

A Church Empowered by the Word of God – May 2024

Celebrating the 50th Year in the Service of God

Open Door Voice

Open Door Baptist Church

Rev. Dr. Bernard M. Taylor
Pastor

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Chairman, Deacon Ministry

Deacon Fred Walker
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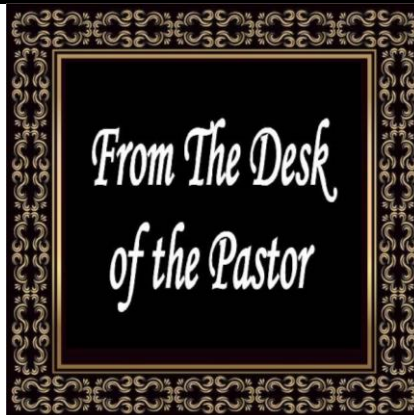
Trustee Tomika Holmes
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Sister Deborah Lyles
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Greetings this month!

I want to take the opportunity to thank all who have been weathering these most recent storms. I am speaking of the number of persons who have very recently lost family members. This has required us to increase ministry to those persons who are grieving and we have done so. When the loss of a loved one occurs, persons often feel a wide range of emotions. These emotions can make it difficult to maintain a normal routine while also handling the additional responsibilities that accompany the loss. These responsibilities can be very daunting especially if the persons managing them have

not had any prior experience in this area.

For this reason, in ministering to families, we attempt to provide as much support as may be required. This usually involves a lot of hand holding but it is what they need at the time. A person may not fully be able to experience the full scope of their loss until much later after a loved one has been laid to rest and they attempt to restart their normal routine. We therefore need to continue to monitor, call, pray and provide the necessary wellness activities beyond the period of the funeral.

1 Corinthians 12:26 (KJV)
And whether one member suffer, all the members suffer with it; or one member be honoured, all the members rejoice with it.

We should never forget that unity is a very large part of our purpose as a community of believers. Unity with The Lord and with each other.

Congratulations are extended to all of the Missionaries and each program participant in the Missionary Service Celebration. Keep up the good work!

Finally, as we leave the Easter/Passover season and move closer into spring and summer let us be both thankful and mindful of the eternal blessings of our Lord.

Be sure to stay tuned for more celebrations from the 50th Church Anniversary Committee. Actively join in and participate as we celebrate all year long!

Isaiah 40:8 (KJV)

The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever.

Blessing to each of you and thankful that we are ***"Giving to change lives; small enough to care, big enough to make a difference."***

Pastor Taylor

Her Hands

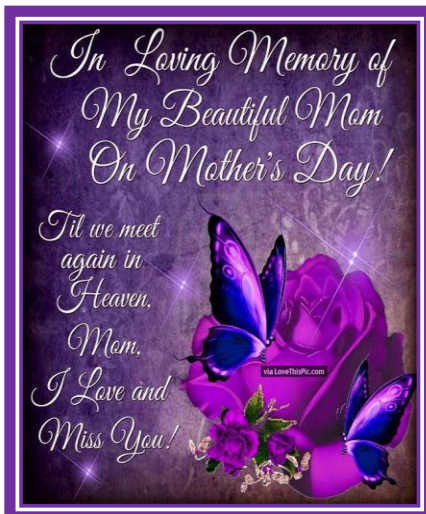


Her hands held me gently from

the day I took my first breath. Her hands helped to guide me as I took my first step. Her hands held me close when the tears would start to fall. Her hands were quick to show me that she would take care of it all.

Her hands were there to brush my hair, or straighten a wayward bow. Her hands were often there to comfort the hurts that didn't always show. Her hands helped hold the stars in place, and encouraged me to reach. Her hands would clap and cheer and praise when I captured them at length.

Her hands would also push me, though not down or in harm's way. Her hands would punctuate the words, just do what I say. Her hands sometimes had to discipline, to help bend this young tree. Her hands would shape and mold me into all she knew I could be. Her hands are more beautiful than anything can be. Her hands are the reason I am me.



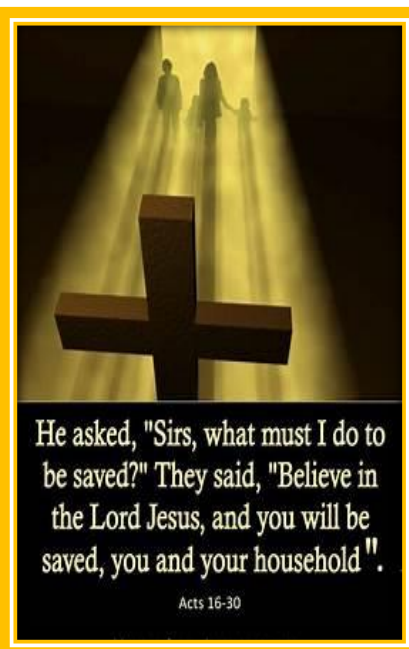
I'll Celebrate Instead of Cry

Another Mother's Day is here, And I still miss having you near. You were the best mom you could

be, And I never once doubted your love for me.

