

Tanya Phillips

While Tanya Phillips is a new member at New Song, she and her two children are certainly not new faces.

Tanya grew up in the neighborhood and attended Frederick Douglass High School. She started attending the church regularly roughly two years ago after her daughter Nala lost her father.

Although she had been at another church, she wanted to be part of a smaller church with a warmer atmosphere where she was only judged by God. “I felt the need for closeness with God for me and my children,” she said. Now, two years later, she has found a permanent home at New Song.

“I’m actually learning God’s Word,” she said. “The sermons are like ‘Wow!’ I just feel like I am learning and my children are learning.” Tanya’s two children, Donavin, 15, and Nala, 8, are regular volunteers with children’s church and are seen helping out with worship. Now that she has joined, Tanya said she is looking forward to doing more things at the church.

At any point you can find her helping out with the children or bringing food to monthly meals. Tanya loves to cook, and her specialties are macaroni and cheese and meatballs. She also makes jewelry in her spare time, including necklaces and bracelets.

In addition to joining the church recently, Tanya and her family have also had two other major things to celebrate. She just bought her first home, located in East Baltimore, in February. She also graduated from Coppin State College with a bachelor’s degree in family studies. She is considering going back to get her master’s degree in social work.

Looking back at the busy time in her life, Tanya said she is amazed at how God brought her through. “Going to school and being a full time mother is hard,” she said. “But it is by faith that I have come through this.” In some ways, living by faith is her life motto, as Tanya reminds herself that every day she has to apply her faith in everything she does.

Tanya also loves to help people and gets to do that often in her job as a Resident Services Coordinator for Housing Opportunities Unlimited in Anne Arundel County. Prior to that, she taught Head Start for eight years.

“I love helping people! It makes me feel good knowing that I can help others with the gifts God has given me.”