

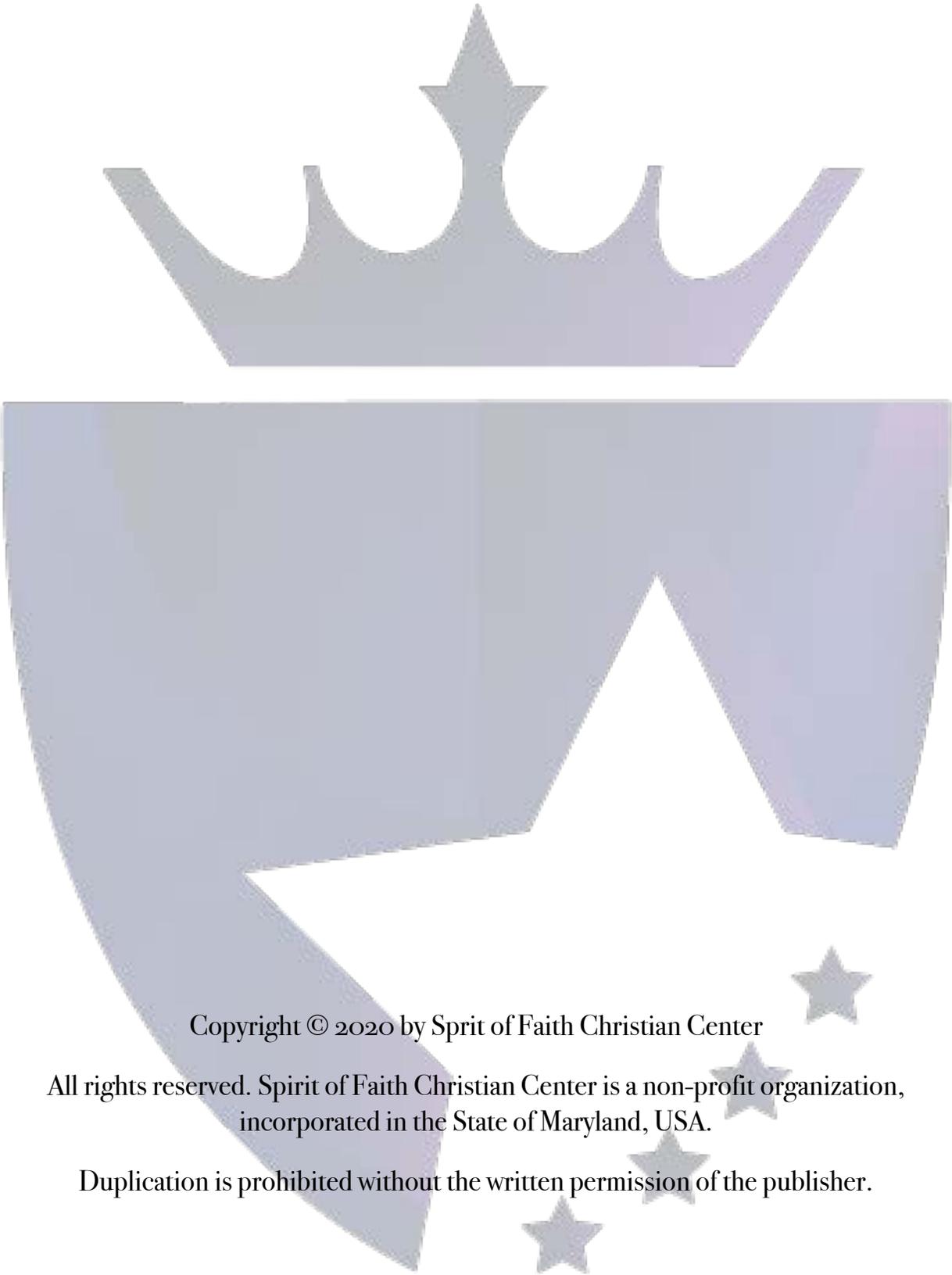
SPIRIT OF FAITH CHRISTIAN CENTER

New Partners

M A N U A L



APOSTLE MIKE &
DR. DEEDEE
FREEMAN



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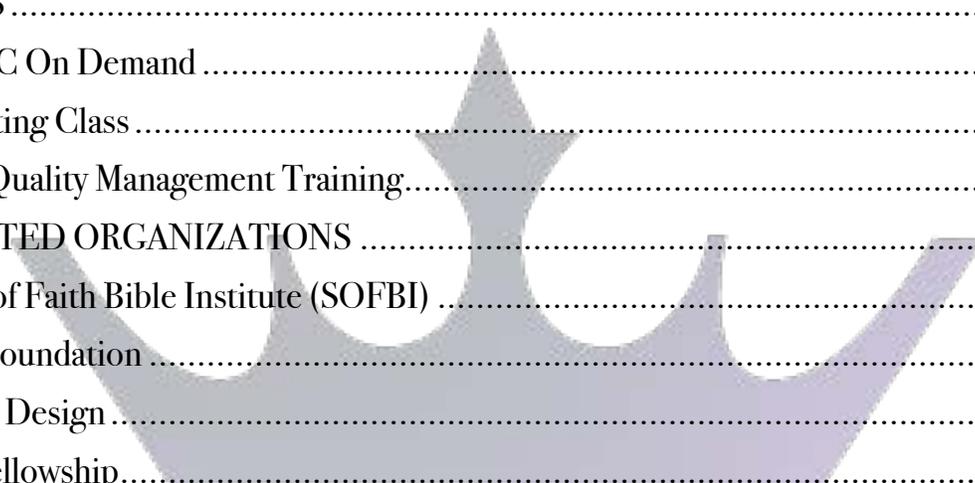
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WE DESIRE TO SEE YOU PROSPER IN EVERY AREA OF YOUR LIFE.