I could spend each Mother's Day in sorrow, Crying and wishing you were here, But instead I choose to celebrate your life, A life I still hold so dear.

I know you'd rather see me smile Than stand here with tears in my eyes. So I'll do my best to honor your memory, And you'll live on as long as I am alive.



He asked, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" They said, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household".

Acts 16-30

As a confessed follower of the Lord Jesus Christ, make this year the year that you study the Word of God in order to learn of Him and follow in the footsteps of His Son.

Here at the Open Door Baptist Church we preach and teach Jesus Christ, the Son of the Living God. Join us as we grow and learn of Him.

Join Us Each Sunday in person at 5600 Central Avenue, SE – Washington, DC (***don't forget to wear your mask***) or on our website at odbc5600.com at **11:00 am** for the Worship Service.

The Word of God is Preached and Taught here in Sunday

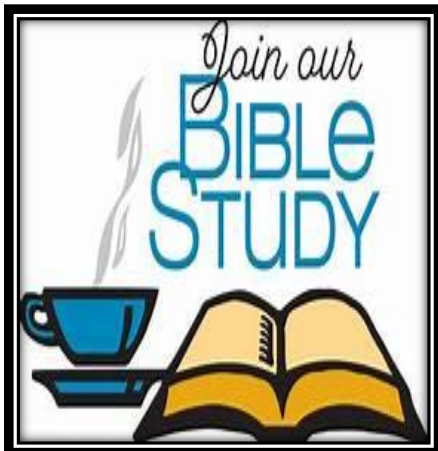
School on Sundays, on Tuesdays and Wednesdays Bible Studies. Join us. Tune in on zoom.com or by phone. The phone number is the same for each class (301-715-8592) but the Meeting ID numbers are different for each one. All are invited and welcome to join in. Our Bible Studies are as follows.

Sunday School
Sunday @ 9:30 am
ID No: 810 2029 3019

Mid-Day Bible Study
Tuesdays @ 11:00 am
ID No: 156-595-416

Night Bible Studies
Wednesday @ 6:30 pm
ID No: 157-597-139

If the church office has your email address, a copy of the Sunday School Study Book will be sent to you. Just download the Lesson/Book, save it in your files where you can find it, open it up and study the lessons. If we do not have your email address and you would like a copy, notify the church office at odbc5600@aol.com.



Studying the Bible holds immense value for believers, and there are several compelling reasons to engage in this practice.

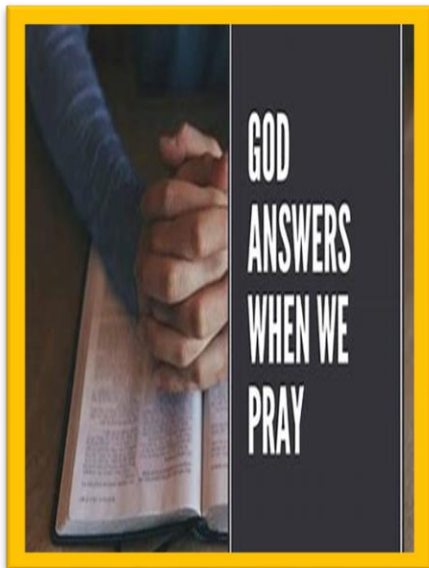
Let's explore some of these reasons.

- Guarding Against False Teachings:** False teaching is a significant threat to a strong and healthy walk with the Lord. Just as Satan twisted God's Word in the Garden of Eden, false teachers continue to distort and deny the truth. Consistent Bible study equips us to recognize false teachings and discern God's Word accurately. By immersing ourselves in Scripture, we become less susceptible to deception and more rooted in truth.
- Discovering Ultimate Meaning:** The Bible is not merely a collection of concepts; it introduces us to a Person—God Himself. As we study, we draw closer to the intended meaning of God's Word and, ultimately, to Him. Scripture carries the weight of God's character and message. When we neglect Bible study, we miss out on a relationship with God Himself.
- Experiencing Life Transformation:** God's Word is powerful and life-giving. Just as Jesus' words created life at the beginning of time, His words continue to shape and transform us. Bible study allows us to encounter God's truth, which has the capacity to address our deepest needs, brokenness, and joys.

- Aligning with God's Will:** Studying the Bible aligns us with God's ultimate purpose for our lives—to reflect His character in all circumstances. Prioritizing Jesus' words influences our thinking and behavior, leading to godly living.
- Deepening Community:** Studying the Bible together strengthens a godly community. It's easier to study when we're not alone. Consider joining a group of friends or fellow believers to explore God's Word together as a community.
- Maintaining Connection with God:** Daily Bible reading keeps us connected to God through His written Word. It reminds us of His character, His promises, our dependence on Him, and our future together. Familiarity with Scripture energizes our souls and keeps us grounded.

Studying the Bible is not just an intellectual exercise; it's a transformative journey that draws us closer to God, equips us against deception, and shapes our lives according to His will.

