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## The Weekly Challenger : 2019 : 07 : 25

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# The Weekly Challenger

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VOL. 51 NO. 41

JULY 25 - JULY 31, 2019

50¢

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Dr. LaDonna Butler and her team at The Well for Life, LLC hosted the two-day National Minority Mental Health Summit on July 12 & 13 with the theme of "Healing While Black."



## Minority Mental Health Summit tackles 'healing while black'

BY J.A. JONES  
Staff Writer

ST. PETERSBURG – Dr. LaDonna Butler and her team at The Well for Life, LLC hosted the National Minority Mental Health Summit earlier this month with the theme of "Healing While Black." The two-day conference focused on the necessary but challenging task of recovering, sustaining and building towards health amid the daily onslaught of being black in America.

Presenters and attendees came from all over the country to share personal experiences, best practices, current research and recent developments in all areas of mental health treatments, strategies and hin-

drances toward mental wellness for communities of color.

The July 12 schedule began with breakfast, prayer and meditation, followed by performances by Jai Hinson's Dundu Dole Urban African Ballet, Kira M. Butler's rendition of the Black National Anthem, "Lift Every Voice and Sing" and interpretive dance by Andrida Hosey.

The morning session's keynote speaker Kempis Ghani Songster of The Ubuntu Redemption Project captivated the audience with his quiet grace. He became an activist after his unprecedented release from a life-sentence after more than 30 years in prison for committing murder at the age of 15.

Songster spoke passionately about his own responsibility for

taking a life that would forever "haunt" him, but also of his determination to use his unexpected early release from "death by prison" by speaking out for prison reform.

He shared personal experiences and discussed the mental and emotional impact of the cruelty of America's prison system, which is clearly not about reform or redemption but too often focuses on how much money can be made off the convicted.

In the afternoon, attendees heard from keynote speaker and Tulane University professor Dr. Marva Lewis, founder and director of the Early Connections Center for Research and Training Center. She is also the organizer of Talk, Touch & Lis-

ten While Combing Hair, which is a support group for parents who have been separated from their children due to incarceration or foster care placement.

Friday was also full of informative and timely workshops and breakout sessions. Topics included everything from how healers must work to take care of themselves, covered in Dr. Katurah Jenkins-Hall's workshop "Healing Our Healers: Exploring Compassion Fatigue," to negotiating how social media impacts its users, presented in "Holding the Digital Space: Helping Black Millennials Address Emotional Needs in a Virtual World," a workshop led by licensed counselor Tiffany L. Reddick.

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## IMA building reimaged

BY HOLLY KESTENIS  
Staff Writer

ST. PETERSBURG – "This building is a gift from our elders for our community," said Rev. J. C. Pritchett, senior pastor of Faith Church. "What we want to do is to bring it back to life."

In the blazing Florida sun, a small group gathered last Saturday to witness the rededication of the empty building that stands along the 29th block of First Avenue South.

With some reimaging, the building will soon be used as a collaborative workspace for different organizations in the community.

Collaborative workspaces have been popular around the county for more than a decade. They offer space in prime locations that are usually out of range for small organizations and businesses.

Thirty years ago, the Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance of St. Petersburg (IMA) was able to purchase the building for \$1 with a grant made possible by former Mayor David

Fisher.

Over the last 30 years, the 3,000 square-foot building has been a place for tutoring, a food pantry and a space where people in need could get clothes. However, over the past five years the two-story building has sat empty.

With Pritchett coming on board as president of the IMA eight months ago, the group decided once again to make the building an institution that people can look to for change in the community.

He hopes that when all races and religious denominations drive down First Avenue South they will catch a glimpse of the interfaith ministry, both what they have accomplished in the past and where they plan to go in the future.

Pinellas County School Board Chair Rene Flowers has a lifetime of history in the area. An advocate for the African-American community, Flowers tirelessly works to not only educate other races about the plight of black people who worked to make the city what it is today



Rev. Clarence Williams, senior pastor of Greater Mt. Zion AME

but the children and young adults living on the south side who may not know the history.

"Our students need to know where they come from and they need to know that there is pride in this community," said Flowers. "They need to know that you can make a mistake, but you can get back up again."

Each year before the start of

school, Flowers and her team take first-time teachers working in south St. Pete schools and those with a bad impression of the area, on a tour where they stop at and converse about the historic buildings, the accomplishments made and the people who lived there. She plans to

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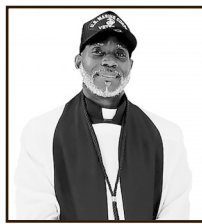
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## Breaking the Cycle

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### Love, God's True Love, part 3

Praise the Lord saints of the Most High God.

Can love bring unity? If one wants to disregard the truth, they certainly can, but it is not honored by God, only man.

We were born by an incorruptible seed, the word of truth. When people say we should accept everyone to unite even if they do not believe the same, we compromise the truth. It is not true love to do this. Why? Because neither did Jesus or the apostles do it.

When Jesus publicly condemned the Pharisees calling them white-washed tombs, dead men's bones, was this unloving? (Matthew 23)

Was the Apostle Paul unloving when he rebuked Peter publicly for his compromising with the Galatians? Was the Apostle Paul unloving when he named the name of false teachers and messengers such as Hymenaeus and Alexander several different times in the Pastoral Epistles? Was the Apostle Paul unloving when he forbid women to have authority over men in 1 Tim. 2?

What would have happened if he kept silent?

I wonder if we would be comfortable with the apostle Paul in the church today; we love what he wrote but if he came through our door, what would he have to say to us? I guess this would be the difference between a real apostle and those that are passed off as one today.

I believe we would hear a rebuke as well as encouragement from him. But Paul's blunt truth would be so offensive some would never come back to church after hearing him; they

would say he's judgmental he doesn't have love.

Paul wrote in Eph. 4:15 "but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head—Christ."

It seems society is still singing the Beatles' tune "all you need is love." And it has influenced the Church.

The Climate in the end of time

The Matthew 13 parable describes the course of the "Church age," from its inception as a progression of moving away from the truth, until it finally culminates in what is called the apostasy, which means to fall away, a departure from the true Faith found only in the word of God, the Bible. The parable of the leaven, illustrates a woman putting leaven into three measures of meal, "until the whole was leavened."

Leaven in Scripture stands for sin and error (1 Cor. 5:6; Gal. 5:9). The woman is a symbol of the Church, Christ's bride. This parable tells us that error was introduced by false teachers during the time of the Apostles and afterward. This became fixed inside the church in various degrees until it increases in intensity and affecting the Church throughout the centuries. It ends with all areas of the Church affected at the end. Yet there will be a remnant.

Jesus said at the end of time, that because lawlessness would abound, the love of many will grow cold. What Jesus is describing is Christians will live in a time where society will influence them instead of their being salt and light. Obedience to the Word of God will be affected as well as their care for each other. They will

shrink back from telling the truth because their love is cold. They will become self-absorbed living like the world.

Today loyalty, compassion, mercy, servanthood is missing even when Church attendance is up as never before. It has begun.

As Israel had their love of God grow cold we can see this currently exhibited by the Church here in America. Jer.7:28 "So you shall say to them, 'This is a nation that does not obey the voice of the LORD their God nor receive correction. Truth has perished and has been cut off from their mouth.'"

Jer.9:5 Everyone will deceive his neighbor, and will not speak the truth; they have taught their tongue to speak lies; they weary themselves to commit iniquity. That's our society today and sometimes it can be the Church because we have not kept anchor but have drifted with the tides of the culture. we will either influence society or it will influence us, there is no in between.

