BRIGHT HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH

LENTEN SEASON SERVICES

Services are held nightly at 7:00pm every Wednesday
Beginning March 5th - April 16th 2014

GUEST PREACHERS

MARCH 5TH
Rev. Willie I. Graves, Sr.
St. Phillip's Baptist Church

MARCH 12TH
Rev. Dr. Leslie D. Callahan
St. Paul's Baptist Church

MARCH 19TH
Rev. Dale L. Crawley, Sr.
Childs Memorial Baptist Church of Philadelphia

MARCH 26TH
Bishop Millicent Hunter
The Baptist Worship Center

APRIL 2ND
Bishop Keith Reed
Sharon Baptist Church

APRIL 9TH
Rev. Dr. Mark K. Tyler
Mother Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church

APRIL 16TH
Rev. Dr. J. Wendell Mapson
Monumental Baptist Church

“A NEED FOR TRANSFORMATION” - ROMANS 12:1-2
March 5th-Willie I. Graves Sr. - Pastor of St. Phillip’s Baptist Church

Born Willie I. Graves, to Rev. and Mrs. George L. Graves, on June 29th 1951. He is the youngest of three brothers and four sisters. He attended public schools in Philadelphia for twelve years, graduating from Germantown High School with Honors in Sports and Music. He also attended the Manna Bible Institute for two and one half years. After high school, he entered the U.S. Air Force, where he served in Virginia and South Vietnam. After two years of service he received an Honorable Discharge on January 13, 1972.

On August 18, 1973 he married the former Lillian R. Boyd, from this union they were blessed with three daughters and one son: Tiffany, Lillian, Willie Jr., Lynet. He became very active in his home church and served on the Deacon Board as Co-chairman for two years. The Lord called him into the Ministry that same year.

After a long period of indecision, he preached his trial sermon in August of 1975. He preached at many of the fine churches in the city and shortly won many friends in the ministry. In January of 1976, he was called to pastor his home church, the Ala Branch Missionary Baptist Church. Pastor Graves attended The Philadelphia College of Bible, where he majored in Pastoral Studies and received his Bachelor of Science Degree in May 1983. As the Lord continued to direct Pastor Graves’ life he was called to Pastor St. Phillip’s Baptist Church. He preached his first sermon as our Pastor, Sunday, October 5, 1980. Since then the church has grown quickly in both numbers and spiritually.

March 12th-Reverend Dr. Leslie D. Callahan-Pastor of St. Paul’s Baptist Church

On May 17, 2009, the congregation of the historic 119-year-old St. Paul's Baptist Church, located in the heart of Philadelphia, called the Reverend Dr. Leslie D. Callahan as the church’s first female pastor. Dr. Callahan delivered her first sermon as St. Paul's pastor titled "It's Time" on May 31 to an excited congregation of St. Paul's members and friends. After a series of pre-installation celebrations, St. Paul's installed Dr. Callahan as their 5th Pastor on September 27, 2009.

A native of Gary, West Virginia, Dr. Callahan experienced her first Christian education and formation at Apostolic Temple Church where she developed an enduring love for Jesus Christ and for Christ's body, the Church. Having experienced her call to ministry at an early age, Dr. Callahan began the public proclamation of the gospel at age 19.

Committed to education, Dr. Callahan earned the Bachelor of Arts in Religion from Harvard University/Radcliffe, the Master of Divinity from Union Theological Seminary, and the Doctor of Philosophy degree in Religion from Princeton University. Her research interests include religious history in the United States, particularly independent African American Christianity and Pentecostal studies.

Dr. Callahan was ordained in 1997 at Judson Memorial Church and served as Minister of Christian Education at the First Baptist Church of Princeton, New Jersey. She also served as interim pastor of Salem Baptist Church of Jenkintown, Pennsylvania.

A gifted professor, Dr. Callahan, served on the faculty of New York Theological Seminary (NYTS) as Assistant Professor of Modern Church History and African American Studies. Prior to her time at NYTS, she was a member of the faculty of the University of Pennsylvania as assistant professor of religious studies.
In addition to her ministry and scholarly pursuits, Dr. Callahan enjoys traveling, golfing, reading, movies, and sports. She is also an active member of the Philadelphia Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

Dr. Callahan's written expressions and thoughts can be found on her blog, as well as in her published article in the The Audacity of Faith: Christian Leaders Reflect on the Election of Barack Obama by Marvin A. McMickle (Editor).

