

HOPE IN ACTION

SANDY RUN MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH (SRMBC)

SUNDAY SERVICE

Rev. Dr. Joel D. Churchwell

Facebook Live 8:30 a.m.
Sunday School 9:15 a.m.
Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.

YOUTH CHURCH

Director Jennifer Cooper

1st & 3rd Sundays of the Month
During 10:30 a.m. Worship Service
(currently for ages 6-12 yrs)

2026 COMBINED LIFE ENRICHMENT STUDY

"Community-The Structure of
Belonging"
Part 2-"Conversations for Community
Transformation"
July 22-August 26, 2026 (Wednesdays)
6:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. (Hybrid)

A Charge To Keep

"I commend to you our sister Phoebe, a deacon of the church in Cenchreae. ²I ask you to receive her in the Lord in a way worthy of His people and to give her any help she may need from you, for she has been the benefactor of many people, including me."

Romans 16:1-2, New International Version

On June 21, 2026, Sandy Run Missionary Baptist Church celebrated a historic milestone with the ordination of Sister Lorie Raikes-Smith and Sister Shaquana Parker-Mitchell to the Deacons Ministry. As the first women to be ordained to this ministry, their ordination marks a significant moment in the life and legacy of Sandy Run.

As their Pastor, I have watched these faithful women offer meaningful gifts and experiences that reflect the faith, character, and servant spirit that is synonymous to Christian leadership. Their ordination reminds us that the Lord continues to bless "The Hallmark of Hope," equipping His church to minister effectively within our community and beyond. May their service inspire future generations of faithful disciples and stand as a witness to God's calling upon modern-day Phoebees to serve His kingdom with grace, wisdom, and steadfastness.





As a church, we are to function according to God's design and fulfill His purposes and missions as we serve, administering God's grace to one another and using our spiritual gifts to advance His kingdom. On Saturday, June 6th, Sandy Run Missionary Baptist Church held its first-ever church-wide Ministry Fair from 10:00am to 12:00 noon in the Fellowship Hall. The objective of the Ministry Fair was to allow attendees to see the various ministries within our church family. It was also an opportunity to help them discover where they could serve with joy and purpose, seek ministries where their gifts could make a difference, and connect with ministries during a time set aside to do just that. The theme for this event was "There's a Place for You" and our inaugural Ministry Fair was the perfect place to start! Attendees were able to come and learn about the different ministries that make our church family thrive. Whether they have a heart for serving, teaching, creating, or simply lending a helping hand, attendees were able to visit tables, questions, engage with ministry how they, too, could be a vital part the ministry-minded mission of

There was an enormous amount of persons visited booths set up by Education, Culinary, Music, HOPE Senior Citizens, Ushers, and Young "Forecasting for Vision" that Tract 26, & community engagement. 54% of the attendees expressed an booth they visited.



meet ministry leaders, ask team members, and discover of implementing and representing "The Hallmark of Hope."

excitement in the air as over 114 the following ministries: Christian Connects, Information Technology, Adults. There was even a booth called spoke to our future possibilities, At the end of the fair, approximately interest in joining a ministry whose

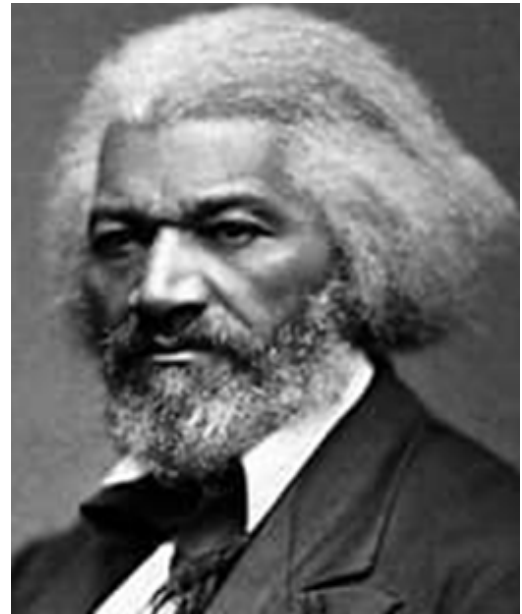


What to Us is the Fourth of July?

