

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH – PALM SPRINGS

SUNDAY SCHOOL



8:15 a.m.

FIRST BAPTIST-PS TIMES

A monthly newsletter of First Baptist Church Palm Springs Vol. II Issue 6 SEPTEMBER 2022

YOUTH SPOTLIGHT...

KEITH JOHNSON

First Baptist Church-Palm Springs has some AWESOME youth. Among them, however, one young man stands out... Keith Johnson.

Keith is a Junior Usher. He is dedicated, responsible, consistent, and always on point in his service.

One Sunday morning recently, Keith was the ONLY usher on duty. However, he stepped up and handled his duties without any hesitation!

"I enjoy seating people for worship service," he says.

A sixth grader at Raymond Cree Middle School, who is also a faithful Sunday School student, Keith's favorite subject is Physical Education. He spends a lot of time serving as a role model and friend to his little brother, Kyle. His hobbies include playing video games and football, which he has practice for three nights a week.

Keith says he wants to be a scientist when he grows up. Yet, with his dedication, sense of responsibility, and leadership skills, one might see him as POTUS.



Keith and Kyle Johnson make a dynamic duo.

Hello, my beloveds, I hope all is well!

It is with gratitude that I write this column for the Lord has been kind and has shown His grace to us beyond measure. When we look back over our lives, the Lord has been good to us!

As we come to the end of summer and many of us have taken the last parts of our vacations, let us reflect on how the Lord has allowed us to enjoy family and friends. Let us thank God for the blessings and means to travel near or far.

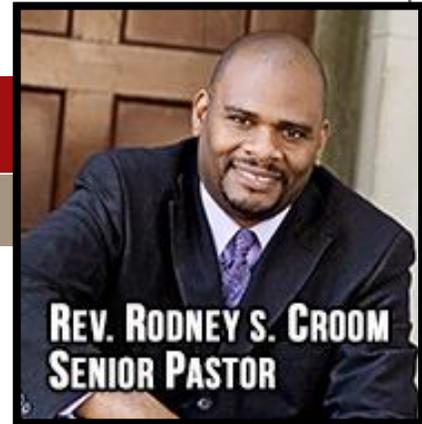
I pray that you have all been well rested. now it is time to shore up and to step up in our commitment to the Lord and His kingdom! Let us make Him and His word priority. Let us also not neglect prayer and worship for worship is an expression of how we feel about God.

Worship expresses what God is worth to you. He is indeed worthy of our best worship and praise! Furthermore, He is worthy of our faithfulness!

Therefore, as the summer season winds down and we settle in for the rest of the year, give the Lord your all! be living sacrifices that will please Him and bring Him honor and glory! Commit to putting His kingdom first through our talents, time, and treasure! (Matthew 6:33, Romans 12:1-2).

I pray the Lord's blessings upon you all!

Pastor "C"



REV. RODNEY S. CROOM
SENIOR PASTOR

KIDS KORNER



Prayer requests...



- **Pastor Croom – Attentive to God, Health & Devine Wisdom**
- **Croom Family -Protection & Devine Wisdom**
- **Church Leadership -Spiritual Unity & Devine Wisdom**
- **Unity in the Family of God**
- **Gods Protection & Wisdom**
- **Sunday School -God would bring those who thirst for His Word**
- **The Community**
- **Da'Shawn Botley**
- **Dalion Botley**
- **Darion Botley**
- **James Croom – Mental Health & Salvation**
- **Rev. & Sis. Gouldlock-Traveling Grace**
- **Bro. Orlando Harding – Spiritual Healing & Obedience to God**
- **Sis. Michelle Harding- Obedience to God & application of the Word**
- **Sis. Sydney Harding- Spiritual Healing & Direction**
- **Sis. Jalisia Hated -Deepening of her relationship with the Lord**
- **Sis. Fenita Kirkwood – Peace in the Lord**
- **Sis. Joyce Lockett- Mourning &Pain Relief**
- **Jason Mayfield**
- **Jordan Mayfield**
- **Fifi Penny – Consolation in the Lord & not in things/people**
- **Sis. Gina Robinson – Traveling Grace & Trust in the Lord**
- **Rev. & Sis. Rogers- Health & Healing**
- **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 names for the Prayer List to
Sis. Taunya Hartwell*



Youth Leaders, Deacon Sam and Sis. Keisha Thompson took a group of FBC-PS youth to Disneyland last month.

