

**ISRAEL BAPTIST CHURCH**  
1251 Saratoga Avenue, NE  
Washington, DC 20018

**October—December 2024**  
**Volume 1, Issue 4**

## IBC QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

### Israel Baptist Church is Moving Forward

2024 has been a stellar year of “Moving Forward” for Israel Baptist Church. We give all glory to Jesus Christ Our Lord and Savior and thanks to all of our supportive members for our triumphs this year.

We officially began moving forward on Sunday, April 28, 2024, with the installation of then Pastor-Elect Lance T. Aubert, Sr., to the office of Pastor. Over the months since then, Pastor and First Lady Shawanda Price Aubert have worked faithfully leading and supporting the spiritual growth and well-being of congregation members and our community.

Our membership continues to grow. Fifteen people have joined and received the Right Hand of Fellowship since April. Our ministries are strong and committed to their missions. At present, we are working on a much-needed refurbishing project to revitalize our sanctuary. We launched a new initiative “Tuesday Night Talks” designed for members ranging in age between college up to 49 years of age.

Let’s all continue moving forward in 2025 united in our goals for IBC.



### Jesus Is The Reason For The Season

May these biblical verses related to Jesus’ birth fill your heart with peace and joy at this special time of year.

*“Today in the town of David, a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord.” - Luke 2:11*

*“For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.” - Isaiah 9:6*

*“The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.” - John 1:14*



**Rev. Lance T. Aubert, Sr.**  
**Pastor**

Pastor Aubert comes from a long line of laborers of the Gospel, and has been in ministry since 1991. Medically retired from the U.S. Army, he holds multiple degrees, including a Master of Theology from Houston Baptist University. Pastor Aubert and his wife, Shawanda Aubert, are the proud parents of five sons.

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**Debra Coleman (Church Clerk)**

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\* **IBC's Capital Campaign Refurbishing Project and Tuesday Night Talk** \*  
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**From the Desk of Pastor Lance T. Aubert, Sr.**

Dear IBC members and friends,

I'm excited to share an update on our Capital Campaign and its purpose. Our beloved sanctuary, a place of worship and fellowship for spiritual growth, needs to be refurbished for both our safety and comfort. This project is years past due and we are moving forward with it and invite you to be a part of a historic moment in the history of Israel Baptist Church through your generous support.

**OUR VISION:** A sacred space that inspires worship and fosters a deeper connection with God.

**OUR GOAL:** Raise \$350,000 to replace worn pews and carpeting throughout the sanctuary.

**IMPACT:** Your generous contributions will help enhance the beauty and comfort of our worship space and create a more welcoming and safer environment for all.

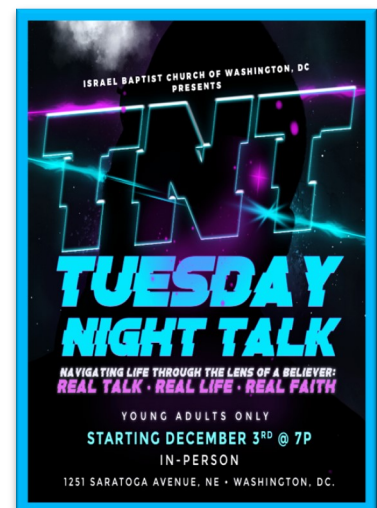
**PROJECT TIMELINE:** We anticipate the installation of new and comfortable benches and carpeting around mid-April 2025.

**HOW TO GIVE:** Cash, Check, or online using Givelify or PayPal. When you give a gift, please note that it is for the Capital Campaign.

**Tuesday Night Talks (TNT)**

We are excited to announce the launch of Tuesday Night Talks (TNT), which is a new initiative designed to help members ranging in age between college up to 49 years of age navigate life through the lens of a believer. Members will gather on the first and third Tuesday of each month in person for honest conversations with Pastor Aubert about real-life issues, to share experiences, grow in faith together, and encourage each other.

TNT is a special time of fellowship, learning, and spiritual growth. Contact Pastor Aubert if you have questions or wish to sign up.



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## IBC's Purchase-A-Pew Refurbishing Project

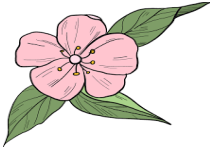
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As a part of IBC's Refurbishing Project, we will be replacing the old pews in the sanctuary with new and more comfortable pews. To help financially support this special project, church members, friends and local businesses can purchase personalized name plates for the pews that range from \$1,300 to \$2,600.

On site in the lobby of the church, members can view the "Purchase-A-Pew" diagram display. This project's targeted deadline is **April 30, 2025**.

For questions about this special project, please contact one of the following members:

- ◆ Trustee Beryl C. Johnson: (301) 702-1106 or at (202) 316-9744
- ◆ Trustee Geraldine Feaster Bethea: (240) 338-2546
- ◆ IBC Historian Joyce C. L. Strauss: (202) 832-7885
- ◆ IBC Clerk Debra B. Coleman: (202) 269-0288



### Ladies Powder Room Lounge Revitalized

The Ladies Lounge on the first floor was redecorated to provide a more relaxing setting for women in need of privacy or quiet space. Thanks very much to Minister Clara Balmer for leading this beautification project. She noted that former First Lady Bertha Shearin offered her assistance.



