

Grace Baptist Church of Germantown

"A Christ-Centered Congregation, with the aid of the Holy Spirit, encouraging all to Grow in The Lord"

Deacons' Ordination Service

"For Those Who Have Answered The Call"

*Enlarge the place of your tent, And let them stretch

* August 13th, 2016 * Saturday 6pm-10pm *

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2020

2:00 PM

25 W. Johnson Street *** Philadelphia, PA 19144

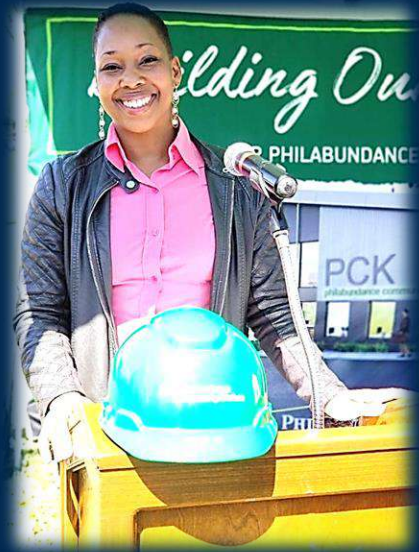
Telephone No. 215-438-3215 *** Fax No. 215-438-3210

Community Center No. 215-848-2700

Website: www.gracebaptistgtn.org

(NEW) Facebook: Grace Baptist Church GTN

Rev. Dr. J. Henry Buck, Jr., Senior Pastor



Appr. Deacon Candace Matthews-Bass

Strongly committed to developing others, both in individual goals as well as artistically, Candace has made her gift of communication through advocating, training and teaching her life and career.

Candace began dance training at the Diane Matthews School of Dance Arts at age 6. For 16 years she studied ballet, tap, modern jazz and tumbling. Candace continued dancing while she attended Drexel University where she obtained her Bachelors of Science in Psychology. While at Drexel, Candace was a performer and choreographer with the Drexel University Dance Ensemble as well as the captain of Drexel's first university dance team.

Candace's professional career in dance includes two seasons with Body Language Dance Company as well as a featured performer in Freedom Theatre's *Alkynza* Dance production. She additionally has been a member of West Chester Dance Works for over 20 years, both as principle dancer and corps performer. Candace's most notable credit includes being featured in the original production, *Rachel Harris: One Woman Over the Line* which ran for 4 years. Additionally, Candace directs and choreographs for West Chester Dance Works' Dance Team, DM Dance Machine and assists in artistic direction alongside of Diane Matthews, Artistic Director. Other credits include performances in various venues in the Greater Philadelphia Area including the Wachovia Center, Painted Bride, the Philadelphia Art Museum and several colleges and universities. Candace has also enjoyed teaching Modern Jazz and Hip Hop to dancing school students aged 7 and up for over 20 years.

Although previously a member of Second Presbyterian Church in West Chester, Candace committed to join Grace Baptist Church of Germantown (her husband's church) in 2003, where she had an opportunity to combine her skills and passion for dance with ministry. Candace became the choreographer and artistic coordinator of the first formal praise dance ministry, Expressions of Praise, under the leadership of Rev. Dr. G. Daniel Jones. Blessed with a small group of peer leaders, Candace teaches and develops choreography, costuming and music selection for an intergenerational praise dance ministry with dancers ages 9 to 70. This group has ministered from Philadelphia to Virginia celebrating God's promises through dance excellence at local events, special services, conferences and retreats for over 15 years.

The call on Candace's life as an advocate and communicator has expanded beyond dance and manifested in her previous positions of case manager, counselor and program manager with multiple Philadelphia area nonprofits. Though dancing is in her soul, Candace is also very passionate about human development through vocational training for her full-time employer, Philabundance. This role enables Candace the ability to serve Philadelphia residents pressing through difficult circumstances to change their lives through support and employment opportunities; a role she has grown for 20 years alongside a team of talented and passionate colleagues. Though a secular environment, Philabundance has enabled her to hone her servant leadership skills and passion for our neighbors in need.

Especially following the completion of her Master of Arts degree in Urban Studies, Candace knows affirmatively that God has been blessing her and enabling the talents, energy and strength necessary to balance these roles with being a wife to her husband, Larry, and mother of two (Kiara and Larry, Jr.); the most important calls on her life. As a believer, it is each person's responsibility to serve others as Christ did and to love your neighbor as yourself. Candace works every day to honor God through these principles at work, church and home.

Appr. Deacon William Butler, Jr.