We are also told about those in the world in 2 Thess. 2:10-12 "They perish because they refused to love the truth and so as to be saved. For this reason God sends them a powerful delusion so that they will believe the lie and so that all will be condemned who have not believed the truth but have delighted in wickedness."

The prophet Hosea wrote in 4:6 "My people perish for a lack of knowledge", it never says we perish because of a lack of love.

Till next week,  
God Bless.  
Rev. Dr. Robert L. Harrison, PhD

## Rent too damn high!

Dear Editor:  
The International People's Democratic Uhuru Movement (InPDUM) and the campaigns of Eritha Akile' Cainion for District 7 and Anne Hirsch for District 5 understand that the black community needs affordable housing!

Our platforms call for reparations to the black community! Reparations to build affordable housing and create economic development that allows the black community to thrive!

Rent too damn high — a refrain from St. Petersburg's south side black community challenges what the city council and Mayor Rick Kriseman are doing to the community. Those city officials just approved another luxury apartment complex on 34th Street, in the heart of District 7's black community.

At the groundbreaking for the Addison Apartments, Kriseman gave an open invitation to big-money developers from out of town to ransack the black community claiming that everyone looks at downtown, but that the 34th Street South area is the real opportunity for development.

Many in the black community are already paying 54 percent of their income on housing. Affordable housing is what is needed right now! The people can't wait!

InPDUM is drawing a line in the sand!

At a recent press conference on 34th Street

South in front of the old Kmart, where the city and developers had staged the "groundbreaking" of the Addison complex, InPDUM made it clear this development will not move forward.

"The city has crossed a line. We are saying you can't come into the deep south of the south side and build luxury apartments for white people when the black community needs affordable housing," said Eritha Akile' Cainion, who is running for District 7.

I am running for District 5 in unity with the platform put forward by Akile. I joined her at the press conference where I stated: "So many white people I have spoken to in District 5 stand behind the call for reparations to the black community, for economic development and affordable housing. We don't want to be part of the city's plan to push out the black community. We want a city where social justice prevails."

No other candidates have a platform calling for a halt to the gentrification of the black community. Only Akile and I have a plan to stop the city from pushing the historic black community out of St. Petersburg.

The third point on our 10-point platform reads: "We will build a healthy economy in this city that doesn't tolerate real estate speculation by those outside of a neighborhood at the expense of its residents. The black community should not be forced out of this city to benefit gentrifiers and land speculators."

"We will allocate resources to aid black and low-income homeowners to stay in their houses and improve them. We support community commerce, homeownership and rent control. We don't want our city to become a West Palm Beach playground for millionaires!"

Akile and I say that it will take a social movement to push back against the greed of the big developers and the city officials whose campaign coffers they line with donations.

We have been hitting the streets, knocking on doors and meeting the people. So many residents feel their city officials are failing them. This makes people decide not want to vote, but Akile and I are fighting for the interests of regular working citizens in this city!

We are rallying the people to take back the city from the greedy capitalist developers and corrupt politicians. To create a truly sustainable and resilient city, the working people must have power, and the black community must have black economic and political power!

Reparations is the way forward for justice in this city! It is the way we create real sustainability and resiliency! Join the call! Volunteer! Donate!

Everyone donating just one dollar will build this campaign by and for the people!

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### THE BLACK PRESS

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It was God’s plan

ST. PETERSBURG – How did two high school sweethearts reunite after 38 years and marry within 90 days of said reunion? It was God’s plan.

Silvester and Debbie Tumbling first married Nov. 21, 2018, at the Pinellas County Courthouse. The second ceremony was to honor his parents Maggie T. Davis and the late Sanfust Tumbling and her parents the late Bishop Samuel Butler Sr. and Elder Loretta “Maggie” Tisdale-Butler (the well-known gospel Butleraires Singers of St. Pete).

The second ceremony was held June 16 at Bethel Community Baptist Church with Pastor Manuel Sykes officiating over the blessed day.

“We appreciate everyone who participated and everyone who took time out of their busy schedules to shower us with love and gifts,” said the newlyweds. “Words can’t appreciate how much we love you.”

The happy couple would like to thank Boyzell Hosey and Jerrod Douse for the photography, saxophonist Henry Ashwood for musically lighting up the day, line dancing instructor Leslie Henry and Myia Mills and Diamond Russell who coordinated the “The Women of Colors” ceremony.

They also would like to thank participants Kim Leggett, Nicole Butler, Dollie Wilkins, Sabrina Wiseman, Imanni Bilal, Sabrina Ross, Lisa Butler, Sylvia Manning and Pastor Lorraine White.



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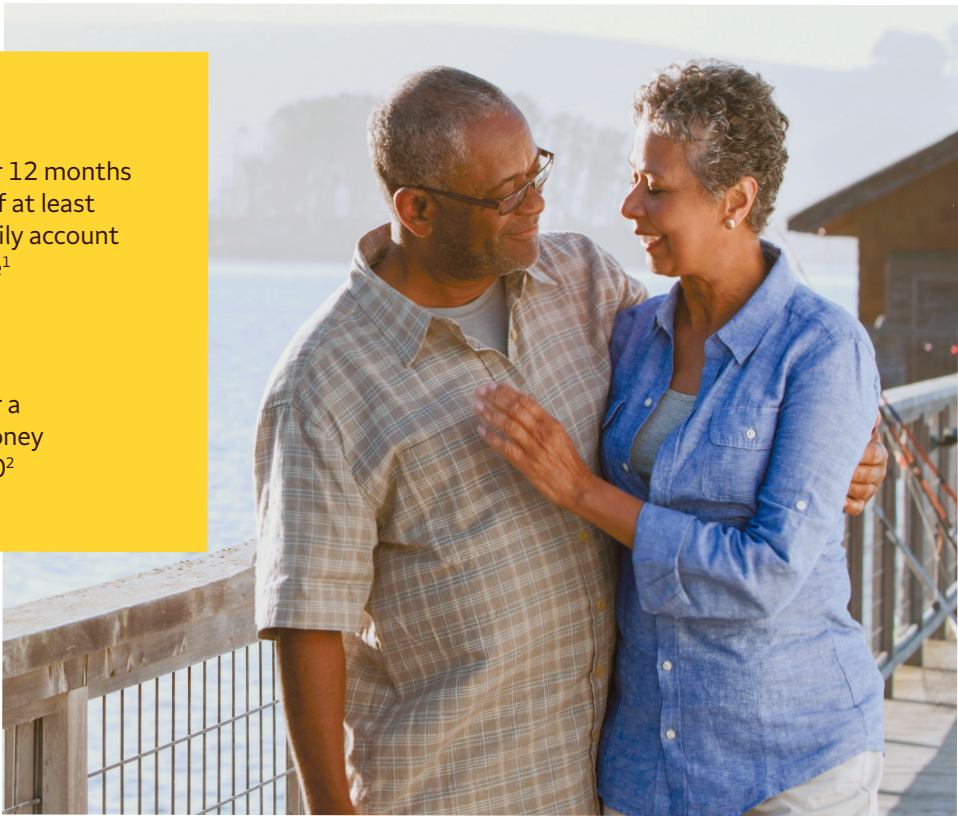


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## Climbing the mountain of spiritual leadership

BY ALLEN A. BUCHANAN  
Staff Writer

ST. PETERSBURG – Senior pastor of True Holiness Worship Ministries Rev. Dr. Robert Harrison started off as a minister some nine short years ago. His faith in God and family and help from mentor Bishop Joseph Lewis helped steer his spiritual gifts towards a higher pentacle of spiritual success.

