



FIRST *Sterling*



2023 **VISION**
CONFERENCE



A NOTE FROM OUR PASTORS

Greetings Church!

We greet you in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

As we enter into a new year it's always good to pause and reflect on the past year. In particular the last two years, the Covid Years. Not only was this a challenging time in our country, but in our lives. Everything in our world changed including in the life of our church. We had to quickly pivot, embrace technology in a new way and just as we had to WFH "Work From Home", we also had to learn to WFH "Worship From Home".

So here we are in a post Covid world and a post Covid church. In order to continue to thrive in this new hybrid environment of virtual and in person, it's important that we have a blueprint, a vision to follow that will order our steps in the Lord as we move forward. Although the church encountered some challenges during Covid, God has blessed us to keep moving forward. To that end, I wanted to share with you what our church has been blessed to accomplish in 2022 as well as share the vision for where God wants to take us in 2023 and beyond. This vision is big and bold and in order to bring it to fruition, we need everyone's gifts, talents and abilities! First Sterling is the place where everybody is somebody. That means everyone is important and everyone can contribute and participate in the vision. It will take all of us working together to bring it to life. As we saw throughout the pandemic, we are better together.

Co-Pastor and I would like to express our sincere thanks to our Leadership teams and entire church family for all you do and for all you continue to do to support the work of the ministry and our church. May God continue to bless each of you.

*Bishop Leslie Patterson, Jr.
Co-Pastor Dr. Francene V. Patterson*

OUR VISION

OUR VISION

And the Lord answered me, and said, write the vision, and make it plain...**Habakkuk 2:2**

Where there is no vision, the people perish...**Proverbs 29:18**

First Sterling is a community of faith rooted in the love of God. We believe worship is not just found in prayer, it's something expressed in everything we do.

The vision, mission and goal of First Sterling is to preach, practice and produce the gospel to the spiritually and economically poor; the brokenhearted; to those who are in spiritual, emotional, physical and financial captivity; to give sight to the spiritually blind; and those who have been emotionally wounded and bruised by life's battles.

The spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind to set at liberty those who are oppressed. **Luke 4:18**

This Ministry seeks to provide food for the hungry, drink to those who are thirsty, housing for the stranger, clothing for the naked, and give visitation to the sick and imprisoned.

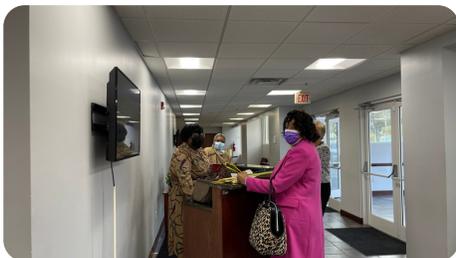
For I was hungry, and you gave me food, I was thirsty, and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked, and you clothed me, I was sick, and you visited me, I was in prison, and you came to me. **Matthew 25:35-36**

As Jesus reached out to those who were in despair and destitute, it is our mission to reach out to the drug addict, homeless, hungry, unwed parents, rejected, and those who have lost hope in life. Proclaiming that with God First, all of Life's ills can be healed.



SURVIVING THROUGH COVID 2020-2022 THE YEARS IN REVIEW

The church endured many changes and challenges during the pandemic, but God blessed us exceedingly, abundantly above what we ever could have imagined. The following recap highlights what the Church was still able to accomplish as we navigated through the pandemic:



BRANDING / MARKETING

As a part of the church vision to reach the unchurched, early in 2022 First Baptist Church of Sterling enlisted the services of Very Good Marketing Company (VGMC) to assist with a rebranding campaign that included a refreshing of the church name and enhancing the church's social media presence.

