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

# Open Door Voice

#### Open Door Baptist Church

### Rev. Dr. Bernard M. Taylor Pastor

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Deacon Mark Leach
Chairman, Deacon Ministry
Deacon Fred Walker
Deacon Emeritus

**Deaconess Montez D. Taylor** President, Deaconess Ministry

Trustee Bernodette Melton
Chairperson, Trustee Ministry &
Treasurer

**Trustee Romell McCoy Financial Secretary** 

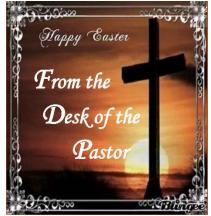
Trustee Tomika Holmes
Coordinator – Budget Ministry
Sister Margaret Jackson
Church Clerk

Sister Shamia Ross
Assistant Church Clerk

Trustee Michelle McCord
Date Clerk

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Greetings,

This month as we approach the season of Passover, we are called to remember the sacrifice of Jesus. The church, along with believers all over the world celebrate the resurrection of the Lord and the ultimate promise of God to give eternal life to all who believe.

Also at this time, our hearts are filled with sadness over the loss of two faithful servants, Sister Joan Thomas and Deacon Frederick Walker. Both will be remembered as two of the Lord's best. Joan Thomas had been ill for a very long time finally finished her race. She served as the matriarch for her family. She was a tireless servant for as long as she was able. She willingly and faithfully served in this local church in various capacities. She was loved by all and we will certainly miss her.

The Lord also saw fit to call Deacon Frederick Walker from labor to reward. It is always difficult to lose any that have been faithful. Fred Walker was a genuine servant of our Lord and one whom I will remember as a true friend. I was fortunate to inherit him as he was the only Deacon when I came to this ministry as pastor. Deacon Walker worked and served by my side for 34 years. He worked in the community and he traveled around the country representing the church and ministry. Over the passage of time, Deacon Walker became a close friend and confidant who demonstrated his love for our Savior and his love for me

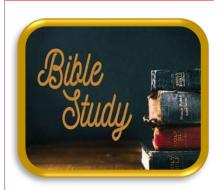
As I have stated, it is always very difficult to lose someone who is faithful. We shall miss both of these true servants but they were never ours to keep. We must remember to be thankful for those who have crossed our path and deposited light in our lives. God bless both of them and may God continue to watch over all of us.

Isaiah 40:28-31 (KJV)
28. Hast thou not known?
hast thou not heard, that
the everlasting God, the
LORD, the Creator of the
ends of the earth, fainteth
not, neither is weary? there
is no searching of his
understanding.
29. He giveth power to the
faint; and to them that
have no might he
increaseth strength.

30. Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall:

31. But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

Pastor Taylor



**Embarking on a Bible** study journey to uncover God's love is an incredibly enriching decision, bringing immense joy and enlightenment. This process reveals timeless wisdom, offering guidance and comfort during life's challenges. Each verse and chapter draws you closer to God, developing a profound sense of connection and purpose that transcends the ordinary.

As we explore the scriptures, we gain insights into God's character and promises, as well as our own place in His grand design. The joy of knowing

God through His Word transforms our thoughts, actions, and spirit, leading us to a life filled with grace, love, and fulfillment.

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 (301715-8592) 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.

### PRAYER FOR THE SICK

Father God, we lift up all those who are facing illness today. We ask that You would bring healing, comfort and peace to their bodies. Calm their fears and let them experience the healing power of Your love. In Jesus' name. Amen.

# Please Continue to Pray for:

**Bother Mike Christ Brother Luke Allsbrook Brother Marcus McCoy Brother Larry G. Foster Deaconess Kandace Taylor Deaconess Montez Taylor Deaconess Patricia Brooks** Haiti & the World **Mother Grace Avers** Rev. Dr. Bernard M. Taylor Sister Brenda V. Jones Sister Cynthia McDuffie Sister Gloria Jefferson **Sister Jackie Caroline Sister Joan Thomas** Sister Kimella Rodgers Sister LaShawn Farrish **Sister Margaret Smelley** 

Sister Marva Price
Sister Mary Jones
Sister Mary Latimer
Sister Robin Briscoe
United States of America

All Members of the ODBC, those in the Medical & Health Care Profession, Fire Department, Police Department, Transit Authority, Preachers, Teaches 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 April to the following.

