

# THE EPISTLE

MAY 2024

## CHURCH ANNIVERSARY

# 142



**"A SPIRIT FILLED FELLOWSHIP, RECLAIMING AND REESTABLISHING THE FAMILY FOR JESUS CHRIST"**

**First Missionary Baptist Church of Lambert's Point  
Rev. Primas O. Paige, Senior Pastor  
1268 West 38th St. Norfolk, VA 23508**

# Epistle To God's People

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and our Lord Jesus Christ, As we prepare to celebrate our 142nd Church Anniversary, God has laid on my heart that our focus on our vision and mission at First Missionary Baptist Church Lambert's Point must reflect the struggles of this era and generation. At the foundation of this branch of Zion, racism, inequality, starvation, bigotry, and just fundamental human rights, among other issues, were the ailments that oppressed our people. In the 1960's and 1970's, civil rights and the right to vote became the banner through which we extended our faith. In the 80's and '90s, the heroin and crack era plagued our communities and drew many of us out of the home that was the legacy of our patriarchs and matriarchs. Yet, despite all of those vicious attacks of gentrification and unethical legislation, our church has weathered the storm, held fast to our roots, and continues to fight with our faith and action. As the 13th pastor of this august body of believers, it is a joy to celebrate that **WE ARE STILL HERE BY THE WILL AND THE GRACE OF GOD.** We have not only survived, but we have also held up the blood-stained banner of hope in Jesus Christ, our Lord.

This year and for years to come, we will be faced with a challenge that is more infectious than bigotry and addiction, more sinister than greedy legislation and mass incarceration. The new attack is against the **FAMILY**. The family has always been a cornerstone in our community and one of the most powerful units of human communion, ordained by God, outside the church of Jesus Christ. Yet today, we see that more than ever, the purpose of the family is under attack. In response to this challenge, our vision is to be **"A SPIRIT-FILLED FELLOWSHIP, RECLAIMING AND REESTABLISHING THE FAMILY FOR JESUS CHRIST."**

Therefore, I urge each and every one of you to take concrete steps to strengthen the bonds within your families. Make time for fellowship, prayer, celebration, and work together. Create opportunities for forgiveness, reconciliation, and restoration. Above all, share the love of God that we find in our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, so that a legacy of salvation can continue for generations. In the days to come, the family of faith will need each other more than ever. With the aid of Jesus Christ our Lord and the presence of the Holy Spirit, we will navigate the challenges ahead and continue our faithful service as a church family. On this, our 142<sup>nd</sup> anniversary, I pray that God will continue to bless our congregation as a fellowship and family of blood-washed believers.

Yours In His Service,  
Rev. Primas Omar Paige  
Senior Pastor



# CHURCH HISTORY

In September of 1882 a servant of God, Rev. Henry Outlaw, was inspired of the Holy Spirit to conduct evangelist services in an old weathered building known as "The Old Red Barn". In March 1892, the church saw its first group of baptized believers. The name of the Old Red Barn was changed to the First Baptist Church of Lambert's Point by a vote of fourteen churches. Rev. Madison was pastor at that time. In 1894 the church pioneers erected the first structure that would be the First Baptist Church of Lambert's Point. Between 1894 and 1899, First Baptist was blessed to have its pastors and Reverends C.E. Lomax, J.B. Buckner and John Boone.



In 1899, the Rev. Dr. David D. Jennings became pastor. The next 38 years the congregation, under his leadership, grew numerically and spiritually. Church building at 45th street and Parker Avenue was built (1912) as well as the annex in the rear of the church (1922). The church suffered a great loss with the passing of Rev. Jennings in 1933. In 1939 the church was blessed by Rev. Dr. J. Jasper Freeman becoming the pastor and an educational center was purchased across the street. The church also erected and paid for a church parsonage located at 1344 West 46th street. In 1949 Dr. Freeman accepted a call to Queen Street Baptist Church.

Rev. M.C. Sutherland was called as pastor in 1950. Under his leadership, a regulated kindergarten was established as one of the few in the city of Norfolk. Rev. Sutherland left to become the pastor of Bethany Baptist Church in 1955. The Rev. H. Hudson Bobbitt became our pastor in 1955. Under his leadership, the church broadcast Sunday evening services over the WRAP radio station. Rev. Bobbitt left in 1963 to become the pastor of Leadenhall Baptist Church in Baltimore, Maryland.

