

# THE INFORMER

OCTOBER

Spotsylvania Sunday School Union Newsletter Vol. 2021 #4

## President's Pen

Good day my brothers and sisters in Christ,

Isn't it a good thing to know we can be forgiven by a God that is almighty and worthy of all praise. We have seen some difficult times recently in our homes, communities, counties, states and nations; however, we are blessed to know who's really in control. Every day, I'm blessed to look around and see the news, look at the newspaper and listen to neighbors, friends and family only to realize that we all will never agree on everything, so this encourages me to pray even more.

A question a lot of people will ask themselves is how important is prayer in our lives in the middle of adversity, which includes family debates, disagreements in church and even the loss of loved ones when we ask the question "Why?" Throughout our proud, dangerous and rewarding history we can always look back and know we may not understand the reasons, but we know that God has been better to us than we have been to ourselves and that he continues to bless us despite ourselves with his Grace (God's Riches at Christ's Expense).

With this in mind I pray for all of you and hope that God's love will continue to grow in your families, communities, states and nations. We must continue to grow strong by understanding his word through study, worship and guidance provided by the teachings of Christ.

Sure, we are all going to have difficulties, defeats, victories, success and misfortunes but I encourage you to remember all of these things are given by a God who loves us and expects us to grow from the different experiences in our lives. I encourage you not to accept defeat because we are not a defeated people. We are a people that learn from defeat because losing a battle does not mean that you lose the war and accepting victory does not mean you should hate the defeated.

Please stay strong in your church families, in your homes and everywhere because the battle is not yours, it's the Lords! He is the victory!!! AMEN!

Be Blessed by the Best,  
Thomas Roberson, SSSU President

## Executive Board Updates



The SSSU officers and trustees would like to extend our sincere gratitude and 'Thank You' to CVS Health for their generous donation of toilet tissue on Saturday, September 25, 2021. We also give a hearty 'Thank You' to our Union church trustees for their dedication and hard work over seeing the delivery and pickup of the toilet tissues.

The Executive Board presently meets every third Saturday at the Ross Memorial Building which is located at the Parksite at 10 am. This is due to the Museum not being open to the public yet due to the Covid pandemic.

## October Quarterly meeting

**October 31, 2021 - Piney Branch Baptist Church where Pastor Dwight Micheal, Sr. is the Pastor will host this meeting by Zoom. We look forward to you joining us on that date at 10:00 am.**

**The dial in number by Zoom is:**

**(301) 715-8592**

**Meeting ID – 505 488 0636**

## Quarterly Meetings Schedule for 2022

<b>January 30</b>	<b>Second New Hope</b>
<b>May 29</b>	<b>Sylvannah</b>
<b>July 31</b>	<b>Zion Hill</b>
<b>October 30</b>	<b>Bethlehem</b>

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## Programs Scheduled for 2022

**Jan. 17, 2022 – Dr. King Breakfast**  
(Time & Place – to be announced later)

**Feb. 19, 2022 – Black History Program**  
(Time & Place – to be announced later)

## JOHN J. WRIGHT MUSEUM NEWS

Since our doors have been closed to COVID the John J. Wright Museum Team has:

Taken inventory of historical records, identified areas of improvement and developed avenues of execution to ensure preservation

Rekindled community relationships, fostered new collaborations and diligently work to facilitate dialogue across racial and cultural

Dusted, sanitized and redesigned the museum's space to welcome in the new!

Join us on October 23, 2021 at 6:30 pm for the hybrid exhibit opening of, "Tools of the Trade: Marketing, Influence, or Propaganda."

Limited number of free in-person exhibit passes will be available become online noon Saturday, October 16, 2021 at [www.JJWMuseum.org](http://www.JJWMuseum.org).

The first hybrid Museum exhibit is open until February 2022. The exhibit provides visitors an opportunity to explore estate collections of paintings, currency, industrial tools, and national distributed print media to provide a greater understanding of marketing, propaganda and the skill of influencing. The hybrid exhibit will share exclusive behind the scenes exhibit content on Facebook.