Frederick Douglass was born into slavery, and although the exact date of his birth was never recorded, historians estimate it to be February 1818. Despite the circumstances of his birth, Douglass went on to achieve extraordinary accomplishments—foremost among them securing his own freedom.

In a time when it was illegal to teach enslaved people to read, Douglass educated himself, firmly believing that knowledge was the pathway from slavery to freedom. His life became a testament to the power of learning, resilience, and the unshakeable pursuit of justice.

One of his most celebrated contributions is his powerful speech, “What to the Slave Is the Fourth of July?” Delivered on July 5, 1852, at Corinthian Hall in Rochester, New York, the address challenged the nation to confront the contradiction between its founding ideals and the continued existence of slavery.



While the Declaration of Independence was adopted on July 4, 1776—establishing the United States as a free nation—millions of enslaved people remained in bondage until slavery was officially abolished on December 6, 1865. Douglass’ speech boldly exposed this hypocrisy and called the nation to live up to its own promise of liberty.

The full text of Douglass’ speech can be viewed at: [douglass_july_4_speech.pdf](#).

Heavenly Father, help us press forward with faith, courage, and hope, trusting You every step of the way.

Faith, Fellowship & Baseball

On Sunday, June 14, 2026, Sandy Run Missionary Baptist Church was honored to welcome the Jacksonville Ospreys Baseball Team—owners, staff, players, and host families—to our morning worship service. It was a meaningful time of fellowship and strengthening our community partnership.

Our guests shared how much they enjoyed the service and the warm welcome from the Sandy Run congregation. After worship, everyone gathered in the fellowship hall for a Dessert Meet & Greet, enjoying conversation and a chance to connect with the players and their families.

The HOPE Connects Ministry extends heartfelt thanks to all who helped make our guests feel at home, reflecting the love of Christ through your kindness and hospitality. We encourage everyone to continue supporting the Jacksonville Ospreys this season at Jack Amyette Ballfield and cheer on this outstanding community partner.

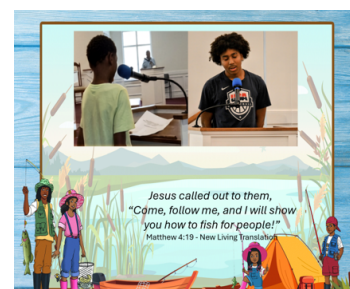


Vacation Bible School

The week of June 15th through 19th was an unforgettable, faith-filled experience during Vacation Bible School 2026. This year's theme "Hooked—Reeled In to Serve God" was based on what Jesus said in the New Living Translation of Matthew 4:19 "...Come, follow Me, and I will show you how to fish for people." Lessons featured engaging Bible stories and practical life applications inviting participants to grow in their desire to know God, make God known, and experience the joy of what it means to serve God.

From two-year-olds to adults, we were blessed to receive a total of 573 persons gracing the Hallmark of Hope hallways. Classrooms during the week were filled with students eagerly wanting to get "Hooked" and learn about fishing for those who need to hear and come into the knowledge of God's saving grace.

Many thanks to everyone for their commitment, dedication, preparation, and stewardship that made VBS 2026 a wonderful success for the glory of God!



Future Connections

Monday, July 13, 2026

Be A Hopeful Friend Outreach
Carolina Rivers Nursing & Rehabilitation Facility
6:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.

Wednesdays, July 22-August 26, 2026

Combined Life Enrichment Study

Topic: "Community-The Structure of Belonging"

Part 2- "Conversations for Community Transformation"

SRMBC Fellowship Hall: Hybrid Format

6:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.

Saturday, August 1, 2026

Young Adult Ministry - "ADJUST"

3rd Annual Back-to-School Bash

SRMBC Parking Lot

12:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m.

Contact Us

Christian Education Ministry
Church: 910-346-4840
Email: christianeducation1503@gmail.com

Sandy Run MBC



"The Hallmark of Hope"

Rev. Dr. Joel D. Churchwell, Pastor/Teacher
1503 Hargett Street
Jacksonville, NC 28540
Church: 910-346-4840

Connect With Us

HOPE Connects Ministry
Sister Angela Lee, Director
Church: 910-346-4840
Cell: 910-340-7737
Email: hopeconnectsministry1503@gmail.com