



# THE CANAAN MESSENGER

ISSUE #3 | MAY 2025

From the Pastor's Desk

Ministry Spotlight

Initial Sermon

Ministry Opportunity

Free Giveaway

Ushers Annual Day

Sheepfold Ministry  
Contacts

Tribe Spotlight

Activities and  
Upcoming Events

Connecting/  
Prayer List/Giving

Contents



Rev. Dr. Derick Brennan  
SENIOR PASTOR

George R. Waters  
CHAIRMAN,  
DEACON MINISTRY

William A. Jones  
CHAIRMAN,  
TRUSTEE MINISTRY

## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

In the month of May, we celebrate the Canaan Sheepfold Ministry, which was conceived and birthed over forty years ago by Pastor Emeritus Gus Roman. The Canaan Sheepfold Ministry, i.e. Small groups or cell groups, consists of mini-Canaan communities that provide fellowship and discipleship in a setting of shared lives, common goals, and a mutual commitment to Christian growth.

The Sheepfold Ministry is composed of twelve (12) tribes replicating the Tribal System of Israel **Genesis 35:22-26; 49:28**. Additionally, the Sheepfold Ministry is modeled after the method employed by Jesus for his most intimate fellowship, vision casting and teaching of his disciples. **Mark 2:1; 7:14-27; 9:33; 10:2-12; Matthew 13:36**.

## SHEEPFOLD MINISTRY

**Servant Leader:** Deacon Bernard Lomax, Sr.  
**Assistant Servant Leader:** Deacon Troy Boyd, Jr.

The Sheepfold Ministry helps us create a closer, more connected community.

Each tribe is led by a Deacon and a lay person (Tribe Leader), who work together to support our members. These Tribes do more than organize our church—they bring people together. Members meet regularly and are encouraged to participate in Bible Study and church activities and to grow their faith.

Ideally, every disciple at Canaan would be actively involved in a tribe because:

- Tribes provide a fertile environment for Bible Study.
- Tribes are incubators for worship in spirit and in truth.
- Tribes focus on the importance of prayer for wisdom and comfort.
- Tribes serve as a conduit for evangelism for family and friends.
- Tribes illuminate, reveal, and nurture Spiritual Gifts for leading edge ministry that gives purpose to the believer and advances the Kingdom.
- Tribes introduce personal and mutual accountability among Canaan disciples.

Cont'd on Pg. 2

When you join our church, you'll be welcomed into one of these Tribes, giving you access to both spiritual guidance and practical support. We can also connect you with community resources and services when needed.

During the calendar year the Sheepfold Ministry sponsors annual events/ activities such as:

- Black History Presentation
- Sheepfold Sunday
- Family Reunion/Block Party Celebration
- Street Revival
- Christmas Fellowship Celebration

- Tribes are more efficient in providing the support, nurture, and personal touch that embodies the love of Christ.
- Tribes host creative activities that allow Canaanites to have fun and fellowship.

Under the leadership of the Holy Spirit, and with the committed and creative stewardship of Sheepfold Deacons, Sheepfold Leaders, and many others, the Sheepfold Ministry will enable the "Gem" to shine even brighter.

## BRO. MARK TRENT'S INITIAL SERMON



On Saturday, May 17, 2025, at 10:00am, Canaanite, Bro. Mark Trent will preach his Initial Sermon. Bro. Trent has been a longtime dedicated servant at Canaan. He has the spiritual gifts of teaching, exhortation, and service. During his tenure at Canaan, he has served in several ministries, including Christian Education, the Sheepfold Ministry, the Men of Canaan, the Veterans' Ministry, and the Prison Ministry.

An "Initial Sermon" refers to the first sermon delivered by a person who believes that they are called by God to serve in a specific role in the church and the Kingdom at large. These roles can include a Preacher, an Evangelist, a Chaplain, etc. The Initial Sermon also provides an opportunity for the local church's Pastor, leaders, and members to publicly affirm a person's calling after extensively experiencing their spiritual gifts, dedication, maturity, and character.

Congregational affirmation includes the issuance of a Ministry License. This credential authorizes the person to represent the local church in performing specific functions within the church and throughout the Body of Christ.

Many Baptist churches, including Canaan:

- Bestow the title of "Minister" on those who receive a Ministry License.
- Do not permit a licensed minister to perform a wedding ceremony, a burial committal, or administer Holy Communion without the presence of an ordained clergy person.
- Reserve the title of "Reverend" for those individuals who have received Ministry Ordination.

Please begin praying for Bro. Trent and mark your calendars to ensure your attendance as we mark this significant moment in the life of our brother and of Canaan.

## New Ministry Opportunity!

Canaan's Communications Ministry is seeking volunteers who are skilled in web design, social media, graphic design, marketing/branding, writing and/or digital content creation.

For more information, contact  
Sister Kira Harris (kln5082@gmail.com)  
or Minister Earl Roberts  
(eroberts@canaanbaptistchurch.org)

## FREE SMOKE AND CARBON MONOXIDE DETECTORS

The Philadelphia Fire Department will provide and install **FREE** smoke and carbon monoxide detectors in the homes of city residents. To use this free service, contact the Church Office, or dial 311.



## USHERS MINISTRY ANNUAL DAY

Join the Ushers Ministry as they celebrate their Annual Day on Sunday, May 18, 2025, at 3:30pm Rev. Dr. James Buck, Senior Pastor of Grace Baptist Church of Germantown, will deliver the spoken word. Expect an afternoon of praise, worship, and marching with fellow doorkeepers.