Like us! Follow Us! Get involved in the perseverance of Spotsy's African American Experience.

Love us and our community by sharing your family's stories. Email us at [JJWECM@gmail.com](mailto:JJWECM@gmail.com) to find out more about joining the Community Curators.

Denise Benedetto  
Be. Do. Inspire.

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## CHURCH NEWS AND UPDATES

### Piney Branch

#### CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR PASTOR!

Pastor Dwight B. Micheal, Sr. of Piney Branch Baptist Church will celebrate his **13th Anniversary on Sunday, November 14, 2021**. This event will be celebrated during their Noon Virtual Church Service.

#### High School Graduates:

Name: Shanell Angel Corbin-Penick  
Parent(s): Robinette Corbin  
High School: Riverbend High School

Name: Jasmine Laboy  
Parent(s): Tabatha Pratt & Marco Laboy  
High School: Chancellor High School

Name: Keyannah Marie McCall  
Parents: Otis McCall (Pete)  
High School: Mountain View High School

Name: Tabias D. McCall  
Parents: Pastor Day McCall & Maria Ward  
High School: Spotsylvania High School

Piney Branch Baptist Church invites everyone to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: PBBC Sunday School Ministry/Virtual Sunday School

Time: 10:00 AM on Every Sunday

Join Zoom Meeting

> <https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/GwvFC2krv8FREpDf1PCTO>

> Meeting ID: 892 3180 3140

> Passcode: 538070

> One tap mobile

> +13017158592,,89231803140#,,,,\*538070# US  
(Washington DC)

> +13126266799,,89231803140#,,,,\*538070# US  
(Chicago)

> Dial by your location

> +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

> +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

> +1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

> +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

> +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

> +1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

> Meeting ID: 892 3180 3140

> Passcode: 538070

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### Zion Hill

#### Zion Hill News

Thanks to all for a great  
Back To School Community Day in July.

Thanks to SS Union for the cases of Tiolet Papers  
for our church family and friends.

Trunk or Treat - October 30, 4 to 6 pm

Thanksgiving Turkey & fixing  
for those who need assistance

Thanksgiving Meals at Golden Corral -  
Compliment  
of Zion Missionary Ministry

Toys for Tots

Register on our website by November 15th  
[zion-hills.com](http://zion-hills.com)

Made with PosterMyWall.com

# CHURCH NEWS AND UPDATES

## First New Hope

First New Hope Baptist church will re-open their church on October 10th.

*The Lord is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart, and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit. - Psalm 34:18*

**Free VIRTUAL BROKENNESS TO HEALING CONFERENCE**  
**OCTOBER 14-16, 2021**

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 14, 7:00 PM, CONFERENCE SESSIONS**  
**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 15, 7:00 PM, CONFERENCE SESSIONS**  
**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 16, 4:00 PM, REV. MIRIAM LYONS UNITY WORSHIP CENTER**  
**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 17, 10:00 AM, BISHOP STEPHEN LYONS UNITY WORSHIP CENTER**

REV. CURTIS ALSTON  
 LEVITICUS CHURCH  
 RICHMOND, VA  
 LINDA ALSOP  
 FIRST NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH  
 PARTLOW, VA  
 MINISTER JACKIE OWENS  
 CHURCH WITHOUT WALLS  
 CHARLES COUNTY, MD  
 TIERRA SMITH, MSW, BSW  
 MACRO PRACTICE SOCIAL WORKER  
 CHESTER, VA

LADY YVONNE REED  
 CROSSROADS RESIDENTIAL CENTER  
 FIRST NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH, PARTLOW, VA  
 REV. JOJUAN WHITE  
 WALLER BAPTIST CHURCH  
 PARTLOW, VA  
 MINISTER MELISSA WHITE  
 FIRST NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH  
 PARTLOW, VA

