



Reeder Memorial
Baptist Church

New Members Guide



September 10th, 17th, and 24th
At 9:30am

Pastor Thomas R. Farrow, Jr.

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Information

Reeder Memorial Baptist Church

3725 Beatties Ford Road

Charlotte, NC 28216

www.reederministries.org

(Tel): 704-398-2914

(Fax): 704-391-3237

(Email) reederministries@gmail.com



Office Hours

Monday- Thursday - 9am-5pm

Friday-Saturday - Closed

Administrative Staff

Emma Vaughn, *Administrator*

Min. Tara Gibbs, *Administrative Assistant/Director of Christian Education*

Willa Cline, *Volunteer Office Support/Food Pantry Liaison*

Stephonia Wright-Duncan, *Church Clerk*

Worship Services

Sundays- 8am & 11am

Children's Church – Every Sunday except 5th during 11am worship

**Baptism* -3rd Sundays as needed **Child Dedication*- 4th Sundays as needed

Learning Opportunities (more on page 6)

Sunday School - 9:30am

Tuesday Night Teaching - 7pm

Wednesday Bible Study - 12pm

Denominational Affiliations

United Missionary Baptist Association (*UMBA*)

General State Baptist Convention of North Carolina, Inc. (*GSBCNC*)

American Baptist Churches (USA) of the South (*ABCOTS*)

Clergy Staff

Rev. Thomas R. Farrow, Jr. *Pastor*

Min. Kathy Bonapart

Min. Allen “Rudy” Burris

Rev. Ken Burton

Rev. Dr. Jeanette Foster

Min. Tara Gibbs

Rev. Calvin Johnson

Rev. Willie McCorkle

Min. Geraldine Porter

Evangelist Dorothy Jackson-Ross

Mission Statement

To be a loving and forgiving Christian fellowship, called to witness, to preach the Gospel, and to teach all people as Christ has taught us; providing a foundation for spiritual growth and personal development through: communication, mission, Christian outreach, and opportunities to grow in service to our Lord for the expansion of God's Kingdom on earth.



History of Reeder Memorial Baptist Church

In January of 1983, a few former members of Gethsemane Baptist Church began meeting and praying for a place where they could meet to have Sunday School and Prayer Service. They held meetings at the homes of several people to get organized and begin their search for a church home. The name Reeder Memorial was chosen in memory of the late Dr. J. A. Reeder who had been a cherished pastor of Gethsemane for 33 years. He baptized many of the members into membership at Gethsemane.

Having adopted a name and established itself as a Baptist congregation, the group set out to incorporate the congregation in North Carolina. The charter was granted, and on May 11, 1983, the legal name was established and the new institution became Reeder Memorial Baptist Church, Inc. of Charlotte, North Carolina. Soon after incorporation the group decided to purchase land and began raising funds towards that end. By September of the following year, Reeder Memorial purchased 3.25 acres of land, adjacent to what was then known as Metrolina Funeral Home at 3725 Beatties Ford Road. During this period, the Church was under the leadership of Interim Pastor, Rev. R. W. Dalton, who served as a spiritual leader until the Church could find a permanent pastor.

During the summer of 1984, members asked Dr. C. Don Steger to preach for Reeder. By early fall, and after prayerful consideration, the congregation voted to call Dr. Steger to become the first official pastor of Reeder Memorial. He assumed the role as pastor on November 25, 1984. Pastor Steger picked up the same fervor that the Reeder Memorial Family had for building a church home. He challenged the congregation to begin fundraising for building a church. On February 23, 1986, groundbreaking services were held with numerous local ministers, dignitaries, and friends in attendance. The Lord had brought Reeder Memorial one step closer to its dream. On March 1, 1987, two years after the campaign began, the dream became a reality. A brand new building was erected, complete with educational wing, fellowship hall, and furnishings. Under Pastor Steger's leadership, Reeder Memorial established itself as a fertile ground for developing opportunities for Christian service and ministry. Pastor C. Don Steger faithfully led the congregation through their spiritual journey until his retirement in December 2015.