Dr. Callahan's chief joy is being the proud mother of Annabelle Inez.

Dr. Callahan's favorite scripture is Psalm 27:4: One thing have I desired of the LORD; that I shall seek: That I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD and to seek God in God's temple.

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March 19th - Rev. Dale L. Crawley, Sr.- Senior Pastor of Childs Memorial Baptist Church

Pastor Dale L. Crawley Sr. serves as the senior pastor of the Childs Memorial Baptist Church of Philadelphia, PA. Coupled with the support of his wife Rev. Deborah, Pastor Crawley has been the senior pastor of this dynamic urban ministry since 1999. He was licensed to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ in 1993, at the Christ Baptist Church of Burlington, NJ where he faithfully served as the Director of Outreach Ministries.

In September of 1999, Pastor Crawley was called and accepted God's assignment becoming Childs Memorial Baptist Church’s sixth pastor. Bringing vision and promoting purpose, Childs Memorial has become one of Philadelphia’s most contagious churches.

Humility, integrity and compassion best describe the ministry of Pastor Crawley. Since his installation, the church's “active” membership has grown from just below 200 members to well over 600 disciples. Under his leadership, the church has over 40 operating church ministries that meet the diverse needs of the congregation and community.

Pastor Crawley is a spirit-filled preacher/teacher of the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. Adopting a no-nonsense practical approach to ministry, Pastor Crawley articulates the strong challenge to “practical while biblical” Christian living. Emphasizing salvation through Jesus Christ and the power to live that life … only by the outworking of the Holy Spirit, Pastor Crawley continually endeavors to bring an "in season" word that is relevant in the climate and culture of our changing times.

Pastor Crawley and his loving wife of over 35 years enjoy family life and spending time with their grandchildren.
March 26th-Bishop Millicent M. Hunter, Ed.D. D. Min-Senior Pastor of the Baptist Worship Center

Rev. Dr. Millicent Hunter is the Presiding Bishop of the Worship Center Worldwide Fellowship of Churches with 71 churches in the United States and South Africa. She is also Founder and Senior Pastor of The Baptist Worship Center Church of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Dr. Hunter has an extensive educational background having earned a bachelor’s degree, two master’s degrees, a doctorate in education and a Doctor of Ministry degree from United Theological Seminary. She is also an adjunct professor at United Theological Seminary. Dr. Hunter serves as a city commissioner in Philadelphia and is also a member of the Board of Directors of the Philadelphia Baptist Association. Well-known for her exciting and challenging teaching techniques, Bishop Hunter taught in the Eastern School of Christian Ministry and the Urban Clergy Leadership Institute of Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary. An experienced educator, she is the founder of The Excell Christian Academy. Dr. Hunter established The Worship Center Bible Training Institute in South Africa and the United States which trains and mentors students in Bible and Ministry.

Bishop Hunter is an award-winning author of eight books. Her first book entitled Don’t Die In The Winter…Your Season Is Coming was a bestseller. Released by Destiny Image Publishers, the book was produced into an 8 week television series. Dr. Hunter’s twice weekly television broadcast, Your Season Is Coming, is viewed around the world. She is president of Hunter House Publishers. Dr. Hunter hosts the weekly Moments of Inspiration radio broadcast in Philadelphia. She was featured in Gospel Today Magazine as one of America’s Top 10 Global Pacesetting Pastors, and in Charisma and Ebony magazine as a leading Pastor for World Evangelism.

She has published numerous articles addressing issues that impact African-American life. She is the founder of the National Association of Clergy Women, and the CEO of the Excell Community Development Corporation. Bishop Hunter is a much sought after revivalist and conference speaker across the world. She has traveled extensively throughout Africa, India, Thailand, Japan, The Caribbean, and Europe inspiring congregations with a message of hope. Dr. Hunter has received numerous awards for her involvement in religious and civic affairs. Recently, the Smithsonian Institute of Washington D.C. completed a pictorial study of African-American life in the 21st century. Bishop Hunter is part of that prestigious collection. She is an anointed woman of God and a mighty instrument in the hands of an Almighty God. She is married to Dr. Marino Hunter and they are the proud parents of 2 children.
April 2nd  Bishop Keith Reed- Senior Pastor of Sharon Baptist Church

Bishop Reed a native Philadelphian, born on July 31, 1957, to both the late John T. and Fannie Elizabeth Reed, and is one of five children. His mother raised him in a Christian home and on June 2, 1974 he accepted Christ while attending church with his mother. Bishop Reed received his education in the Philadelphia School System. He attended Parkway High School, and Pennco Tech of Automotive Technology. After receiving the call to ministry he attended The Bethlehem School of The Bible, and The Philadelphia Biblical University. Now known as Cairns. His other educational accomplishments include: Certification in Homiletics, Proclaimers Place and Regents Park College. He received an Honorary Doctorate Degree of Divinity from Geneva College through the Center for Urban Theological Studies.