VGMC, led by owner Jillian Phifer, assisted with the redesign of the look and feel of our branding by:

- Creating a branding kit that included a refreshed color palette, fonts, and logo.
- Creating our new Marketing Collateral - letterhead, rack cards, new email addresses with uniform signature blocks, and business cards.
- Creating a uniform look on our YouTube Channel.
- Creating various Graphics and Visual Aids for Sermons.
- Redesigning our website to make it a more user- and tech-friendly platform. Enhanced the website with new photos of our church members and a fresh new design.
- Creating a new and uniform email account/domain that can be used by the entire church.
- Creating a template and instructions on how to complete our voice over announcements. A special thank you to **Sis. Janae Wheeler**, Voice Over Artist, for bringing our announcements to life.
- Refreshing and redesigning our social media by updating the look and feel of our Facebook (FB), YouTube, and Instagram accounts with current posts and new content which helped us increase our following.
- Conducting our very first FBC campaign: the Gas Card Giveaway.

JILLIAN PHIFER



Very Good
MARKETING CO.

CHURCH OPERATIONS

To improve and streamline our operations, a local management consulting company was engaged to assist the church with reorganizing operations throughout the church.

ENHANCED AND RE-OPENED THE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

To manage the services of the church the staff was augmented by adding additional Team Members:

- Sis. LaTonya Jackson – Church Administrator
- Sis. Priti D'Silva – Administrative Office Assistant
- Deacon Rashanna Jackson – Executive Assistant
- Sis. Brenda Pinkelton – Church Clerk

**SIS. LATONYA
JACKSON**



SIS. PRITI D'SILVA



**DEACON RASHANNA
JACKSON**



**SIS. BRENDA
PINKELTON**



UPGRADED COMMUNICATION TOOLS

At the beginning of 2022 the church upgraded its communication tools with the addition of “Flocknote” for greater reach for churchwide communications. We also upgraded our PushPay Application to enhance the online giving process. Sermons, scripture readings, and other relevant church information can also be accessed through PushPay. Special thank you to our church clerk Sis. Brenda Pinkelton and our Administrative Assistant Priti D'Silva who actively supported all church communication initiatives.



Pushpay



ACCOUNTING

To ensure and maintain the financial fitness of the church an accounting firm, Wright Accounting Solutions, led by Nicole Dixon, was engaged to manage our monthly financial records and oversee our end of year process. Financial reports are prepared each month. The church also automated the payroll process to issue timely payments to our vendors as well as to ensure compliance.

NICOLE DIXON



SOP GUIDE

A Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) guide was created to capture key components of the day-to-day operations of the church's Administrative Office. The guide is ongoing and will be reviewed regularly for updates and revisions.

PHOTOGRAPHY

As part of the First Sterling rebranding efforts KCG Photography - Led by Kenneth Gross, was hired to attend services to take photos of our ministry in action that included our Church Anniversary. These photos capture the life of our church and are used to personalize our website and other marketing materials.



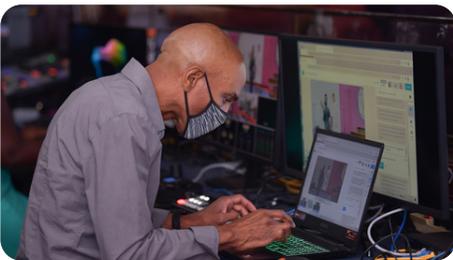
MINISTRIES

MINISTRIES

AV MINISTRY

During Covid this ministry enhanced the ability to participate in our services by streaming our Sunday Worship Services through YouTube and Facebook and delivering our Wednesday Night Bible study via ZOOM. This allowed us to stay connected to our congregation to provide spiritual guidance and encouragement during the most challenging time in our country's history.

With assistance from **Bro. Solomon Patterson**, **Bro. Steve Williams**, **Sis. Erika Fenner** and a host of other dynamic volunteers, the church purchased a camera, computer equipment, speakers and handheld microphones that allowed Bishop Patterson to initially stream from his home. After some time, we were able to integrate back into the building and continue streaming Sunday service on our established online platforms. **We would like to thank Deacon Michael Townsend**, **Sis. Samantha Jones**, and **Bro. Robert Brown** for supporting this transition.



WORSHIP TEAM MINISTRY

In July of 2022 Jessica Anderson and Rhonda Pharr joined the team as Worship Administrators. They work with the music ministry by teaching new music, vocal technique, microphone technique, stage presence, and song dynamics. They continually work to help elevate the team to the next level of Worship.

