

## A Church Empowered by the Word of God – December 2025

# Open Door Voice

### *Open Door Baptist Church*

#### **Rev. Dr. Bernard M. Taylor**

##### **Pastor**

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#### **Deacon Mark Leach**

Chairman, Deacon Ministry

#### **Trustee Bernodette Melton**

Chairperson, Trustee Ministry & Treasurer

#### **Trustee Romell McCoy**

Financial Secretary

#### **Trustee Tomika Holmes**

Coordinator – Budget Ministry

#### **Sister Margaret Jackson**

Church Clerk

#### **Sister Chita Taylor**

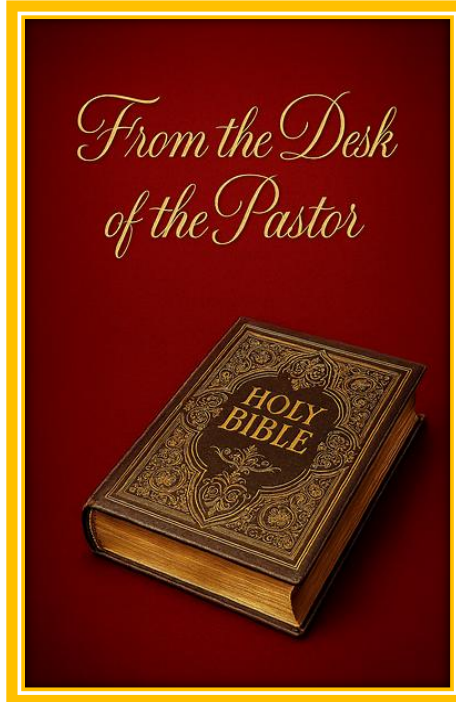
Assistant Church Clerk &

Assistant Treasurer

#### **Trustee Michelle McCord**

Date Clerk

Email: [mmccord24@yahoo.com](mailto:mmccord24@yahoo.com)



Greetings,

Let me start by saying I hope everyone of you had a warm and wonderful Thanksgiving. I join each of you in remembering that we have much to be thankful for, even as we are going through very challenging times.

During difficult times we are often challenged in our faith and we must struggle harder to remain faithful and to stay focused. Every day there is increasing pressure to give in to the many challenges that we face. If we are not careful worldliness will erode our faith.

Drawing closer to The Lord is a good way to strengthen ourselves

against the "Evil Day." The Word of God tells us how we can be victorious in times like these!

#### **Ephesians 6:13 (KJV)**

***Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.***

This is not the time to quit, to stop or to let go! We need to hold even tighter to "God's Unchanging Hand."

Now, I want to thank all who have been actively involved in ministry. We have been on a very busy schedule this past month and I don't take your participation for granted. I appreciate each of you for how you have responded to the call and served faithfully in unity with one another.

I am especially grateful for all who participated in the Meal Packaging Event. We were able to package 150 thousand meals in less than two days! Amen and to God be the glory!!

Congratulations to all of the men for a very successful Men's Day. Special thanks to Brother Keith Kilgo who again sponsored the Health Summit. The information

that was provided was very beneficial and was appreciated by those in attendance.

Next up, as we get ready and make preparations for Christmas, remember:

***Jesus is the reason for the season!***

Blessings to you all,  
Pastor Taylor



## **A Magnificent Tribute to God and His Son, Jesus Christ**

O Lord Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, we lift our voices in awe and adoration. From everlasting to everlasting, You are God—perfect in holiness, infinite in mercy, and boundless in love.

**Your love for mankind** is beyond measure. Though we wandered in darkness, You did not abandon us. Instead, You sent forth the light of salvation,

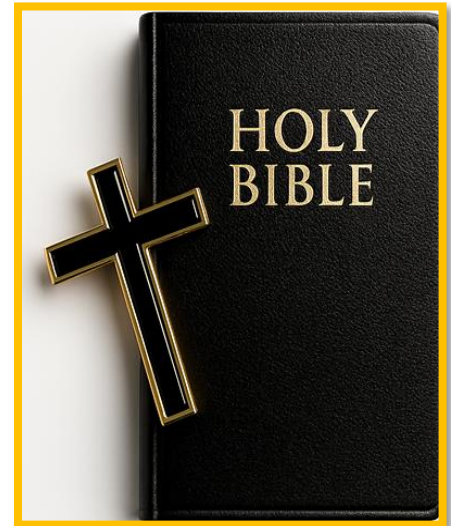
the Word made flesh, to dwell among us.

**In the fullness of time, You gave us Your Son, Jesus Christ.** Born of the Virgin Mary in Bethlehem, He came not with earthly splendor but in humility, wrapped in swaddling clothes, laid in a manger. Angels proclaimed His glory, shepherds bowed in wonder, and wise men journeyed from afar to honor the King of kings.

**We celebrate His birth each December,** not as mere tradition, but as the remembrance of Your greatest gift: Emmanuel, “God with us.” Through Him, You revealed the depth of Your compassion, the power of Your redemption, and the promise of eternal life.

**Jesus Christ, Your beloved Son,** is the Lamb who takes away the sin of the world. He is the Prince of Peace, the Light that shines in the darkness, the Savior who reconciles heaven and earth. By His life, death, and resurrection, He opened the way for us to be called Your children.

**All glory belongs to You, O God.** We exalt Your name, we magnify Your Son, and we rejoice in the Spirit who comforts and guides us. May our hearts be ever filled with gratitude, our lips with praise, and our lives with testimony to Your unfailing love.