**View Online**  
**Facebook: [www.facebook.com/firstnewhopebc](http://www.facebook.com/firstnewhopebc)**  
**YouTube: [bit.ly/FNHBCYouTube](http://bit.ly/FNHBCYouTube)**

Topics Include  
 Mental Health, Substance Abuse, Domestic Violence,  
 Finance, and Marriage

Hosted By  
 First New Hope Baptist Church  
 Pastor Stevenson L. Reed

**DONATE \$FNHBC21**

November 2021	Meeting/Event
Wednesday, November 3, 2021	Bible Study Session - Zoom
Saturday, November 6, 2021	Men's (11am) & Women's (9:50am) Ministry - Zoom
Sunday, November 7, 2021	Church Services
	Young Adult Emphasis Day
Wednesday, November 10, 2021	Bible Study Session - Zoom
Sunday, November 14, 2021	Church Services
	Communion
Wednesday, November 17, 2021	Bible Study Session - Zoom
Sunday, November 21, 2021	Church Services
Wednesday, November 24, 2021	Bible Study Session - Zoom - TBD
Sunday, November 28, 2021	Church Services

First New Hope Baptist Church is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: FNHBC - Bible Study  
 Time: 06:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87222293036?pwd=NlI4K2FMRk1zUmdIaksxTEFOVHhEdz09>

Meeting ID: 872 2229 3036  
 Passcode: 499441

Dial by your location:  
 +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

Meeting ID: 872 2229 3036  
 Passcode: 499441

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### Scripture for the Month

*“Wait on the LORD: be of good courage, and He shall strengthen thine heart: Wait, I say, on the LORD.”*  
 Psalm 27:14

October 2021	Meeting/Event
Saturday, October 2, 2021	Men's (11am) & Women's (9:50am) Ministry - Zoom
Sunday, October 3, 2021	Church Services
Wednesday, October 6, 2021	Bible Study Session - Zoom
Sunday, October 10, 2021	Church Services
	Communion
Wednesday, October 13, 2021	Bible Study Session - Zoom
Friday, October 14 - 17, 2021	Brokenness to Healing Conference - Virtual
Sunday, October 17, 2021	FNHBC - Family Day
Wednesday, October 20, 2021	Bible Study Session - Zoom
Sunday, October 24, 2021	Church Services
	Choir Day
Wednesday, October 27, 2021	Bible Study Session - Zoom
Saturday, October 30, 2021	Trunk or Treat – POC Min Rebecca Carter

## CHURCH NEWS AND UPDATES

### Second New Hope

#### BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION'S



#### **On August 5th, Miss Layla Hairston turned the big 8!**

*"Layla has such a sweet, caring spirit. She is frequently volunteering to help her mom and siblings out with various tasks, even meal preparation. Layla, at such a young age, shows so much interest in being fit. She does her workouts faithfully, even motivating mom on the days she takes off from the gym to workout. Layla is the gymnast of the family. Prior to the pandemic she participated in gymnastics at Paragon Gym where she advanced quickly because of her skills. If ever in her presence, her smile will light up the room, she has such a beautiful smile."*



#### **Emanuel C. "Pye" Rollins celebrated his 76<sup>th</sup> birthday on August 12<sup>th</sup>!**

*"The past year has proven to be a difficult season for Pye. As an adult sufferer of diabetes, the disease has caused him to lose his left leg just below the knee. But God! We can report today that Pye has received his prosthesis and is learning to walk with his "new and improved leg"! He is literally taking one step at a time! His spirits are high and he looks forward to resuming his ushering and other duties at the church.*

*Pye asks that you please continue to keep him and his family in prayer. He knows that with your prayers and the grace of God Almighty, he will be back with the congregation in no time."*