On July 13, Harrison humbly accepted the appointment of bishop-elect, as well as the responsibilities attached with the promotion.

"I'm staying the course, and I don't see myself changing anytime soon," said Harrison.

The father of six is well-versed on the problems that plague south St. Pete. A few years ago when he joined the Parent Support for Education Council under the direction of Pastor Martin Rainey, he learned that there were more than 130 churches

south of Central Avenue.

"You would think with that many churches in south St. Pete we wouldn't be having the kind of problems that we're having," he said, citing the issues with education, the lack of elder care, forgotten veterans and homelessness. "There are so many issues."

Receiving his calling in 2003, Harrison emphatically stated that he would not turn back.

"When God calls you, you really don't have a choice," he asserted. "You've got to heed that call; you have to answer, and you've got to stay that course."

Harrison would like to capitalize on his ties with St. Petersburg College to start various programs and establish sports teams that would build athletic skills and help students thrive in college.

He said for the last two decades, St. Pete has had a plethora of black athletes going by the wayside because they don't have the

athletic prowess to be considered blue-chip players.

"But they are good enough to get scholarships to Division III colleges. The only problem with that is they wind up failing and have to come back home," he said, adding that if SPC offered these same sports programs such as track and football, local students would benefit.

"They can go to SPC, get their grades up and get

filmed so they can be seen, and then possibly develop into Division I athletes."

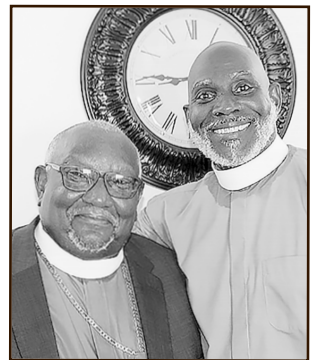
He's had meetings with Police Chief Anthony Holloway, Bill Darling at the First Tee program, Tony Love, CEO of the St. Petersburg Housing Authority, leaders at Advantage Village Academy and will meet with SPC President Dr. Tonjua Williams.

The bishop-elect looks forward to the challenges

ahead and feel that no problem is insurmountable when you are "anchored in the Word."

Harrison will eventually preside over three churches in the Church of God and True Holiness organization. True Holiness Worship Ministries is located at 2800 41st Ave. N.

To reach Allen Buchanan, email [abuchanan@theweeklyphallenger.com](mailto:abuchanan@theweeklyphallenger.com)



**Bishop Joseph Lewis, international credential, academic and Board of Bishops chair with Bishop-Elect Robert Harrison**



**L-R, Deacon Steve Joseph, Bishop Joseph Lewis, First Lady Jill Harrison, Rev. Dr. Robert Harrison, District Elder Lenton Willis and Deacon Robert Ellis**



## Visionary Brief

by Keisha Bell, Esq.

"A mind is a terrible thing to waste," was a slogan made famous by the United Negro College Fund and was coined in 1971. Do you believe it?

Meet Ruth Stubblefield Simmons, president of Prairie View A&M University. Born July 3, 1945, she is the youngest of 12. She is the descendant of slaves from Gabon through her father's lineage and of indigenous people of the Caribbean who were enslaved by the Spaniards on her mother's side.

In 1967, a time of great civil unrest, Simmons earned her bachelor's degree from Dillard University. Not done, Simmons continued her education at Harvard University. There, she earned her a master and doctorate degrees in Romance literature in 1970 and 1973, respectively.

Simmons loves learning and believes in its power for others. After graduating from Harvard, her professional endeavors led her to early academic positions in

Louisiana, California, New Jersey and Georgia. Overcoming many stereotypes and barriers, she climbed the academic ladder.

In 1995, Simmons left her vice provost position at Princeton University and made history by becoming the first African-American woman to lead a major college or university when she became president of Smith College. There, she started the first engineering program in a United States' woman's college.

Simmons continued to make history. In Nov. 2000, she was selected as the 18th president of Brown University. With this election, she became its first female president, as well as the first African-American president of an Ivy League institution.

In 2001, *Time* magazine named Simmons as "America's Best College President." In 2002, *Newsweek* named her as a "Ms. Woman of the Year." Take a moment to think about it. Only a few gen-

erations before her were her direct ancestors who were enslaved. Yet, there she was, as she continues to be, working to free the minds of so many.

Proving that you are never too old to make an impact, at the age of 72, Simmons made history again. Having retired from Brown University in 2012, she returned to her home state of Texas and five years later agreed to become the interim president of Prairie View A&M University. By the end of that year, she was



named the school's eighth president and its first woman to serve in that role.

Simmons understands the value of the mind. Many are rewarded for following the leader, but someone has to lead. Think about it. A mind, it truly is a terrible thing to waste.

Keisha Bell is an attorney, author, and public servant. [www.emergingfree.com](http://www.emergingfree.com)

## Collaborative workspace coming to the south side

**BUILDING, from front page**

make the IMA building a stop on the tour.

The IMA is famous for its ability to put the differences in their religions aside to support and positively contribute to making the community great.

"While we may worship in different ways, we are all committed to making our community a place where every single person is valued, honored, treated with dignity and given their basic human rights," said Rev. Kim Wells, senior pastor at Lakewood United Church of Christ.

Wells was recently added to the IMA board and hopes that their movement to promote social justice in St. Petersburg will raise self-determination and encourage all to enjoy the goodness in life.

Inspired by the collab-

orative efforts of many, Wells and the other members of the board hope to create awareness of what can be accomplished when people of faith join with those who express their faith in alternate ways.

"We feel it is important for the community to see faith is not something monolithic when it comes to our beliefs and our expression, but is monolithic when it comes to justice and compassion," said Wells.

Rev. Clarence Williams of Greater Mt. Zion A.M.E. believes community and ministry are an enterprise that carries with it meaningful and difficult tasks that require tedious and sometimes painful sweat equity. He sees the rededication of the IMA building as a communion with

faith-based stakeholders that should stimulate growth and produce resources regardless of whether there are funds to make it happen.

"It's going to require a unified mindset to understand the purpose and help make the purpose become a realization," he said. "With all of the obstacles and challenges that you have, if you have to beg...borrow, don't steal, but get whatever you need and God will do the rest."

Senator Darryl Rouson knows of the IMA's history of involvement that moves beyond the private pew of prayer to the public arena of action. He challenges the community of today to follow suit.

"If we've ever needed prayer before or the involvement of faith com-

munities in social justice we need it now," said Rouson, who advocates for acting with equality, fairness and dignity to all human beings.

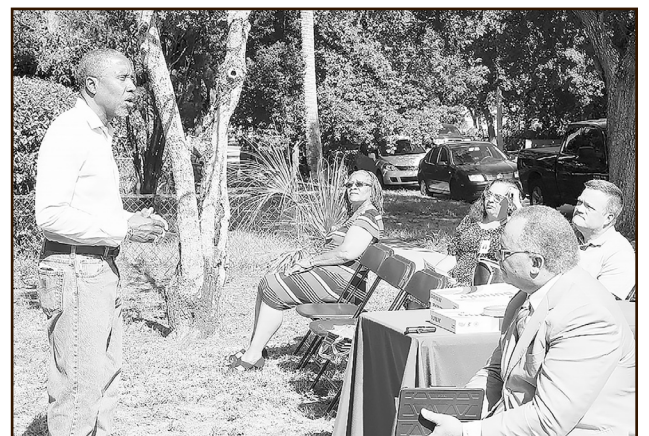
The IMA building will undergo renovations, replacing doors, floors, paint, plumbing and other areas that need attention. Various organizations have already signed up to operate out of the building such as the African American Heritage Trail and the Legacy Center for Social Justice. Their doors are open to all organizations that work to affect change in the community.

