

The Herald



Union Chapel Missionary Baptist Church
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Huntsville, AL 35811

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In This Issue...

From the Pastor's Pen	2	We Celebrate You	3
New Members	3	Church History	4
Church History Facts	3		



The Herald is a monthly publication of Union Chapel Missionary Baptist Church. Members are encouraged to submit all newsworthy articles by the 20th of the month to newsletter@unionchapel-hsv.org. All articles are subject to editing for clarity and grammatical correctness.



From the Pastor's Pen...

“The Power of the Local Church”

Each year the month of August is a time for special celebration here at Union Chapel Missionary Baptist Church. All month long we will be praising, worshipping, and thanking God for our glorious history. We'll be participating in various activities and events that allow us time to fellowship; and thank God for all He has done for us over the past nine decades.

We are a Church with a rich history, and a Church that has been faithful on this progressive journey for all these years. Yes, we are celebrating our 90th year of existence as a local church. I have had the privilege to serve this local congregation for almost 35 years. Mother Dora Davis, myself, and our three sons thank God for the opportunity to serve, and be a part of this Church family.

As we gather this year, it is my hope and prayer that we all realize what a privilege it is to stand on the shoulders of many great warriors. Christians who took off on this great pilgrimage, by faith, before many of us were born. Let us never forget that it is our duty to continue on this “Progressive Journey” that they started so many years ago.

As I look back over the years I thought about that we were full of zeal, with a deep desire to please God. We were young, saved, learning, growing, and full of the Holy Ghost. With joy we went about doing the work of the local Church, daily. It is my belief that in order to do the ministry effectively, and successfully, the local church must be a group of born again, organized, baptized believers; who are committed to growing in their relationship to Jesus Christ. Moreover, they must be sharpening the gifts bestowed upon them by the Holy Spirit, and in unity utilize those gifts to do the work of the local church. The Bible clearly teaches us that in order for this to happen, we must be on one accord, caring, and sharing with each another. Beloved above all, loving one another; so they can do the ministry of the local assembly.

Brothers and sisters, that is what made Union Chapel unique for about 25 years. We were growing in Christ, learning more about Christ, and doing what Christ told us to do when He went back to glory to take a seat at the right hand of the Father. As I reflect upon those precious years, it was truly an exciting and priceless season. **BROTHERS AND SISTERS, THE POWER OF GOD IS STILL IN THE LOCAL CHURCH!**

You might be asking yourself what happened, and why are we not in that place at the present time? The answer is found in Matthew 28:19-20, and the study of God's Word.

“Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.”

That's the answer, “Go Ye,” teaching, and helping people observe everything Jesus commanded us to do. Simply put, there are three things in that verse that must be done in order for the local Church to be successful. “Go ye” is your evangelism, “Teaching” is your education, and “Observe everything” is helping them to understand everything Jesus told us to do; that is your edification. I love it! That's the 3Es of the local Church. If we can embrace the 3Es we are on our way to a bigger and brighter day in Jesus Christ; through His local church. **THE POWER OF GOD IS STILL IN THE LOCAL CHURCH!**

The potential of the local church is more than I can understand. But I can certainly tell you this, “the local church is the hope of the world.” Well, I believe that we are on the threshold of a great spiritual awakening, a quickening, a time in the near future when God will make us truly alive to His will and His way. I truly believe that once we re-commit ourselves to doing the work of the local church, and do those things that God told us to do, we will experience something truly empowering and astonishing. