart for reaching the Kingdom for Christ by practicing all five core values:

- Celebrating God's Presence
- Elevating God's Word
- Educating God's People
- Congregating with God's People
- Demonstrating God's Love.

Breakfast is served and men of all ages are encouraged to attend.

Ministry Scripture: "How wonderful and pleasant it is when brothers live together in harmony!" Psalm 133 NLT



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