Yearly membership for the clergy is \$50, and all donations are accepted from the community.

For more information, visit [Facebook.com/IMAST-Pete](http://Facebook.com/IMAST-Pete).



**Rev. J. C. Pritchett, senior pastor of Faith Church**



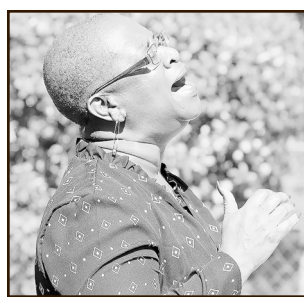
**Senator Darryl Rouson**



**Kim Wells, senior pastor at Lakewood United Church of Christ**



**Pinellas County School Board Chair Rene Flowers**



**L-R, Police Chief Anthony Holloway, Sharon Welch, Bishop Dr. Clarice Pennington, Rene Flowers and (sitting) Marilyn Welch, whose husband Pastor Clarence Welch was the leader of IMA in the 1990s.**



**Rev. Gustave Victor and former Mayor David Fisher cutting the ribbon on the IMA building 30 years ago.**



# CHURCH DIRECTORY

The Weekly Challenger

www.theweeklychallenger.com

THURSDAY, JULY 25, 2019 **5**



**955 20th Street South • St. Petersburg, FL 33712**  
**(727) 894-4311**  
Email: [info@mzprogressive.org](mailto:info@mzprogressive.org)  
Website: [www.mzprogressive.org](http://www.mzprogressive.org)

**Sunday Worship Services.....7:45 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.**  
**Sunday School.....9:00 a.m.**  
**Wednesday Mid-Day Bible Study .....Noon - 12:30 p.m.**  
**Wednesday Prayer Service .....6:00 p.m.**  
**Wednesday Bible Study .....6:30 p.m.**  
**Youth Chapel Services - 921 20th Street South**  
**Sunday Worship Service .....10:00 a.m.**  
**Wednesday Small Group Bible Study .....6:30 p.m.**

**Mission Statement:**  
*Impact the world by equipping believers  
to reach the lost with the gospel of Jesus Christ.*



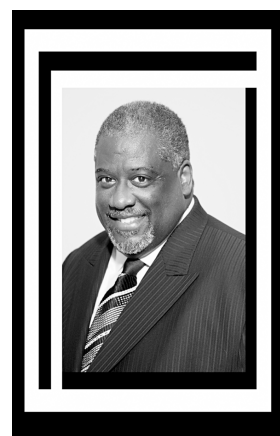
Rev. Louis M. Murphy Sr.  
Senior Pastor

## First Baptist Institutional Church

3144 Third Avenue South,  
St. Petersburg, FL 33712  
Phone: 727-323-7518

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.  
Praise Time 10:45 a.m.  
Morning Worship 10:45 a.m.  
Tuesday Night Live -  
Prayer Service & Bible Study 7 p.m.

**Come Worship With the First Baptist Family**



REV. DR. WAYNE G. THOMPSON,  
PASTOR

## BETHEL METROPOLITAN BAPTIST CHURCH

3455 - 26th Avenue South, St. Petersburg, FL 33711

Telephone (727) 327-0554 • Fax (727) 327-0240

E-mail: [bchurch5@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:bchurch5@tampabay.rr.com) Web site: [www.bmmbc.org](http://www.bmmbc.org)

Sunday Worship Service .....10:15 a.m.  
Sunday School .....9:00 a.m.  
Teen Summit (Wednesday) .....7:00 p.m.  
Bible Study (Wednesday) .....7:00 p.m.



Rev. Rickey L. Houston,  
Pastor

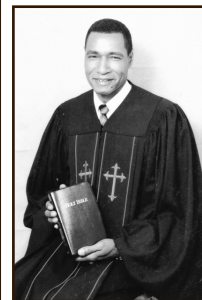
**“God’s House To The City”**

## First Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church

**1121 22nd Street South, St. Petersburg, FL 33712**  
**(727) 327-8708**

Sunday Worship Services 8:00 and 11:00 a.m.  
Sunday School.....9:30 a.m.  
Prayer Meeting (Tuesday) .....6:00 p.m.  
Bible Study (Tuesday) .....7:00 p.m.  
Baptist Training Union (Sunday) ..4:00 p.m.

**“The Little Church Where Everybody Is Somebody”**



Rev. Wallace Elliott  
Sr. - Pastor

## BETHEL COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH

**2901 - 54th Avenue South**  
**St. Petersburg, FL. 33712**  
**(727) 866-2567**



Rev. Dr. Manuel L. Sykes

### SERVICES

Sunday School: 9:00 a.m.  
**Sunday Worship Service: 10:00 a.m.**  
Mid-Week Worship: Wednesday 7:00 p.m.



Welcome - Bienvenidos  
**ST. AUGUSTINE’S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
Joyful Spirit, Joyful Jazz  
2920 26th Avenue South, St. Petersburg 33712  
**727-867-6774**  
[StAugustine@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:StAugustine@tampabay.rr.com)


**Sunday Communion and Worship Service 9:00 a.m.**  
**Communion and Healing Service 11:00 a.m. Tuesdays**



**FAITH MEMORIAL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH**  
1800 18TH AVENUE SOUTH  
ST. PETERSBURG, FL 33712  
727-896-0351  
[FAITHMBC@YAHOO.COM](mailto:FAITHMBC@YAHOO.COM)  
GROWING RELATIONALLY IN DISCIPLESHIP THROUGH CHRIST  
MATTHEW 28:18-20, JOHN 15:4-5

**FAITH IN ACTION**  
FAITH MEMORIAL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH  
FMB 1905

SUNDAY PRAYER SERVICE 9:00AM  
SUNDAY CHURCH SCHOOL 9:30AM  
SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE 10:45AM  
TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY 7:00PM



*Today's Church TAMPA BAY*

<b>ST. PETE</b> 940 5TH AVENUE SOUTH Staybridge Suites   Bayside Ballroom	<b>TAMPA</b> 5107 NORTH CENTRAL AVENUE Church Office: (813) 450-2353
<b>SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP</b> 9 AM   Centering Service 10:30 AM   Creative Expressions Worship Experience	<b>SUNDAY AFTERNOON WORSHIP</b> 2 PM   Creative Expressions Worship Experience
<b>WEDNESDAY NIGHT WORD</b> 6:30 PM   Mastermind Prayer 7 PM   Bible Study Class	<b>TUESDAY NIGHT</b> 7 PM   Bible Study Class <b>MOC SCHOOL OF MINISTRY</b> 8 PM   Courses Offered

Dr. Doral R. Pulley, Spiritual Leader | [WWW.TODAYSCHURCHTAMPABAY.ORG](http://WWW.TODAYSCHURCHTAMPABAY.ORG)



**Victory Christian Center Church**  
3012 18th Avenue South  
St. Petersburg, Fla. 33712  
(727) 321-0911  
[www.Victorychristiancenterchurch.org](http://www.Victorychristiancenterchurch.org)

**Schedule of Services**  
Sunday Worship\*  
10:30 a.m.  
Wednesday Bible Study\* -7:00 p.m.  
Friday Prayer -7:00 p.m.  
Intercessory Prayer - 9:00 a.m.  
(except Wednesdays)

Victory Christian Center is a Word of Faith Church.  
For more information about the other services and  
ministries at Victory Christian Center, please call (727) 321-0911.  
\*Nursery and Youth Services Available



**20th Street Church Of Christ**  
825 20th Street South  
St. Petersburg, FL 33712  
Home: 896-8006

Sunday Bible Class (All Ages) .....8:30 a.m.  
Sunday Morning Worship .....9:45 a.m.  
Sunday Evening Worship .....6:00 p.m.  
Ladies Bible Class Monday .....7:00 p.m.  
Monday Evening Bible Class .....7:00 p.m.  
Wednesday Morning Bible Class .....10:00 a.m.  
Wednesday Evening Bible Class .....7:00 p.m.