In January of 2016, Dr. Joseph Sanders-Parks assumed the responsibility of Interim Pastor while the church searched for its next permanent leader. After months of praying and planning, the church extended a call to Rev. Thomas R. Farrow, Jr. who was officially installed as the second pastor of Reeder in December of 2016.

Our Pastor

The Reverend Thomas Farrow, Jr. currently serves as Senior Pastor of Reeder Memorial Baptist Church. Prior to coming to Charlotte, Rev. Farrow served as Senior Pastor of First Baptist Church Clinton for six years. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration and a Master of Arts degree in Mental Health Counseling from North Carolina Central University. In December of 2015, he completed a Master of Divinity Degree from Campbell University.



Rev. Farrow serves God faithfully as evidenced by his unique and energetic preaching and teaching style. He approaches the task of ministry with fervor, sincerity and humility. Rev. Farrow has preached all over North Carolina and beyond in diverse contexts. He's preached in prisons, nursing homes, and in various denominational traditions. Rev. Farrow has had the honor of preaching the MLK Commemorative Day Service for Shaw University. He has preached multiple times for the students at Campbell University. He has also preached and taught at the General Baptist State Convention of NC's Annual Session.

Pastor Farrow is active in the United Missionary Baptist Association as well as the State Convention, where he serves as the Coordinator for the Young Pastors Division of the Ministers Council. He has been recognized by the Fayetteville Observer as one of the area's rising leaders under the age of 40. Recently, Rev. Farrow has been invited to serve on the Urban League of Central Carolina's Board of Directors, hence joining a major movement for social and economic justice. His guiding philosophy is that the work of God and the community are inextricably connected.

He is happily married to Kembrie Jade (Greene) Farrow. They are proud parents of one girl, Kadence Moriah Farrow.



Learning Opportunities

Sunday School (Sundays at 9:30am)

There are classes offered for ages 3 and up. We offer a traditional curriculum with materials from David Cook publishing and supplemental materials from Urban Ministries, Inc. Each class is designed as a small group session while teachers encourage questions and discussion. Although the lessons are based on Scripture, our capable teachers facilitate rich discussions about issues in the African American community, current events, and modern Christian Living. In the near future we will introduce special topics to address the ever-changing needs of our church family.

Tuesday Night Teaching (Tuesdays from 7pm-8pm)

Our very own Pastor Farrow leads a learning session in the sanctuary. Pastor lectures and fields questions regarding a variety of topics, including Bible translations, Christian Living, spiritual gifts, missions, and more.

Tuesday Night Teaching: Kids! (Tuesday from 7pm-8pm)

In response to the growing number of kids attending Tuesday Night Teaching with their families, the Christian Education Ministry began a program to intentionally work with the youth. TNT: Kids! offers youth of all ages a healthy and hot meal, time and assistance with homework, and a brief Christian living lesson. As with all of our youth ministries, all teachers are certified in Child Sexual Abuse Prevention. Our teachers engage students with movie clips, hands on crafts, outside activities, and other interactive teaching methods to make TNT: Kids! a fun and unique experience.

Noonday Bible Study (Wednesdays from 12noon-1pm)

Join Rev. Willie McCorkle for an in-depth look at the Scriptures every Wednesday at 12 noon. This class offers a critical look at the Scriptures and is a great start for newcomers to the Bible. Each week, Rev. McCorkle offers engaging lessons from a range of texts and facilitates discussions. All are welcome to join.

Facility Usage

Outside Organizations

With prior approval from Administrative Staff, community organizations not affiliated with RMBC may reserve meeting space in our facility for a fee. These organizations are responsible for the publicity of their own meeting/event and will not be included in bulletins, visual announcements, or on the church social media. Any publications, brochures, information for their organization/event, etc. are not permitted at the welcome center without explicit approval from the Administrative Staff. If the organization's policies permit, Reeder members may attend the meeting/event. Please note that any and every organization must adhere to the RMBC Facilities Usage Agreement available in the Administrative Office. Contact the church office for more information at 704-398-2914 or reederministries@gmail.com.



