

# FREEDOM CHURCH INTERNATIONAL Newsletter

BACK  
TO  
SCHOOL  
EDITION

AUGUST  
2025





# FREEDOM CHURCH INTERNATIONAL

**YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY**

Wednesdays at 7 p.m.

**STUDENT MINISTRY**

Wednesdays at 6 p.m.

**CELEBRATE RECOVERY**

Thursdays at 6:15 p.m.

Worship Service

EVERY SUNDAY AT 10 A.M.

Nursery &amp; Children's Activities

## A message from... *Our Pastor*

August is always a very important month at Freedom Church, and that will be the case again this year. Throughout the first three weeks of August, you will have an opportunity during Sunday morning worship to sign up to participate in an adult small group this fall. Our small groups meet on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings, and our ladies-only small groups meet on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings. These groups truly comprise “the other half” of belonging to Freedom Church. Sunday morning worship is great, but we have not fully connected to the church until we take the step of connecting to a small group.

Our small groups meet weekly for two hours at a time. The meeting times are divided into three roughly equal parts. The first third of the meeting is a very unstructured time of eating and talking together. The middle third of the meeting is a more structured share and prayer time. And the final third of the meeting is a very discussion-oriented time of Bible study related to the sermon from the previous Sunday.

I can say from more than 25 years of experience in these kinds of groups that the small group experience is where we transition from “going to a church” to “belonging to a church family.” This is where walls come down and deep relationships develop. I hope that you will make plans to participate in a small group this fall. Please take a minute to fill out a small group sign-up card (located in the seatbacks in the worship room) and drop it in the offering plate during worship. **Our small group meetings will begin the week of August 17<sup>th</sup>.**

On that same day, we will celebrate Freedom Church's 13<sup>th</sup> anniversary! That day will also be Vision Sunday at Freedom. I hope that you can join us as we recall and celebrate what God has done over the past 13 years and as we consider what He is calling us to do in the months and years ahead.

Finally, I want to say how proud I am of you for the amazing level of generosity that was shown to Pastor Isaiah and God's Standard Bible Church with the love offering back on July 20<sup>th</sup>. On that day, we were able to give a gift of more than \$24,700 to support the ongoing ministry and church-planting efforts of Pastor Isaiah & Mama K and of GSBC. That was, by far, the largest one-day love offering that we have ever received! Thank you for being the loving and generous family that you are! Together, we are making a difference.



You Are Loved,  
Mark

# GUEST RELATIONS TEAM MEETING

Sunday, August 10<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 a.m.



As we kick off a brand new season of serving, we invite you to a brief Guest Relations Team meeting on Sunday, August 10th, immediately following the morning worship service. We'll gather in the Grace Room for a short discussion and a quick signup for the upcoming season. In addition to joining us, we encourage each of you to bring someone else from church who may be looking for a place to plug in. **Guest Relations is a great way to get involved and make meaningful connections**, and we would love to welcome some new faces to the team! Thank you for your faithfulness and the warmth you bring to every Sunday. Your service creates the first impression for many who are just starting to seek God - it matters more than you know. We hope to see you there!

# CELEBRATE RECOVERY NIGHT OF PRAISE & TESTIMONY

Thursday, August 28<sup>th</sup> at 6:15 p.m.

Join us for a powerful evening of hope, healing, and worship at our Celebrate Recovery Night of Praise & Testimony! This special night will feature heartfelt worship and a moving testimony from our very own Nancy Emmons, who will share how Christ has brought her through the Celebrate Recovery principles to find freedom from her hurts, habits, and hang-ups.