Dear Partner,

My wife DeeDee and I, along with the entire Spirit of Faith Christian Center (SOFCC) family, extend a very hearty welcome to you and your family. We are indeed honored that your quality decision to connect with a Pastor has led you our way. We know and do not take for granted that this is one of the most important decisions of your life. It is our sincere desire that your life be tremendously enriched by becoming a partner of Spirit of Faith Christian Center.

It is our mission to see that your partnership with SOFCC will an encounter with God that will cause you to have an unforgettable experience that will impact your life. SOFCC is a multi-cultural ministry that is meeting the needs of the whole man – spirit, soul, and body. We are a ministry that desires to see you prosper in every area of your life. I am honored to be your Pastor, because I love God’s people.

This manual has been compiled to familiarize you with your ministry and its operation. I trust that you will enjoy reading it. Should you have any questions, please contact our office at (301) 630-3733. I look forward to many years of our relationship as we spread the gospel to this generation.

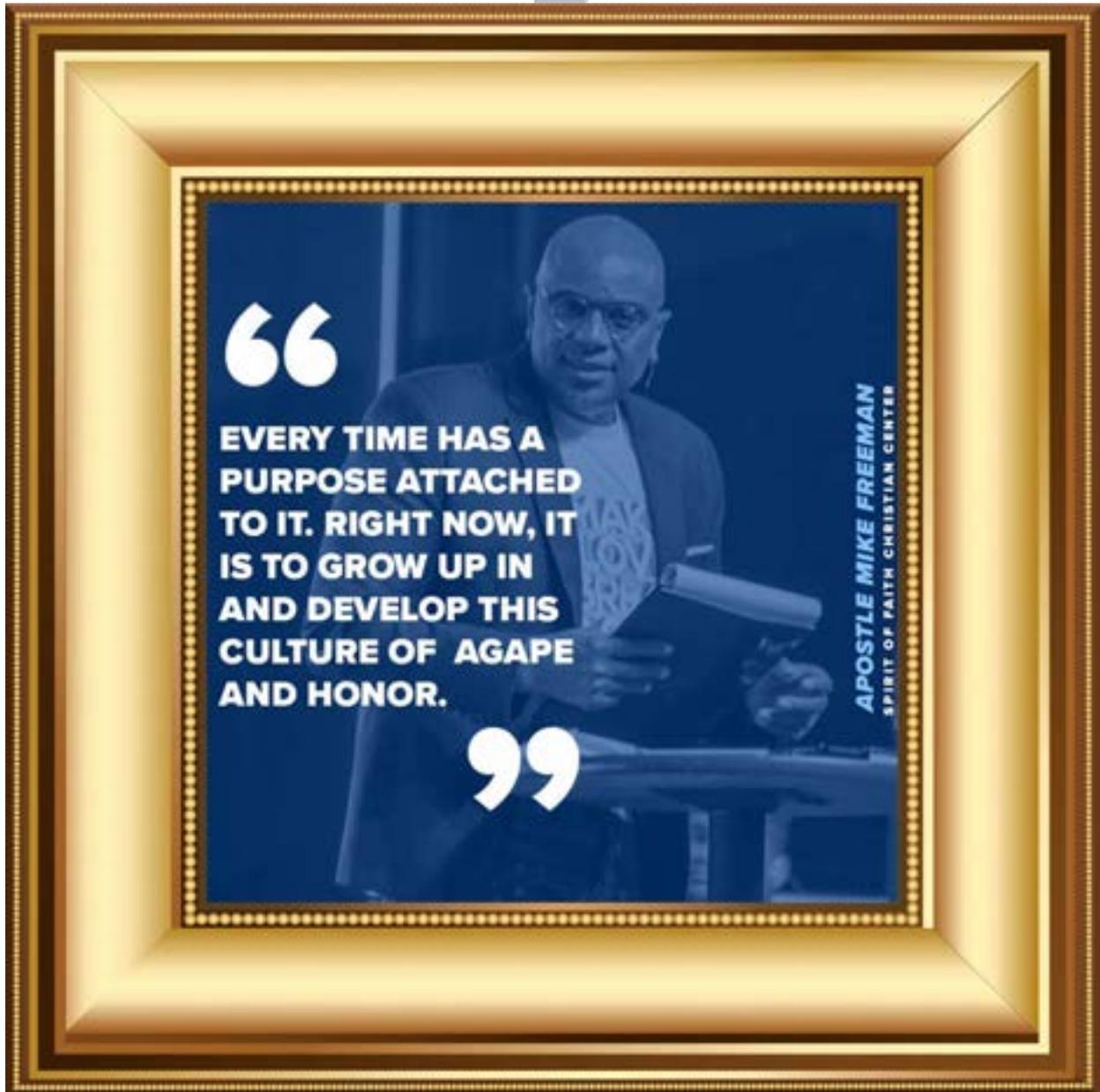
In His love,



Apostle Mike Freeman



Who We Are...



“

**EVERY TIME HAS A
PURPOSE ATTACHED
TO IT. RIGHT NOW, IT
IS TO GROW UP IN
AND DEVELOP THIS
CULTURE OF AGAPE
AND HONOR.**

”

APOSTLE MIKE FREEMAN
SPIRIT OF FAITH CHRISTIAN CENTER



Mission Statement

We are loving, serving, and impacting generations by faith, in excellence, one life at a time.

Vision Statement

To empower the **Ministry of Leaders** to lead this body alongside our Apostle Mike & DeeDee Freeman. **"Leading God's People With Us"**

To build a diverse, multicultural community, that moves in unity.

To impart the Spirit of Excellence through sound biblical teaching, transformative environments for corporate worship, and 5-star customer service.