#### **Althea Juanita Samuel-Minor, celebrated her 77<sup>th</sup> birthday on August 17<sup>th</sup>!**

*"Ms. Minor misses her church, church family, singing on the Women's chorus, working with the missionary, working alongside the culinary committee (cooking), and ushering. Ms. Minor said she thank God for keeping her. When asked to give some words about living to see 77 years young, she said "BUT GOD and I thank him every day". She loves the whole book of Psalm, but her favorite scripture is Psalm 27:14, "Wait on the LORD: be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the LORD".*



#### **Linda Louise Hilliard celebrated her birthday on September 8<sup>th</sup>!**

*"She is the youngest of ten children. Her nicknames are Liz, Lin-Lin and Elizabeth. She is a singer of the gospel and one of her favorite songs are "God's Grace" by Luther Barnes. It tells a story of how God's mercy and His grace stayed with her and brought her through many trials and tribulations.*

*Psalms 84:10 I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than to dwell in the tents of wickedness. She quotes this scripture on Sundays before ushering the people of God into the sanctuary."*

## Second New Hope

### **Trustee Robert “Charlie” Coleman celebrated his 71<sup>st</sup> birthday on September 9<sup>th</sup>!**

*“Trustee Robert Coleman is known to many as “Charlie”. Trustee Coleman is not only a very hard worker but he also is kind, reliable, and will show up and get the tasking done. If he doesn't get it fixed on that day, he will sleep on it overnight and wake up the next morning and say, “I know what to do now” and thereafter, he fixes the problem. If something come up and he cannot make it, he will call you and let you know. He has done and continues to do a lot of up-keep maintenance around Second New Hope, along with the homes of his church family. He also does a lot of repairs at his own home and to his vehicles. We thank God for Trustee Coleman.”*



### **Deaconess Barbara Jackson celebrated her birthday on September 15<sup>th</sup>!**

*“Deaconess Barbara Jackson is a native of Essex County. She became a member of the Second New Hope Baptist Church family over 50 years ago after marrying the late Deacon George Jackson.*

*Deaconess Jackson is the mother of two daughters Marilyn and Brenda. She is the grandmother of Cortez, Anthony, Allen, Jasmine and Sydney.*

*Deaconess Jackson's hobbies include playing the piano and organ. She also enjoys fishing and watching hummingbirds.”*



### **Margaret Earline Rollins (Jones) celebrates her birthday on October 11<sup>th</sup>!**

*“The youngest of 10 children, she was named after aunts on both sides of the family tree, but became affectionately known as “Bebe” by her sister Claudia who saw her as her little “bebe”. She was born and raised here in Spotsylvania County and has been a member of Second New Hope Baptist Church since birth. She's labeled the “comedian” of the family because she is quite the entertainer. She is the mother of two sons, Gregory “Jay” (Shanita), and Christopher “Chris” Jones (Angel). She absolutely adores her grandchildren--Solomon, Spirit, Christiana and Nova Rae. Bebe is a history buff and is the keeper of the family tree. She is all about the drama having participated in Harambee 360 Experimental Theatre in the '80s and '90s and starred last year in a two-person production of “Having Our Say” at Stage Door. She also shares her talents by overseeing various holiday presentations here at the church. She loves the outdoors--anything nature. She's always discovering new hiking and walking trails here in our community. Among the many retirement gifts Bebe received was a Nikon camera. Not only does this new found hobby allow her to photograph everything nature, it also keeps her where she is most happy--outdoors!”*



### **Ariana “Ari” Mickels celebrates her 19<sup>th</sup> birthday on October 27<sup>th</sup>.**

*“Ariana “Ari” Mickels was born October 27, 2002. Even from the beginning she was leaving lasting impressions. I'll never forget the nurse telling me, “I'm glad I'm not taking that baby home with ME.”, after hearing her crying for two days. She wasn't a crybaby though, she was just flexing those vocal cords and honing the gift the Lord blessed her with 😊! Not only did she grow into an amazing singer, but an amazing overall person as well. She is humble, kind, loving, smart and surprisingly shy. She's also fiercely protective of those she cares about (especially Mikey!). Ariana is currently in her freshman year at VCU where she is a psychology major. She is doing a phenomenal job in her studies. It is an honor and a blessing to be able to witness her and her siblings' growth and I can't wait to see the amazing things God has planned for her life! We love you Ari Bari! Happy 19th birthday!”*

## Second New Hope

### WEDDING ANNIVERSARY'S

On August 5, 1989, **Mary and Jeffrey Durante** celebrated their 32<sup>nd</sup> wedding anniversary! They still say, "I DO".



