

REVIVE
2023 Annual Church Impact Report

A New Church: A New Path Forward

December 16, 2023

Greetings:

This Annual Impact consist of a summary of the activities from the December 10, 2022- to December 15, 2023. I have tried to capsulate as much of the work in relationship to the Vison and Mission of the Church. The Church is moving forward in a spirited filled and life-giving way. This time of transition has been filled with lots of God's grace and mercy. It has been about building relationships on a deeper level and organizing in a way that moves the church forward in a new way being led by the Spirit. As we continue to move forward, we do so with the Lord leading the way. We are reminded to keep our eyes focus on the things of God (Colossians 3:2) and the vision and mission that God has placed before.

I continual remind us to keep our eyes on Christ Jesus. I have tried to approach the work of ministry from an Adaptive Leadership approach perspective. In other words, I am always looking from the balcony and discerning with the Spirit the direction and guidance. While some has been met with resistance, I have not allowed that to stop me but find other ways to keep the ministry of the church moving forward. . When we keep our eyes on God and follow him, we see the results and amazing things happens. So the church throughout all Judea and Galilee and Samaria had peace and was being built up. And walking in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit, it multiplied.(Acts 9:31) And so it is with Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Baptist Church. Not only is the church growing in numbers it is also growing in ministries and spiritual growth. The manifestation of what God is doing in our midst is reflected in the ministries reports which includes: Membership growth; Youth Ministry; Music ministry; Leadership; Usher; Security and Safety ; Upkeep of the facilities; and outreach and connection with the community. .

I am grateful to each of you as you have continued in your faith and the spirit of unity as we work together to advance the work of the church by listening to each other's and discerning the movement of the Holy Spirit in and through us. I am, astutely aware that the work is plentiful but the laborer are few. (Matthew 9:35-38) but we cannot allow that to stop us because God has and will continue to provide.

At the last quarterly meeting I emphasis the importance of Self-Care and continue to do so as we move forward — everyone knows their capability and limitations. You each have to make a personal decision how much you can take on. Do Not overextend yourself. It okay to say “No” if you do not have the capacity to take on additional things. The gift of self-care is built into creation. (Genesis 2:2-3) When we practice self-care, it's important to recognize that what we do isn't just for our own benefit. It should serve as a blessing to others and to the creation itself. How can I be any good for others if I am not good to me. Jesus says, Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.(Matthew

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Solely for the MLK membership



Reverend Dr. Linda M. Smith, Transitional Pastor

11:28) . It is much healthier when we do self-care because it prevents us from spreading dissension from within our midst.

I acknowledge the grief and depression that set in for so many during this time of as we all wrestle with loss of loved ones and other things in our lives and the world. This time of the year can bring about feelings of loneliness, isolation, grief, and sadness, both for people with clinical depression and even for some who aren't depressed. Please check in on yourself and make a plan to not be by yourself. Check in on friends and colleagues. Do something that make you feel life your life has purpose and most of know that we, I, are here for you. Remember you don't have to do this alone. Our Deacon and Ministerial staff are available for each of you at all times. Never be afraid to reach out! You do not have to go it alone!

As we move into this new year we do so with **BIG** goals in mind. We will continue to stretch ourselves to reach these goals with the help of the Lord. The Priorities for 2024 continues to be guided by the **REVIVE** Vision and Mission as outlined in the Stewardship Strategic and Engagement Plan with our priorities as:

- Evangelism
- Youth Ministry
- Outreach
- Congregational Care
- Financial growth and stability

REVIVE the Stewardship ministry of the Church. Stewardship consists of three parts:

- **Time** - When we talk about the element of time in terms of stewardship, we are referring to the time we spend in prayer—the time we spend talking with God, studying the word, worship experiences, and experiencing God in spiritual ways in fellowship with one another.
- **Talent** - Moreover, it is required in stewards, that a person be found faithful to his gifts (1 Corinthians 4:12. We are gifted individually in a way that serves to building up the Body of Christ. No one is forgotten in God's generosity, but all are provided for in a way that each person and each gift uniquely play a part in God's Kingdom here and now. As each one has received a special gift, employ it in serving one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God (1 Peter 4:10).
- **Treasure**- For where your treasure is, there also will your heart be (Mt 6:21). In truth, everything we do and every choice we make as to how to use our money, as well as all the gifts of our lives, is important and indicative of the role we are willing to play in building God's Kingdom.

I cannot over emphasis the work of the ministry as we work together in spirit and unity to advance the work that God has set before us.

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Much of what is contained in this report will also be reported in other department/ministries reports.

In this report you will find the Following:

- **Vision and Mission statement** – This Vision and Mission statement should be reviewed at all of your meetings so that the leadership stay focus on the Vision and Mission of the church. This is the blueprint. It like building a house. You cannot build a house without a blueprint. This is our blueprint for building the church here at Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Baptist Church.
- **Shared Agreements** – To be shared at each meeting to ensure that we operate in the spirit of unity and respectful guidelines honor the voice and contribution of all.
- **Stewardship Strategic and Engagement Plan**- outline our focus areas for 2024 in alignment with the Vision and mission of the Church. Everything that we are doing should be in alignment with making these a reality in 2024. Leaders should have this available at every meeting to review as you are planning and engaging your team in the work.
- **Impact Report Ministries** – Overview of the status of the ministries, brief update on the activities and accomplishments. Some of the ministries will have separate reports made available. Please take the time to read the report to understand.
- **Annual Calendar for Church Ministries - Page 15-16** - Each Ministry and Board should look at the calendar and beginning planning your event/ministries immediately. If you plan something on the calendar that is not listed, please advise the Christian Education Ministry/Board and the Pastor.
- **Safety Policy and Protocol**