To perfect the balance between the "Word" and the "Spirit" of the Progressive Church.

To be the largest church in the greater Washington, D.C. area by transforming the lives of non-believer's as disciples of Christ. We will do more for the non-believer than any other ministry.

To expand both the Brandywine and the Baltimore campuses thereafter, as a life changing, transformational oasis of Faith in their respective communities.

Statement of Faith

SPIRIT OF FAITH CHRISTIAN CENTER (SOFCC) is called, ordained and anointed by God to bring the Body of Christ into a prosperous relationship with the Godhead: FATHER, SON AND HOLY SPIRIT.

- We have been called to preach the gospel to the poor, "...to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, to preach the acceptable year of the Lord" (Luke 4:18 - 19).
- We believe that all scripture is given by inspiration of God (2 Timothy 3:16).
- We believe that there is one body and one Spirit; one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all, through all and in all.
- We believe that all have sinned and come short of the glory of God and are in need of salvation.
- We maintain that faith in Christ Jesus' death, burial and resurrection is the only way, truth and life.
- The born-again experience occurs upon confessing that God raised Jesus from the dead and asking Jesus to come inside your heart.
- We believe in the subsequent experience of the baptism of Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking with tongues.
- We believe that Holy Spirit expresses Himself through people.
- We believe in the ministry gifts as outlined in 1 Corinthians 12 and Romans 12 and we expect the expression and fulfillment of the same.
- We believe in water baptism and observance of the Lord's Supper (Holy Communion).
- We believe in the return of our soon coming King, Jesus Christ, the resurrection of the dead in Christ and that those who remain will be caught up to meet the Lord in the air. This is the Second Coming as described in 1 Thessalonians 4.

Phase 1 Of The Vision Of SOFCC

As Pastor called by God into ministry, I have been given a vision to fulfill God's purpose in the Body of Christ. Ephesians 4:8 and 12 reads, "...[He] gave gifts unto men...for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the Body of Christ..." What Dr. DeeDee and I are doing is clearly writing the vision for this ministry, so that partners will know it and it will be established in their hearts. With understanding and purpose, we will fulfill the charge that God has given us.

The vision that God has given us is first, to teach and develop a "SPIRIT OF FAITH" in you so that you will, in turn, teach it to others as this congregation grows. Secondly, God has given us a specific geographic area. Our plans are to provide a spiritual, social and economic structure to that area, so that we will be able to meet the needs of the whole man. The vision consists of a great sanctuary, recreational facilities, a battered women's home and much more.

Habakkuk, whose name means Embracer, was instructed to write the vision, so that all who read it would know that the answer to all of their problems was in the vision. We have embraced the Word that the Lord has given to us and we are informing you that now is the time to act on God's Word.

"The Vision is the Answer." Proverbs 29:18 reads very clearly that without a vision, you can forget it, because, "... the people will perish."

Isaiah 46:10 reads, "Declaring the end from the beginning..." Our job is to clearly explain the purpose, goals, objectives, strategies and plan of action to successfully bring forth the Vision. Without goals, progress is haphazard, uncharted and difficult to measure in accountability. Purpose and motivation are fed by goals. Objectives equal direction and they will help us to see where we are going.

They are essential to the goals and consistent with the purpose and vision of the ministry.

Years ago, in a dream, God showed me where He was taking my life. He said, "Go and teach my people the power of God that they have within them." Now I see why we are called the Spirit of Faith Christian Center. This ministry will have to develop a spirit of faith on the inside of you and you will learn how faith comes, how faith grows and how faith operates. Your responsibility then is to teach others as they come, so that they will have the same spirit of faith. For without faith, it is impossible to please God!

God is successful! Thus, it is God's plan for this ministry to be successful. It is God's nature to succeed. We are created to succeed in everything that we set our hands to do. Joshua 1:8 states, "then you shall make your way prosperous and then you shall have good success," but, this is contingent upon our keeping God's Word, following His instructions and adhering to His divine principles. One major divine principle in God's Word is that we must have faith. It is God's Will that we know that this is what He requires of us.

Before we can do anything, we must first know that God is the rewarder of those who diligently seek Him in faith. Jesus instructed us to occupy (to do business) until He comes. We are about our Father's business, but in order to see people born again and made His disciples, we first must have faith.

Planning is vitally important to bring forth the vision of God. It has been said that he who fails to plan, plans to fail. Every partner who has resources to complement the needed departments in this ministry must begin to step forward and bring the effectiveness of his/her ministry to full view. Each partner is a very important part of this ministry. God is depending on us to implement the plans and He will work them out step-by-step.

Now, there must be a strategy in this plan. "How and where should I commit my resources?" God's answers to this question is your strategy. HALLELUJAH! Remember this: You must seek God to determine where to commit your resources, because "EVERYONE IS NEEDED AND EVERYONE IS IMPORTANT!!!"

1 Corinthians 12:14 reads, "For the body is not one member, but many." So it is that there are many parts, but one body. As Pastor of this ministry, God has made me the head, but the head is ineffective without hands, feet, legs, arms and other parts. Every one of you are important in bringing the goals, objectives and Vision to pass. We must organize to have proper management in executing the Vision that God has given to US.

We must begin to organize everything!!! Organization is God's first principle. Before He gave His best, He organized. If we want to be God's best, we must organize. Organization is a social system, deliberately established to carry out some definite purpose. The organization assigns a position to each member and the member has a part to play in the organization's collective program. The church is not just an organization, but it is an organism alive!! But this organism must be an organized organism.

THE CHURCH... IT'S ALIVE AND ORGANIZED!!

Next stop, FAITH CITY!