On September 3, 1983, **Tanya and Dennis Samuel** celebrated their 38<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. Continue to stay close to God just like you've stayed close to each other through the years!



Thus begins another school year of learning, late night projects, heavy backpacks, meeting new classmates and reminiscing with old friends. The first day of school is full of change—summer is over and waking up early is the new norm, for starters. But now that many schools will be going back to in-person learning after the pandemic, the experience is a whole new level of transition. In short, our children will need our support more than ever before.

### FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL PICTURES



Our charming and happy five year old **Braxton Joseph** is very excited to begin adventures in Kindergarten. Braxton is attending Parkside Elementary School.

We know everybody is going to love you at the very first glance. Happy first day of school!



It's beautiful **Nadia Branham's** first day of school at Lafayette Upper Elementary School, where she will be settling in as a first grader! We welcome Nadia to the world of academics.



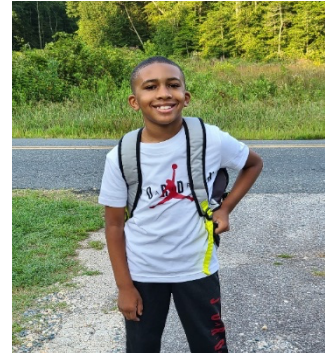
Our bright and lovely **Saani Sadler** is in the fourth grade at Lafayette Upper Elementary School and is looking forward to meeting her teachers and taking on class assignments!

## Second New Hope



Our beautiful and outgoing little Miss Independent **Melody “Mel” Samuel** is all smiles for her first day of school at Lafayette Upper Elementary School. Mel is in the fourth grade.

We’re so delighted to see that our handsome, helper **Jaden McNease** is excited about returning to in-person learning. Keep smiling! Jaden proudly attends Riverview Elementary School; home of the Panthers, where he is a fourth grader!



Here we have the beautiful **Tanear “CoCo” Washington**’s first day of school picture. Tanear is an intelligent and multi-talented eleventh grader at Spotsylvania High School. She loves to read books! Her favorite subjects in school are English, French, Latin and Computer Courses. Mom and dad are very proud of her as well as her church family. We are happy to share in the excitement of your school days. You’re going places; God has a plan!

Eighth graders, handsome **Michael “Mikey”** and adorable twin sister, **Aaliyah Mickels** are eager to dive into their curriculums! They both attend Spotsylvania Middle School. Big sister, glamour lady, **Alyssa**, is also ready to take on the challenge of homework and studies at Courtland High School.



**DaNiya Johnson** will be a rising eleventh grader at James Monroe High School. She will be starting a dual enrollment in August of this year at James Monroe High School and Germanna Community College to receive her two-year Associates Degree in the Gladys P. Todd program. All of DaNiya’s hard work in school is paying off and mom and dad are beyond proud of their baby girl!

*We are also proud to announce DaNiya’s GPA is 4.3125 and her rank is 20 out of 223 students.*

## NAACP NEWS AND UPDATES

### **GET OUT AND VOTE!** ***This is an Election Year!***

The election of the state Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General and State House Delegates for the 54<sup>th</sup>, 55<sup>th</sup>, 56<sup>th</sup> & 88<sup>th</sup> Districts are coming up for the November 2, 2021 election.