**A Recap of IBC's Fall Revival and Church Anniversary**

This year's three-day revival was led by the following guest ministers who spiritually revived us with inspiring messages of hope. Services were in person and virtual November 12-14, 2024.

- Bishop Anthony Maclin**, The Sanctuary at Kingdom Square
- Rev. Angelo Sullivan**, Mt. Jezreel Baptist Church
- Rev. Dr. Wallis Baxter, III**, Second Baptist Church

You can view the services via IBC's YouTube Channel or Facebook Page. On YouTube, search for [Israel Baptist Church – DC](#) and click on the revival service links.



**The Rev. Dr. Calvin Cage**, Pastor of Meridian Hill Baptist Church in Chapel Oaks, Maryland was the guest minister for our 144th Church Anniversary on November 17, 2024.

He thanked the members of Israel Baptist Church for being a beacon of hope and light in our community. Rev. Cage delivered a powerful sermon based on Acts 2: 1 *“When the day of the Pentecost came, they were all together in one place.”*

You can view the anniversary service via IBC's YouTube Channel or Facebook Page. On YouTube, search for [Israel Baptist Church – DC](#) and click on the video dated November 17, 2024.



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## Recap of IBC's Music Ministry News

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On Sunday, September 15, 2024, Pastor Aubert announced the appointment of Genece Atwater to the position of Music Director. Sister Atwater has faithfully served IBC's Music Ministry for many years, including working closely alongside her music mentor and IBC's former music director, the late Dr. Ola H. Gathers. Congratulations to Sister Atwater.



On Saturday, October 12, 2024, IBC's Music Ministry held a workshop for members of the Mass, Women's and Men's Choirs. Guest clinicians were Sis. Bonnie Burnett, Bro. Michael Frazier and Bro. Alexander Brown. The morning sessions focused on (1) Why We Serve, (2) Being a Music Minister, and (3) Praise & Worship. New music was introduced in the afternoon session followed with a full choir rehearsal. Thanks to Pastor and First Lady Shawanda for their support of this event.



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## IBC's Thanksgiving Community Service Projects

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Saturday, November 23, 2024, was an especially busy and productive day at IBC. Operating under the theme "Giving Back to the Community," IBC members coordinated several community service projects that uplifted the needs of our neighbors.

- ◆ **109 people** received a \$100 Giant Food gift card to do their own shopping for the foods they most enjoy at Thanksgiving.
- ◆ **75 to 100 people** received warm clothing through our Winter Clothing Drive. Coats, hats, gloves, scarves, blankets, throws, socks, and children clothes were distributed. While some clean and gently used coats were donated, the majority of winter items were newly purchased thanks to generous monetary donations from IBC members and ministries. In addition, a generous clothing donation valued at \$1,500 was given to IBC by Boscov's Department Store of Camp Hill, PA, where Minister Clarence Banks (brother of Sister Glenece Atwater) is the store manager.
- ◆ **44 turkeys** were distributed along with canned vegetables. Thanks very much to Union Market for donating 24 turkeys, and thanks to Rev. Roderick Moore who donated 20 turkeys through an organization with whom he is affiliated.

**THANK YOU to everyone who donated and helped distribute items.**



**Jesus Is The Reason For The Season**

We salute First Lady Shawanda Price Aubert for blessing us with her decorating talent. She made time in her schedule to beautify IBC with festive Christmas decorations and a lovely display of poinsettia plants for the sanctuary.



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**IBC's Family Christmas Celebration 2024**

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IBC's fun and festive celebration was on Saturday, December 7, 2024, at the Capital City Hall of Distinction. Sister Yvonne Burrus and Sister Maxine Wise coordinated the celebration. Thanks to them and everyone else who helped, including Dr. and Mrs. Anthony Jackson, for serving as the hosts of the event. The celebration included dinner, songs, dancing, youth games, and an Ugly Sweater Runway Contest. Everyone enjoyed the festivities.



Pastor Aubert and First Lady Shawanda



Anthony and Asiah Jackson





**IBC's Youth Christmas Presentation 2024**

Many of IBC's young members participated in a Christmas skit on Sunday, December 8, 2024, during the worship service. As part of the skit, each youth expressed their desire for material Christmas gifts like games, money, cell phones, and more. But then, they realized through scripture that Christmas is about celebrating the birth of Jesus and that is the greatest gift of all to the world. They concluded the skit by singing Silent Night. Thanks to all adults who worked with our young members to prepare them for the skit.



**Join Us In-Person for Watch Night Service on New Year's Eve**



IBC is having an in-person Watch Night service on Tuesday, December 31, 2024, from 7—8:15 PM. Please come out and join us in celebration of faith, community and perseverance as we rejoice and look ahead to the New Year 2025 with praise and worship, prayer, and preaching.