Our Ministry To You



The First Family



Partnership Services

Contact Us

- Email: partner@sofcc.org
 - Phone: 301-630-3733
 - Office hours: Tuesday-Friday, 9 am - 5 pm
 - After hours: Calls covered by SOFCC Ministry Staff
-

Ministry Services

“PARTNERSHIP SERVICES IS HERE FOR YOU!” It is not just another slogan, but it is the service by which Apostle Mike and Dr. DeeDee convey their sincerity of operating in a spirit of excellence. Partnership Services is a “CUSTOMER SERVICE CENTER” designed to meet the needs of the partners of Spirit of Faith Christian Center. It receives and dispatches incoming calls from the partners to meet their ministry need.

General Ministry Information

The Partnership Services Department works closely with the SOFCC Events Department and the Creative Team to provide information and updates regarding all SOFCC Events, as well as some key events in the community. As SOFCC continues to thrive and grow at a phenomenal rate, the channels of communication will be enhanced to ensure that our Partners are aware of everything that is happening in and around our ministry family. The Partnership Services Department is responsible for the ministry calendar and coordinating events amongst the more than 50 Ministry of Leaders (MOL) departments that operate for the benefit of the partnership and the community.

The Partnership Services Department is also responsible for the management of the SOFCC Ministry Database. Our database platform, MySOFCC, is a single point of information for partner records, ministry involvement, MOL department communications, events, and much more! It is very important for all partners to keep their personal data accurate so that they are included in all relevant communications.

Even as our church family continues to grow, the partnership will continue to experience the care and concern of Apostle Mike through the Partnership Services Department. The personal ministry that Partnership Services provides, during the most critical and enjoyable times in a partner’s life, is an extension of God’s love expressed through our

Apostle and those who have been assigned to assist him in this vision. We will not allow size or the magnitude of Spirit of Faith Christian Center, in any way, decrease our commitment to meeting the spiritual needs of our partners.

How To Benefit From Partnership

The purpose of partnership (membership) in a local church is to be in a position where you can be taught the Word of God and grow spiritually. We find in Ephesians 4:11 that ministry gifts were given, so that Believers will mature. It is our goal to minister to you in such a way that you will continue to mature in the things of God.

How To Get The Most Out Of Partnership

You can get the most out of your partnership at Spirit of Faith Christian Center by understanding your purpose for being a partner. When the partnership appeal was made, our commitment to you was to provide the necessary staff to meet your spiritual needs. Also, we are committed to stand before you anointed to teach you the things of God in a manner in which you may both understand and apply them. We have fellowship opportunities, but unfortunately, we cannot force you to participate. It has to be your choice to take advantage of these opportunities; it has to be your commitment. In worship services, Bible studies and various other fellowship opportunities that are provided, you will meet and develop relationships with other Believers in the church. It is very important that you surround yourself with people who have made a decision to give and commit their lives to Christ.

Discipleship - The Great Commission

“Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them into the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.” Matthew 28:19

Discipling is one of the core values of Spirit of Faith Christian Center’s vision. In Matthew 28:18 - 20, Jesus’ last command was for us to go and make disciples, and His last command should be our first concern. It is God’s will for every person to be discipled and to be a disciple. The objective is to make sure we are fulfilling the Lord’s command, not only for this church, but for the body of Christ at large. Our goal is to help new partners who join Spirit of Faith Christian Center to develop in their relationship with God, as they

integrate into the ministry; to create a replica of the early New Testament church in a modern day form without losing the same impact it had when Jesus walked along side of it.

Discipleship means reproduction. It means ministering to the lost as disciples by dispersal. It means ministering to one another as brother, sisters, and saints by assembling and fellowship. It is universally relevant. It is God's plan for reaching the unsaved, the untaught, and the un-churched. It simply means getting back to the basics, and it is much more than just passing out tracts and leading people to the Lord. It is a lifestyle of spiritual reproduction - a process by which Holy Spirit multiplies the number of believers. It is a network effect that begins with you.

For more information on the discipleship process, please contact the Partnership Services Department.

Spiritual Development

The Perfecting Class teaches the foundational principles of the Word of God. Its purpose is to teach every student how to live a victorious Christian life, develop and intimate relationship with God as well as an appetite and desire for the Word of God and to study the Word on their own. We believe upon completion of this class, every student will be skilled in leading others to Christ; pray fervently and effectively; unashamed to praise and worship God; a tither; and, most of all, a Finisher – because “He who has begun a good work in you is able to perform it until the day of Jesus Christ.”

Personal Worship

You are a part of this body of Believers; therefore, you will not want to neglect your personal prayer and study of the Word of God. Each partner has the responsibility of maintaining a lifestyle that is an example of righteous living by the Spirit of God. Each partner must consider the importance of faithfulness to all services. This is how your ministry home and you, as a part of the body, will continue to grow. Therefore, you will want to be an active participant.

You can best benefit from the Apostle's teachings while you continue to grow and develop in your personal time of worship by always doing the following:

- Bring your Bible, notebook and pen to each service
- Purchase a single recording or subscribe to our streaming service of the lessons taught through SOFCC OnDemand – more information available on the SOFCC website

Personal Ministry

In this life, you will experience challenges. When you have challenges (problems) and need personal ministering (advice), either the Senior Pastor or a SOFCC Minister will be available to minister to you. The Senior Pastor is only one person and therefore, his time is limited. If you cannot schedule a time that is mutually agreeable to meet with him, you will then be referred to a capable SOFCC Minister. Our SOFCC Ministers are able to minister to whatever need you may have. Everything discussed in these ministry sessions is held in the highest confidence.

How to Make an Appointment

To make any appointment, simply call our office at (301) 630-3733, Tuesday through Friday from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm to speak with our reception staff and provide your contact information for the SOFCC Minister who will be assigned to minister to you. If you are calling after hours, a member of the Pastoral Staff is on call 24-hours a day, 7-days a week, 365-days a year. If ministry is what you desire and need, then any minister on the staff can share the Word of God with you for your particular situation.