## SHEEPFOLD MINISTRY CONTACTS

<b>Tribes</b>	<b>Sheepfold Leader</b>	<b>Sheepfold Deacon</b>	<b>Sheepfold Minister</b>	<b>Tribes Color</b>
<b>Asher</b>	Sis Barbara Taylorbattechnology@ yahoo.com	Deacon Eric Lacy elacy52@hotmail.com	Rev. Jessica Frieson	Black/White
<b>Benjamin</b>	Sis Shawn Bailey diamonddustlashes@ gmail.com	Deacon Charles Cromwell cn.cromwell@yahoo.com	Rev. Bisa Bennett	Purple/Violet
<b>Dan</b>	Sis Edith Jones ej787@yahoo.com	Deacon Eric Lacy elacy52@hotmail.com	Rev. Jessica Frieson	Green
<b>Ephraim</b>	Sis Cherie Jones-June cheriejones28@ gmail.com	Deacon George Waters germantownymca@ gmail.com	Rev. Bisa Bennett	Yellow/Red
<b>Gad</b>	Sis Robin Hamilton- Riddick teachingrobbie@ yahoo.com	Deacon Norman Parker nrparker44@gmail.com	Rev. Michele Jenkins	White
<b>Issachar</b>	Sis Suzanne Fleming suzannefleming12@ gmail.com	Deacon Clifton Moore, Jr. deaconmoore@gmail.com	Rev. Oscar Smith	Yellow
<b>Judah</b>	Sis Josephine Thomas jrthomas350@ gmail.com	Deacon Derek Paige derekpaige50@gmail.com	Rev. Linda Parker	Red
<b>Manasseh</b>	Sis Terry Carey latereds@aol.com	Deacon Albert Grier oaklane106@aol.com	Rev. Michele Jenkins	Ruby
<b>Naphtali</b>	Sis Dorine Lomax lom189590@yahoo.com	Deacon Bernard Lomax, Sr. blomaxsr@gmail.com	Rev. Oscar Smith	Yellow/brown/ green
<b>Reuben</b>	Sis Helen Harvey helenmharvey71@ yahoo.com	Deacon Troy Boyd, Jr. peaceboyd@gmail.com	Rev. Tanisha Davis	Green
<b>Simeon</b>	Sis Annetta Beamon- Tucker proudusher@ comcast.net	Deacon Johnnie Bellamy jbl40@verizon.net	Rev. Tanisha Davis	Blue
<b>Zebulun</b>	Sis Margaret Langley moth4891@comcast.net	Deacon Michael Bryant, Sr. mbryant111@comcast.net	Rev. Linda Parker	Red



## USHERS MINISTRY

**Servant Leader:** Sister Ella Herbin

The Ushers ministry is ordained by God and anointed by the Holy Spirit. Our service is not by our spoken words but by our faith and love for Christ. As Doorkeepers, we meet, greet, direct, and make all who enter our church feel welcome with Christian warmth and kindness as servants of God. If you have the gift to serve, a warm smile, and a humble heart, the Ushers Ministry will be blessed to have you as a member.



## TRIBE OF JUDAH

**Deacon:** Deacon Derek Paige

**Sheepfold Leader:** Sis. Josephine Thomas

**Sheepfold Minister:** Reverend Linda Parker

**Tribe Meeting:** Every 1st Saturday @ 10:00am (Zoom 1)

We're excited to continue our courtyard beautification project this spring! As the Tribe of Judah enters our second season of planting, we look forward to filling the space with vibrant annual flowers of every variety. Since the courtyard serves as the first impression for visitors and our Canaan family, we are committed to making it a welcoming sight for all.

This year brings some exciting changes. We plan to plant hydrangeas—Pastor's favorite annual—near his office entrance, adding a special touch to that area. We are also thrilled to announce that the courtyard's maintenance will now be a collaborative effort among all tribes in the Sheepfold. This partnership with the Sheepfold Ministry will ensure our grounds remain beautifully maintained throughout the seasons.

We invite you to stop by the Narthex and admire the Tribe of Judah's handiwork on the armoire—another example of our commitment to enhancing our church's beauty.

## CONTACT US!

215-848-6811

INFO@CANAANBAPTIST.ORG

CANAANBAPTISTCHURCH.ORG

## Church Calendar

- 2nd Sunday - **Youth Sunday**
- 3rd Sunday - **Teen Outreach @ McDonalds**
- 4th Sunday - **Holy Communion**
- **Sunday School** - 8:15am every Sunday
- **Children's Sunday School** - 1st, 3rd, 4th Sundays
- **Pastor's Bible Study** - Tuesdays 6:45pm (Zoom 1)
- **Monthly Women's Bible Study** - Last Wednesday of the month 10-11:30am - Classroom #3)
- **Mature Adults Bible Study** - Thursdays 10am
- **Noon Day Prayer** -
  - Tues/Thurs/Fri 12:00pm (In Person - Chapel)
  - Wed. 12:00pm (Virtual - Zoom 1)
    - Structured Prayer - Wks. 1, 2 & 4
    - Open Prayer - Wks. 3 & 5

## Weekly Activities

- **Christian Legal Clinic** - 3rd Thursdays (by appt. only)
- **Exercise Class** - Tuesdays @ 11am / Wednesdays & Thursdays @ 7:15pm
- **12 Steps** - Wednesdays @ 7pm

## Upcoming Events

- 5/3 - **Men of Canaan, Men's Fellowship**, Shady Maple Smorgasbord, Contact: Trustees Herb Byrd & Emmett Mayo
- 5/17 10:00am - **Initial Sermon of Bro. Mark Trent**, Sanctuary
- 5/18 - **Stovall Taylor Book Scholarship Applications Due**, Contact: Sis. Valerie Johnson
- 5/18 3:30pm - **Usher's Annual Day**, Sanctuary
- 5/18 10:30am - **Women's Retreat Deposit Collection**, Multi-purpose Rm., Contact: Rev. Tanisha Davis

## Connecting/Prayer List/Giving