William Butler, Jr., affectionately known as “Billy”, is a native of Philadelphia, PA. Raised in the Germantown section of the City of Brother Love & Sister affection, Billy heard the Lord’s call early in life and made his goal to serve the Lord. Billy became a member of the original Grace Baptist Church of Germantown at the age of 8. Billy sang with various Gospel Choirs over the past 25 years, but is now a proud member of Grace Baptist Church’s Men’s Chorus and Senior Choir.

Billy has excelled and been effective in many areas, but his platform has always been helping others whether in psychiatric units, outreach ministries, public or private education or street ministries. He is a Class of 2010, Cum Laude graduate of Gwynedd Mercy College possessing a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration.

Billy has been recognized by many and won prestigious awards from the NAACP, BEBASHI (John Blue Award), the Belmont Social Worker Award and Servant of the Year from Bright Hope Baptist Church. Billy has a wealth of knowledge and background in HIV/AIDS and has been educating people as an HIV Specialist for 13 years. He served as a Senior Member Service Representative at Community Behavioral Health helping members to connect to various Behavioral Health Service Agencies for the last 3 years. Recently, he was promoted to Team Leader in the Member Services Department providing training and education for staff on new treatment plans as well as a variety of special projects.

Billy loves the Dallas Cowboys and loves to attend the games in Dallas, Texas in his free time. He also thoroughly enjoys being a member of Grace Baptist Church’s Drama Ministry. He additionally enjoys “preaching” homilies at Whosoever Mission in Germantown and Chestnut Hill Lodge in Wyncote as a member of the Missionary Ministry.

Billy is known as the “Prodigal child” who returned back to his roots at Grace Baptist Church of Germantown. He lives by Psalm 46: “God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.” (KJV)

Appr. Deacon Victoria Y. Crawford



I am the last of nine children given to Augustus and Vivian Crawford born January 12, 1957. I was raised in a Christian home and belonged to The Greater Zion Church of God in Christ (later renamed The Bruce M. Oakley Memorial Temple of God in Christ after the passing of the founding pastor, Bruce M. Oakley. Under the leadership of Pastor Irene A. Oakley, I was saved at the age of 13 and I gave my life back to the Lord at the age of 21. I have since been, as we say, running for my life. It has been 42 years and I thank God for this ongoing journey.

My journey includes being an outgoing and solitude person. As a teenager, I loved reading, bowling, going to the movies and playing school with friends. We even tutored the neighbor's children. As an adult, my interest includes shopping, traveling and witnessing as the Lord leads me. A friend and I had a partnership of a shopping service to buy new garments and revamp clientele wardrobes. The business was called "Gofer's"; as our slogan states, we go for you.

I'm a particular mixture of gregariousness and quietness. I love talking about the books I've read. I am an avid reader of the Scriptures and not just for the knowing but for the living.

The choir is where I first started serving the Lord with knowledge of who He is. Later, I became the leader of the Outreach Ministry. However, God has used me more in personal evangelism, the one on one. This is the ministry I know God called me to because He has given me a heart for the lost and babes in Christ. Truly, I love talking about God and His word. Sunday School is a joy to me and so it was through Sunday School I answered God's call to teach. This is where God taught me, and others through me, that the Word of God can't get into us until we get into it.

I left my former church and began coming to Grace Baptist Church of Germantown in the summer of 2003. In December of 2003, I joined Grace under the leadership of the late Rev. Dr. G. Daniel Jones.

After attending for some time, I became one of the teachers in the Women's Bible Study that used to meet on Tuesday nights. Later, I became a Sunday School teacher, where I'm still serving. I have also had the opportunity to teach in the Church Wide Study and at Women's Retreat. For awhile, I was a part of the Evangelism Outreach Ministry and recently, I have been named the Facilitator of the Grace Book Club of which I've been a member for about 18 years.



Appr. Deacon Theresa Manley

Theresa Manley was born in Brooklyn, NY, but was raised on Long Island in Bay Shore. After graduating from Bay Shore High School, she attended Curry College in Milton, MS but left after her sophomore year due to a lack of finance. She transferred to SUNY at Farmingdale and took classes as a Dental Assistant which she graduated.

After working in the dental profession for two years, she decided to take up her brothers offer to move to Denver, CO for a fresh start in the summer of 1979.

In Colorado, she worked for IBM Corporation for 12 years until the company down sized and let her whole department go. However, during this time she attended Kaplan University, an accredited online university located in Chicago, IL and received a BA in Legal Studies in 2010. She has worked as a Paralegal for law firms, as an Executive Assistant for small business and in the financial industry. After living in Colorado thirty years, she decided to move back to the East Coast where her son, Kaylend Manley, lives.