Maintaining Your Connection with SOFCC

Even as God has inspired you to connect with Apostle Freeman and the Vision of SOFCC, you may experience a personal challenge or a challenge with the ministry or your fellow partners. Don't allow anything or anyone to change your God inspired connection. Please reach out to Partnership Services so that any/all challenges can be resolved and restore focus on the Vision that has been given to us by God.

Our Ministry To Your Children



Spirit of Faith Christian Center Youth Department

Will they choose alcohol, drugs, and pre-marital sex? Will his or her lifestyle be conformed to what everyone else is doing? Will they choose the philosophy of humanism and view Christ as only an illusion? EMPHATICALLY, NO!! The youth of Spirit of Faith Christian Center are being taught about the importance of making quality decisions based on the Word of God. They are choosing that which leads to BLESSINGS, not curses, LIFE, not death. With the expertise of our Youth Ministry staff, our youth are setting the pace for their generation.

The purpose of the Spirit of Faith Christian Center Youth Department is to minister to the needs of youth from birth until the age of 19 by providing ways for youth to understand and know God. Our challenge is to share and enable the youth to experience the Gospel – the Good News of God – in every possible way, using every medium to convey it over and over. The ultimate result is that they choose Christ!

Blaze Babies

Blaze Babies will minister to the needs of children between three (3) months and two (2) years of age to “experience Jesus” through music, puppet ministry and nursery workers who endeavor to meet both their spiritual and physical needs. Children are provided a safe and comfortable atmosphere with careful supervision in order to “free up” their parents during the Worship and mid-week Bible Study services.

Blaze Youth

The purpose of the Blaze Ministry is to minister to the needs of the children between the ages of 3 to 12 years old. The children are taught praise and worship, prayer, testimony, songs of victory, and Word songs to “walk into an experience with Jesus.”

- Blaze Tots: Ages 3-4
- Blaze Juniors: Ages 5-8
- Blaze Seniors: Ages 9-12

Sold-Out Word Activated Teenagers (SWAT)

Sold-out Word Activated Teenagers (SWAT) ministers to the needs of teenagers between the ages of 12 and 19. Our focus is on helping teens apply the Word of God to their lives, make Godly choices and fulfill their God-given purpose. SWAT activities include special events, field trips, and our Spirit of Faith Teen Conference.

The objectives of Spirit of Faith Christian Center's SWAT Ministry are:

- 1) To enhance the spiritual growth of our teens through proper and comprehensive ministry of the Word of God
- 2) To enrich their spiritual development through special emphasis on academic success, social training and image building
- 3) To encourage them to become involved in Christian recreation and activities such as camps, workshops, and more

Children's Choir

The Children's Choir is designed for children between the ages of 4 to 12 and offers them a chance to present their God-given musical talents during worship services.

Teen Choir

The Teen Choir is designed for children between the ages of 13 to 19 and offers them a chance to present their God-given musical talents during worship services.

SOFCC Warriors Athletics

The SOFCC Warriors has been established as the premiere youth athletic program in the Washington, DC and Baltimore metropolitan areas. We offer multiple sports programs to keep our youth involved and developing their relationship with the Lord through athletic competition. Please visit SOFCCWarriors.com for the latest information.

Parent Assistance Program (PAP)

The Parent Assistance Program (PAP) incorporates an important part of our ministry to your children - YOU!

This is a volunteer program designed to have parents assist in various areas of our Youth Department. PAP volunteers assist the teacher with snacks, bathroom breaks, arts and crafts, and maintaining order in the classroom. Assigned PAP volunteers will not be required or assigned to teach. Parents and Guardians (both male and female) are encouraged to volunteer in the awesome experience of building our youth.

You must be a partner of Spirit of Faith Christian Center in order to join the Parent Assistance Program.

Elite Youth Programs

Kingdom Executives

The Kingdom Executives Program has been established at Spirit of Faith Christian Center to equip and empower youth between the ages of 7 to 19 with success principles that they can utilize in every area of their lives. Phase 1 of the Kingdom Executives Program, which begins in the fall and goes through early spring, consists of 16 three-hour weekly training sessions designed to teach Kingdom Executives how to act, dress, and speak in excellence. After successful completion of Phase 1, graduates may proceed to Phase 2, which consists of monthly meetings teaching practical applications of how to work the principles they learned in the first phase.

Queens in Transition

The purpose of this mentoring program is to provide positive mentor/mentee relationships for young ladies that promote spiritual growth and development for youth and young adults through organized educational and recreational activities.

"Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ." 1 Corinthians 11:1

Yung GENTS (God's Exceptionally Noble Talented Sons)

The purpose of this mentoring program is to provide positive mentor/mentee relationships for young men that promote spiritual growth and development for youth and young adults through organized educational and recreational activities.

"As arrows are in the hand of a mighty man; so are the children of the youth." Psalm 127:4

Our Worship Experience



Praise & Worship

Praise and worship can be conducted in either a corporate or personal setting. As a partner of SOFCC, it is important to participate in both settings. Our corporate praise and worship is regularly incorporated into the order of service when we gather together as a congregation. We will audibly praise our God in song or in speech, both in tongues and in English. Additionally, we may stand, clap and/or lift our hands, bow down or kneel during praise and worship. We rejoice together in Christ Jesus and worship Him as a corporate body in spirit and in truth.

Our worship experience includes instrumental and vocal music, dance, dramatic presentations, and illustrative art to accompany the inspired Word of God. We utilize the many forms of fine and performing arts to attract, inform, and inspire as many people as possible to connect with Jesus Christ.