Whether you're on your own recovery journey or just want to be encouraged by God's transforming grace, this is a night you won't want to miss. Come early for a **free meal at 6:15 p.m.**, then stay for a time of **worship, testimony, and community beginning at 7:00 p.m.** *Childcare will be provided.*

Bring a friend, and come expectant...  
**Jesus still sets people free!**



# CALENDAR

AUGUST 2025

3-17  
SUN-SUN

**SMALL GROUP SIGN-UP**  
Fill out a card from the chair pocket.

10  
SUN

**COMMUNION**  
10:00 a.m. Worship Room  
**GUEST RELATIONS TEAM MEETING**  
11:30 a.m. Grace Room

17  
SUN

**VISION SUNDAY & 13<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY**  
10:00 a.m. Worship Room

**KIDS' WORLD "MOVE UP" DAY**  
New school year, new classes!

**CORE TEAM & GROUP LEADERS MEETING**  
3:30 p.m. Grace Room

18  
MON

**SMALL GROUP MEETINGS BEGIN**  
Check with your group leader about starting time and meeting place.

28  
THUR

**CR NIGHT OF PRAISE & TESTIMONY**  
Dinner at 6:15 p.m., Worship at 7:00 p.m.

## KIDS WORLD | NEWS & UPDATES

Happening this month...

Hello everyone! We hope you've had a fun and refreshing summer, full of God's goodness and family time. As we turn the page into a new season, we're excited to announce that the **Move-Up Date for Kids World will be August 17th**. This is a big milestone for many of our children as they transition into new classes, and we're looking forward to walking alongside them every step of the way. As the new school year begins, we are praying for each and every one of you—especially our students, parents, and teachers. May this year be filled with growth, joy, peace, and divine protection. We ask God to cover your children in His grace and guard their hearts and minds as they step into their classrooms this fall.

We are also thrilled to share that Kids World is growing! With that growth comes the beautiful opportunity to serve. If you've ever felt a tug on your heart to invest in the next generation, now is a great time to get involved. Whether it's rocking babies, teaching a lesson, or just being an extra pair of hands, your presence can make a big difference. If you're [interested in helping](#) in this important ministry, **please see Sabrina—she'd love to talk with you**. To our current volunteers: thank you! Your kindness, consistency, and love for our children do not go unnoticed. You are planting seeds that will grow into strong faith and joyful hearts, and we are truly grateful for all that you do.

And finally, it's never too early to think about **Christmas** - especially when there's a program involved! Our Christmas Program practice will begin in September, so be on the lookout for more information coming soon. Thank you for being a part of our Kids World family. Let's keep praying, serving, and growing together!



## A CALL TO SERVE

Helping Families in Need

Scripture reminds us of **our calling to care for widows and the fatherless**, and one of the most impactful ways we can live that out is by sharing the gifts God has already placed in our hands. Whether it's your time, your skills, or your resources, what you have to offer can be a lifeline to someone in need.

Simple acts- like repairing a leaky faucet, changing a car's oil, or helping with household projects- can become powerful expressions of God's love. **These small but meaningful gestures bring hope**, comfort, and practical support to families navigating life without a husband or father. When we serve in love, we remind others they are not alone- and that the Church is here to help carry the load.

If you feel called to serve, or if your family could use help, please **reach out to Bob Shotlander** at [shotsy80@hotmail.com](mailto:shotsy80@hotmail.com) or call (251) 367-3166. Let's be the hands and feet of Christ, together.

*"... your presence can make a big difference."*





## YOUNG ADULTS MINISTRY UPDATE

*Growing in Faith, Fun, and Fellowship*

Our Young Adults ministry has had an incredible summer of connection, growth, and celebration! In **May**, we kicked things off by personally inviting our graduating seniors to join us for the first time- welcoming them into a new season of spiritual community and support. It's been a joy to watch them plug in, build friendships, and step into a more active role in the life of the church.

**June** brought a whole new level of fun and bonding with a trip to TopGolf, as well as separate girls' and guys' nights- the girls bounced their hearts out at the trampoline park, while the guys headed to the racetrack in Gulf Shores for some fast-paced fun.

**July** was packed with summertime fellowship. We hosted a BBQ and Pool Party on July 2nd, then gathered again on the Fourth of July to watch fireworks together at the pier. These casual moments of fun have helped forge deeper connections within the group and reminded us how vital church community truly is.

