

# FIFTEENTH AVENUE SUNDAYS • 10:00 A.M.

1203 9th Ave N, Nashville, TN 37208 Phone Number: (615) 256-4326 Weekly Activities:

Weekly Devotional • Mondays at 9:00 a.m.
Bible Study • Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.
Website: fifteenthave.org

## Hours of Operation:

Monday - Friday: 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Worship Administrator: Rev. Dr. Jeanine C. Miller, Ph. D., spe-hsp jmiller@fifteenthave.org

Online Giving Available via EasyTithe Visit fifteenthave.org for more information

# Fifteenth Avenue Baptist Church 137th Church Anniversary







# Order of Worship

May 15, 2022

Call to Worship & Invocation Praise and Worship Old Testament Scripture: Deuteronomy 28:1-6 **Announcements** Welcome & Fellowship Offertory Prayer New Testament Scripture: John 13:31-35 Altar Call & Prayer Musical Selection Sermon - Rev. Dr. Don Darius Butler Invitation to Discipleship Introduction Pastoral Search Committee Charge to Pastoral Search Committee and Prayer Benediction **Closing Song** 

### **Mission Statement:**

To perpetuate the kingdom agenda (love, hospitality and justice) of God as expressed in the life and works of Jesus the Christ and to be continuously engaged by the Holy Spirit in the work of ministry in becoming God's transforming agents in the world.

John 14:12

### The Reverend Don Darius Butler

A proud native of the picturesque island of New Providence, nestled in the Commonwealth of the Bahamas, Reverend Don Darius Butler, was nurtured in the Christian faith in the Pentecostal tradition and professed his hope in Christ as a Baptist.

In his formative years, Butler received a clear assurance of a divine call to preach the gospel and gave full evidence of his calling at the Mission Baptist Church of Nassau, where he was later licensed and ordained.

Yielding to the leading of God, the teenage minister moved more than 1500 miles from his native Nassau, Bahamas, to Nashville, TN, where he matriculated at American Baptist College, graduating summa cum laude with a baccalaureate degree.

His theological studies continued at Vanderbilt University Divinity School as a Kelly Miller Smith Scholar. There he was awarded a divinity degree with honors, along with the Saint James Academy Award for preaching, and a certificate in Black Church Studies. Reverend Butler later received his doctorate in leadership at the Divinity School of Duke University.



A member of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc., Reverend Butler is an avid traveler, lover of books and connoisseur of authentic Caribbean cuisine. He is married to Attorney La Keisha Wright Butler – they have been blessed with a daughter, Dahlia Marie, and a son, Don Darius Jr.

Reverend Butler honed his pastoral care skills, during a yearlong chaplain residency in Clinical Pastoral Education at Norton Healthcare, Louisville, KY. His compassion and gift for the ministry of pastoral caregiving was further refined during his tenure at Kosair Children's Hospital.

From 2009 to 2019, Reverend Butler led the Tabernacle Community Baptist Church, an urban congregation in Milwaukee, WI. By the Spirit's enablement, Butler elevated Tabernacle's spiritual growth and impact, and renewed its social witness in the city. Specifically, the congregation cohosted a gun buyback which took more than 300 weapons off the streets. Following the fatal shooting of a third-grader, Tabernacle opened its doors to the city to lament and address the epidemic of gun violence.

In February 2019, Reverend Butler assumed the pastorate of the First Missionary Baptist Church (FMBC), Huntsville, AL, becoming successor to the 42-year pastoral ministry of the Reverend Dr. Julius R. Scruggs, former President of the National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc. Reverend Butler is blessed to lead the ministry of this thriving church with a rich history and bright future.

Reverend Butler's writings are published in The African American Pulpit; The African American Lectionary; and Walk Together Children: Black and Womanist Theologies, Church and Theological Education.

According to Proverbs 18:16, the gift of this prolific servant of God has made room for him to serve, lecture, teach, preach and bear compelling witness to the matchless power and timeless truth of the gospel in numerous and diverse settings in the Caribbean, across the U.S. and on the continent of Africa.