Weddings and Funerals

Members and non-members may use the church facilities for their special occasions. Please note that usage is dependent upon the church calendar and final approval from the Administrative Staff. Please contact the church office for the schedule of fees and further policy information about your special occasion.



Church Auxiliaries (listed alphabetically)

#HashtagLunchbags



#HashtagLunchbags is a community service event for people to gather and make lunches for the homeless. This ministry provides community service hours to students in need of community service hours for school and/or other organizations. We gather one Saturday a month (usual the 3rd Saturday) at 10am in the Fellowship Hall. Participants donate items to make bag lunches as well. During the month of



June and December, toiletries are donated for distribution as well. Individuals can join by contacting Leslie Baldwin for the list of meeting dates.

Leslie Baldwin

Lbaldwin6712@gmail.com

Athletic Department

The athletic department is a ministry that uses sports as a gateway to learn about discipline, structure, and teamwork with a Christian focus. This ministry is available to youth as well as adults. Activities include basketball, cheerleading, softball, soccer, and flag football. Prior to each season, participants will need to complete registration; however, coaches and adult volunteers can also join any time during the season.

Gregory “Dee” Rankin

Drankin@futureleadersnc.org

Christian Education Ministries



Christian Education Ministries is the umbrella term under which many different segments of our church operates. We have the important task of ensuring RMBC’s focus is always on teaching as Christ commanded us. The overall mission is to equip members (of all ages) through educational programming. We do this by 1. Teaching the basics of our faith and 2. Challenging ourselves to grow in our faith. Activities

include but are not limited to Black History Month, Vacation Bible School, The Easter Experience, Tuesday Night Teaching and Noonday Bible Study. Members and visitors are always welcome to participate in any of our recurring activities. To assist with structure/planning/organization contact Min. Tara Gibbs.

Minister Tara Gibbs

Reederministries@gmail.com

Conversations Book Club

Conversations was formed as a support group for women to have an opportunity to share and learn from each other on topics that are concerns for women today. These conversations are intended to help women emotionally, spiritually and physically. Literary works are used as a vehicle to approach various subject matters. The goal is to be better women in this journey of life. Conversations meets on every 1st Monday of the month at 6:30pm in the RMBC Fellowship Hall.

Valerie Vaughn
Stevesjewels@aol.com

Couples Ministry



The Couple's Ministry meets monthly to encourage relationship building, marriage enrichment, learning from both younger and older married couples. We also focus on learning to keep Christ at the center of marriage. We enjoy a variety of activities including a nature walk at Latta Plantation Nature Center, book discussions, dinner and Jazz Festival attendance, discussion of wills & trusts, visiting the Gantt Museum Black History exhibit, barbeques, and movie nights.

To join us, please contact a ministry leader.

David & Edna Grace
Msdeede@aol.com

Deacon Ministry

The Deacons believe in "servant leadership," and serve to help the pastor minister to the spiritual, physical, emotional, and secular needs of our church family. In short, they work to lead, guide, and nurture the church membership. Deacons serve Holy Communion every 1st Sunday of the month, deliver Communion to members in hospitals, at home, and in nursing facilities, assist Pastor with Baptism every 3rd Sunday of the month, and visit members who are sick in hospitals, nursing facilities, or at home. Every year, the Deacons travel to the North Carolina Children's Home in Oxford, NC to minister. Deacons are faithful members, who are generally nominated by the Pastor, trained, and then brought before the church for a vote.



Deacon Helen Wright Dixon
H1wright@yahoo.com

Deaconess Ministry



The Deaconess Ministry is a committed group of Christian women that work to support healthy relationships in the church and the community. Their tasks and responsibilities include: preparation of Holy Communion, preparation for Baptism, support other ministries and programs of the church, and minister to the needs of women and children, especially girls. Activities include sponsoring and facilitating the Rites of Passage Program, doing visitations, sending cards, organizing a church directory,

and hosting fundraisers. Traditionally at RMBC, the Deaconess Ministry has been comprised of the wives of the Pastor, Deacons, and Associate Ministers.