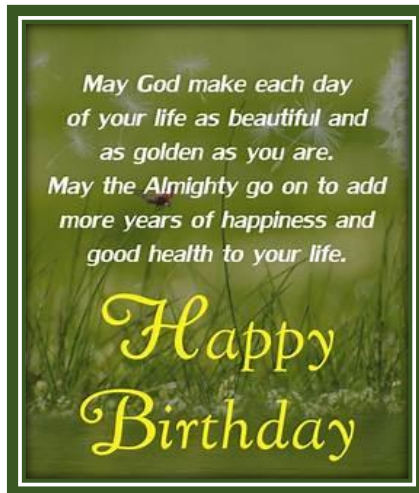
For more information visit our website odbc5600.com and log on. Come on and join us, this IS the Open Door Baptist Church, we teach and preach Jesus Christ, the Son of the Living God!



Please Continue to Pray for:

Brother Amu Allston
 Brother Bernard Powell
 Brother Clinton Winborne
 Brother Luke Allsbrook
 Brother Marcus McCoy
 Brother Nathaniel Scott, Sr.
 Brother Ronnell D. Monroe
 Brother Roscoe Satterwhite
 Coronavirus Victims & Families
 Deaconess Kandace Taylor
 Deaconess Montez Taylor
 Deaconess Patricia Brooks
 Haiti & the World
 Rev. Dr. Bernard M. Taylor
 Sister Brenda V. Jones
 Sister Chita Taylor
 Sister Cynthia McDuffie
 Sister Gloria Jefferson
 Mother Grace Ayers
 Sister Jackie Caroline
 Sister Joan Thomas
 Sister Kimella Rodgers
 Sister LaKisa Taylor-Allston
 Sister LaShawn Farrish
 Sister Lisa Ayers
 Sister Margaret Smelley
 Sister Marva Price
 Sister Mary Jones
 Sister Mary Latimer
 Sister Robin Briscoe
 Sister Theresa Law
 United States of America
 All Members of the ODBC, those in
 the Medical & Health Care
 Profession, Fire Department, Police
 Department, Transit Authority,
 Preachers, Teachers and all other

persons who are on the front line
 of service
**Special prayers for the unrest
 all over the world**



*Happy Birthday to all who were
 born in the month of May, especially
 to the following.*

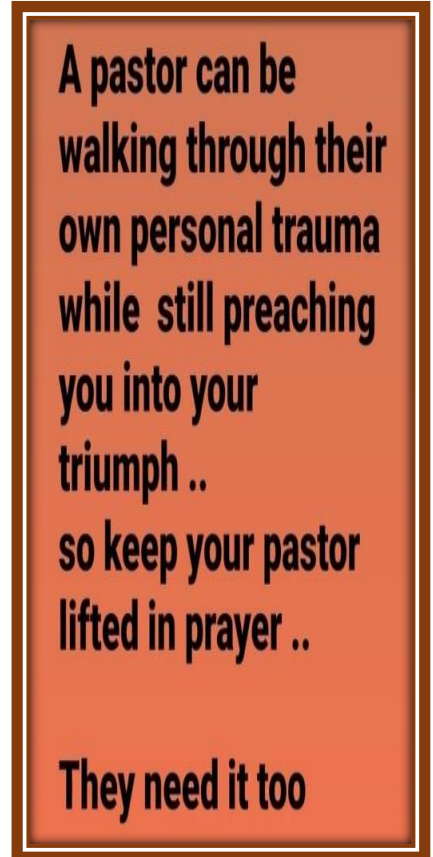
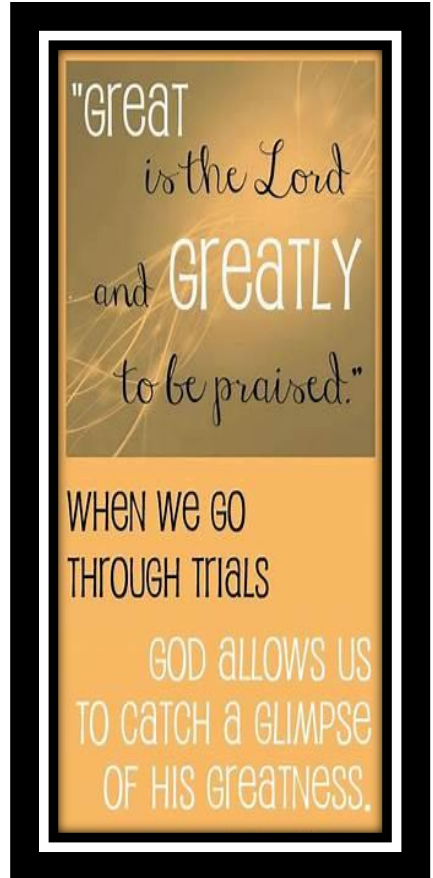
Brother George Allen, Sr.
 May 3

Sister Rosa D. Winborne
 May 9

Sister Royal Ledbetter
 May 30



*To All Who Celebrate
 their Wedding
 Anniversary in the
 month of **May**.*



*Submitted by
 Sister Royale Ledbetter*