Additional Band members such as Lead Guitarists, Saxophonists, Trumpet Players and Drummers, as well as Guest Vocalists from around the area have been added to the team to enhance the sound.

JESSICA ANDERSON



RHONDA PHARR



DEACONS MINISTRY

During Covid this ministry continued with sponsoring church events virtually by using third party applications to receive love offerings to honor Bishop Patterson and Co-Pastor Dr. Francene Patterson on Mother's Day, Father's Day, and their birthdays. Once we were integrated back into the building for service, this ministry was instrumental in assisting Bishop with setting up aspects of the service that required adhering to safety protocols established by the CDC, e.g., taking temperatures, issuing masks, and serving Communion to the congregation as they entered the building. We continue to use a combination of in-person and virtual to sponsor church events.

DEACON GERRI ARNOLD



DEACON MICHAEL TOWNSEND



USHERS MINISTRY

Once we were integrated back into the building for service, this ministry was instrumental in assisting Bishop Patterson with setting up aspects of the service that required adhering to safety protocols established by the CDC, e.g., ensuring that seating of the congregation was 6 feet apart, roping off sections to accommodate singles and families.

SIS. ELIZA NIXON



FITNESS MINISTRY

Our exercise ministry smoothly transitioned from in-person to online exercise classes and remained consistent throughout the pandemic. This ministry continues to provide exercise classes through Zoom. We are grateful to **Deacon Michael Townsend** and **Bro. Robert Brown** for their support of the Fitness Ministry.

BRO. ROBERT BROWN



DEACON MICHAEL TOWNSEND



PRAYER MINISTRY

Our daily prayer call was revamped during the summer session to focus on praying through the 66 books of the Bible. This change included new prayer leaders, an adjusted prayer time, and more intentional focus on praying through scripture. The fall session consists of a different group of prayer leaders that focus on praying from a daily scripture found in the Our Daily Bread booklets. We are thankful for the leadership of **Minister Donna Miller** and her dynamic team members.

MINISTER DONNA MILLER



SPECIAL EVENTS

To bring our leadership team together to celebrate our wins and milestones and show gratitude for our volunteers and members, we held the following events:

- A Covid-19 Vaccine Clinic was sponsored by the church to administer vaccines to our members and the surrounding community
- Leadership Breakfast with church and ministry leaders to discuss the vision of the church, its role in the community, and to conduct an internal SWOT analysis
- Appreciation Breakfast for the Worship Team, Ushers, and AV Ministry
- Pastor/ Co-Pastor's birthdays in June and July were celebrated, as well as their 27th Pastoral Anniversary on November 6, 2022.



- Special recognition was given to **Minister Mickey Slade** in appreciation for his dedicated and faithful service to the Worship Team
- Mother's Day & Father's Day event to show special recognition to our mothers and fathers; flowers and pins were given to all the mothers and a special continental breakfast for the fathers along with a candy filled mug. We would like to thank the Events Committee- **Joyce Mireku, Lisa Phillips, Zina Webster and Priti D'Silva** for coordinating and leading these events.

- Personal Safety Workshop hosted by the church at the Silver Eagle Group Gun Range that highlighted training in cleaning, storing, and handling firearms. The event was well received and well attended and will be an annual church event.
- Physical Fitness Challenge contest where all participants engaged in various timed activities based on skill level. Prizes were awarded for best time performance in multiple categories. The challenge was led by **Bishop Patterson and Deacon Michael Townsend**.
- Volunteers participated in the local VoterCade to help promote voting rights reform and defeat voter suppression efforts.
- Youth Sunday established and will be held on every 5th Sunday. The youth will join the Worship Team for a song. Rehearsal takes place the Saturday before the 5th Sunday at 11am in the Sanctuary. Thank you to **Sis. Felicia Ellis** for providing leadership to the Faith Builders Ministry.