**Ruwach International Ministries**  
**Pastor/Prophet Huberta Rejouis**  
3940 18th Ave. South, St. Petersburg, FL 33711  
(above the daycare)  
Email: [huberta.rejouis@yahoo.com](mailto:huberta.rejouis@yahoo.com) • Phone: 727-768-2784



Sunday Night Worship Service .....7:30pm  
Thursday Night Prayer and  
Bible Study (Yara Time) .....7:30pm

Ruwach International Ministries is an  
Apostolic global ministry.  
We operated in the five-fold ministry.  
**All are Welcome! Shalom!**



**INSPIRATIONS**  
BY DIERDRE DOWNING-JACKSON

**Speak To My Heart Holy Spirit**

As I humbly come to You O LORD, I ask that You speak to my heart and guide me to be Your vessel to bring Your children to You.

It is humbling to be used by You and to keep my mind stayed on Your Will and Your Purpose for my life.

As I walk by faith, lead by Your Holy Spirit, it is so important for me to be faithful and obedient.

Psalm 46:10 tells me to “Be still and know that I am GOD.” It is in that stillness that GOD speaks to my heart.

My prayer is for clarity and direction to do GOD’s Will.

Writing for me is a gift that allows me to creatively express what GOD puts in my heart. When I think about HIS goodness and mercy I know that His plan for me is designed for His Glory.

I thank the LORD for blessing me with such a divine opportunity to serve Him.

Realizing the importance of the words I choose to deliver, through the pen or by the spoken word that is written, is an awesome and yet humbling responsibility.

Sharing the gospel of JESUS CHRIST is my joy, my duty, my purpose, my strength, my peace and my goal.

Operating in GOD’s Holy Spirit for the salvation of others, blesses my soul and keeps me with a sincere desire to hear all that GOD wants to speak into my heart.

My prayer is for GOD to bless me with wisdom to do His will and to clothe me with humility.

GOD has shown me His love in so many ways and it is my heart’s desire to serve Him and be obedient to His Will.

Thank You LORD for using me as Your vessel and gently speaking to my heart.

AMEN

“I delight to do thy will, O my GOD: yea, thy law is within my heart.”  
Psalms 40:8 KJV





# CHURCH DIRECTORY

6 THURSDAY, JULY 25, 2019

www.theweeklychallenger.com

The Weekly Challenger

## ST. MARK MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

1301 - 37th Street South, St. Petersburg, FL  
(727) 321-6631 • www.stmarkch.org

### Schedule of Services

**Church School** ..... 9:30 a.m.  
**Morning Worship** ..... 10:45 a.m.  
**Baptist Training Union**..... 5:00 p.m.  
**Prayer Meeting and Bible Study**  
**Wednesday 7:00 p.m.**



Rev. Brian K. Brown

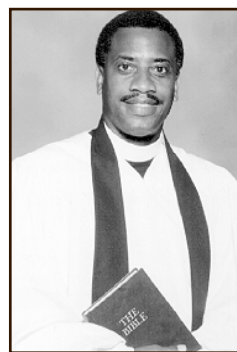
## THE ROCK OF JESUS MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

### SUNDAY SERVICES/WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

10:30 a.m. Worship Service  
9:00 a.m. Breakfast (First Sunday only)  
9:30 a.m. Sunday School (First Sunday Only)  
Sunday School 9:15 a.m. / Devotion 10:15 a.m.  
Praise & Worship 10:20 a.m. / Worship Services 10:30 a.m.  
Saints of Prayer - Monday 12:00 noon  
Weekly Bible Study - Tuesday 6:30 p.m.  
Adult Choir Rehearsals - Thursday 6:30 p.m.

Van service is available by calling: (727) 327-0015

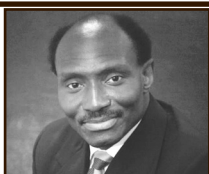
**THE ROCK OF JESUS IS LOCATED AT:**  
**3940 - 18th AVE. S., St. Petersburg, Florida**  
**Telephone: 727-327-0015 • Fax: 727-327-0021**  
**Email: rojmbc@knology.net**  
**Office Hours: Tues. & Thurs. 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.**



Rev. Frank W. Peterman, Jr.  
Pastor

## Friendship Missionary Baptist Church

3300 31st St. S., St. Petersburg, FL 33712  
(727) 906-8300 www.fmbctheship.net  
Email: fmbc3300@verizon.net



Dr. John A. Evans, Pastor

### WORSHIP EXPERIENCES

Sunday Worship ..... 7:45 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.  
Sunday School ..... 9:30 a.m.  
Wednesday ..... Noonday Wednesday in the Word and Bread of Life  
7:00 p.m. Prayer and Wednesday in the Word  
7:00 p.m. Youth Enrichment

*Our Mission: Friendship Missionary Baptist Church is a family of believers in Christ, reaching out to the world, preaching the gospel to the unsaved and teaching the saved to serve by demonstrating the Love of Christ.*

Join Dr. Doral R. Pulley & Today's Church - St. Pete Location  
**Sunday, July 20, 2019**

"Raising the Vibration...Lifting up Christ"

**WORSHIP ON THE Roof Top**

Two Opportunities for Worship  
9 AM | Centering Service  
10:30 AM | Creative Expressions

Camden Pier District  
330 3rd Street South | St. Petersburg, FL 33705

# CHURCH NEWS

## St. Mark MBC

From the Pastor's Desk

We know that all things work together for good to those who love God. . . Romans 8:28

It is only a faithful person who truly believes that God sovereignly controls his circumstances. We take our circumstances for granted, saying God is in control, but not really believing it. We act as if the things that happen were completely controlled by people. To be faithful in every circumstance means that we have only one loyalty, or object of our faith – the Lord Jesus Christ. God may cause our circumstances to suddenly fall apart, which may bring the realization of our unfaithfulness to Him for not recognizing that He ordained the situation. We never see what He is trying to accomplish, and the sad reality is, that exact event will never be repeated again in our life.

This is where the test of our faithfulness comes. If we will just learn to worship God even during the difficult circumstances, He will change them for the better very quickly, if He so chooses.

Being faithful to Jesus Christ is the most difficult thing we try to do today. We will be faithful to our work, to serving others or to anything else; just don't ask us to be faithful to Jesus Christ. Many Christians become impatient when we talk about faithfulness to Christ. Our Lord is dethroned more deliberately by Christian workers than by the world. We treat God as if He were a machine designed only to bless us, and we think of Jesus as just another one of the workers.

The goal of faithfulness is not that we will do work for God, but that he will be free to do His work through us. God calls us to His service and places

tremendous responsibilities on us. He expects no complaining on our part. Let's forever remember God wants to use us as He used His own Son. . .