**Opening your heart to Scripture and growing in faith through the Word of God is one of the most enriching choices you can make. As you study the Scriptures, you'll uncover the depth of God's love, a wellspring of joy, wisdom, and comfort in every season of life. Each verse draws you into deeper intimacy with Him, revealing timeless truths that illuminate your path and strengthen your spirit..**

Through this sacred exploration, we come to understand God's character, His promises, and our place within His divine plan. The joy of knowing Him through His Word transforms our hearts, renews our minds, and fills our lives with grace, purpose, and peace.

At Open Door Baptist Church, we are committed to preaching and teaching Jesus Christ, the Son of the Living God. We invite you to grow with us as we learn of Him together.

**Join Us Each Sunday in person at 5600 Central Avenue, SE – Washington, DC or on our website at [odbc5600.com](http://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 @ 9:45 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](mailto:odbc5600@aol.com).



Brother Bernard Powell  
Brother Luke Allsbrook  
Bother Mike Christ  
Brother Robert Bennett

Deaconess Patricia Brooks  
Mother Grace Ayers  
Rev. Dr. Bernard M. Taylor  
Sister Brenda V. Jones  
Sister Jackie Caroline  
Sister Margaret Smelley  
Sister Marva Price

**Special prayers for the unrest all over the world**



**Happy Birthday**  
*born in the month of*  
**December**

**Blanche Smith**  
December 6

**Sister Mary Jones**  
December 7

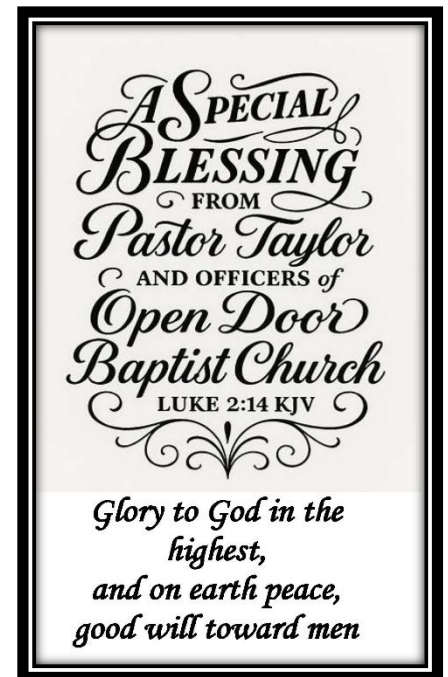
**Trustee Sheila B. Hall**  
December 9

**Sister Mary Latimer**  
December 9

**Sister Gloria Lee Jefferson**  
December 26



*To All Who Celebrate  
their Wedding  
Anniversary in the month  
of **December!***



*Beloved Members and  
Friends of the Open Door  
Baptist Church Family,*

*As we come to the close  
of another year, our  
hearts overflow with*

*gratitude to God and to each of you. We pause to reflect on the goodness of the Lord, who has sustained us through every season, and we lift our voices in thanksgiving for the love, unity, and unwavering support that you have poured into this ministry.*

*We thank you for your kindness, your consideration, and your steadfast prayers. Your financial support has helped us keep the lights on, the doors open, and the Word of God flowing into the hearts of many. Your encouragement has lifted weary spirits. Your presence has brought warmth to our fellowship. Your faith has strengthened our walk.*

*We thank God for every hand that served, every heart that gave, every soul that prayed, and every voice that sang praises to His name. Whether in great acts or small gestures, your contributions have been a*

*fragrant offering to the Lord, and we do not take them for granted.*

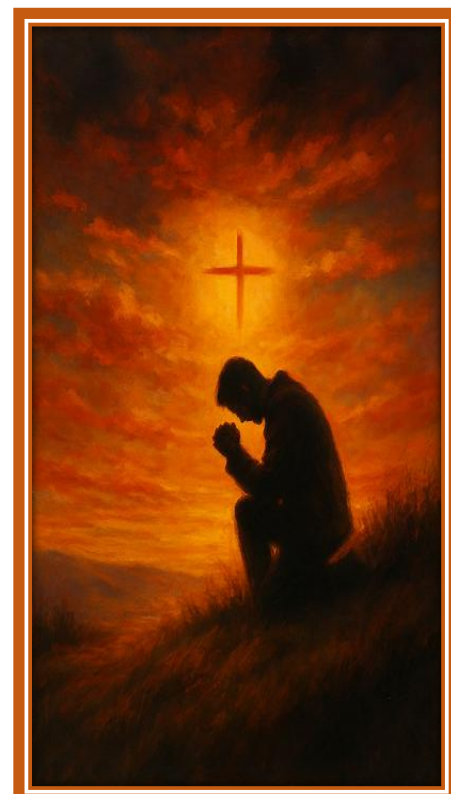
*We are grateful for the children who bring joy to our gatherings, the elders who share wisdom and grace, the volunteers who labor in love, and the saints who intercede in quiet places. We thank God for the laughter shared, the tears wiped away, the burdens lifted, and the victories celebrated together.*

*As we enter a new year, we speak blessings over your homes, your health, your families, and your future. May the Spirit of the Living God fill your days with peace, your nights with rest, and your hearts with joy. May He guide your steps, renew your strength, and surround you with favor as with a shield.*

*Let us walk into 2026 with bold faith, renewed purpose, and a deeper commitment to love one another as Christ has loved us. May this be a*

*Spirit-filled New Year, overflowing with divine appointments, answered prayers, and fresh anointing.*

*Thank you. We love you. We bless you. And we thank God for you.*



*Let us begin the New Year with consecrated hearts, seeking God's direction, wisdom, and power. Whether in fasting, prayer, or quiet reflection, may we dedicate the first fruits of 2026 to the Lord, trusting Him to lead us into greater purpose and deeper fellowship.*