GRIEF & LOSS WORKSHOP Sept. 8 – Oct. 13

**Rev. Theon Rogers, APCC, MS, MDIV
(559)399-1308**



In the Eye of the Beholder —

J. Benton Adams, Photographer Extraordinaire

When New York native, John B. Adams, decided to make a change in 1990, he made a drastic change – moving from New York to California. Arriving in West Covina, he stayed with his parents for a short while before going to work with a construction management firm, working for the Metropolitan Transportation Authority on a light rail project and moving to Los Angeles. While working there he met “the love of his life” and he and Lela were married in 1997. In 2014, they moved to the Coachella Valley to care for his ill father. John developed an interest in photography at a very young age.

“My Aunt Terri was babysitting my brothers and me. I was about seven years old, and she was seventeen,” he recalls. “She had a Kodak Duaflex box camera, and she was taking a photography class in high school. My aunt showed me how to load the camera that day and how to develop film. Earlier that day my aunt had let me take a couple of pictures. After the negative were developed and I saw the images on the film, and I was amazed by the results.”

According to John, who goes by J. Benton Adams professionally, selecting subject for his pictures can be “tricky.”

“It’s the shape of an object, or a way an individual carries themselves inside the viewfinder frame and the way the light falls on it or the absence of light,” he explains.

“A critical factor is the ability to capture emotion in people’s faces. When I was first starting out, I used to go out to the east end of Long Island and go to bars that played live music,” says John, who is a serious Grateful Dead fan. “I would pay the cover fee and go in with my second hand 35mm camera and would shoot photos of the bands. I built a relationship with some of these bands, and some went on to be quite famous, like Twisted Sister and Joan Jett and the Blackhearts, this process helped me to develop a sense of timing and to this day I am always seeing the next capture. It’s great to walk around with a Smart Phone in your pocket.”

A “good shot” includes the combination light, shadow and for the “money shot” the emotion. But one can learn how to put the “mechanics” together for good photography, John believes.

“In my opinion you can teach individuals the mechanics of photography and now the camera will adjust itself for any lighting situation; but to get the shot you have to see the environment of the subject the subject itself is sitting in,” he admonishes. “It’s then timing of all those factors that take a good photograph. For me, it’s always timing. Being in the right place and the right time and pressing the shutter precise time.”



John’s other passion is computer technology, at which he is a “wiz.” He has programmed their entire home to respond to voice commands.

“When I arrived in Los Angeles I got a job as a graphics artist for a light rail project in Los Angeles,” he explains. “Since I already had computer at home and had truly little knowledge. But what I had is superb “soft skills” I was asked to help the IT manager in supporting this rapidly expanding project.”

He was eventually asked to join the department full time, doing application, hardware and network support for the project.

“The IT manger was a great mento,” he gratefully acknowledges.” “He taught me many aspects about field.”

Beyond his photography and computers, John admits his passion is music.

“I love music! All kinds of sounds that God has created. My tastes run the gamut of sound itself. My favorite quote about music is from the master himself, Duke Ellington” he admits.”Mr. Ellington said, ‘There are really only two kinds of music, there is good music and there is bad music.’ And because of this quote, I have grown “Big Ears” I will listen to anything.”

In addition to taking and selling his “random” shots, Joh also does family photo shoots for Christmas cards and birthdays, weddings, family reunion, and church events. He wants his photographic legacy to express emotions.

“I take photographs that present emotions and then seek emotions. From the viewer.” he states.

To reach John visit his website on Flickr (<https://www.flickr.com/photos/jbadams/>) His email address is: jbentona@gmail.com.



Ushers Needed

Are you willing to serve?



Your willingness to arrive on time and be a welcoming presence to those coming to First Baptist Church is what we need!

If you are willing to serve, instruction will be given for Ushers and for those who want to be a part of the Usher Board. *Psalms 84:10*



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!
to you

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

EMANUEL MANNING	5
TAUNYA HARTWELL	6
HOWARD LUCAS	15

The following ministries will resume in the month of September:

- **Sisters Who Care – Sept. 19th**
- **Tuesday Night Bible Study—Sept. 20th**
- **Wednesday Afternoon Bible Study – Sept. 21st**

EVERY SUNDAY 8:15 a.m.



JOIN us at Sunday school

CLASSES FOR ALL AGES




Young Women Leaders Scholarship Program (2022-23)

Senior Female High School Students

Earn up to \$2,500 in scholarships
(\$500 for community college students)




Women Leader’s Forum YWL Scholarships

Need-Based Scholarship
In partnership with Pathways to Success:
Applicant must demonstrate financial need

Merit-Based Scholarship
Requires a 3.0 GPA or higher and continued full-time enrollment throughout the academic year while a community of school leader.

For more information contact
scholarships@wfl-desert.org



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
A Church where LOVE is displayed and the Word is proclaimed

facebook  YouTube  Instagram 

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