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Issue
Three

2023 Annual Freewill Ministry Year in Review & Highlights

2023
FMBC **Highlights**

vision minded >>>

Moving in the Direction that We Believe God would have us Go!

*Freewill is a Christ-Centered, Biblically Based ministry, called to **Engage, Equip and Empower** the people of God.*

*Our vision is to reach the lost and teach found. We do so by creating an atmosphere of transformation where we see people *saved, healed, set free and serving.**

*Our mission is to help each person at Freewill **Believe** in Jesus; **Belong** to the family of faith; **Become** a follower of God; and **Build** God’s kingdom on earth.*



Freewill FORWARD
A Church on the Move for Christ!

“Write the vision and make it plain on tablets, that they may run who reads it. For the vision is yet for an appointed time; But at the end it will speak, and it will not lie. Though it tarries, wait for it; Because it will surely come, it will not tarry.

Habakkuk 2:2-3

During 2023, the FMBC ministry continued to stand firm in our pursuit of God’s Purpose and the GREATER, He has for the FMBC Family and each of our

members. Earlier in the year, we heard that God is calling us, the Church, back to a commitment and intentional focus of PRAYER! We believe that when the church prays, we tap into a Power that allows us to walk in the **victory** that God has ordained for our lives.

Four things to consider:

- *A Praying Church is a Powerful Church.*
- *A Powerful Church is a Productive Church.*
- *A Productive Church is a Progressive Church.*
- *A Progressive Church is Pregnant with unlimited Potential.*

Every issue and stronghold that challenges the quality of life for the members and followers of this Church, the Freewill Missionary Baptist Church,

When the church prays, we tap into the Power that allows us to walk in the Victory God has ordained

can be brought down by prayer. It has been said, and we believe it to be so, “you can always do MORE After you Pray, but you can do Nothing More Until You Pray! Prayer continues to be the key necessary for the believer to

unlock the door to God’s Blessings. Church family let us remind you that the VISION is OURS ... Thank You for your prayers, support, faith, and faithfulness in helping us fulfill the Kingdom Assignment that God has given us here at the Freewill Missionary Baptist Church.

Enjoy this issue to recap and celebrate the FMBC accomplishments of 2023!

set the stage >>>

Ministry in Action

Serving Gods People

'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.

Matthew 25:40



Seed Sowing

We know that the assignment to Serve is spread amongst other believers, ministries and organizations that are also making a lasting difference in the lives of God's People.

Because of the generosity of you, our FMBC members, in 2023, we were able to sow financial seed both domestically and internationally of more than \$20k into Disaster Relief; School Partners in Education; Community Organizations and other Church Ministries.

Baptism / Baby Dedications

In 2023, we celebrated the return of Baptisms and Baby Dedications. During this year, here at FMBC:

- 82 People were Baptized.
- Over 20 Kids were dedicated.



Assist. Pastor Tammie Jones – Food Bank give-a-way

Food Bank

In 2023, our Food Bank Ministry gave away more than 1,200 bags of groceries. These bags allowed us to serve families and individuals in need. We also developed a partnership with the American Red Cross strengthening our commitment to community and positioning us to Serve in a greater way.



SERVE Planning Team Leads on SERVE Day (Marietta & Lateshia)

meeting the need >>>

FMBCare Benevolence & Outreach

Throughout the years, Freewill has consistently impacted the community and those in need. In 2023, we're proud of the many efforts taken to help fulfill our Kingdom Assignment. While we may not be able to answer every call, we certainly do our best to answer as many as possible to help us Make A Difference. In 2023, Freewill:

- Held our 2nd Annual Toy Drive. Members gave unselfishly allowing us to bless a local Women's & Children's Shelter.
- Families can often face financial difficulties and setbacks; we are proud that throughout the 2023 year, FMBC was able to provide financial support to more than 100 Families. This support helped to keep lights and other utilities on; provide housing with rent and mortgage payments; and even pay for emergency housing.



In 2023, we continued to host:

- ❖ Bible Study
- ❖ Small Groups

two Engaging ministries that allow members to *Connect, Grow* and *Strengthen* their Faith. We also launched the On-Demand biblical learning platform; *RightNow Media*. Members have joined and found sessions that they've used individually and with their families, continuing to be Empowered in their faith journey.