To top it all off, our **YA Retreat will take place July 31st through August 2nd** on beautiful Dauphin Island. We're expecting a meaningful time of worship, laughter, prayer, and vision-setting for the months ahead.

One of the greatest highlights of the summer was witnessing the **baptism of Abby Harris**, one of our young adults. Moments like this are a beautiful reminder of why we gather- to grow closer to Jesus and walk alongside one another in life and faith.

If you're a young adult looking for a place to belong, grow, and serve...  
we'd love for you to join us!  
There's room for you, just as you are.

And to our more seasoned church family members: we are grateful for your continued prayers as these young adults navigate such a formative season of life. Even **something as simple as saying hello, offering a word of encouragement, or sharing a cup of coffee can make a big impact.** Let's continue to create a church culture where generations connect, support one another, and grow together in Christ.



## RECEPTION FOR PASTOR ISAIAH KADIRI

*A Beautiful Day of Worship and Generosity*

On July 20th, our church family came together for a powerful and joy-filled day as we welcomed Pastor Isaiah. The love offering received that day will go a long way in supporting the ongoing efforts of furthering God's Kingdom. What a joy it is to be part of a church that loves deeply, gives generously, and serves with open hands.

We want to extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone who helped make the day so special. Our worship and media teams led us with excellence and grace, setting the tone for a meaningful time of praise and connection. A big thank you also goes out to all the volunteers who helped with the reception-decorated, served, and brought food. Your hospitality made our guest feel honored and welcomed, making a lasting impact.

### BIBLE READING PLAN

AUGUST 1-9

1 John 4-5;  
2 John; 3 John;  
Jude; Revelation 1-4

AUGUST 10-16

Revelation 5-11

AUGUST 17-23

Revelation 12-18

AUGUST 24-31

Revelation 19-22;  
John 1-4



“... a heartfelt thank you...”






## There's an App for Freedom!

**A Better Way To:**

- stay informed of events with the **calendar**
- schedule a **tithe** or make a one-time offering
- share a **prayer** request
- chat with members and leaders in your **group**
- **contact** staff and ask questions
- follow along with the **Bible Reading Plan**
- link to **sermons**

Scan the QR code or click [HERE](#) to get the new Church Center app.






## Titithing

ONLINE GIVING OPTIONS

Did you know you can tithe online? If you would like to give in a digital form, please click [HERE](#) or scan the QR code.



## Sermon Library

LISTEN TO PAST SERMONS

If you are going to miss church, be sure to check out Pastor Mark's sermon by clicking [HERE](#).



Nigeria Overseers Pastor Isaiah Kadiri and Mama K (Christiana)

### FAIRHOPE STAFF

Pastor..... Mark Price

Worship and Young Adult Pastor.....Faith Chatten

Associate Pastor.....John Beck

Student Pastors..... Stone and Caroline Keener

Children's Pastor.....Lyn Davison

Preschool Pastor..... Sabrina Ankerson

Recovery Pastors..... John and Salley Beck

Online Media Engineer.....Dave Wilson

Sound Engineer.....Nick Wilson

Ministry Assistant.....Joanna Sides

### NIGERIA STAFF

Nigeria Campus Overseer.....Apostle Isaiah Kadiri

Sapele Campus.....Pastors Ezekiel & Favour

Lagos 1 Campus.....Pastors Alex & Favour

Lagos 2 Campus..... Pastors Francis & Perfect

Idah 1 Campus.....Pastors Joel, Simon, and Joseph

Idah 2 Campus.....Pastors Attah and Phillip

Agenebode.....Pastor Emmanuel

Benin City..... Pastors Gabriel and Jonathan

### ELDERS

John Beck	Chris Perry
Nancy Emmons	Mark Price

### TRUSTEES

Mike Sappington (Treasurer)	Randy Parkison
Tony Maniscalco	Ken Quattlebaum
Rick Miller	



# FREEDOM

CHURCH INTERNATIONAL

Loving God. Loving People. Serving the World.

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