SIS. FELICIA ELLIS





STERLING CHRISTIAN DAY SCHOOL

The school remains in operation and the focus is on enhancing school operations, expanding enrollment, and staff. Plans include rebranding and the creation of marketing collateral to aid in the growth of the school and hiring a director and other staff. The church administrative team provided management oversight to the interim Director - **Jeniffer Shalem**, for support as well as to ensure daily operations were maintained and running smoothly. A Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) Guide for the school is currently in the works.

JENIFFER SHALEM



STERLING CHRISTIAN DAY SCHOOL

FACILITIES

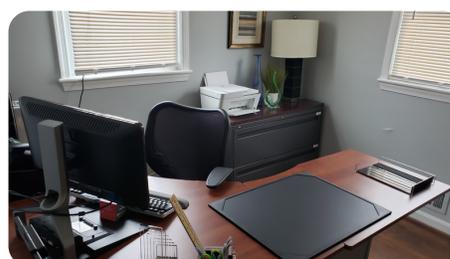
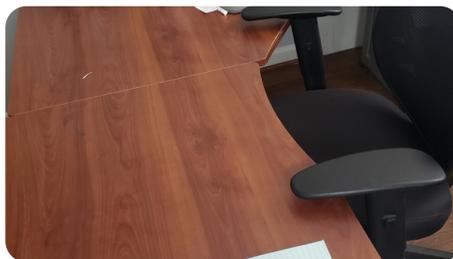
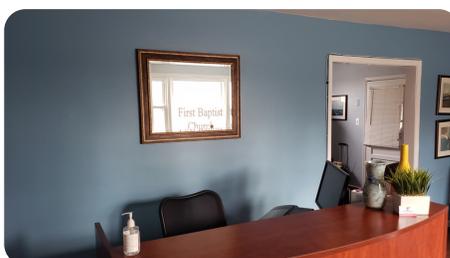
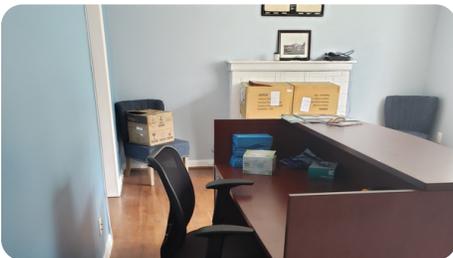
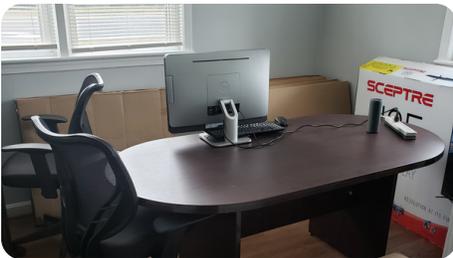
REFRESHED ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES

To present a more refined and professional look, the church embarked upon a project to set up the former parsonage and current Manna from Heaven (MFH) office with a new look. Old items were removed, the office was thoroughly cleaned from top to bottom and beautifully decorated by a former member (Sis. Erika Young) who donated beautiful office and conference room furniture as well as wall hangings. This gave the office a more polished and professional look as well as a warm and welcoming environment.

BEFORE



AFTER



CLEANING SERVICES

To maintain and elevate the level of cleanliness of the church facility and offices, cleaning crews were brought in twice per week and twice per month to clean the church, gym, the Day School, Bishop, and Co-Pastor's offices as well as the Administrative Offices.

SECURITY/SAFETY

For the security and safety of our staff, congregation and visitors, First Sterling sought out several companies to solicit proposals for security cameras. After several months of meetings and follow up, the church invested in "high grade" security cameras which were installed inside and outside of the church by McCray Security/surveillance Cameras.

FUTURE VISION FOR FIRST STERLING 2023 AND BEYOND

FUTURE VISION FOR FIRST STERLING 2023 AND BEYOND

To be an effective church and stand out within the community and beyond, we must be known for excellence in everything. We can accomplish this by excelling in three (3) areas:

- Dynamic **Work** that we do in community through outreach, ie. Manna From Heaven.
- Dynamic **Worship** service with premier sight and sound during our in-person and virtual worship services.
- Dynamic **Word** with the practical and expository preaching and teaching of God's Word.