Celebrating the amazing FMBC Team of Servants

Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.
1 Corinthians 15:58



Welcome to the Music Ministry

In March, FMBC welcomed back to the ministry our New Worship Leader, Ronnie “Ron” Henderson.

In October, we welcomed our very own member, Antonio “Tony” Hall as our New Keyboardist.

Welcome to the Team!



was thrilled to host a **Servant Volunteer Celebration**, honoring all those who give so generously and faithfully of their skills, gifts, and talents. The night was full of fun as we dressed the part to share in and spread the love to fellow volunteer servants. Laughter filled the room as we were treated to comedy and a delicious meal.

During the celebration, each servant was shown sincere appreciation, and we even continued the fun by highlighting a few superlative award recipients:

Volunteer Servant of the Year

Teresa Matthews

Dea. Eric Calhoun

Volunteer Ministry of the Year

FMBC Ushers

Rookie Ministry of the Year

FMBC Greeters (not pictured)

Special Appreciation of Service

Delores Gunn

Congrats to all our special award winners and a BIG Thanks to all those who serve!

Since our inception, our ability to serve as a ministry has been and continues to be based in part upon volunteers who have committed themselves to making a difference for Gods Kingdom. These are the members who come into the church and raise their hands to join the team so that the WORK of our God may be fulfilled here in the earth. In December of 2023, FMBC

Elevation of the Called ...

In September, we hosted **Elevation Sunday**, a time of Affirmation, Consecration and Ordination. This special day allowed our church to publicly acknowledge the spiritual calling and elevation of those that have been set aside by God. Two ministers were Ordained; **Min. John Mackey, Jr.**, and **Min. Kenyatte Hassell** and 5 others announced their calling into the ministry.

gift of giving >>> Financial Update

We celebrate the Leadership of the FMBC Trustee Ministry as they continue to help us maintain Facility and Financial excellence. In 2023, significant investments were made allowing us to: replace an outdated HVAC system; perform parking lot repair; conduct transportation maintenance; upgrade A/V equipment & technology; and so much more. Because of the generosity of you our members, revenues are up and exceed the previous year by an almost 4% YoY increase.

We celebrate each of you, members, and friends because in 2023, we had:

- 1,102 givers who gave 7,900 gifts
- Vision Partners who continued to help with special *Seed Sowing* contributions

Our Trustees and Deacons continue the work of ensuring that we are the best stewards over all that God has given, implementing new protocols, and working to achieve our Ministry Vision!



Welcome New and Returning Ministries

In 2023, with great excitement we welcomed the following Ministries:

- ❖ FMBC Greeters
- ❖ FMBC SERVE Planning Team
- ❖ FMBC Connections Ministry
- ❖ FMBC Sunday Empowerment Sessions (formerly Sunday School)



final thoughts...

¹² Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³ And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴ You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it.

John 14:12-14



Looking Ahead to 2024 ...

As we progress into and throughout 2024, my prayer for our church is that we continue to Hear and Heed the Voice of God. As a Faith Family, Freewill has been the recipient of Gods blessings and favor. I am so excited and proud to say that the Same God whose hand was upon us in times past, is the Same God whose hand is upon our church even now. As we journey to fulfill Gods assignments for this ministry, I pray that we will *Walk Together, Work Together and Worship Together* in the faith as One Unified family of believers. Continuing to be Engaged, Equipped and Empowered, we will accomplish the Vision of our ministry to keep Moving **Freewill FORWARD!**

In 2024, I trust that you will join us in continually going before the Father and petitioning God for we still believe that **A Praying Church is a Powerful Church!** Join us in prayer as we Believe God for:

- ❖ Growth –
 - *Creative and Innovative Growth that we may think, work, and operate more broadly and uniquely concerning our future and the methods of our ministry.*
 - *Spiritual Growth that our faith might be matured and our walk with God may grow closer, consistent, and stronger.*
 - *In a world where so many are choosing the Culture over Christ, pray that we Grow in the number of people who Chose Christ to be their Savior and Lord!*
- ❖ A Full Time Youth Pastor
- ❖ A Youth Center that is more kid/youth welcoming; renovated for the Radical Praise Ministry.
- ❖ Continued Vision and Strength for our Pastor, Leaders and FMBC Members.

spiritual teaching on-demand >>>



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Blessings to each of you, the wonderful people of God and FMBC!



FREEWILL FORWARD
A Church on the Move for Christ

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