St. Mark will hold its annual Back to School Bash on August 7 @ 6:00 p.m. in Childs Park. Backpacks and school supplies will be shared with those in need. Hats off to the leaders of Vacation Bible School held this past week and to all who attended, especially our neighbors in the Childs Park Community.

Weekly Events:  
Sunday School - Sundays @9:30 a.m.

Worship Service - Sundays @10:45 a.m.

Young Adult Ministry (YAMS) - Sundays @9:30 a.m.

Senior Hour of Power Bible Study - Wednesdays @9:30 a.m.

Prayer Meeting and Bible Study - Wednesdays @ 7:00 p.m.

## Pastor's Corner

BY REV. DR. DORAL R. PULLEY,  
SPIRITUAL LEADER  
TODAY'S CHURCH Tampa Bay



### The Q & A

"Ask and it shall be given. Seek and you will find. Knock and it will be opened unto you (Matthew 7:7)."

Denial – Asking questions does not diminish my intelligence.

Affirmation – I AM the question. I AM the answer.

In elementary school one of my teachers used to remind us, "there are no dumb questions."

She encouraged her students to ask questions because many people learn through the interactive method. When I reached middle school, a different teacher put another spin on asking questions. His belief was "The only dumb questions are the ones that you don't ask." It made no sense

to him to be in a place where you can receive the answer and you still leave with a question. One of my high school teachers built on that foundation and stated, "If you have a question, ask it because likely there is someone else in the class who has the same question and does not have the courage to ask it."

The temple was a healthy environment for Jesus. In the temple, he was able to ask questions and get answers from the doctors and lawyers who were there (Luke 2:41-52). Not only did he ask questions and get answers, but people also asked him questions and were amazed at his responses.

Being a Wayshower is

not about having all the answers. As a Wayshower, Jesus showed us that you can ask questions and get answers in addition to answering questions. One of the ways to know that you are in a healthy environment is your feeling of freedom to ask and answer questions. Keep an open mind knowing that you can learn from anyone and that anyone can learn from you.

Reflection Question – What are your unanswered questions in the areas of health, wealth and/or harmony in all relationships?

Meditation Activity – Meditate on one of your questions and allow the Spirit to answer your question.

WWW.THEWEEKLYCHALLENGER.COM

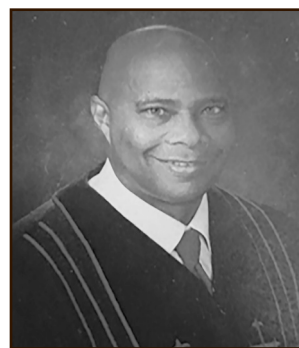
## Bethel Metropolitan Baptist Church

Bethel Metropolitan Baptist Church will be celebrating our pastor's 15th anniversary on July 28 at the 10:15 a.m. worship service. The theme is exemplified in scripture, Jeremiah 3:15, "And I will give you Pastor's according to mine heart, which shall feed you with knowledge and understanding."

Please join us in celebrating 15 years of Preaching,

Teaching, and Serving by Dr. Rickey L. Houston. Pastor Craig E. White, Sr. of Bethany Baptist Church in Atlanta will be the guest minister.

There will be an anniversary banquet following church service at 2 p.m. at Banquet Masters, 13355 49th St. N in Clearwater. Contact the church for information at 727-327-0554.



## The Servants' Conference • August 1-3

We invite you to come and be renewed, refreshed, and challenged by the exhortation to give ourselves as exemplary servants of Christ. The conference will be held at Southside Tabernacle Baptist Church, 3647 18th Ave. S.

Conference Speakers include Dr. E. L. Wiseman and:



Pastor Robert Ward



Pastor Clark Hazley



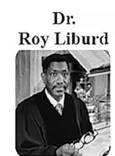
Pastor Jerry Alexander



Pastor Bobby McDonald



Pastor Richard Jackson



Dr. Roy Liburd



Reverend Michael Jean



Pastor James Smith Sr.



Pastor Daniel Savage



Pastor Clarence Simmons

THE CONFERENCE MISSION: To portray Jesus as the model servant, to propel pastors and church leader to be exemplary and to promote the need for servanthood as a way of life.

THE CONFERENCE INCLUDES: A workbook, eight gospel messages, three breakout sessions, special music, service of worship, free books, giveaways, two continental breakfasts, one brunch, two dinner meals, four refreshments and coffee breaks, sweet fellowship and Q&A Panel Discussion.

For registration information, please call (727)-327-9711.

Hosted by Dr. Lewis C. Lampley

ANDRENEE'S CORNER PRESENTS

*Beautiful You*

C O N F E R E N C E

REVEAL HER

ANDRENEE BOOTHE  
Conference Host & Keynote Speaker

September  
20th - 21st  
2019

Speaker  
DR. UNDRAI FIZER

Speaker  
DR. DORAL R. PULLEY

YOU ARE THE ONE YOU'VE BEEN WAITING FOR!

Hampton Inn Brooklyn/Downtown | Purchase Tickets at bit.ly/buconference



A warrior’s legacy continues

ST. PETERSBURG — Senator Darryl Rouson remembers Dr. Johnnie Ruth Clarke as an “academic warrior with warm charm.” He enjoyed reminiscing about spending quality time in her home, enjoying a delicious meal at her kitchen table.

“Dr. Clarke was selfless. She treated everyone as her own child,” Rouson reminisced.

St. Petersburg College’s National Council on Black American Affairs (NCBA) Chapter presented 75 scholarships to students at SPC’s St. Petersburg/Gibbs Campus Music Center. For the last 19 years, SPC has honored Dr. Clarke’s legacy by awarding disadvantaged and underrepresented students with a scholarship of 12 credit hours per term over two consecutive years.

On July 28, Clarke would have been 100 years old. As the keynote

speaker, Rouson encouraged scholars to continue her legacy of academic excellence.

“You make her rise again by accepting the burden, blessing and responsibility of this scholarship,” he told the award recipients. “It is your time to make the best out of your academic experience.”

Johnnie Ruth Clarke Scholar Alisha King, a graduate of Boca Ciega High School, was excited to receive the scholarship in hopes of following her mother’s footsteps by becoming a nurse.

“I’m very appreciative and grateful to receive this scholarship,” King said. “It’s a great feeling to know this is something I achieved. I just want to make my mom proud by becoming a nurse like her.”

Dr. Clarke was the first African American to receive a doctorate from the University of Florida’s College of Edu-

cation and the first black woman to earn a doctorate at any Florida public university. She taught at Pinellas County public schools, at two Florida colleges and was the dean of the all-black Gibbs Junior College in the 1950s.

As assistant director of the Florida Regional Medical Program in 1972, Clarke organized programs to fight sickle cell anemia and other diseases. She also wrote a column for the *St. Petersburg Evening Independent*, where she frequently expressed her hope for St. Pete’s minority community.

SPC administrators welcomed the students as new Titans and challenged them to achieve their dreams.

“Never be limited by other people’s limited imagination,” said SPC Gibbs Campus Provost Dr. Leslie Hafer.



Johnnie Ruth Clarke July 28, 1919 – May 15, 1978



The Clarke family

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Stopping diabetes in its tracks

Diabetes Series, part 2 of 2

With the prevalence of Diabetes Mellitus (DM) at an all-time high, it is essential to get the latest information that modern medicine has to offer. Researchers in DM continuously release new guidelines that focus on better health outcomes and increasing the quality of life for patients living with this disease.

In the most recent guidelines released by the American Diabetic Association (ADA), an emphasis has been placed on early DM screening and A1C testing. Classic signs and symptoms of DM are often undetected because patients may not experience them or may not notice them at first. The sooner we diagnose DM, the sooner treatment can be started, minimizing the

burden and the potential damage that DM can cause.

