



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT *Tracy Nicolle Thornton-Lewis*
Director of Communications, Marketing and Media
(602) 258-1998 extension 2208
tlewis@fibcaz.org

HOPE 4 HOUSTON BENEFIT CONCERT AT FIBC

Houston native & Gospel Recording Artist Maurice Griffin to minister in support of relief efforts

PHOENIX, ARIZONA September 5, 2017 - First Institutional Baptist Church will welcome Gospel Recording Artist, **Houston native** and *BET Sunday Best Finalist* **Maurice Griffin** as part of "**Hope 4 Houston,**" a **Harmonies for Hope Concert Event supporting Hurricane Harvey relief efforts on Sunday, September 10, 2017 at 4:00 p.m.** Griffin has been invited to FIBC in the past and is joining us as part of the annual *Harmonies for Hope Music Workshop and Concert.* "*In the wake of Hurricane Harvey I saw fit to change the focus on Harmonies for Hope to Hope for Houston,*" said FIBC Minister of Music Brenda Hankins. "*Our Senior Pastor, Dr. Warren H. Stewart, Sr. wants to help the people out Southeast Texas and Southwest Louisiana in a tangible way and what is better than a musical event that will bring the community together.*"

Griffin will teach a series of songs for the concert on Thursday, Friday and Saturday ahead of the Sunday concert along with special dance clinicians **April Hawkins** of Fountain of Life Church in Phoenix and **Bobby Jones** of Friendship Baptist Church in Tucson. Griffin will minister on Sunday morning at First Institutional during both the 7:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. worship services. Entry to the concert is free and a special offering will be taken in support of Hurricane Harvey flood survivors and relief efforts. Those who cannot attend the concert are encouraged to make a donation by visiting www.fibcaz.org and clicking on the link below the "Hope 4 Houston" banner on the main page.

As the oldest African-American Baptist Church in Phoenix, First Institutional, located at 1141 East Jefferson Street in downtown Phoenix, continues its tradition of being a beacon of hope in our community by providing services through ministries like Friday Night Outreach and FIBCO Family Services, Inc. to anyone in need. We are meeting physical and spiritual needs while fulfilling our Vision and Purpose of "*becoming a discipling fellowship through evangelism and emancipation*" as "*members of the body of Christ, believing and living, going and growing, sharing and caring as active witnesses of the kingdom of God on Earth,*" under the direction of our Senior Pastor and Arizona Civil Rights leader, Dr. Warren H. Stewart, Sr.

For more information on Hope 4 Houston and all media inquiries please contact Tracy Thornton-Lewis, Director of Communications, Marketing and Media.

###