Deaconess Yaisa Johnson

Yaisajohnson1@gmail.com

Deaconess Henrietta Thomas

Hlthomas@uncc.edu

Food Pantry Ministry

The RMBC Food Pantry, in partnership with Second Harvest Food Bank Metrolina, operates as an emergency food pantry. We provide free food to individuals in Mecklenburg County, NC in a compassionate, non-judgmental and friendly environment. Our pantry shelves are stocked with food purchased from Second Harvest Food Bank Metrolina and a local grocery store, and with donations from our church congregation. The Pantry is open Monday, Tuesday and Thursday mornings 10:00 am – 1:00 pm and Thursday afternoons 4:00-6:30 pm (hours subject to change during the Winter). Volunteers schedule appointments with consumers, shop for food, stock the shelves in the pantry, greet and assist consumers, complete the required paperwork, and submit accurate, timely reports to Second Harvest. Volunteers must complete a 2 hour orientation/training for direct service to consumers or a 30-60 minute computer training for individuals interested in scheduling appointments.

Willa N. Cline

Wcjourney@aol.com



Health and Wellness Ministry

This ministry seeks to raise awareness and thoroughly educate the church and community concerning health and wellness by providing interactive sessions regarding diet, chronic disease management, and healthy lifestyle habits. This ministry hosts Mental Health workshops, comprehensive training and educational sessions, physical activity sessions, and dietary demonstrations/instructional classes, all provided by certified healthcare professionals. All sessions are free and open for participants; just attend any scheduled event.

Veronica Rankin, MSN, RN-BC, NP-C

Vrankin99@yahoo.com

Kim Porter

Tomekap75@yahoo.com

Mime Ministry (*Word by Mime*)

“Word by Mime” is a group of gifted young adults and children who interpret gospel music using gestures, expressions, and movement to project the spiritual message. “Word by Mime” is sometimes accompanied by liturgical dancers who also utilize their gifts to glorify God through silent praise. The rehearsal schedule for this ministry varies from month to month.

Cameron Witherspoon

camerontwitherspoon@gmail.com



Missionary Circle

The Missionaries focus on social service and serve as the front-runners for the missional work of the church. Each member is committed to show God’s love through comforting words, visitation, food assistance, and holiday gifts for persons in nursing homes. They are in the process of committing to assist families with children that have long-term illnesses. We also have an annual Prayer Breakfast to intentionally pray for our church, our community, our nation, and the world. The Missionary Circle meets every 2nd Saturday of the month at 10:30am. All are welcome to join.

Arnita Alexander

Aasweetlea@aol.com



Music Ministry

The Music Ministry of RMBC is both vibrant and varied. We currently have five choirs that sing everything from hymns to modern praise/worship songs. Our music department consists of the Hymn Choir, Ensemble, Male Chorus (“The Mighty Voices of Reeder”), Youth Choir, and Mass Choir. The schedule of when each choir sings somewhat varies from month to month. Each choir has a president; however, the Director of Music (Kevin Homesley) manages, trains, teaches, and leads most rehearsals. He is assisted by our Organist (John Kniffley). Together they bring a wealth of knowledge, experience, and insight as it relates to church music. Any interested persons are welcome to attend choir rehearsal to join a choir. See either one of our musicians for more information.



Kevin Homesley, *Director of Music*

Kevinhomesley@gmail.com

John Kniffley, *Organist*

Jkpoppie@aol.com

Outreach Ministries

RMBC takes seriously the call to be beyond the four walls. Pastor Farrow has worked hard to revive the church’s missional thrust. In that vein, you will hear of a number of opportunities throughout the year to serve the community through the church. We work with Habitat for Humanity to build homes, we serve at the Men’s Shelter and Women’s Shelter, plus we currently have a partnership with Sisters of Mercy whereby we are building a garden so that we will be able to give out fresh vegetables through our Food Pantry Ministry.