**Getting to Know Your A1C**

The first step in beating DM is knowing your number. A1C percent is the average blood sugar level of your body for the past three months. Your A1C can paint a better picture of how well controlled your blood sugar levels are, allowing providers to use it as the primary test for diabetic management and research.

As a person with diabetes, you should aim to keep your A1C under seven percent, according to the ADA. A high A1C shows poor diabetic control and may lead to other complications.

**The consequences of a poorly controlled A1C**

If the A1C is left uncontrolled for too long, many complications can threaten your quality of life. DM damages the blood vessels of the body through a hardening process called atherosclerosis.

When these vessels harden, the blood supply of the body is significantly decreased and can lead to severe complications. There are disease states that commonly affect diabetic patients, caused by extensive damage to either the smaller or larger blood vessels of the body.

Common complications that develop from years of damage to the smaller blood vessels can lead to blindness, foot pain and a decrease in kidney function. In males, damage to those same blood

vessels can cause erectile dysfunction.

Damage to the larger vessels of the body is potentially more debilitating and life-threatening. This can lead to more serious complications such as a heart attack, stroke or foot amputation.

**A light at the end of the tunnel**

Although the previous information may seem very frightening, there is still hope. Through DM studies, researchers have found that patients with an early diagnosis of DM have lived longer and with fewer complications.

Early testing and FREE Diabetes Mellitus classes have been made readily available for all patients at a Community Health Center near you.

**Class schedule**



- Every second Wednesday of the month at Johnnie Ruth Clarke Community Health Center of Pinellas County from 10-12 p.m.
- Every third Wednesday of the month at Johnnie Ruth Clarke Community Health Center of Pinellas County from 5-7 p.m.
- Every second Tuesday of the month at Tarpon Springs Community Health Center of Pinellas County from 10-12 p.m.

These classes are free and are a great source of education for any person that’s interested in knowing more information about DM. Through the efforts of Community Health Centers and other organizations across the world, hopefully, one day we can live in a world free of the pain and damage that is caused by Diabetes Mellitus.

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## Vouchers provide white student exit strategy

BY JERI YONDER  
Contributor



TALLAHASSEE — The Family Empowerment Scholarship law of 2019 is anything but empowering according to civil rights and public education advocates. Particularly harmful to African Americans, the rhetoric used to sell the private school voucher makes it appear that African-American children benefit most from the scheme when they have the most to lose.

This fifth voucher program is part of the larger plan that ushers white students out of public schools at taxpayers' expense, returning public schools to a segregated system.

According to Adora Obi Nweze, president of the Florida NAACP, "Vouchers today are not expanding opportunities for all students; they are a tool of segregation. Research shows that the private school voucher programs exacerbate the racial and opportunity divide. Schools today are in fact more segregated than in the 1970s."

The program caps the enrollment at 18,000 students in the first year. However, that number is expected to rise. The Family Empowerment Scholarship uses funds from the state pot of per-student funding for public schools, which will lead to a crippling revenue loss of more than \$130 million in the 2019-20 school year and \$1 billion over the next five years.

"This misguided and misappropriated legislation means that school buildings will continue to decay, threatening the health and safety of our students and staff," said Fedrick Ingram, president of the Florida Education Association. "Classes will become even more overcrowded, making it harder for students to learn. As a result of this drain on school funds, Florida districts will be forced to cut critical programs, such as the Advanced Placement

courses and other essential programs."

Much like the tax credit scholarship that has grown to a staggering number of more than 100,000 students enrolled and a waitlist of 14,000 students, those students are projected to apply to the newly enacted voucher program. However, the Tax Credit Scholarship Program is structured differently with state tax dollars not going directly to the program.

Instead, companies can receive tax credits for contributing money to non-profit organizations that, in turn, fund the scholarships. White students make up the vast majority of voucher students. Proponents of the measure, including Gov. Ron DeSantis and former Gov. Jeb Bush, say the new law is a step in the right direction.

"Families seek out this program because it works: students have performed better academically than their peers across the country, including higher rates of going to college and earning a degree," Bush said. "Unsurprisingly, the program is oversubscribed. At least 13,000 students are on the waiting list, and thousands more want to apply. The new Family Empowerment Scholarship will give these lower- and middle-income students an opportunity that wealthier Florida families take for granted."

Bush left out some important facts, however. Here in Florida, vouchers are offered up as a chance to choose a quality school, but test scores show the opposite. Unlike public

schools, voucher schools student transfers do not do well academically and produce lower test scores.

Under his leadership, Gov. Bush approved a similar voucher program that used tax dollars, but in 2006 the Florida Supreme Court ruled the measure was unconstitutional because it used taxpayer dollars to fund private schools. Legal challenges could result in a similar defeat.

Meanwhile, a provision in the law expands eligibility to higher levels of wealth. A family of four earning about \$77,000 would now qualify, ultimately opening the door to additional middle-class entitlement. And again, the vast majority of beneficiaries are white students.

Another concern is the lack of oversight these private and religious schools have. Public schools are held to specific accountability standards such as standardizing testing and school letter grades by the state.

Test data from the Florida Department of Education indicates that the performance of students who attended private schools through vouchers lags behind their peers who stayed in public schools. If private schools can take state dollars, they must uphold state requirements.

Florida currently diverts more public funds to private and religious schools than any other state in the country.

"You can't keep telling Florida public schools they have to do more with less," said Ingram. "Eventually, they do less with less. That's not empowerment – it's abandonment."

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Age before brutality

LAS VEGAS — Score one for the old-timers.

In a battle where age and experience went toe to toe with youth and confidence, 40-year-old challenger Manny Pacquiao proved to be too big an obstacle for WBA super welterweight champ Keith “One Time” Thurman. Defeating the hard-punching Clearwater native by split decision on July 20 at the MGM Grand Garden Arena in Las Vegas, the legendary Philippine fighter wrested the title from previously unbeaten Thurman.

Pacquiao, who turned pro in 1995 when Thurman was in first grade, had held 12 titles before stepping into the ring on Saturday and with the victory improved to 62-7-2 (39 KOs). It was the fourth title defense for Thurman and the defeat dropped the 30-year-old fighter to 29-1 (22 KOs).

The opening round found both fighters keeping busy as Thurman fired off a few combinations, which Pacquiao answered in turn. With under a minute to go, Thurman backed Pacquiao up into the corner and went head-hunting with a series of roundhouse lefts and rights, but a determined Pacquiao not only fought his way out but backed up Thurman and with a quickness belying his four decades, landed a left to the gut and a crisp right cross to the chin of the champ, dropping him with just over 20 seconds left in the round.

Thurman seemed more surprised than hurt, as he was likely caught off balance. He grinned at the challenger and sat on the canvas. Thurman took the standing eight count and the round came to a close soon after.

The excitement of the knockdown still buzzing in the area, chants of

“Manny! Manny!” greeted the fighters as they began round two. It seemed to provide encouragement to Pacquiao as he became more aggressive, controlling the center of the ring and going after Thurman with fierce overhand lefts.

Firing off a few accurate straight rights that split Thurman’s guard, Pacquiao managed to set the pace and the rhythm. Toward the close of the round Thurman waited for opportunities to counter and picked his moments to strike, but a fired-up Pacquiao came after him like a badger, practically leaping toward Thurman with a loping right, and finishing off the round by treating his opponent — and the MGM Grand crowd — to his version of the Ali shuffle after the bell.