Corporate Prayer And Prophecy

Our worship services will include times of corporate prayer – a collective petition and acknowledgement of the power of our God, our alignment with His will, and the power and authority He has granted to His children. According to the will of God, our worship services will also include prophetic messages delivered through Apostle Freeman and/or other members of the congregation. We firmly believe that Holy Spirit will manifest according to 1 Corinthians 14:40 – “decently and in order.”

How To Get Involved

Vision Assist Team (VAT)

The Vision Assist Team (VAT) allows Spirit of Faith Christian Center partners to immediately begin serving God with their time and talents in supporting select ministry areas even as they begin the qualification process for Ministry of Leaders. VAT currently supports the following areas of ministry:

- ASL Interpreting Ministry (aslinterpreting@sofcc.org)
- Audio Ministry (audio@sofcc.org)
- FIRE Outreach Ministry (fire@sofcc.org)
- Gate Keepers Ministry (parking@sofcc.org)
- Helping Hands Ministry (helpinghands@sofcc.org)
- Hospitality Ministry (hospitalitydirector@sofcc.org)
- House Care (vatadmin@sofcc.org)
- Media Ministry (mediadirector@sofcc.org)
- Ushers Ministry (ushers@sofcc.org)

To begin serving, email vat.director@sofcc.org.

Ministry of Leaders

“And God hath set some in the church...thirdly teachers after that miracles, and then GIFTS of healing, HELPS, governments...” (1 Corinthians 12:28).

The Director of Ministry of Leaders reports directly to Apostle Freeman. The Ministry of Leaders of Spirit of Faith Christian Center consists of various groups of ‘visionaires’ who assist the ministerial staff in meeting the needs of partners and guests who participate in the worship, Bible Study and fellowship events at Spirit of Faith Christian Center. All Ministry of Leaders visionaires must meet the requirements to be eligible to participate in Ministry of Leaders departments. Applications for all departments are available online at www.spiritoffaith.org. Once the application is received, an interview will be scheduled with the appropriate Director and/or Campus Leader.

Requirements for Ministry of Leaders

Before completing an application for Ministry of Leaders, all visionaires must meet the following requirements to be eligible to participate:

- Must have received Jesus as Lord and Savior
- Must be a tithing partner of Spirit of Faith Christian Center for three (3) months
- Must have been baptized with the Holy Spirit with evidence of speaking in tongues
- Must have been water baptized
- Must have completed three consecutive months of Perfecting Class before acceptance into a Ministry of Leaders assignment, continuing with the full course of Perfecting Class study until completion.

In addition, such persons must be men and women of the highest moral standards who display good personal hygiene and have been free for at least six (6) months from smoking, drinking, drugs and any illicit sexual activity before being considered for Ministry of Leaders.

Areas of Ministry of Leaders

Your ministry gifts are an important part of Spirit of Faith Christian Center. Once you have met the Ministry of Leaders requirements, we encourage you to join one or more of the Ministry of Leaders departments to support the vision.

*Ministry Areas***

* Eligible for VAT Service prior to meeting Ministry of Leaders requirements

** This list of ministry groups is subject to change without notice. The most current list can be found online at www.spiritoffaith.org.

*** This area of ministry requires selection by designated leaders and/or auditions prior to participation.

➤ Audio/Visual Services Executive Director Group (avservices.ed@sofcc.org)

- Audio Ministry*
- Media Ministry*
- Visual Media Ministry

➤ EZ Living Executive Director Group (ezliving.ed@sofcc.org)

- Hospitality Ministry*
- Marriage Made EZ***
- Parenting Made EZ
- Single Living Made EZ

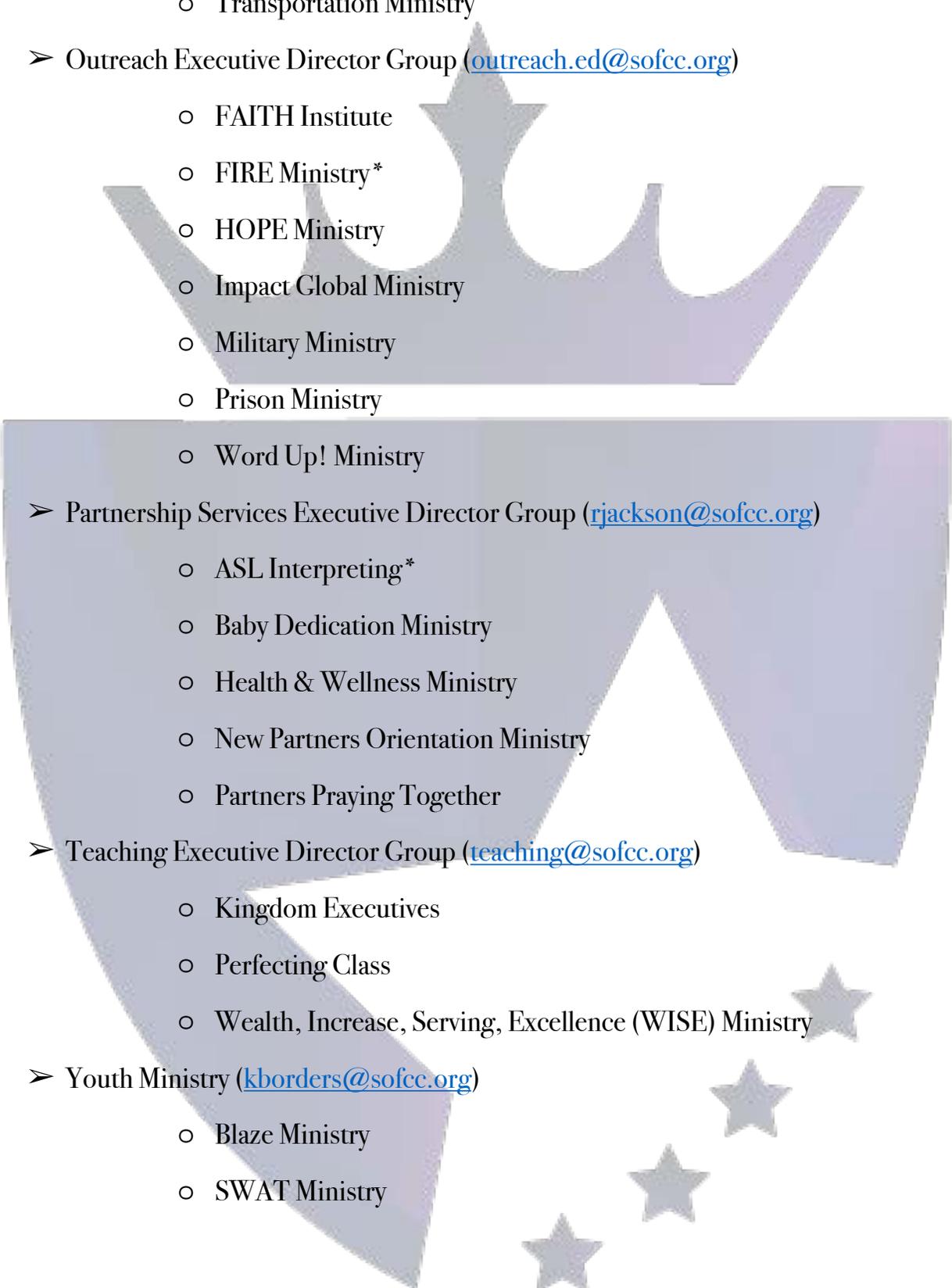
➤ Fellowship Executive Director Group (fellowship.ed@sofcc.org)

