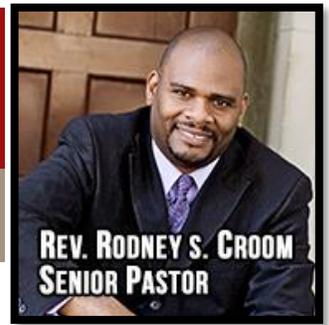


FIRST BAPTIST-PS TIMES

A monthly newsletter of First Baptist Palm Springs Vol. 1 Issue 7 October 2021



Pastor Rodney S. Croom was born and raised in Fresno, California. In the fifth grade, while most young boys are busy playing sports, the Lord Jesus Christ called Rodney to preach the Gospel. He tried to fight “the call” and ran for quite some time. However, the Lord kept confirming His call and Rodney surrendered and preached his first sermon on September 2, 1990. He served in his local church and community for over eight years in numerous areas of ministry.

In 1998, the Lord called Rev. Croom away from Fresno, CA to receive further biblical educational training for ministry. He relocated to Mill Valley, CA to attend Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, where he received his Diploma in Theology. While attending Seminary, Rev. Croom was the interim Pastor of Gospel Fellowship Missionary Baptist Church in Marin City for nearly 15 months. After this, he served as an associate minister and Pastor of Discipleship at Foothill Missionary Baptist Church, Oakland, CA.

As Rev. Croom completed his last semester at Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, the Lord had yet confirmed another call on his life. As of January 1, 2002, Rev. Rodney Croom became the proud Pastor, Teacher, and Equipper of the Saints at First Baptist Church – Palm Springs, CA. While under his leadership, FBC has grown tremendously both spiritually and numerically.

Pastor Croom asked God for the “keys” to the Palm Springs Area. God has been faithful to open doors for Pastor Croom to evangelize the lost, encourage the brokenhearted and to equip believers throughout the Coachella Valley as well as the entire State of California.

Pastor Croom has continually served as the Teaching Director of Teen Community Bible Study for the last 11 years. Teen CBS is an international, inter-denominational, inductive bible study for 9th-12th graders. He has also served as Moderator of the Valley District Missionary Baptist Association, and as Dean of Congress of Christian Education, an auxiliary of the California State Baptist Convention. In addition, Pastor Croom has a B.A. in Christian Ministries from San Diego Christian College and has recently completed his Masters of Divinity at Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary.

Pastor Croom is married to Angela and they have three children: Alexandria, Faith and Rodney. He is faithful to God in all that He has called him into. It is his desire and prayer that all men would receive Jesus as Savior and surrender to Him as Lord. Pastor Croom can always be heard saying, “If God has done anything to you, for you or through you, do not leave giving anyone else the credit ...BUT TO GOD BE THE GLORY!”



FBC_PS First Family (from left): Alexandria, First Lady Angela, Pastor Croom, Rodney, Jr., and Faith at Pastor’s graduation from seminary.

Behind Every Good Preacher...is a Praying Wife



FBC-PS powerful praying wives: (from left) Miranda Rogers, Diane Powell, First Lady Angela Croom, Angelina Coe, and Shinata Gouldlock

KIDS KORNER



Prayer requests...



- Pastor Croom & Family
- Rev. Theon & Sis. Miranda Rogers – Health, Healing & Peace
- 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 Harding – Relationship w/the Lord & Recovery from Surgery
- Sis. 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. Fenita Kirkwood – Family Unity
- Sis. Nibia Miller- Family Relationships
- Sis. Regina Robinson – Health & Healing
- Sis. Toya Thigpen – Discipline – Studying the Word or God
- Bro. Sam & Sis. Keisha Thompson – Family Healing
- Sis. Doreen Torrance – Her personal relationship with the Lord
- Sis. Thelma Ware – Traveling Grace
- Bro. Kenneth & Sis. Karen Williams – Family
- The sick, shut-in and those struggling with addictions
- Pandemic Doctors & Nurses on the frontline
- National & International Leadership through the pandemic
- 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

Remember your leaders who spoke God's word

Hebrews 13:7



Rev. Theon Rogers is a 20-year Navy veteran. He has a Master's degree in Psychology and has his Master's in Divinity. Rev. Rogers is an Associate Professional Clinical Counselor, Internationally Certified Alcohol & Drug Counselor. He loves preaching and teaching the word of God and loves counseling people with everyday problems and those who has complex life problems (Mental Health). He accepted his call to preach March 8, 2008. Rev. Rogers is the servant leader for the church counseling ministry. Anyone seeking counseling can call him at (559) 309-1308.

