Christian Boot Camp

For

Spiritual Development



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"A Place of Possibilities: A Holy Nation" Updated 10-26-19

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Know the Keys to Your Success...



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MODULE 1:

Getting to Know Your FAME Family!



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The people of FAME Church are a part of the Body of Christ which is commissioned to be a witness for Jesus Christ and help bring others to develop a personal relationship with God. We are ordinary people who have been called to do extraordinary things.

By accepting God's cleansing in our heart and asking Jesus to be our Lord and Savior, you are no longer the same. God can use us to carry out His will when we give ourselves to Him in service to others for the purpose of Kingdom Building.

The scripture states in II Corinthians 5:17, that "If anyone be in Christ, they are a new creation. Old things are passed away and all things become new!" The FAME Family is engaged by worship, witness, and walking in a path of true ministry.

The goal of the Christian Boot Camp for Spiritual Development is to equip each member for spiritual service in Kingdom Building in the ministry of FAME and to inform each person of services we offer as a church. In addition, you will receive scriptural foundations to ground your faith and strengthen your spiritual practices and call to walk with God.

We are one church in two locations believing that our God is an awesome God and FAME is a place of possibilities and we are a Holy Nation.

The Vision of the House

Effective Churches are led by Vision. Visionary Leadership has been defined as "the ability to see a clear, distinctive vision of a future reality that may not yet exist." It rests within the realm of possibilities of what could be.

Acts 2:42-47New Living Translation (NLT)

The Believers Form a Community

⁴² All the believers devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching, and to fellowship, and to sharing in meals (including the Lord's Supper), and to prayer.

⁴³ A deep sense of awe came over them all, and the apostles performed many miraculous signs and wonders. ⁴⁴ And all the believers met together in one place and shared everything they had. ⁴⁵ They sold their property and possessions and shared the money with those in need. ⁴⁶ They worshiped together at the Temple each day, met in homes for the Lord's Supper, and shared their meals with great joy and generosity ⁴⁷ all the while praising God and enjoying the goodwill of all the people. And each day the Lord added to their fellowship those who were being saved.

Community – All things Common

The community life of the believer is lived out in reciprocal relationships. You cannot experience the full measure of your church if you are not seeking to live with one another in

community. Genuine, authentic, transparent, and honest relationships are essential in order to live in community.

- 1. What parts of your life do you hold back from those who should know you best?
- 2. Is your church life experience more about rote duty that fills a spot, or Gospel joy that spills out on others?

Service – Distributing proceeds to all

Giving your life away with no expectation of anything in return is the heart of the Gospel. You are a steward (manager) of God's stuff rather than an owner of your stuff. And your stuff also includes you. You are not your own. (1 Corinthians 6:19-20)

- 1. As a member of the Body of Christ, we must learn to joyfully give ourselves away to our local church!
- 2. The vision of ministry is serving. We do this collectively as the Body of Christ within the church by joining a ministry group that is focused on Kingdom Building. It's not what is in your wallet but what is in your heart that motivates the favor of God. Collectively, the Body of Christ endears itself to sacrificial giving to advance his kingdom because if God has your heart the resources to do ministry will follow! What does sacrificial giving look like in your life?

Worship - Praising God

We are designed for worship. This is who we are and what we do. The vertical relationship between you and God is the first and greatest commandment of all. (Matthew 22:36-40) The degree of adoration and affection you have for God will determine how you live out your life in the context of your local church.

- 1. Our Sunday church meeting experience primarily is *intentionally* a celebration of the Father, Son, and Spirit which is our sole purpose.
- 2. We should endeavor to be characterized as a person of praise rather than a person lacking passion for God.

The Visionary of FAME Church is the Senior Pastor of the church. God has chosen him in this season in the life of FAME Church to lead the congregation in ministry and service and to help bring about an emerging spiritual, physical, emotional, and mental transformation of what our ministry can be. It is summed up in our *Vision Statement:*

We are a Christ-centered, welcoming community of faith to everyone. We are heart-driven, mission-oriented, evangelistic, and accountable to God first and also to each other.

Our Church Mission: What our church does and what are our core values?