Over the next few years our goal will be to continue to hire personnel and purchase necessary items as we pursue the church vision to stand up, enhance, upgrade and re-launch church operations, community outreach programs, church ministries, opportunities for fellowship and excursions.

BRANDING/MARKETING

As a part of the vision, our goal will be to continue to focus on branding and marketing by updating our website, hiring, teaching and developing a social media team that will use social media to evangelize to wary souls leading them to Christ, manage social media engagement and run social media campaigns.

We will also support Sterling Christian Day School (SCDS) and Manna From Heaven (MFH) with refreshing their branding/logos as needed.



CHURCH OPERATIONS

Our goal is to continue to fine tune various aspects of our operations to ensure that we operate at an ultimate level of excellence.

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

Continue to improve operational efficiencies to allow the administrative staff to remain focused on office productivity and operational compliance.

COMMUNICATION TOOLS

Continue to utilize communication tools and platforms to enhance church communication. Explore additional platforms that allow us to expand our reach and offer exceptional communication to our community.

This allows the church to improve on the timeliness of our response to inquiries from the community seeking support, prayer or membership to the Church.

ACCOUNTING

Work with accounting to clean up any outstanding financial backlog items, and to ensure our 2022 tax season is flawless. Ensure that all accounting is up to date and pending items are handled in a timely manner. Continuous improvements will be made to this process to ensure the financial fitness and stability of the church.

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES (SOP) GUIDE

Maintain SOP guide and update as needed to ensure that all operating procedures reflect the most current processes.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Continue to use the services of KCG Photography, or a similar company to capture our MFHVA Food Giveaway in action, capture candid shots from the SCDS, and capture various other church activities and celebrations as they occur. These photographs will be used on the First Sterling, MFHVA and SCDS websites and serve as part of the history of the church.

MINISTRIES

AV MINISTRY

Our Vision for 2023 and beyond is to enhance our AV Ministry by creating a premier sight and sound ministry. To accomplish this, we plan to:

- Create a strategic plan to continue improving streaming experiences for services viewed on YouTube, Facebook and Zoom.
- Order additional equipment, as needed, such as speakers and handheld microphones, etc. in a “phased” in approach.
- Add professional Sound Technicians to the team for training and additional support purposes.
- Rearrange the stage platform in such a way that it gives an enhanced and dynamic visual presentation online, i.e., up lighting.
- Separate the Audio and Visual components to further enhance sound and video.
- Ensure the video of our streamed services are top notch.
- Develop into a full-blown Production Ministry.

WORSHIP TEAM MINISTRY

Our Vision for 2023 and beyond is to continue to develop our ministry into one of the premier Worship Teams in Northern Virginia. To accomplish this, we plan to:

- Utilize all the talent/gifts that are available on the Worship Team as a whole. This includes the band as well as the worship singers.
- Continue to add workshops and training that focus on Service, Leading worship, vocal training and other aspects of an effective music ministry.
- Plan musical events such as concerts and other special events.
- Partner with the Dance Ministry for special services and events.
- Invite Guest Psalmists from around the area and beyond to minister in song with the worship team.
- Partner with the AV Ministry and other ministries as needed to bring to fruition the vision of a full sight and sound production ministry.

DEACONS MINISTRY

Our Vision for 2023 and beyond is to continue to use a combination of in-person and virtual to sponsor church events. It is our goal to use this ministry as a foundation to engage and encourage our members to participate in performing assignments and duties throughout the church to assist our Bishop and Co-Pastor even though they may not be in leadership roles. Many of the ongoing duties and responsibilities of the Deacons Ministry include:

