

# 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

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the Month  
During 10:30 a.m. Worship Service  
(currently for ages 6-12 yrs)

### VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Director Regina Steward

June 15-19, 2026  
6:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m.  
More Information To Follow

## Resurrection Joy and Memories



## Hope Refocused, Continued

On Easter morning, we joyfully gathered with our friends from Living Hope Community Church for the Sunrise Service. SRMBC choir led us in worship with songs of praise, and Rev. Robert Hall, Associate Minister of Living Hope Community Church, brought a powerful and encouraging message. After the benediction, we enjoyed a wonderful breakfast in the Fellowship Hall prepared by the SRMBC Culinary Ministry. We are grateful to continue our Annual Resurrection Sunrise Service and invite everyone to join us next year. Sandy Run Missionary Baptist Church and Living Hope have shared this special tradition for the past twenty years, and by God's grace, we look forward to many more.

## Christian Leadership School

Please join us for our Christian Leadership School (CLS), offering four enriching courses designed to equip and strengthen Christian leaders in both faith and practice. Classes will be held May 18–22, 2026, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. (Monday through Friday).

All courses will be conducted simultaneously and in person at Sandy Run Missionary Baptist Church, located at 1503 Hargett Street, Jacksonville, NC. Daily check-in will take place from 5:45 p.m. to 5:59 p.m., as sessions will begin promptly at 6:00 p.m.

Our CLS instructors are all nationally certified by the Sunday School Publishing Board. The following courses will be offered:

### ***Christian Stewardship***

Dean Felicia Churchwell-Instructor

### ***Christian Character and How It Develops***

Dea. Wendell Boykins-Instructor

### ***Leading Change***

Bro. Grover C. Lewis, III-Instructor

### ***African American Church and Social Justice***

Rev. Dr. Joel D. Churchwell-Instructor

**SANDY RUN MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP SCHOOL**  
 Accredited by the Division of Christian Education  
 Accreditation & Credentials, Sunday School  
 Publishing Board, NBC, USA, INC.

**2026 CLASS SCHEDULE**  
 May 18-22, 2026  
 Monday - Friday  
 6:00pm to 8:00pm

**AFRICAN AMERICAN CHURCH  
 & SOCIAL JUSTICE**  
 INSTRUCTOR  
 REV. DR. JOEL D. CHURCHWELL

**CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP**  
 INSTRUCTOR  
 DEAN FELICIA CHURCHWELL

**LEADING CHANGE**  
 INSTRUCTOR  
 BRO. GROVER C. LEWIS, III

**CHRISTIAN CHARACTER  
 & HOW IT DEVELOPS**  
 INSTRUCTOR  
 DEA. WENDELL BOYKINS

There are no registration fees, and no books are required. However, the capacity for each class is limited. A comprehensive syllabus will be provided for each course. The registration deadline is May 11, 2026, or when class capacity has been reached, whichever comes first.

## Healthy Living

### Understanding Health Disparities in Our Community

In the early 1900s, Booker T. Washington established National Negro Health Week as a vehicle to improve the health, sanitation, and living conditions in African American communities. This later evolved into National Minority Health Month, which is now recognized in April to raise awareness of current health disparities affecting racial and ethnic minority communities.

Health disparities are not random. Research demonstrates clear, predictable patterns influenced by limited access to healthcare and insurance, transportation barriers, food insecurity, and the lack of safe spaces for physical activity.

Key health challenges disproportionately affecting minority communities include:

Heart Disease and stroke occur at higher rates among Black/African American adults and are linked to high blood pressure, stress, and limited preventive care. Type 2 diabetes is more common in African American, Hispanic/Latino, and Native American populations and is influenced by diet, education, and lifestyle factors. Cancer disparities result in higher death rates despite similar or lower diagnosis rates, often due to delayed detection and limited access to screening. Obesity and nutrition-related conditions are influenced by limited access to affordable, healthy food and fewer opportunities for safe physical activity.

Practical steps we can take to create meaningful change and support health equity in our community...

- raising awareness (having conversations with family, friends, and community members);
- scheduling regular check-ups and screenings;
- promoting healthy habits and supporting equitable access to care.

Together, we can work to close these gaps and bring hope to our community while remaining prayerful for equity and healing.

As we continue thinking about health in our community, May invites us to reflect on mental and emotional well-being in recognition of Mental Health Awareness Month. Stay tuned for part 2 as we continue the conversation and share efforts being made to promote mental wellness and reduce stigma in our community.

Resources: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office of Minority Health; Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; National Institutes of Health

## Financial Wellness

Financial literacy is having the knowledge and skills to effectively manage your money. Good financial stewardship helps us to:

- Reduce stress and anxiety
- Provide for family
- Prepare for the future
- Give generously

Financial literacy does not require that you know everything about money. It is understanding enough to make sound decisions and avoid making preventable mistakes.

## Financial Wellness (cont'd)

The following entities offer helpful resources to help you build your financial toolkit:

- Banks and credit unions often offer free workshops
- Association for Financial Counseling & Planning Education
- Junior Achievement USA (programs for students K through 12)

Key areas for Financial Health include:

- Planning (budgeting, track income & expenses, prioritize needs over wants)
- Preparing (saving consistently, start small emergency fund \$500-\$1000)
- Freedom (debt management, pay high interest debt first, get an accountability partner)
- Generosity (honor God with your resources, practice regular intentional giving)

The goal is not perfection, it is progress. Your financial well-being is a journey, not a destination. While there is no quick fix, improving our relationship with money will help us recognize better options and respond more effectively when life gets complicated.

Resources: Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB), Financial Literacy and Education Commission

## Future Connections

**Monday, May 11, 2026**

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

**Sunday, May 17, 2026**

Mental Health Awareness Workshop - SRMBC  
9:00 a.m.-10:15 a.m.

**Monday-Friday, May 18-22, 2026**

Christian Leadership School (CLS)  
6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.

**Saturday, May 30, 2026**

Jacksonville Osprey Baseball Team Season Opener in partnership w/ SRMBC  
6:30 p.m. @ Jack Amyette Ballpark

**Monday-Friday, June 15-19, 2026**

Vacation Bible School  
Theme: "Hooked!-Reeled In to Serve God"  
6:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m.

**Sandy Run MBC**



**"The Hallmark of Hope"**

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

### Contact Us

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

### Connect With Us

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