Bishop Reed is married to the former E. Lynn Williams. He is the father of two sons, and two daughters Keith Wayne, Jr., Kristian Wade, Anyah Elise, and Aleya Erin.

Bishop Reed is one of the country’s most requested speakers for local, national, and international revivals, conferences, and conventions. These venues include the E. K. Bailey International Conference of Expository Preaching, Dallas, The Mighty Men of Valor Conference, Valley Forge, PA, The National Baptist Convention, Pastoral and Leadership Conference, Delaware, Congress of Christian Education, Houston, Texas, and Palmer Seminary Preaching Conference.

Under his leadership, Sharon Baptist Church became the first church in Philadelphia to build an edifice that held over 3,500 people; in 1998, he founded the Sharon Bible Fellowship Church in Lanham, Maryland. In 2000, 4.5 acres of land that formally housed the W.H.A.T. Radio Station was purchased, and in 2001, 260 acres was purchased in Franklinville, New Jersey.

In 2009, Bishop Reed built the Sharon Community Center after the former Sharon Baptist Church was destroyed in a fire. He has a heart for the 59th and Catherine Streets community where he spent 20 years of his pastorate. He understood that Sharon Baptist Church’s presence in the community made a difference in the stability of the community, and decided to rebuild and keep the ministry of Sharon Baptist Church alive in the community.

Bishop Reed is the founder and presiding Bishop over Progressive Holistic Ministry of Churches and is the Overseer of 18 Pastors and their churches. Under his leadership and guidance there has been positive church growth and the ministry of serving people has enhanced. He is the founder of the Institute for Church Growth, and the Cutting Edge Leadership Conference, which revolutionized ministry by preparing Pastors, Ministers, and Leaders for positive church leadership. He is also the founder of the Sharon Baptist Bible Institute, and provides biblical classes and instruction from his Pastors, Ministers and Church Leaders to anyone wishing to further their knowledge of the Gospel.

Bishop Reed is the leader and founder of the Sharon Baptist Church Mighty Men of Valor and has provided discipleship to thousands of men by providing them with strong Christian leadership principles and values as they grew in the Christian faith. His ability to develop men has caused Sharon Baptist Church to become a place where families worship together, and strong marriages and relationships are fostered through his representation of what true manhood is. In September 2011, Bishop Reed opened the Keith W. Reed Christian School for Boys which currently has 50 young boys enrolled from grades 1st – 8th.

Bishop Reed is truly grateful to the Lord for his many blessings. His life verse is I Timothy 1:15 which reads, “This is a true saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief.”
Mark Kelly Tyler is a native of Oakland, CA and he is the third child of Bill and Elroy Tyler. In 1987, he accepted God’s call to preach the liberating Gospel of Jesus Christ. He is an ordained itinerant elder in the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

He is a graduate of Clark Atlanta University (B.A., Religion), Payne Theological Seminary (Masters of Divinity), and the University of Dayton (Ph.D., Educational Leadership). Since 1994, Dr. Tyler has been in full time pastoral ministry in the African Methodist Episcopal Church. He has been blessed to serve as pastor of congregations from one coast to the other: Oakley Chapel (Tebbetts, Missouri); Quinn Chapel (Jefferson City, Missouri); Allen Chapel (San Francisco, California); Prince Chapel by the Sea (La Jolla, California); Bethel (Oxford, Ohio); Bethel (West Chester, Pennsylvania); and, Macedonia (Camden, New Jersey).

Dr. Tyler currently holds the esteemed honor of serving as the 52nd pastor of Mother Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Philadelphia. Mother Bethel, the first congregation founded by Bishop Richard Allen, has been a spiritual, social, and community force since the late 1700s. Mother Bethel also has the honor of serving as the final resting place of church founder, Bishop Allen. It is an international destination for pilgrims and tourists alike. Dr. Tyler’s love for ministry, combined with his passion for history, has led to many exciting initiatives and programs at Mother Bethel.