Pastor's Recommendation

Voting Items

- **Nomination Committee** – approved at the March 18, 2023, is hereby terminated upon the certification of the voting that took place on December 18, 2023, meeting.
Per Article X Section 2 — Shall be composed of three or more persons, who shall be appointed by the Pastor and affirmed by majority vote at the Annual business meeting of the church. This committee shall always include a Deacon and a Trustee and be representative of the major departments of the church (including a member who has previously served on this committee) to serve for one year. I am appointing the following to the Nomination Committee for the 2024
 - Deacon Alisha Vinson
 - Trustee Deborah Bell
 - Clara Gipson
 - Charlie Sims



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- **Restoration of the Vinson Center** – This item has already been voted on and approved in the June 17, 2023, meeting. Emphasis is placed on restoring the Vinson Center as soon as possible to ensure that there is additional space for our fast-growing youth ministry.
- **Truniere Kirby** is Ministry leader of the Hospitality Ministry of the Kitchen. If you are planning a program that involve food and use of the kitchen, please include her in the planning process.
- **RISE Youth Ministry** – Deacon Alisha Vinson-Ames, Deacon Jerome Herring, Crystal Bolts, Eleanor Northington, and Jeanette Frazier are the current ministry team. We are currently recruitment more volunteers to help support this fast-growing ministry. The team and I met on Saturday, December 9, 2023, to plan the 2024 objectives which included:
 - Training/Studies
 - Recruitment
 - Meal's availability for Sunday's gathering for youth/children
 - Gatherings/Outings/Events
 - Youth Leaders – Ambassador
 - Parents/students/children gathering.
 - Appropriate Space

This is the focus for 2024. One of the critical areas is food needed in support to feed the young people that show up at church on Sunday morning. We want to ensure that “No Child who come on Sunday morning leaves hungry”. Therefore, I am requesting that all Ministries and Department support this ministry by volunteering to provide food supplies for Sunday morning meals. I am asking each ministry and department to take on a month or Sunday to provide the food. Individual members are invited as well to take on a Sunday as well. The **RISE Ministry Team** will create a list of food needed and make the list available as people sign up. You may sign up by contacting the Office Assistant and placing your name on the list and what month or Sunday you can provide support. This ensure that we have a coordinated list of who is providing breakfast on any given Sunday.

This report is the results of the dedicated and committed work of the fellowship. Thank you for giving, your time, your gifts, financial support and commitment to the work of the Lord. It is with deep gratitude that I presented this report regarding the accomplishments and look forward to even greater impact in the future!

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I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus...Philippians 3: 14

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MLK 2024 Annual Calendar

January 13	MLK Leadership Training
January 14	Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.
January 28	Dedication of Leaders
February	Black History Program
February 25	Church Anniversary
March 12	Leadership Meeting
March 16	Church Meeting – 1 st Quarter
March 28	Maundy Thursday
March 29	Good Friday
March 31	Easter
April 21	Usher Annual Day
May 12	Mother’s Day
June 15	Juneteenth
June 15	Quarterly Church Meeting
June 16	Men Annual Day & Father’s Day
August 7-9	Vacation Bible School
August 10	Annual Church Com-Cook Out
August 17	REVIVE BACKPACK and RESOURCE DAY
August 24	Youth Law and Justice Forum


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September 8	Youth Annual Event & Back to School Sunday
September 17	Leadership Meeting
September 21	Quarterly Church Meetings
	Revival
December 1	Advent
December 8	Advent
December 15	Advent
December 22	Advent
December 22	Christmas Youth Program
December 17	Leadership Meeting
December 21	Quarterly Church Meeting

**Safety and Security Ministry Policy and Protocol\
December 14, 2023**

To: All Leaders, Deacons, Chairpersons, Ministries, and Boards

Subject: Safety and Security Ministry Policy and Protocol

On January 3, 2023, the Safety and Security Ministry was formed. During that initial meeting, we discussed ways to improve the safety of the church. The Team was made up of diverse members of the congregation to include the Trustees, Deacons, and Lay Leaders. Ministry Leader Charlie Sims took on the responsibility of the leadership to train and put in place a process that would include the safety of the Church and has done an amazing job. However, the process is only as good as we the members enforce the process.

We can never take for grant that it will not happen to us. We live in times in which we are to be mindful, and watchful and we all have a responsibility to provide a safe worship environment for all of the members of the congregation at all times. Therefore, the following policy and mandate must be adhered to:

1. If you are having an event outside of regular worship service that will require you to be in the building, you must notify the **Security Charlie Sims – by texting at 206-551-0428.**
2. All persons using the church whether members or contractors must adhere to the policies in place.
3. All Boards, Ministries Leaders and Chairperson must appoint someone at each meeting to monitor, to ensure that doors are locked and appropriate safety protocol are adhered during your meeting.
4. No doors are to be left open at any time or unattended except by security personnel.
5. If you discern a situation is dangerous, please call 911 as first point of action. You do not need permission to call 911 if the Security is not on the ground, after which contact Security Charlie Sims, Trustee Chairperson and Pastor.
6. If at any time you are feeling uncomfortable about anything you are to notify Security and/or Security Team Leader or designee.
7. If at any time you see something suspicious, please do not hesitate to contact the Security Team- Security Charlie Sims, Chairperson Trustee and Pastor.
8. If you see something that is suspicious, say somethings, but just do not do anything.!