Delores Walker April 4

Sister Helen Scott April 7

Trustee Bernodette Melton
April 11

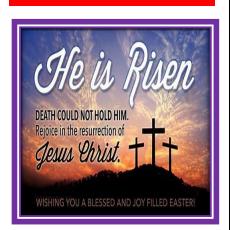
Deaconess Patricia Brooks
April 14

Deaconess Anna Peters April 23

### Sister Gloria Miles April 24



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



Hallelujah! He is risen! This Easter season, let us come together with hearts full of gratitude and wonder as we celebrate the greatest miracle of all—the resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. This divine act of love and triumph over sin and death offers every one of us the priceless gift of eternal life.

The resurrection is not just a historical event; it is the foundation of our faith and the ultimate demonstration of God's unrelenting love for humanity. As Romans 6:23 proclaims, "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

This gift is freely offered to all who believe—no matter who you are or where you've been, God's grace is boundless, and His arms are always open.

If you've ever doubted your worth or felt the weight of life's challenges, remember this: Jesus willingly laid down His life for you. He bore the cross, not because we deserved it, but because His love for us is immeasurable. He rose again to proclaim victory—not only for Himself but for you. This is the hope of Easter: that through Him, we can live new, transformed lives filled with purpose, joy, and peace.

Believing in God and accepting His Son, Jesus Christ, is not just about eternity—it's about experiencing His presence in our daily lives. He is a God who walks with us, carries us in our struggles, and fills our hearts with hope, even in the darkest moments. As Isaiah 43:2 reminds us, "When you pass through the waters, I

### will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you."

Dear friends, open your hearts to Him this Easter. If you've been seeking meaning, peace, or healing, take that leap of faith and surrender your worries to Him, and allow His love to transform you from within. It's never too late to place your trust in Jesus and to experience the fullness of life that only He can provide.

As a church family, let us reflect this transformative love in our words, actions, and outreach. Just as Christ shared the Good News, let us share it with our neighbors, coworkers, and friends. Let us be bold in declaring His name and joyfully living out His teachings. Together, we can light the way for others to know His grace.

Easter is a season of renewal, a time to let go of fear, doubt, and despair, and to embrace the abundance of God's blessings. Let us rejoice with the psalmist, saying, "This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it" (Psalm 118:24). For Christ is risen—He is risen indeed! May the message of Easter fill your hearts with unshakable faith, unending hope, and overflowing love.

Remember, God has written His story of redemption for you, and it is beautiful beyond compare.



From the Technology Minister - Submitted by Deacon Mark Leach

# Free Microsoft Office Software Alternatives:

# LibreOffice, OpenOffice, and Google Apps

Looking for a powerful, costeffective alternative to
Microsoft Office? Open-source
office suites like LibreOffice
and Apache OpenOffice,
along with Google Apps,
provide feature-rich
applications for word
processing, spreadsheets,
presentations, and more—
without the expensive
licensing fees.

## Why Choose Free Office Software?

- **⊘** No Cost Save money with free alternatives.
- **∀ Full Compatibility** Open, edit, and save Microsoft Office file formats (.docx, .xlsx, .pptx).

#### LibreOffice

Developed by The Document Foundation, LibreOffice is known for its modern interface, frequent updates, and strong support for Microsoft file formats.

#### ⇔ Download:

https://www.libreoffice.org/download/

#### **Apache OpenOffice**

A long-standing office suite, Apache OpenOffice provides a reliable and familiar experience for users looking for a traditional desktop alternative.

#### ⇔ Download:

https://www.openoffice.org/download/

# Google Apps (Google Docs, Sheets, Slides)

Google's cloud-based office suite allows users to create, edit, and collaborate in real time from any device with an internet connection. It's perfect for teams and individuals who need seamless access across multiple devices.

### ← Access Google Apps:

https://www.google.com/docs/about/

Whether you need a fully offline suite or a cloud-based collaboration tool, these free office software options provide flexibility, power, and savings. Try them today!