- Mighty Men of Valor
- Queens in Transition
- Seasoned Saints
- Women Walking in the Word
- Yung GENTS

➤ Fine & Performing Arts Executive Director Group (finearts.ed@sofcc.org)

- Children's Choir
- Teen Choir

- 
- Drama Ministry***
 - Music Ministry***
 - Young Adult Music (YAMS) Ministry***
 - Zion Dance Ministry***
 - First Impressions Executive Director Group (service.ed@sofcc.org)
 - Gate Keepers Ministry*
 - Helping Hands Ministry*
 - Ushers Ministry*
 - Vision Assist Team (VAT)*
 - Ministerial Services Executive Director Group (elders@sofcc.org)
 - Leadership Team***
 - Licensed Ministers***
 - Ministers Internship Program***
 - Pastors Personal Assistants (PPA)***
 - Personal Prayer Ministry
 - Multimedia Executive Director Group (multimedia.ed@sofcc.org)
 - Photography Ministry
 - Social Media
 - Technology Network Team (TNT)
 - Operations Executive Director Group (operations@sofcc.org)
 - Bookstore Ministry
 - Deacons Ministry***
 - Finance Ministry***
 - Security Ministry***

- 
- Transportation Ministry
 - Outreach Executive Director Group (outreach.ed@sofcc.org)
 - FAITH Institute
 - FIRE Ministry*
 - HOPE Ministry
 - Impact Global Ministry
 - Military Ministry
 - Prison Ministry
 - Word Up! Ministry
 - Partnership Services Executive Director Group (rjackson@sofcc.org)
 - ASL Interpreting*
 - Baby Dedication Ministry
 - Health & Wellness Ministry
 - New Partners Orientation Ministry
 - Partners Praying Together
 - Teaching Executive Director Group (teaching@sofcc.org)
 - Kingdom Executives
 - Perfecting Class
 - Wealth, Increase, Serving, Excellence (WISE) Ministry
 - Youth Ministry (kborders@sofcc.org)
 - Blaze Ministry
 - SWAT Ministry

How Our Church Is Governed



It is important to understand the government of the church. Spirit of Faith Christian Center is focused on operating in such a fashion to demystify the role of ministry leaders, avoid ungodly judgement, and to ensure that the Word of God is never challenged by our traditions.

Traditional Forms Of Church Government

There are four main types of church government in the Body of Christ today and the title of each highlights who is in authority:

- Episcopalian
- Presbyterian
- Congregational
- Independent

The reason some of these forms of church government came into being was as a result of an abuse of authority by the Pastor. No matter how we look at these attempts by men to prevent abuses, they still occur. God's Word is our guide – to have one man who hears Him and rules over the church. He is not commissioned to be a dictator, rather, he is a shepherd who leads his flock with sound counsel.

The independent form of government comes closest to the Word of God. The Pastor is the leader of the church. The Word of God teaches about a multiplicity of elders, chosen and submitted to the authority of the Pastor. Divine authority is given to through a ministry gift chosen and equipped by Jesus Christ. Since we want God present in our lives, we have to live in line with His Word. Since we also want God present in our ministries, then we have to align our church with His Word.

The Pastor

The first quality of a Pastor is that he is a leader. He leads the flock and makes decisions concerning them – with his main objective being to build people. The Pastor should be aware of those in the congregation who have expertise that can be beneficial in counsel while remaining teachable. The Pastor does not own the flock in any sense. He merely has responsibility for them – God owns the sheep. The primary responsibility of the Pastor is to admonish and to feed the people from the Word of God. This responsibility leads to the

perfecting (maturing) of the saints, equipping them for the work of the ministry to edify the Body of Christ. The Pastor has complete authority to handle affairs, both spiritual and business as it pertains to Spirit of Faith Christian Center.

Church Advisory Board

The Advisory Board is the advisory counsel to the Pastor in all matters of Spirit of Faith Christian Center. The Advisory Board works directly under the Pastor's supervision in helping the church reach its God-given mandate. Members of this board are mature in the Word, love and care for the congregation, faithful in attendance and tithing, and demonstrate respect for the office of the Pastor.

