



FIRST "G" TIMES

LOVE GOD...LOVE PEOPLE....PERIOD!

PASTOR'S PEN

"Growing Into Greater"

Greetings 1st G Nation,

I pray this edition of our quarterly newsletter finds you all well and in good spirits. Once again through the grace and mercy of our God we have made it to yet another year. I pray that the year 2024 is filled with safety, spiritual growth, and much success for you and your families.

As a church we are prepared, primed, and positive to embrace our theme for Vision 2030, "Growing Into Greater". Our Savior promised us that we would do greater works through Him" (John 14:12-14 NLT). I am beyond proud and grateful to be a part of this great branch of Zion and I encourage you to be more intentional in inviting others to come GROW with us and experience the GREATER that God has in store for their lives.

To the leadership and membership of the 1st Gethsemane Baptist Church thank you in advance for the kingdom work that you will do this year. Your time, talent, and treasure will certainly be the catalyst for what will be an amazing journey towards the year 2030. I count it a joy to share in life and ministry with you. I love you all. Be encouraged! The best is yet to come!

Growing Into Greater,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joshua A. Harris Sr.', written in a cursive style.

Dr. Joshua A. Harris Sr.
Pastor



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I BELIEVE

1ST G GROWING INTO GREATER





1st G Center for Family Development



Greetings 1st G Nation,

We are excited, overjoyed, and inspired by Vision 2030 and the future of the CFD!

We are committed more than ever to meet the everyday needs of the community through our ongoing and growing mission of “reducing barriers of success for individuals and families.”

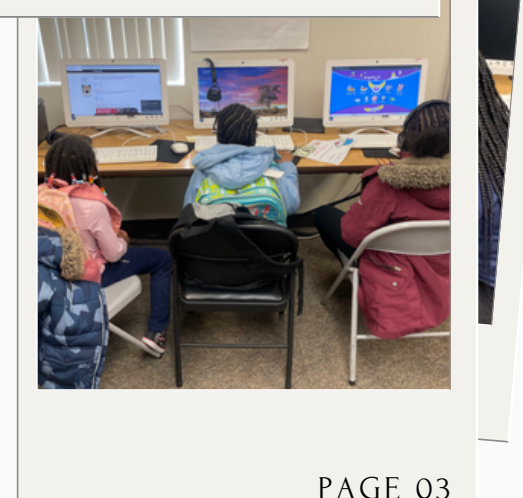
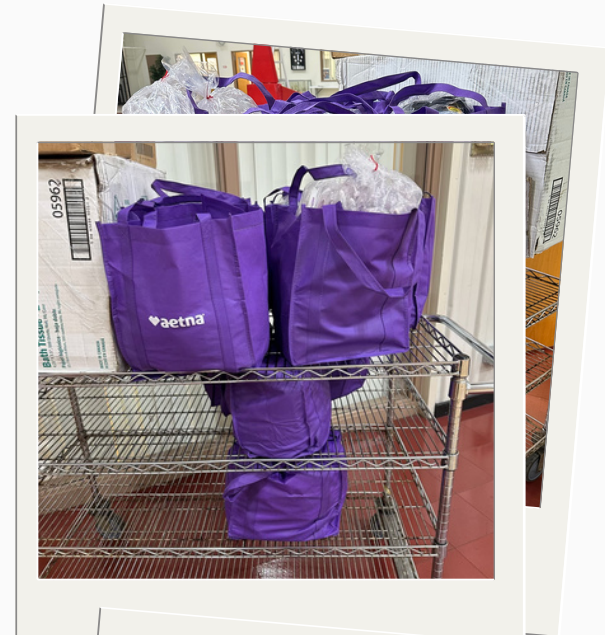
We believe The First Gethsemane Center for Family Development, Inc. is not just a visual staple in the community, it’s a vehicle of support built by our services, quality facilities, and programs.

In 2023 we “Finished Strong” in our efforts to make a positive impact on our community. We fed 2,140 households through our partnership with Dare to Care.

Our Teach One Academy after school and summer break tutoring program continues to be a valuable resource of educational enrichment that produces remarkable results for students. Team Kid summer camp continues to be a stable and affordable alternative that provides a safe, fun and educational environment for grades K-8.