- Preparing for Communion Service every 2nd Sunday of the month by ensuring that supplies are purchased, set up, and available for the service in a timely manner.
- Performing duties to prepare candidates for baptism, i.e., filling the baptism pool, ensuring that robes and towels are available, arranging for baptism certificates.
- Participating in the Baby Dedication ceremony, where needed, and as requested by Bishop Patterson.
- Visiting and assisting the sick and the shut-ins in their home or hospital; providing prayer and Communion Services, assisting with transportation to their appointments, sending flowers/fruit baskets and “Get Well” cards.
- Comforting bereaved families by demonstrating our love with words of comfort, prayer, and flower arrangements
 - Assisting Bishop Patterson and the bereaved family during the service, e.g., greeting the family before service, assisting the funeral director by answering questions regarding our facilities, and offering our services at the repass when they have selected to use our multi-purpose facilities.
- Decorating the pulpit area for holidays and special events, e.g., poinsettias at Christmas, flowers for Mother’s Day, and lilies for Resurrection Sunday (Easter).
- Receiving love offerings, in-person and using third party applications, to celebrate special events such as Bishop’s and Co-Pastor’s birthdays, Mother’s and Father’s Day, Senior Christmas Celebration, and Church Anniversaries.

USHERS MINISTRY

Our Vision for 2023 and beyond is to continue to provide services to the congregation as they enter the Worship Service. We will continue to ensure that the congregation adheres to safety protocols established by the CDC, e.g., making sure that all individuals have on a mask as they come into the sanctuary. Our goal is to ensure that our congregation and visitors feel welcome and to accommodate their seating preferences. Other responsibilities and duties of this ministry include:

- Arriving at the church in a timely manner before the congregation starts to arrive.
- Providing the congregation with offering envelopes as Bishop Patterson directs during the receiving of the tithes and offerings.
- Assisting at special events and bereavement, e.g., during special programs outside of the Sunday Worship Service time frame, assisting at funeral services, and assisting families with seating during a Baby Dedication.

GROWTH OF MINISTRIES AND OUTREACH PROGRAMS

As we focus on our vision for First Sterling to be recognized as an effective church and stand out within the community and beyond, we will stand up, enhance, upgrade, and re-launch opportunities for fellowship through Church Ministries, Outreach Programs, and Excursions.

Each Ministry and Outreach Program will have an allocated budget. In some instances of volunteerism a stipend may be offered.

Some examples of these include:

Ministries:

- Deacons Ministry
- Worship Ministry
- Usher Ministry
- New Members Ministry
- Auxiliary Ministry
- Couples Ministry
- Singles Ministry
- Men's Ministry
- Women's Ministry
- Dance Ministry
- Medical Emergency Ministry
 - This team will be trained in First Aid, CPR and how to use a defibrillator. The goal is to have 1-2 people at service each week.
 - This team will be led by an individual with qualifications to handle emergency medical situations.
 - Plan to purchase a defibrillator to have onsite.

- Youth Ministry
 - We will have a heightened focus on attracting youth into the church.
 - Our plan is to hire a Youth Pastor who understands how to speak to our youth.
 - Financial Literacy program for the youth (ages 5-18) will be sponsored by the church to teach the children investment strategies so they learn how to become owners and not just consumers. This program will be led by a group of individuals who will teach them to use their talents wisely.
 - They will also be encouraged to serve in the Manna from Heaven Ministry during the summer and Youth Sunday every 5th Sunday.

Outreach Programs:

- Youth Athletic Program
- Housing Program
- Coaching Program
- L.E.V.E.L. U.P. Program
 - A community-based program designed to support students and their families as they navigate the path to higher education.
 - Provides information to promote community awareness, knowledge, and comfort with family planning for continued education pathways and enrollment in higher education.
 - Offers workshops focused on education trends, financial aid and planning, and college prep discussions.
 - Target audience:
 - 10th – 12th grade students and parents/guardians
- Senior Services
- Provide mental as well as physical assistance
- Provide transportation to doctors, grocery stores, etc.
- Provide home visitations when unable to come to church and provide church services, e.g., prayer, Communion, etc.