Ministers of the Gospel (Clergy)

Ministers are men or women committed to Spirit of Faith Christian Center with a calling of the Lord, ordained or licensed to carry out the ministerial functions associated with this assembly. Ordination does not always imply the communication of power; it is simply the recognition of a qualified person who has certain gifts and has made certain preparations for a particular work of God. Those who are licensed or ordained are expected to be actively engaged in the work of the Lord and have given themselves wholly to the ministry.

Ministry of Leaders

In every ministry, there are those who labor for the Lord without the traditional title of Deacons, Elders, etc. Spirit of Faith Christian Center has many partners who operate in Ministry of Leaders, co-laboring with Apostle to carry out the God-given vision of the ministry. These individuals can be found in every aspect of the ministry, serving under the leadership of an appointed Director to fulfill their assignment.

Ordinances



Tithes and Offerings

Spirit of Faith Christian Center and every aspect of the ministry are supported by the tithes and offerings of the partners, guests, and all those who attend our services. Through tithing and giving offerings, the maintenance, operating expenses, construction, utilities, employee compensation, missions, and other expenses of this ministry are covered.

Communion

The Lord Himself commanded us to do this. Therefore, at Spirit of Faith Christian Center, we will participate in and celebrate in the Lord's Supper. The observance of the Lord's Supper is meant to be a time of great purpose and power. How often should we participate? Once a month? Weekly? Twice a month? All of the above – and as often as you might believe is appropriate. Jesus shared with us “As often as you do it, do it in remembrance of me.” The partners of Spirit of Faith Christian Center will come together regularly to partake together - praising, worshipping, and committing ourselves to the Lord.

Water Baptism

Baptism is a vital part of the Believer's life. Acceptance of Jesus Christ and Savior and Lord is required before one can be baptized. Water baptism publicly identifies the believer with the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. When we participate, we say “I am finished with the old life. I want to live in the power of the resurrected life of Jesus. I will be loyal to the kingdom of God.

Baby Dedication

In baptisms that are elaborated on in the New Testament, it was clearly shown that the baptized were those who heard, believed, rejoiced, and served. As a result, we do not baptize babies. However, we follow the tradition of blessing babies and dedicating them to the Lord – with parents and extended family standing in agreement.

Laying On Of Hands

There are three main uses of the laying on of hands in scripture:

- 1) To impart blessings, authority, and healing
- 2) To impart baptism with Holy Spirit and spiritual gifts
- 3) To commission ministers.

We participate in this at SOFCC for all of these reasons based on the direction of Holy Spirit.



Biblical Resources





SOFCC On Demand

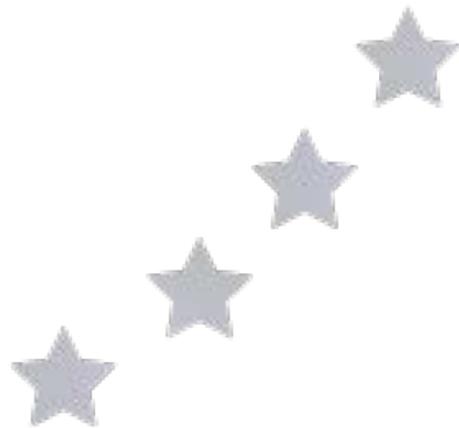
You can gain access to a full library of the teaching ministry of Apostle Mike & Dr. DeeDee Freeman, including never before released series and sermons, by subscribing to this online service.

Perfecting Class

Partners of SOFCC have access to a teaching series of foundational principles designed to expand and enhance Christian lifestyle. Classes meet weekly and students will be introduced to a baseline level of information upon which Apostle Freeman will build as he shares in the ministry of the Word.

Total Quality Management Training

Partners of SOFCC have access to training classes with topics identified to sharpen Christian lifestyle. Classes are announced in advance and conducted via various methods. Apostle Freeman will often utilize this information as he shares in the ministry of the Word.



Affiliated Organizations



Spirit of Faith Bible Institute (SOFBI)

SOFBI is an institution of higher learning that exists to bring glory to God the Father and His Son Jesus Christ through the work of Holy Spirit. The mission of the SOFBI is to provide an exemplary education from a Biblical worldview, thereby developing Christian growth in aspiring servant-leaders, and preparing them for service locally and globally in pivotal ministries and professions that will transform society.

Learn more at www.sofbi.org

Firm Foundation

The faculty and staff of Firm Foundation believes that our students will impact this nation, because they will be trained and inspired by the very best. Our faculty and staff are born-again, spirit-filled Christians prepared and equipped to take the ministry of Jesus to the ends of the earth. They are dedicated to train, educate, tutor and point our students toward God.

Learn more at www.firmfoundationfaithacademy.org

Divine Design

Divine Design is a salon and barbershop staff with spirit-filled stylists dedicated to sharpening their skills and providing an environment where an angel of the Lord can reside and not feel out of place. While the stylists minister to the natural needs of their clients, they and Holy Spirit maintain an atmosphere of God's power.

The Fellowship

The Fellowship, as defined by Apostle Freeman is an organism of ministers and ministries coming together to encourage, enhance, and expand one another. Our joining together is to provide a sense of belonging while bringing a greater level of efficacy as one yet providing and protecting proper autonomy.

Learn more at www.spiritoffaith.org/the-fellowship

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**EVEN IN TIMES OF
UNCERTAINTY, I AM
VERY CERTAIN THAT
THE GOD OF ALL
CERTAINTY WILL
LEAD AND GUIDE US
INTO ALL TRUTH.**

”

APOSTLE MIKE FREEMAN
SPIRIT OF FAITH CHRISTIAN CENTER