Our 2nd Annual Black & Gold Gala fundraiser was a success. We also fed over 500 people in the community a thanksgiving meal.

We ended the year with our Community Christmas Dinner in partnership with our Councilman of District 6, Phillip Baker. This event was an opportunity to be a blessing to 100 people in the community by providing a delicious meal, sharing a delightful moment, and even delivering presents to so many children!





1st G Center for Family Development



Looking forward in 2024 and “Growing into Greater”, we plan to sustain all our current efforts and grow stronger by expanding into the following efforts that will make a long lasting impact on our community by launching:

- The implementation of mental health & wellness programs. It is our vision to be able to offer free counseling sessions, resources, and information to the community.
- Hosting a Community Health & Harvest Festival to connect and strengthen the Algonquin neighborhood and surrounding areas.
- Launching the 2024 HBCU College Tour to give our high school students access and options to attain higher education by experiencing the campus culture, programs, and resources.
- Offering a Workforce Development Center, and services that would include job fairs, training, seminars, resume writing assistance and job placement to our community members.
- Expanding into an official polling place to provide a safe and convenient place where voters can cast their ballots in the elections.
- Implementing an Inclusion program to provide support services to caregivers in our community. This program will be in the form of respite care for those with developmental disabilities, physical, mental, and chronic illness.

Last but definitely, not least...

Building a beloved State-of-the-art Community Center that would serve as a city within a city. This center would be our hub centered around community service and support that reflects our commitment to care.

#TogetherWeCan!

Larry Harper

Larry Harper

Executive Director

First Gethsemane Center for Family Development, Inc. (CFD)

director@1stgcfid.org





Dare to Care Food Bank



Greetings,

Thank you, 1st G and all our dedicated volunteers, for your support. Your support helps us fight hunger for residents of our local communities. We are pleased to announce that during the 3rd & 4th quarter 2023:

- Served 477 people from 242 households: ages 1 to 60+
- In partnership with DTC food bank. Providing our pantry with various food items, produce, meat along with non-perishable products.
- Special thanks to:
- Bro. Rothell Farris and his fellow KAPPA Alpha Psi fraternity members for their participation during the food giveaway days. They have been an added volunteering blessing.
- Jen Care Senior Medical Center and its community resources and partnership
- Our core team of 30 dedicated volunteers who serve during the food giveaway and pre-packing days. Our volunteers help to transform the CFD parking lot into a drive-through pantry where food items are distributed.
- Pantry food giveaway is held every 3rd Friday of each month, from 2pm-until all food has been distributed.



HOW YOU CAN HELP:

- Bring can goods, and non-perishable items on a weekly basis. Items can be placed in designated bins located in the church hallways.
- Cash or Write checks written to the CFD, designated to CFD/DTC Food Pantry.
- If you know someone who needs food, tell them about our pantry or call 502.634.1839 or 502.635.7906
- Contact Rev. Michael Wells for more information.

Financial Report

FINANCIAL REPORT

Submitted by Rev. Lillie Mae Pettus

"Say YES to no Debt"

MORTGAGE REMAINING BALANCE

\$598,741.68

**LET NO DEBT REMAIN OUTSTANDING,
EXCEPT THE CONTINUING DEBT TO LOVE
ONE ANOTHER, FOR WHOEVER LOVES
OTHERS HAS FULFILLED THE LAW.**

ROMANS 13:8

River City Mortgage
Report

Mortgage Balance
November 1, 2018:



\$953,920.50

Mortgage Balance
as of
January 31 2021

\$867,330.13



(Reduced by 9%)