- Annual Community Day
- Annual Senior “Circle of Life” Conference: supporting and preparing senior caregivers to navigate the different stages of life
 - Independence
 - Interdependence
 - Dependency
 - Crisis management
 - End of life
- First Sterling will continue to reach out and support local businesses in our community, including Small, Women and Minority owned businesses

Excursions:

- Deep Sea Fishing
- Bowling
- Race Car Driving
- IFly- Indoor Skydiving
- Sight & Sound Theater
- Gospel Concerts and Plays

YOUTH MINISTRY



WOMENS MINISTRY



WORSHIP MINISTRY



MENS MINISTRY



STERLING CHRISTIAN DAY SCHOOL

Our future goal and top priority is to create the best marketing strategy to grow the school by increasing enrollment.

FACILITIES

CHURCH GROUNDS AND BUILDING

From 2023 and beyond, the physical building of the Church and surrounding grounds has to not only have a ministry but would need to be funded. Our goal is to take advantage of the space we have to generate additional income for First Sterling. For example:

- Charging stations for electric cars in the overflow parking area
- Rental and use of unoccupied church facilities
- Community events in overflow parking area or multi-purpose facility
- Open an Adult Daycare Center that provides a safe place with activities for our Seniors with Dementia/Alzheimers as well as support for their caregivers

First Sterling will hire a Facilities Manager to oversee the upkeep and maintenance of the Church building and outside surrounding areas as well as keep track of and manage all inspections.

REFRESH CHURCH BUILDING AND SANCTUARY

In 2023 and beyond we will continue to make improvements to the overall appearance of the Church building including the sanctuary.

REFRESH ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES

Future plans to continue enhancing the administrative facilities include:

- Renovate basement (currently in progress for use by MFH). This will provide the additional space needed for the Food Ministry.
- Upgrade office copiers/printers.
- Continue to streamline and update office operations on an “as needed” basis.

CLEANING SERVICES

Future plans include continuing to use the current cleaning program with a dedicated focus on purging and decluttering the entire church.

SECURITY/SAFETY

Future plans to provide a secure facility and keep our congregation safe include:

- Establish a Security Management Team to oversee all aspects of the Security needs for the church including developing safety protocols and monitoring the cameras.
- Establish a Safety Committee to manage fire safety training, fire drills, active shooter drills, selection of Fire Wardens and managing the First Aid and CPR Training and certifications.
- Appoint a Greeter (non-gender specific) that will be an extension of our Security team and protocols for additional safety of the church.
- Add key cards and/or rekey the entire facility; implement and maintain a log for building access.



MANNA FROM HEAVEN

MANNA FROM HEAVEN

Manna from Heaven Food and Outreach program is based on Matthew 25:35 NIV “ For I was hungry, and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty, and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger, and you invited me in, I needed clothes, and you clothed me, I was sick, and you looked after me”

Manna from Heaven was founded in 2020 at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic under the leadership of **Bishop Leslie Patterson** and **Co-Pastor Dr. Francene V. Patterson**. Our mission is to alleviate economic, education and food insecurities to those in need throughout Northern Virginia. The core values influence the culture and public image as an effective community-based organization serving a wide variety of individuals and families.

In the beginning MFH was led to serve families in the immediate vicinity of Sterling; however, the team quickly realized that food insecurity extended throughout Northern Virginia and surrounding localities – way beyond its doorsteps. We have a program that operates from the generosity of volunteers. We currently provide nutritious meals and boxes of necessities to 150 families monthly. This year we have several events planned to raise funds and reach the goal of serving 2,400 families. With our current population we have a plan in place to increase donations, strengthen our volunteer pool, add bilingual staff to volunteers and most importantly acquire a vehicle to deliver food to our seniors and individuals with disabilities.



ACCOMPLISHMENTS 2022

- Purchases and Renovations - Purchased a shed for storing equipment and began renovating the basement of our current facility.
- Fish Fry – Sponsored this successful fundraiser and sold 70 dinners.
- Silent Auction – Sponsored a successful fundraising event.
- Yard Sale – Sponsored this successful event in August in coordination with the re-opening of Potomac View Road. MFH was able to gear the event for back to school as well. Our donations from the congregation and community were much larger than expected.
- Sponsorships – Currently have multiple businesses and families who provide monetary sponsorships to support the mission of Manna from Heaven
 - Private sponsors
 - L. Jackson Associates
 - ADJ Enterprises
- Partnerships
 - Blue Ridge Area Food Bank is a nationwide network that provides food to our pantry. This partnership requires an annual inspection to ensure we are compliant in our operating procedures.
 - United Bank, Nest4US currently provides volunteer services.