The previously undefeated Thurman was never one to underestimate his opponents, but by the start of round three, it looked like he had a newfound respect for Pacquiao’s sheer quickness and destructive power. He adjusted by taking over the center of the ring and attempting to back Pacquiao up, and keep him backed up, to rob him of his power.

Even so, Thurman was too tentative and threw too few punches of any consequence while Pacquiao moved around him and stepped in and out to unload the occasional right hand to the head. By the middle of the round Pacquiao, still on the perimeter, invited Thurman to come forward at his peril and unleashed effective counter punches to whatever the champ threw at him.

Pacquiao came zipping out in the fourth to meet Thurman and chased him around the ring, digging in with some well-timed uppercuts to the champ’s

body in the process. But Thurman quickly turned the tables and dogged his opponent, snapping off a few rights and lefts and forcing Pacquiao to backpedal.

Thurman backed Pacquiao to the ropes at one point and got in some straight shots and a left hook, but Pacquiao slipped out, spun around and fired off his own combination. The challenger was proving too slippery for Thurman, and as the round neared to a close he buzzed around the champ, landing straights and uppercuts from all different angles.

Thurman came out in the fifth and pressed Pacquiao from the get-go, not giving the challenger the opportunity to get really planted and counter. He managed to blast a strong right to Pacquiao’s nose, snapping his head back. Pacquiao did, however, thread the needle a few times by scoring with precise punches through Thurman’s guard. He closed the round by unleashing a barrage of body-head power punches that clearly hurt Thurman.

Pacquiao turned to his jab more in the sixth, using to it bore his way in and land some harder straight punches, as Thurman floated on the perimeter, sticking a few of his jabs while trying to find openings. The next round Thurman came out far more aggressive and went right to Pacquiao, throwing combinations and catching him with a lightning-quick overhand right to the chin. They were both trading punches when Thurman caught Pacquiao again with a right hand-left hook and then again with that same combination in what was Thurman’s best round so far.

Both fighters kept



Manny Pacquiao scores a big win over Clearwater’s Keith “One Time” Thurman last Saturday night. (AP photo)

busy in the eighth, throwing more uppercuts and straight punches and Pacquiao threw into a higher gear on the last minute as he assaulted Thurman with a bombardment coming from all angles, and Thurman was forced to cover up. Thurman worked his way out the ropes, though, and kept his poise by countered with his own straight rights at the bell.

Thurman continued to press Pacquiao in the ninth, gamely trying to expose openings while Pacquiao was content to wait for his chance to counter with his quick hands. Thurman unleashed one of his best combinations of the fight when he caught the challenger with a couple of left-rights, and forced him back into the ropes where he drove home some solid hooks to the body. Pacquiao was not slow to respond, however, as he slipped out and dug in a right uppercut of his own followed by a couple sturdy straight punches.

Thurman stalked Pacquiao in the 10th, sticking to his strategy of trying to back up his opponent but Pacquiao proved to be an effective counterpuncher, landing his share of crisp

punches. In the midst of a combination Pacquiao snuck in a heavy blow to the body that instantly did immense damage.

A hurt Thurman immediately starting backpedaling, desperately trying to keep some distance between him and his opponent. As Thurman merely tried to ride out the rest of the round, Pacquiao moved in but his sloppy punching did little further damage, and Thurman recovered enough to finish the round by throwing a couple of roundhouse rights of his own.

While Thurman came right behind a jab to land an explosive right-hand flush to Pacquiao’s head in the 11th, Pacquiao continued to be a difficult target and fended off Thurman’s advances with his quick hands. Going into the final round, Thurman knew he likely needed a knockout to win, as Pacquiao had been in control for the most of the night.

He hovered around his opponent and managed to land a few shots, but it was apparent he simply didn’t have enough gas in the tank. To Pacquiao’s credit, he didn’t try to ride it out but fought gamely, still

keeping busy with his furious and erratic style, sticking and moving and sticking again.

Pacquiao had landed the more effective punches throughout the fight—even bloodying Thurman’s nose — and they had taken their toll on the champ. Thurman managed to jam a powerful right into Pacquiao’s face but failed to follow it up and probably wouldn’t have mattered at this point, as the ageless Philippine wonder had proven that he could absorb anything a hearty young champ like Thurman could throw at him, and more.

The normally calm and collected Thurman too often looked confused and at times unnerved by the ever-resilient Pacquiao, who was unlike any opponent the previously-unbeaten had faced. Thurman, who did his share of trash talking in the weeks leading up to the fight, reportedly had bet on himself to knock out Pacquiao in the first, second or seventh round. Perhaps this only served to motivate Pacquiao.

In any case, this was one time that “One Time” came up short.

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Two-day conference focuses on minority health

SUMMIT, from front page

Other sessions included “Treating African American Women: When the Cape Gets in the Way,” “Sex Talk: Investigating the Sexual Development and Sexual Attitudes of African American Women,” “Creative Healing Strategies: Exploring the Expressive Arts as a Therapeutic Intervention” and “Hang-over: Overcoming Emotional Addiction.”

There were sessions on the benefit of movement and physical activity strategies such as spending time in nature, presented in Hillary Van Dyke’s “Exploring Black Liberation through the

Outdoors: Perspectives of a Black Human who likes to Play Outside” workshop, while Clayton Sizemore of Urban Yoga Foundation Florida offered a talk on “Integrating Mindfulness in ALL areas of Practice,” as well as a class in mindful movement on Saturday.

July 13, dubbed the “Deconstructed Summit Series,” included more intimate events, such as the morning “Brown Girls Brunch,” held at the Carter G. Woodson African American Museum, the for men-only “Brothers and BBQ” given in Jordan Park later in the morning and “Tex-

ured Conversations,” which covered everything from natural haircare to self-care strategies for health.

The day finished with the “Moonlight Refreshin” a cultural and vendors market and drum circle held Saturday evening.

Practitioners and county educators were able to earn up to six continuing education credits during the summit.

National Minority Health Awareness Month was ratified by Congress in 2008 as Bebe Moore-Campbell National Minority Mental Health Awareness Month to improve access to

mental health treatment and educate the public about mental health in communities of color.

Author Moore-Campbell was intent on removing the stigma of mental illness after it hit close to home when a family member was diagnosed with a bipolar condition. She became a co-founder of NAMI (National Alliance for the Mentally Ill) of Urban Los Angeles, and national spokesperson for the organization, before passing away in Nov. 2006.

The Well for Life, LLC, located at 833 22nd St. S in St. Petersburg, is a wellness center founded by

Dr. LaDonna Butler, who is vice-chair of the Healthy Start Coalition and chair of the Minority Mental Health Conference of St. Petersburg.

To learn more about how you can get involved

with combating mental illness in our community, check out @TheWellforLife or email [info@wellforlife.org](mailto:info@wellforlife.org).

To reach J.A. Jones, email [jjones@theweeklychallenger.com](mailto:jjones@theweeklychallenger.com)



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**WHAT IS AVAILABLE?**

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**WHAT IS REQUIRED?**

The City is seeking a variety of businesses, offering a good mix of products and services that will bring residents and visitors back to the Pier frequently to check out what's new.

- Minimum 3-month commitment
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- Open for business a minimum of 3 days per week (Fri, Sat, Sun)
- 10' x 10' tent (to be approved by Pier management if not included in License Agreement)
- Insurance requirements per License Agreement

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

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Juniper Duffin: 727.445.9028; [juniper.duffin@colliers.com](mailto:juniper.duffin@colliers.com)

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