Early voting began on	September 17
Sunday voting	October 3; 12pm-5 pm
Deadline to register	October 12
Deadline to request an Ballot to be mailed	October 22
Two Saturdays for voting	October 23 & 30
Last day in-person Early voting	October 30

**If more information is needed contact:  
Elder Moe Petway - (540) 847-7637**

**The Spotsylvania Branch-NAACP will hold its annual  
Freedom Fundraiser on  
Saturday, October 9th, at 6:00pm via Zoom.**

“Unsung Heroes” is the 2021 theme and the organization will honor several community members who display their commitment to our community unselfishly. They are “unsung heroes” that make things happen.

### **NAACP 2021 UNSUNG HERO AWARDEES**

**Eric O’Neal “Buck” Buckner** is the owner of Buck Styles Barbershop since 1993. He is being commended by the NAACP as a hero for his commitment and untiring efforts to support community youth through camp sponsorships, free grooming, and childcare; voter registration mentoring inmates at Pamunkey regional jail.

**Brenda Dobbin** works for Mary Washington Hospital and CVS Warehouse. She is being commended by the NAACP as a hero for her on-going contributions to the Rites of Passage Program and as the Special Event Coordinator for Zion Hill; spearheading the ZHBC Back2School and Christmas Giveaway program.

**Reverend Dwight D. Hargrove** is the Pastor at Zion Hill Baptist Church, a U.S. Marine Corps veteran, and works at the Rappahannock Electric Cooperative. He is being commended by the NAACP as a hero for his on-going activism and leadership in serving the community with championing programs that support underserved Spotsylvania residents, and he supports the NAACP by providing transportation to the polls and helping coordinate the Rites of Passage Program.

**Clifton Johnson** is a Trustee at First New Hope Baptist Church and has served as Chair of Trustee’s ministry for more than 20 years. He is being commended by the NAACP as a hero for this Trustee commitment, his contributions to the Rites of Passage Program, and his

selfless service helping seniors in the community with their landscape upkeep.

**Paul Lewis** is a U.S. Army veteran who has been an activist in the Civil Rights Movement, with the labor union. He is being commended by the NAACP as a hero for the lifelong commitment to betterment of our community and for his servant heart. For 13 years he has volunteered with the Rappahannock Area Community Food Bank, and consistently supports the NAACP at the polls and with the Rites of Passage Program.

**Percy Lewis** is a U.S. Air Force veteran, a Civil Rights Movement activist and a Laborer District Council member for 50 years. He serves at the Rappahannock Area Community Food Bank for 13 years. He consistently supports the NAACP as a volunteer driver to the polls and with the Rites of Passage Program.

**John Willie Minor, Sr.** is a retired carpenter and crane operator with Hilder Carr Masonry and more recently as a ground’s keeper with Spotsylvania County Schools. He is being commended by the NAACP as a hero for his dedication in providing help with carpentry and mechanical repair in the community and giving food from his garden to youth and neighbors.

**Anita Roberson** is a native of the area and is prior military officer. For the past 23 years she has been instrumental in the creation and implementation of many programs within the NAACP as secretary, the branch Communication chairperson, Freedom Fund chairperson and Community Coordinator. She was instrumental in the creation of the Branch’s Rites of Passage for Young Men.

**Thomas Roberson** is a native of the area and a prior military officer. Mr. Roberson was instrumental in the creation and implementation of many programs within the NAACP as the branch President, the branch Vice-President, Treasurer, Freedom Fund Secretary and as a Medical Assistant/Adviser for more than 23 years. He was instrumental in the creation of the Middle School Great Debate and Branch’s Rites of Passage for Young Men.

**Roland E. Fairchild** is a native of the area and has been serving the community for over 40 years as the primary gravedigger for the county and the surround areas. He is known for his willingness to work with families, churches, and the community to ensure their loved one are place in their final resting place in a decent matter. Roland is a member of the historical Fairchild family in Spotsylvania.

**\*\*We also recognize – The Fredericksburg Food Bank; The Thurman Brisbane Homeless Shelter; The Family Life Center and Black Lives Matter (BLM) Fredericksburg Region.**