Mortgage Balance
as of
January 30, 2024

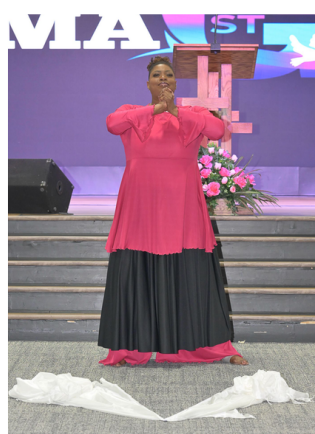
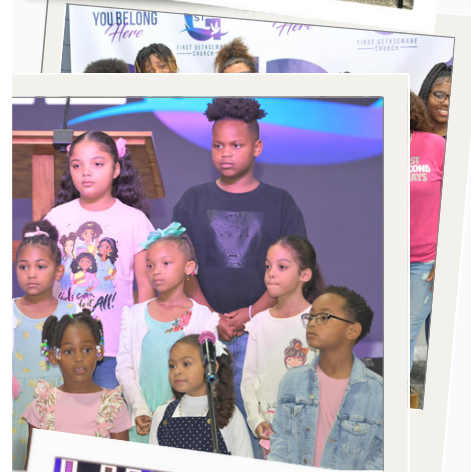
\$598,741.68



(Reduced by 37%)



Worship, Arts & Media



2023 Year in Review



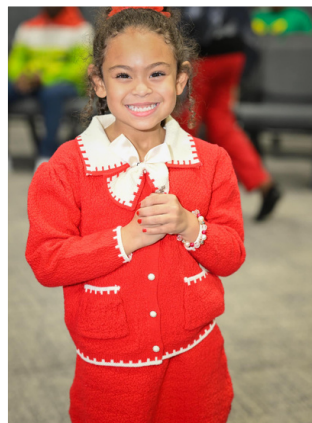
2023 Year in Review



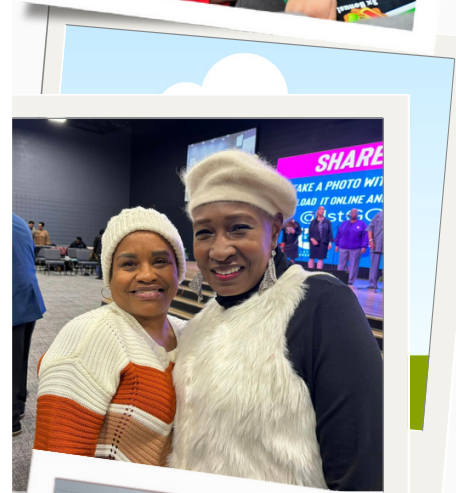
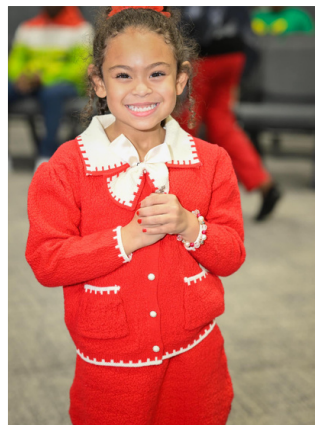
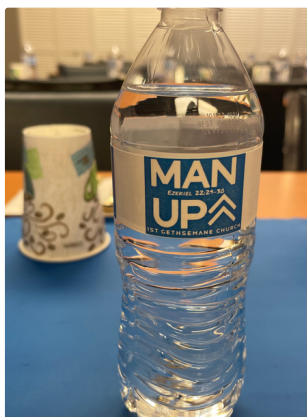
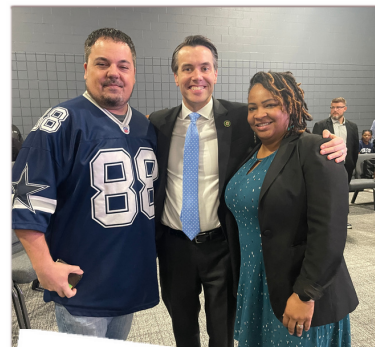
2023 Year in Review



2023 Year in Review



2023 Year in Review



Growing Into Greater



New Members

WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST 1ST G MEMBERS!

Brittney Holland

Jeremiah Neal

Ashlee Sanders

Terriesha Spurling

Jordan Wright

Naomi Minggia

Ray Best

Jordan Britt

Bianca McClenney

Isaiah Threats

Claude Travis

Timothy Cross

Tonniesha Sanders

WELCOME!

We extend a warm welcome to all of our new members. We want you to know that you belong here and that we are delighted that you have chosen to come grow with us.