At Grace Baptist Church of Germantown, she is involved in Sunday School as a teacher and student. She volunteers for the Mission Blitz, and since joining Grace in November 2016, has gone on the evangelism walks on Saturdays.

She is an avid reader of history, fiction, non-fiction and Christian literature. She is a writer of short stories, which she is hoping to publish someday, and a song writer. She works at Comcast as a Project Coordinator and Executive Assistant.



Appr. Deacon Eugene Thompson

Eugene Thompson known affectionately as “Gene” to his family and friends, is the sixth of eight children and the fourth of six sons born to the late James and Mary Thompson on January 11, 1953. At an early age, he accepted Jesus Christ as his personal savior, as he was baptized at the New Daniel Baptist Church in North Philadelphia. In 2005, Gene joined the Grace Baptist Church of Germantown and has been actively involved as a member of the Senior Ushers Ministry and is presently serving as its President. He is also a member of the church’s Men’s Ministry.

Gene was educated in the Philadelphia School System, graduating from Central High School in June, 1970. After high school, he continued his education attending Pennsylvania State University, where he majored in Business Administration and minored in Electrical Engineering. Later, he attended University of Phoenix where he majored in Information Science.

In 2014, Gene retired from the Hartford Steam Boiler Inspection and Insurance Company, a subsidiary of the Munich Reinsurance Company of America, after working several years as a Senior Engineering Technical Support Specialist and also as a Risk Evaluation Specialist. Currently, he works part-time as a Logistics Service Representative for the Laboratory Corporation of America, otherwise known as Labcorp, Inc.

He is a member of the following Masonic affiliations, Olive Branch Lodge # 8 of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania; King Hiram Chapter # 2 of the Most Excellent Grand Chapter, Prince Hall Holy Royal Arch Masons of Pennsylvania and DeMolay Consistory # 1 of the United Supreme Council Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, Prince Hall Affiliation, Northern Jurisdiction, USA, Inc. Also, since 1971, he has been an active member of the Groove Phi Groove Social Fellowship Incorporated, having served as President of both its Philadelphia Graduate Chapter and more recently the Tri-County Graduate Chapter of Pennsylvania.

Gene is the spouse of Mrs. Violet Thompson, who is also a member of the Grace Baptist Church of Germantown, where she serves on the Deacons Auxiliary. They have three children, Israel, Iman and Janaya, along with five grandchildren and three great grandchildren. With God's Grace and Mercy, Gene is looking forward to expanding his service in the church and to the community and the world at large by spreading the Good News of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Many thanks to the members of the Senior Ushers Ministry for allowing me to serve in a leadership capacity.

Psalms 118:1-2

“O Give Thanks Unto The Lord, For His Mercy Endureth Forever.
Let Israel Now Say, His Mercy Endureth Forever.”

GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH OF GERMANTOWN

DEACONS' ORDINATION SERVICE

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2020 ~ 2:00 PM

Rev. Carmen Watson, Worship Leader

Call to Worship & Opening Prayer

Rev. Carmen Watson

Scripture Lessons

Old Testament
New Testament

Isaiah 6:1-8 (NIV)
Acts 6:2-6 (NIV)

Deacon Sandie Jordan-Gordon
Deacon Beverly Terrence

Presentation of the Ordinands

Deacon William L. Roberts

Message from the Pastor

Rev. Dr. J. Henry Buck, Jr.,
Senior Pastor

Charge to the Ordinands

Deacon Walter C. Vertreace

Statement from the Ordinands

Apprentice Deacon William Butler, Jr.
Apprentice Deacon Victoria Y. Crawford
Apprentice Deacon Theresa Manley
Apprentice Deacon Candace Matthews-Bass
Apprentice Deacon Eugene Thompson

The Deacon as a Servant Leader
The Deacon as a Church Officer
The Deacon's Role in Ministry
The Deacon as a Christian
The Deacon as a Family Leader

Prayer for the Ordinands

Rev. Dr. J. Henry Buck, Jr.,
Senior Pastor

Closing Prayer

Rev. Dr. J. Henry Buck, Jr.,
Senior Pastor

Deacon's Ordination Committee

Deacon Tyrone L. Beach, Sr., Chairman

Deacon Beverly Terrence

Deacon Jace K. Jones

Deacon Walter C. Vertreace

Heavenly Father, since the time of the Apostles you have inspired the Church to commission certain members to assist in the servant mission of Christ. Bless these Deacons, servants of yours, (names) along with all other men and women fulfilling the mission of our church. May they continue to be strong yet humble in their ministries. May they be examples that encourage others in service. May they remain faith-inspired and in good health and spirit. We ask this through Christ, our Lord.



GRACE

BAPTIST CHURCH OF GERMANTOWN