Since vision has to do with the ability to see a preferred future in the realm of possibilities, the importance of Mission in the life of the church is of equal value and vitality. Simply defined,

Mission is understood as "what we exist to do." A church mission statement, then, defines the leadership's vision of congregational purpose and informs you if their vision is in line with God's purposes for your life.

The Mission Statement for FAME Church

To make disciples for Jesus Christ to transform our community and our world back to God.

It is rooted in scripture found in Matthew 28:19-20: "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the world."

This statement is known as the "Great Commission" statement that Jesus delivered to the Apostles after His resurrection from the dead and served as the purpose of why they were preaching of the gospel on the other side of the cross. Without a Mission, one is consigned to a life of existence without the understanding and deeper meaning of purpose in knowing "why am I here?" In the absence of purpose, one can easily be led down roads of obscurity and darkness without thoroughly examining themselves with the question, "Am I walking in the path of my purpose?"

FAME Church is guided by the purpose that was set forth Matthew 28:19-20, which commissions the church to be a church on the move inside and outside of the exterior walls of a church building. This is symbolic with Jesus' word to "Go." We are to be "teachers" with a global perspective of our spiritual reality and the gospel message, which is symbolic of Jesus' word to "teach all nations." We are to be a welcoming faith community to persons of all walks of life, which is symbolic in the words "baptizing them" as baptism represents how persons are incorporated into God's family through the mighty acts of salvation and given new birth through water and the spirit. The symbolic act of baptism is that it is an outward sign of the washing away of sin and clothing one in the righteousness of Christ. When we speak in the name of "Father, Son, and Holy Ghost," we are referring to whose authority we are under. The Christian Church operates under the authority of God who has further declared that the church is to assert a strong social awareness to its people that will have far reaching socio-political implications to uplift those who live in the margins and on the fringes of life. This is symbolic in the words "teach them to observe all things." The church must teach balance.

In Kingdom Building it is imperative that a believer knows what their Mission in life is. Take a moment to reflect on what God has called you to do and do not allow your fear of failure disrupt your mission!

WHAT DO YOU BELIEVE GOD IS CALLING YOU TO DO (your mission)?

I believe God is calling me in the following ways

Core Values

A commitment to values is an outstanding characteristic of all visionary leaders. Values can be defined as "things we hold dear" or as a system of beliefs that serve as guidelines of behavior for a group or community.

They embody a sense of personal integrity, and radiate a sense of energy, vitality and will. A person's will can, be defined as standing in a spiritual state of being. Will is a spiritual attribute, which allows a leader to stand for something. Alexander Hamilton once stated that "Those who stand for nothing fall for anything;" hence, it is important to have a sense of values that can serve as reminders of who you are to be and what you are to be about.

Core Values for FAME church are consistent with a person's own sense of core values. They can be found in Galatians 5:22, where Paul the Apostle describes the fruits of the spirit:

- Love
- Joy
- Peace
- Longsuffering
- Gentleness
- Goodness
- Faithfulness
- Meekness
- Temperance

Each of these attributes reminds us of what we should be about as a church and as representatives in the Body of Christ. FAME is also committed to:

- Empowerment of people
- Respect and Compassion for others
- Collaboration and promoting effective communication
- Stewardship of time, talents, treasury, and testimonies
- Positive solutions to promote best practices that are just and sustainable

Every successful person should be guided by core values. Ministry at First AME Church is guided by these four areas:

- Evangelism Communicating the Gospel
- Discipleship Developing Followers
- Commitment Developing Spiritual Practices
- Unity One Body in Christ

Each ministry at FAME Church is to carry out its programs focusing on the above areas.

Our Church History and the Ministries of FAME

Like many churches founded by African Americans in the 1800's, FAME was born out of the bosom of oppression, racial discrimination, and a desire to have freedom of worship. FAME's humble beginnings date back to 1886, when a few sons of daughters of former slaves purchased a house and lot on Jones Street (later to become 14th Ave), and named their church Jones Street Church, taking its name from the street in which it was located. This later became First AME Church and is recognized as the oldest African American church in the Pacific Northwest. Though founded by African Americans, FAME, as it is affectionately called, is open to all people regardless of race or socio-economic background; moreover, FAME has played a major role in advancing the cause of civil rights and social justice within the city of Seattle. Our second campus was opened on Easter Sunday 2003, and our current site was dedicated on the first Sunday in January 2015, by Bishop T. Larry Kirkland.