As a church family, we are committed to helping each other grow in our faith and deepen our relationship with God. We believe that a vital part of this journey is connecting with other believers and sharing life together.

Our guiding principle is simple: Love God, Love People... Period. This is the heart of everything we do, and we invite you to join us in living this out each day.

Thank you again for joining us, and we look forward to getting to know you better as brothers and sisters in Christ!

Upcoming Services, Events & Activities



BLACK HISTORY MONTH

FEBRUARY 2024

THEMED SUNDAY'S

FEB
4TH

GREEK/COLLEGE SUNDAY

(Represent your BGLO or College)

FEB
11TH

"SUPER SOUL SUNDAY"

(Represent your favorite Sports Team)

FEB
18TH

THROWBACK SUNDAY

(Traditional Sunday's Best Attire)

FEB
25TH

HERITAGE SUNDAY

(Wear your African Attire)

SMALL GROUP WEEK

Grief Share

Last Tuesday of every month

Man Cave Bible Study

Wednesday after Grief Share

Women at the Well Bible Study

Saturday after Man Cave Bible Study

Dare to Care

Every 3rd Friday

FIRST GETHSEMANE CHURCH

REIMAGINE 1ST G
SHARING OUR FAITH IN
A POST PANDEMIC WORLD.
SAME MESSAGE...NEW
METHOD!
"THE GROWTH EXPERIENCE"

JOIN US LIVE @ 6:30p
EVERY 1st WEDNESDAY

"1ST G NATION"
PODCAST



CFD Events & Activities



The **BLACK** MARKET PLACE

EXPO

Sunday February 25th
12-3pm

1221 FIRST GETHSEMANE AVE 40208

Vendor tables available for \$50



carepacks

BOXES OF LOVE



Volunteer - Saturday 2/10 from 9am-12pm
1221 First Gethsemane Ave

Donate - Drop off items in the Welcome Center after service on Sunday 2/4 or Cashapp \$CFDWEST.

Donation Items Needed:

Hair comb/brush, Travel size shampoo Travel size lotion, Travel size tissue packs, Toothbrush and toothpaste, Adhesive bandages, Lip balm, Zip lock bags, Travel size soap, Deodorant, Travel size cleansing wipes Hand/feet warmers, Wash cloth
Feminine products, Disposable razors & shaving cream

(Please only new un-opened, non-perishable items)



LINE DANCING LESSONS



Instructor: Loretta Gillenwater



Thursdays 6-8pm
1221 First Gethsemane Ave
\$5.00 per person



CO-ED PICK UP GAMES
TUESDAYS AT 6:30PM
1221 First Gethsemane Ave

CFD Events & Activities

evolve502 COMMUNITY & FAMILY NIGHTS



Join Evolve502 and partners for a new event series aimed at bringing the community together and learning how to engage with local resources and child enrichment programs.

Each event will be from 6-7:30 p.m. at First Gethsemane Church/Center for Family Development.

Monthly activities include:

- A discussion with local groups sharing information about community resources
- Enrichment activities for kids while adults attend the resource sessions.
- FREE FAMILY DINNER!



Register here using the QR code!

**FEB
08**

Enrichment: Kids View
Food: Kezzy's Catering
Speaker: LMG Office of Philanthropy

- The Louisville Metro Government Office of Philanthropy will discuss their early learning initiative, as well as other community programs.

**MAR
07**

Enrichment: Jerald Smith Science
Food: Lucretia's Kitchen
Speaker: Everybody Counts

- Everybody Counts will present information about the opportunities they offer to graduating seniors through various partnerships.

**APR
04**

Enrichment: The Little Loomhouse
Food: Bearno's
Speaker: Jefferson County Public Schools

- JCPS will provide information that is applicable to parents and families of students of various ages.

Questions? Email nataliew@evolve502.org

Hosted by Evolve502, Everybody Counts, and First Gethsemane CFD

1st G “Inspires”



TERRENA KAYONDO

Birmingham Business Journal

Who's Who in
Diversity & Inclusion

CONGRATULATIONS!

Richard Price



Director of Louisville Metro Government's
Department of Codes and Regulations

Prayer Still Changes Things!