Pastor Thomas R. Farrow, Jr.

Tfarrow7@gmail.com

Carolyn James

Carolynrjames2@gmail.com



Senior Ministry

The Senior Ministry is committed and active in providing a program for the seniors in our church and in the community. We strive to implement a support system to meet the needs of seniors including: spiritual growth and development, fellowship, and social and health education. Some of our activities are an annual Black History Program, workshops, an annual picnic, senior appreciation program, trips, and holiday celebrations. We also do outreach and visitation to sick & shut-in seniors, as well as disabled members. Seniors have specific needs that we also try to address such as financial management, medications, and health. Individuals can join by attending one of our monthly meetings, which are held every 1st Saturday of each month in the fellowship hall at 11:00am.



Rev. Jeanette J. Foster
Jfoster77@carolina.rr.com

Trustee Ministry



Trustees are entrusted to manage property, maintain a distinct level of upkeep, and steward over the assets of the church. This entails creating policies and procedures for the church regarding the maintenance of the property, the building, and financial resources. We are responsible for recording contributions each Sunday, developing a yearly budget for the church, reviewing expenses, and considering investments. They also organize clean-up days throughout the year. Trustees meet

monthly as an organization, and at least once a year with the church at large. Trustees are appointed by the Pastor.

Paris Witherspoon
info@allisoncress.com

Linda Coley
lccoley@aol.com

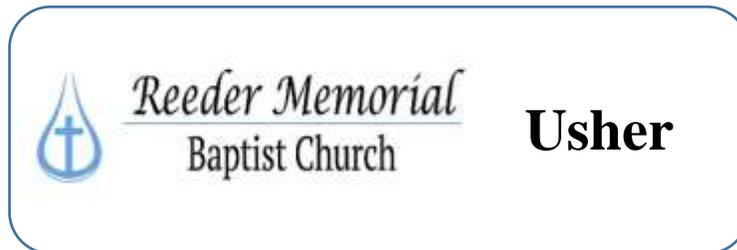
Usher Ministry

Ushers greet all members and guests during church services and funerals. The ushers assist the Church with any services that require ushers, as well as members or guests. The service of an usher is to ensure all have seating in the sanctuary, distribute church bulletins, financial envelopes, fans, and other materials as needed. They also assist the trustees with collecting offering. Ushers travel with the Pastor upon request to represent our church. They meet every month on the 2nd Saturday at 9am in the fellowship hall. We also visit the sick, visit bereaved families, have fellowship outings, and attend district/convention meetings. They welcome anyone interested in ushering to attend a monthly meeting. The new member chairperson will need your contact information before your first meeting.

Rosetta Moss (New Member Chair)

Fay Smith (President)

Foxygray50@att.net



Welcome/Hospitality Committee

We welcome all visitors at our Sunday Morning worship services as they enter. We record their names and announce 1st time visitors to the church at the appointed time on the program. We provide friendly faces and a warm smile to remind each member and guest that they are welcome at RMBC. If you are interested in joining, please contact Dorothy Darby and she will provide the welcome script and member guidelines.

Dorothy Darby

Dorotdar7@bellsouth.net



Youth Ministry



Reeder Memorial's Youth Ministry is led by a council. The council meets semiannually or as needed. The council is comprised of the pastor, representatives from various ministries, and others who are passionate about the youth. In addition to Children's Church, our youth assist in leading worship on 4th Sundays. We have Tuesday Night Teaching for kids where we serve dinner, teach a lesson, and allot

time for homework. We also have activities and events throughout the year both here and away from RMBC. We are always happy to have more people working with our kids; however, there are two requirements: 1. All persons working with our kids be willing to submit to a background check. 2. All persons working with our kids either attend in person or take an online "Stewards of Children" training, which is a child sexual abuse prevention course.



Pastor Thomas R. Farrow, Jr

Tfarrow7@gmail.com

Min. Tara Gibbs

reederministries@gmail.com