Dr. Tyler led the drive to secure the funding for Bishop Richard Allen: Apostle of Freedom (The Documentary), serving as Executive Producer and Writer on the project. He also served as the Producer and Writer for the Council of Bishops’ production of The Anvil: Echoes from the General Conference which made its debut at the 2012 General Conference of the African Methodist Episcopal Church. Most recently, Dr. Tyler was interviewed by Dr. Henry Louis “Skip” Gates for an upcoming six part PBS series entitled The African Americans: Many Rivers to Cross. Additionally, Dr. Tyler has appeared in various documentaries, including: The Scroll: Evidence of the Life Unseen, Volume 2; the PBS series, A Taste of History (in production); Philadelphia: The Great Experiment; and, Philly Firsts.

Dr. Tyler has also been active in the world of Theological Education, having served as the Director of Church Relations and Alumni Affairs at Payne Theological Seminary (Ohio) and the Director of Church Vocations at New Brunswick Theological (New Jersey). He is currently an adjunct professor at both Payne Theological Seminary and Methodist Theological School in Ohio. He also serves on Advisory Boards for Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia and the Northeastern Seminary at Roberts Wesleyan College in Rochester, New York.

Dr. Tyler is a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. and in his spare time enjoys traveling to new places, riding his mountain bike, and roller skating. He and his wife, Leslie, live in the Philadelphia area. He has four wonderful children.
April 16th-Rev. Dr. J. Wendell Mapson- Monumental Baptist Church

REVEREND DR. JESSE WENDELL MAPSON, Jr. was born in West Palm Beach, Florida, and raised in Newark, New Jersey. The son of Rev. J. Wendell Mapson, Sr. (deceased) and Mrs. Georgia Taylor Mapson, he is the oldest of two sisters and one brother. He accepted Christ as Lord and Savior and was baptized, licensed and ordained at Mount Calvary Missionary Baptist Church in Newark, New Jersey, where his father pastored for over fifty years.

Dr. Mapson received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Morehouse College, Atlanta, Georgia; a Master of Divinity degree from Crozer Theological Seminary (now Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School); and a Doctor of Ministry degree from Palmer Theological Seminary (formerly Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary). In 2002 Palmer conferred upon him the honorary Doctor of Divinity Degree. While at Morehouse Dr. Mapson was president of the Ministers’ Union and served as student minister under the late Dr. Ralph David Abernathy, Pastor of the West Hunter Street Baptist Church and an associate to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Reverend Mapson is the author of the three books; The Ministry of Music in the Black Church, published by Judson Press; and, Strange Fire: A Study of Worship and Liturgy in the African American Church. Dr. Mapson’s lecture entitled, “An Uncertain Sound,” has been selected as one of the best presentations delivered at the prestigious Hampton Ministers’ Conference and was included in the Spring 2002 Best of Hampton issue of the African American Pulpit. Recently he published a collection of sermons entitled, “God of My Father: Sermons of a Father and Son.” These are sermons of his father Rev. J. Wendell Mapson, Sr. and Rev. J. Wendell Mapson, Jr.

He served as Pastor of the Union Baptist Church in Elizabeth, New Jersey from 1969 to 1987. In June 1987 he was called to pastor the historic Monumental Baptist Church Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, founded in the year of our Lord 1826. Under his leadership Monumental has reached unparalleled heights as he seeks to make real the church motto “The Church Where Jesus Christ is Central.”

Doctor Mapson is Vice-Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Foreign Mission Board of the National Baptist Convention, U.S.A., Inc, and served as Chairman of Music and Worship for the Convention. He has taught at the Palmer Theological Seminary and Lutheran Theological Seminary of Philadelphia, and is a former President of the Baptist Pastor’s and Ministers’ Conference of Philadelphia and Vicinity. He is a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.

In 1994 Reverend Mapson was inducted into the Martin Luther King, Jr. Board of Preachers at Morehouse College in Atlanta, Georgia; and in 1995 he was presented with the Benjamin E. Mays Footprint Award by the Greater Philadelphia Chapter of the Morehouse Alumni Association. Also he is a member of the Board of Trustees at Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School.

He is married to Shirley Jones Mapson, and they are the parents of three sons; Keith, Brian, and Jesse III.