WEDNESDAY PRAYER CALL

@ 8 AM

DIAL 267-807-9598

ACCESS CODE: 481-771-646

TO LISTEN TO REPLAY DIAL
(267) 807-9599

ACCESS CODE: 481-771-646



SWEET HOUR OF PRAYER

THURSDAY @ NOON

LOCATION: MARTIN CHAPEL

 Guest WiFi **1stGNation** / Password **GR0W1159**



FIRST GETHSEMANE BAPTIST CHURCH

STAY CONNECTED WITH US



1st G Church

1stGchurch.org



Mail In to
1st PO Box:



EasyTithe Online or Text
"GIVE" to 502-200-8807



Givelify Mobile App
and Online:

Givelify

In-Person on
Sundays



1stgchurch.org/give

C.A.R.E. TEAM

DR. JOSHUA A. HARRIS SR., PASTOR



At 1st G we C.A.R.E.! (Care Assist Relate Encourage)

The Purpose of our Congregational Care Ministry, The CARE Team?

To assist the Pastor in providing congregational care for members by:

- Nurturing the body, mind, and spirit in health and illness
- Equipping members to serve each other
- Praying for and with each other
- Assisting to provide Care and compassion to our 1st G members and their families

Did you know that every 3rd Sunday members of our C.A.R.E. team go visit members that are sick and shut-in to administer the Lord's Supper? If you or anyone you know would like to be added to the list, please contact the church office right away.

Benevolence

Are you facing financial hardship? If so, your church is here to support you. Please contact the church office and ask for assistance through our benevolence fund. Please note that there are stipulations that apply but we will serve and support you to the best of our ability.

****Every member has been assigned to a 1st G Tribe according to the first initial of their last name.***

Tribe of Benjamin (A-F)

(502) 212-6583

tribebenjamin@1stgchurch.org

Tribe of Judah (G-M)

(502) 212-6941

tribejudah@1stgchurch.org

Tribe Reuben (N-S)

(502) 212-6568

tribereuben@1stgchurch.org

Tribe Zebulun (T-Z)

(502) 212-6912

tribezebulun@1stgchurch.org



Rev. Janice Carney

Rev. Patricia Daughtry



Dea. Jerome Davis

Rev. Kim Dial



Rev. Lillie Mae Pettus

Dea. Richard Price



Dea. Arthur Owens

Dea. Terrance Thomas



Dea. David Howard

Dea. Joseph Mitchell



Rev. Charles Ford

Rev. JoAn McClendon



Rev. Wanda Mitchell Smith

Dea. LaWarren Taylor



Rev. Carmelita Weakley

Rev. Ronald Weakley



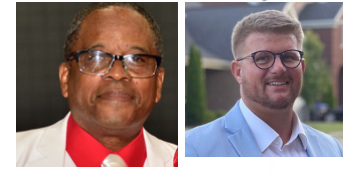
Rev. Pauline Owens

Dea. Walter Yates



Rev. Shenelle Hinton

Rev. Denise Osborne



Rev. Phillip Pettus

Dea. Larry Harper



Rev. Michael Wells

You Belong Here!



Wednesday 8am Prayer Call

Conference Line Info: Dial (267) 807-9598, When prompted Dial Access Code 481-771-646
Prayer Ministry - prayerteam@1stgchurch.org

1st G Text Alerts

Text the message @1stgbc2 to the number 81010 or (240) 297-4477



Subscribe to 1STGTV YouTube Channel



Follow us on Facebook

First Gethsemane Baptist Church 1159 Algonquin Pkwy, Louisville, KY 40208

Phone/Text: (502)635-7906 | www.1stgchurch.org



WORSHIP TIMES
SUNDAY SCHOOL: 9:00 AM
SUNDAYS @ 10:10 AM
KIDZ ZONE @ 10:10 AM

FIRST GETHSEMANE CHURCH
1159 ALGONQUIN PKWY, LOUISVILLE, KY 40208
1STGCHURCH.ORG

BIBLE STUDY:
WEDNESDAYS @ 6:30 PM
SWEET HOUR OF PRAYER:
THURSDAYS @ 12:00 PM

C o m e G r o w W i t h U s !