

FMBC's special guest for this evening, <u>Matthew Whitaker</u>, is a national recording artist and a teen piano prodigy who just happens to be blind. His first album, "Outta the Box", recently released, is charting nationally, like a bullet. For the last two years, Matthew has been the organist at New Hope Baptist Church in Hackensack New Jersey. He's toured Europe, the Middle East and Asia. He heads his own publishing company with ASCAP Matthew Whitaker LLC and enjoys endorsement deals with Hammond and Yamaha. Matthew is already being widely compared to Stevie Wonder. In December 2016 when he was a winner on the Showtime at the Apollo TV program, the host, Steve Harvey, proclaimed him Matthew "Stevie Wonder" Whitaker! "He was also a recent guest on the Ellen Show (<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R1kC9-zleOQ">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R1kC9-zleOQ</a>).