



Greetings SFM Family!

TGBTG, we are back! We are back at church with those who are comfortable and available, and continue on Zoom for all others. God covered and kept us while we were unable to come together for in-person worship for *more than 15 months*... In this valley of the shadow of death we didn't have to fear evil because God was with us, and for the first 150 days we came together daily for fellowship. We prayed, laughed, cried and shared our stories with one another. We even had to stop on several occasions to bury our loved ones and release them back from whence they came. There were some dark days as we witnessed the death tolls continue to rise in our city. Thank God, some of us wrestled with Corona Virus, and we recovered.

From time to time we incorporated humor and games on Saturday nights. We held all our Sunday Worship services, meetings, Sacred Text study, Prayer Circle, Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Church Anniversary, Watch-Night Service, and even our Women's All-day Retreat on Zoom. We continued to be faithful stewards of what God continued to provide, even though for some of us it changed. God cradled us as some wrestled with fear, anxiety, joblessness, and even loneliness. And although we are still in a Pandemic we have emerged as stronger, wiser, more compassionate and deeper in our faith in God, our provider.

We returned to in-person fellowship the first Sunday in July, after coming together the day before for our annual outing in the park. We were **full** with testimonies of God's grace and mercy that carried us through. We were also able to weep and mourn in service together for the first time since March 2020.

Since returning we continue to feed our spirits through assembling ourselves for in-person and Zoom worship each Sunday, weekly Sacred Text study on Zoom, by serving one another in new ways, and weekly Zoom check-in on Wednesday mornings. God continues to build our house, and to open new doors for us to serve all of God's people. We remain committed to humbling ourselves, and being open to receive all that God has for us through greater surrender...

We bless our clergy, trustees, deacons, leaders, and our entire congregation for their faithfulness in this season. We continue to thank our deacons for this avenue of spreading the Good News! This Newsletter bears witness to the unconditional love and faithfulness of our God. **TGBTG!**

QUARTERLY EVENT REVIEW 2021



JULY 2021

7/3/21 Friends & Family Church Outing – Highland Park
7/4/21 First Sunday back in our Building

AUGUST 2021

MEN'S MONTH-Theme: "IN GOD ARMOUR I FACE THE MAN IN THE MIRROR"

8/1/21 Pastoral Hour: Min. Miles Chapman

8/8/21 Pastoral Hour: Rev. Wesley Curtis

Theme Speaker: Brother Quentin

8/15/21 Pastoral Hour: DCT Christopher Samuels
Trustee Roger Sinclair

8/22/21 Pastoral Hour: Rev. Keith Holder

8/29/21 Pastoral Hour: Elder Edgar Gaines

SEPTEMBER 2021

9/19/21 Usher Appreciation Sunday

9/26/21 SFM Fellowship at Safe Haven United Church of Christ (UCC)



OCTOBER 2021

TBD Healing Circle- 8pm on Zoom

NOVEMBER 2021

TBD Healing Circle- 8pm on Zoom

TBD Clergy Retreat

11/19/21 SHUT-IN via Zoom

DECEMBER 2021

TBD Healing Circle- 8 pm on Zoom

12/11/21 SELT Winter Fundraiser- additional info to follow

12/31/21 WATCH NIGHT SERVICE via Zoom



October: Jacqueline Serrano (11); Evan. Clarice McCollough (14); Linda Carreza (21); Rev. Dr. Lynn Sexton (26);

November: Janis Elder (2); Dea. Victoria Taylor (6); Donna Williams (7); Rev. Wesley Curtis (7); Gail Williams-Perou (24); Claudia Goodwin (28); Min. Sam Sanders (30)

December: Cheryl George (3); Rev Laura Adams (5); Anthony Lockett (6); Denise Pilgrim (8); Christopher Samuels (13); Sherrie Felder (14); Janell Thomas (14); Missi Hughes-Pinkney (20); Sharon Lucas (23); Letitia Hawkins (24); James Spell (26)

SFM Ministries

1. **WOMEN'S MINISTRY** – led by Freida Sanders
2. **SINGLE'S MINISTRY** – led by Rev. Laura Faye Adams
3. **MEN'S MINISTRY** – led by DCT Chris Samuels, Min. Miles Chapman and Rev. Keith Holder
4. **CHILDREN'S MINISTRY** – led by Min. Denise Pilgrim and Missi Hughes-Pinkney
5. **SACRED COUPLE'S MINISTRY** – TBD
6. **MASCULINE IDENTIFIED LESBIAN MINISTRY (MIL)** – led by Rev. Alicia Heath-Toby
7. **HIV/AIDS MINISTRY** – led by Rev. Holder/Min. Pilgrim
8. **CONNECTIONS- (Journaling)** - TBD
9. **PERFORMING ARTS MINISTRY** – led by Rev. Wesley Curtis



Outreach is defined as reaching out to others, and/or becoming involved in a community or effort.

SFM continues to serve our community in many ways, which includes the following:

- ◆ **Street/Pastoral Care Outreach**
- ◆ **Bushwick Rehabilitation and Health Center** – brings praise/worship and token of love to the Senior Citizens
- ◆ **Baybee Lounge Day Care Center** – provides hats, gloves, scarves, toys, and school supplies for children from Pre-K to 8th grade
- ◆ **New Eyes** – provides prescription glasses for the visually impaired.
- ◆ **Sacred Study Text** – Exploring sacred text and applying it to the 21st Century
- ◆ **SFM Prayer Line (Thursday) @ 7pm** – Dial: 319-527-3511 - Participant Code: 515362#
- ◆ **Weekly Zoom Check-in** – Every Wed. @ 11am