FAME has a civic presence in the community and is known to speak truth to power and exhibits a social and political consciousness to bring empowerment to the dispossessed and disenfranchised, which gives a voice to the unheard and liberation to the downtrodden. As such, FAME operates several non-profit to advance the cause and Mission of the church, which includes children, families, and the elderly.

The FAME Housing Corporation was founded in the 1960's to offer affordable housing to families and the elderly. This corporation owns three apartment complexes and provides 99 units of living in and around the Central Area.

FAME's Education Enhancement also began in the 1980's and provides learning and tutorial services for school-age youth from elementary through high school. Each of these programs are separate non-profits that are stand-alone programs that evolved out of First AME Church.

One of our recent acquisitions is the MLK FAME Community Center, located at 3201 E. Republican. The center offers a hub of services for youth and young adults. Space can also be rented out for special programs and community functions. The property was purchased in February 2011, at a cost of 2.4 million dollars.

Our church has served as a Winter Shelter during the winter months as well, but our newest nonprofit is the FAME Equity Alliance of Western Washington. This was established in partnership with Catholic Community Services with the intention of providing intentional affordable housing for people of color in the city of Seattle. This non-profit will be assisting the church in its future development ventures at our Seattle site and our South Campus site.

The ministries of FAME are widespread and varied, which gives many opportunities for members to serve and share their talents.

Opportunities to Serve at FAME

FAME offers its members many opportunities to serve in the ministry once a person has received proper training. Working with youth requires a background check and the completion of appropriate application forms. Each ministry has set schedules of their meeting times and meeting space and can be accessed through our church office, weekly bulletin schedule or newsletter and/or website information portals. The leadership encourages all members to become involved in at least one ministry in the church.

Growing Spiritually – Weekly Help Ministries

Spiritual practices are essential to developing a healthy spiritual appetite and life of balance. As such, every member is encouraged to enroll in a prayer group and/or Bible study. Currently, FAME offers three Prayer opportunities:

- Monday morning @ 6am Men's Prayer Group
- Wednesday 12 noon Noon Day Hour of Power
- Wednesday night @ 7-8pm Intercessory Prayer and Spiritual Encouragement Dial in: 1-515-603-3140 access code: 233902#

Bible Studies are offered three times a week:

- Wednesday night @ 7pm FAME South Campus
- Thursday @ 12 noon FAME Seattle
- Thursday @ 11:30 FAME South Campus
- On-line studies and teachings are being developed for 2020 FAME tool kit

Find the study or group that best fits your need and time schedule.

Worship at FAME and Who to Call

FAME Church offers three Worship Experience Services on Sunday.

- 7:30am Worship FAME Seattle campus
- 11am Worship FAME Seattle campus
- 9:30am Worship FAME South Campus 27616 46th Ave. South, Auburn, WA
- Our Radio Broadcast is each Sunday 3-4pm, on KYIZ 1620am listen online too!

Each service is unique in design and is led by either the Senior Pastor or one of the Associate Ministers.

Who to Call

For church operations to remain effective in service to our members, the church leadership has designed a systems resource bank to assist each person and family with various needs that they may have.

Baptisms Sickness Food Distribution Social Services Death Crisis Counseling and congregational Support Transportation Ministry for church services

206-324-3664 - FAME Church

THE MINISTRY OF STEWARDSHIP

Though it will be covered in a later module, our congregation is taught the principles of tithing. Tithing helps us with the practice of financial discipline, providing us with a management tool in handling our resources. Tithing also gives us a spiritual benefit - satisfaction in knowing God is pleased, opening new channels of prayer power and closeness with God. Take an inventory of what percentage of your income is dedicated to God and systematically encourage yourself to rise to the level of 10% in your gifts to God's church and the FAME ministry.

AFTER THOUGHTS FROM THIS MODULE

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