- Panera Bread and Crumbl Cookie provide food donations for our monthly distribution.
- Winter Distribution Schedule – During the winter months of January and February food distribution was by appointment only. Monthly food ordering occurs based on anticipated need and pantry capacity.
- Juneteenth – Set up a table at this event and provided MFH information about our location and services.
- Healthy Kids Run – Sponsored/participated in this community-based non-profit with healthy snacks, water, and activities which included a five-week running series for ages 2-14 designed for kids to get active, feel accomplished and lay the foundation for a healthy lifestyle.
- Student Interns – Brought two interns on board to help with daily operations.
- Volunteers – Trained and organized the Samaritan Squad to assist with all aspects of the monthly food giveaway to ensure that the process ran smoothly each month. We now have an amazing group of volunteers.
- Purchased tee shirts for the volunteers to wear during the food distribution.
- Memberships – Joined the NAACP, Loudoun County Chamber of Commerce, Loudoun Non-Profit Organization, Community Foundation to get exposure and growth throughout the community.
- Obtained 501c(3) – Filed for and received this tax exemption status in December 2022
- Senior Outreach – Purchased fruit baskets in support of the Youth Ministry and presented them to our Seniors as a Christmas gift.

DEACON DEBBIE WHEELER



FUTURE GOALS 2023 AND BEYOND

- Partnerships – Plans are to partner with more corporations, businesses and community-based groups throughout the area.
- Sponsorships- Increase the number of local, state, private and small business sponsorships
- Renovation Project – Expand our existing pantry including demolition and reconstruction of the current basement, installation of a new bathroom, and opening the facility up for food and other outreach activities.
- Ribbon cutting ceremony/ Facilities tour- Upon completion of renovations, host a ribbon cutting ceremony and tour of MFH and First Sterling Facilities
- Yard Sale/Coat Drive – Plans are to sponsor another Yard Sale in the fall of 2023 and in addition include a coat drive.
- Silent Auction – Plans are to sponsor this event again in 2023 in combination with a Gala as a combined fundraiser.
- Fish Fry – Plans for 2023 are to sponsor this event in April (date TBD)
- Volunteer Pool –
 - Plans are to develop and implement an online portal for volunteers to sign up for all events.
 - Sandy Springs Bank Staff will join the monthly food distribution starting in March 2023 by providing bilingual volunteers
 - Young Kings Movement (youth organization) will support the monthly food distribution starting March 2023.
- Volunteer Appreciation – Plans for this event are currently scheduled in April (date TBD) at Bowlero.
- Ministry Spirit Day– Participants will wear Ministry apparel and/or products that can be purchased on-line or in-person.
- Transportation Upgrade – Plans for 2023 include acquiring a vehicle to transport food boxes to seniors and to pick-up food donations.
- Reach Program – Plans are to enroll in the Food Bank affiliation program to implement services for senior meals only.

- Community Engagement – Plans include contacting schools regarding meals, advertising with HOA's, working with Latino food establishments for network/partnership marketing and PR opportunities.
- MFH Budget – Establish and implement a funding goal to manage the daily operations.
- Create a Marketing strategy that supports the funding goal.
- Funding Strategy – Plans include participating in combined capital campaigns, state/federal grants, giving Tuesday, corporate sponsorships, and more detailed social media platforms.
- Strategic Plan - Establish an Advisory Team who will participate in the roll out of 2023-2025 Strategic Plan.
- MFH Website - Refresh the MFH website and social media platforms and marketing materials.
- Grant Preparation – Participate in a Write-a-Long Academy class to learn how to write and apply for grants.





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