After the departure of Rev. Bobbitt, the church officers and members purchased the property of Burrows Memorial Baptist Church at 38th Street and Bluestone Avenue. In November of 1963, Rev. Dr. O.B. Burson came to lead the congregation. In September of 1964, Dr. Burson marched the congregation from the church on 45th Street to the new church on 38th and Bluestone Avenue. He and the church family remodeled the sanctuary. Dr. Burson established well rounded programs to meet all age groups in the church. In 1969, Rev. Burson left FBCLP to be come the pastor of Holy Trinity Baptist Church in Brooklyn, New York. Later on in 1969, Rev. Dr. M.L. Williams became our pastor. Under his leadership, the Board of Christian Education was organized and the church acquired four parcels of land that extended from Bluestone Avenue to Bowden's Ferry Road. Rev. Dr. Marvin Williams retired in December 1989 after 20 years of service.

In December of 1990, Rev. Anthony C. Paige was chosen to be the pastor and installed in 1991. Many changes took place under Rev. Paige's leadership. The church marched into a new Worship Center and atrium that connects the old and new structure on September 21, 2003. Over 40 new ministries became active in the church. Some of these include the free adult health clinic that was started at the church; the renovation of the kitchen and fellowship hall; a free week of all-day summer camp for children; commissioning of Missionaries and also the church was awarded a \$7.3 million grant by the U.S. Dept of Housing and Urban Development, jointly with a California non-profit management company, to build a housing facility for the elderly. For the first time in the history of church, women were licensed and ordained into the ministry and the church elected female deacons. Rev. Paige was very active in the community. He served on the Norfolk City Planning Commission and on the Board of Visitors at ODU. Rev. Paige served on the State Board of Correction. Rev. Anthony Paige retired in November 2021 from FBCLP after 30 years of faithful service. In February 2024, the church elected Rev. Primas O. Paige Sr. to be the 13th Pastor of First Baptist Church of Lambert's Point. We, the congregation look forward to working alongside Pastor Primas to fulfill the vision God has for his people.



# MAY

## DATES TO REMEMBER

**MAY  
12**

**MOTHER'S DAY**

**MAY  
12-16**

**VIRGINIA BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION -  
157TH ANNUAL SESSION - NORFOLK**

**MAY  
18**

**WOMEN'S DAY COMMITTEE LUNCHEON  
FELLOWSHIP HALL 12 NOON**

**MAY  
19**

**TEACHER APPRECIATION DAY**

**MAY  
24-26**

**CHURCH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION**

**MAY  
24**

**FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT ON LAWN  
SEE FLYER FOR MORE INFO**

**MAY  
27**

**CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED (MEMORIAL DAY)**

**18TH  
MAY**

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF LAMBERT'S POINT



**WOMEN'S DAY**  
*Luncheon*



*Women Equipped to do God's Will*

**12:00 P.M.**

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF LAMBERT'S POINT FELLOWSHIP HALL**

**ATTIRE: SPRING COLORS**

**DONATION: \$6**

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH LAMBERT'S POINT  
PRESENTS

FRIDAY  
MAY 24 | 7PM



# FAMILY

## MOVIE NIGHT

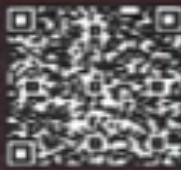
ON THE LAWN



FEATURED MOVIE

# SISTER ACT II

\$10 - ADULTS \$5 - CHILDREN 16 & UNDER



[SIGN UP HERE](#)

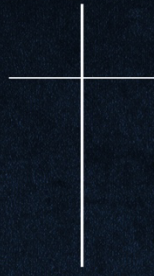
[SIGN UP HERE](#)



*Happy*  
**Mother's  
Day**

**Thank You Mothers for Being a Blessing in Our Life**

We want to take a moment and let you know you are truly appreciated. To the aunt's, grandmother's, sister's, and those women that took time to help us, thank you for the love you gave. We thank God for giving us you. Happy Mother's Day.



# CONDOLENCES

TO THE FAMILY OF

*Sis Sarah Mason*

MOTHER OF SONYA JONES & GRANDMOTHER OF SIS  
CAPRIA MASON

*Edna Rasco*

SISTER IN LAW OF TRUSTEE ESSIE DAVIS & MOTHER OF  
SIS CYNTHIA JOHNSON

## Scholarship



**All graduating high school students please fill out an application for the church scholarship if you plan to attend a college or trade school by 5/31/2024. See Deacon Evelena Carter for a application.**