Plead my cause, O LORD, with them that strive with me: Fight against them that fight against me. Take hold of shield and buckler, And stand up for mine help. Draw out also the spear, and stop the way against them that persecute me: Say unto my soul, I am thy salvation.

Psalm 35:1-3

An accomplished musician, **Rev. Clark Coe, Sr.** has strong skills in voice training, hymnals, sheet music and playing "by ear." He has participated in Gospel Workshops of America (Riverside Chapter). He seeks to "assist a ministry that is willing to move with the flow of God's direction for the 21st century." He was called to the ministry at age 19 and has continued in that calling for 41 years.



But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear:

1Peter 3:15

Rev. Reginald Powell was called into the ministry at a very early age, however, he did not truly understand the full meaning of his calling. He says: "At the young age of 10 while lying in my bed sleep, I thought I heard my mother calling me. After it continued, I got up at about 10 p.m. and went into the kitchen where my mother was and asked her why she was calling me. She said, "Baby, go back to bed, I did not call you."



This happened three times that night and the third time my mom told me, "If you hear the call again, just simply say "Yes Lord, what do you have for me to do?" So that is what I did. The next Sunday evening while sitting in the church with some of my young friends listening to a gospel group sing, something came over me and I jumped up and ran down front and told the leader, "God is calling me, and I need to sing." They let me sing and from that point on I started directing the youth choir and became very active in my church as I grew older. I was the Sunday School teacher, Choir director, Youth Leader and many other duties over the next few years. At the age of 30, I realized and understood that my life had a special calling and that God wanted to use me in a very special way. That concerned me because I understood what God had placed upon me, and I was very concerned because growing up in a family of ministers, Grandfather and uncles that were pastors and brothers that were ministers, and how they had to correct people's behavior such as hate and bitterness from some people, made me not want to go down that path.

Six years later, after trying not to go, and even stopping going to church, I was convicted and accepted my calling at age 36.

My first sermon was entitled "How Bright Is the Light In Your House,". Scripture was **Matthew 5:14 - 16: "Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick, and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.**

I believe that the primary focus of a minister is to do the will of God and give everyone the opportunity to know Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior and be an example of the love of God in others' lives.



Rev. Renado S. Gouldlock, Sr. is an ordained minister and ministry associate of at First Baptist Church – Palm Springs. Professionally, he is also the District Environmental Coordinator for Burrtec, the largest privately held waste company in California.

Rev. Gouldlock is originally from Cleveland, Ohio. He came to Christ at the age of 15 and grew up attending Elizabeth Baptist Church in Cleveland, where his father was a deacon for more than 70 years and his Pastor was Rev. Fred Hall, a noted north civil rights leader in the 1920's and the father of Arsenio Hall. He and his wife, Shinata, were high school sweethearts and have been happily married for 43 years. They have two children and three grandchildren. Rev. Gouldlock Sr. is a veteran of the U.S. Air Force, where he was an honor graduate of the Air Force Police Academy. His hobbies include golf and international travel. Rev. Gouldlock Sr. serves in several ministry leadership positions within the church and is active in various community service activities within the Coachella Valley. His ministry passion especially lies with those considered young to middle aged adults whom he believes have many unanswered questions regarding their salvation and sound doctrine and are spiritually misled by false teachings promoted through social media.

And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.

Hebrews 8:28

The Pastor's Wife

- P**artner in the ministry with her man
- A**iding him in any manner she can
- S**upporter of the mission for the church
- T**eaching ideas in which she partakes first
- O**rganizer working behind the scenes
- R**eaching kingdom goals by inventive means
- S**ource of strength unto the congregation



- W**oman of wisdom building up God's house
- I**nterceding in prayer often for her spouse
- F**oundation of the pastor's "good success"
- E**ndeavoring to promote his progress

Special Christmas edition newsletter

Wish friends and family



Send your holiday greetings and pictures to
michelle@firstbaptistpalmsprings.org
 or
edwardsjeannetta658@gmail.com

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS
Samuel Thompson 7

clergy appreciation month

Clergy Appreciation Month

Remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the word of God. Consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith (Hebrews 13:7 ESV).



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

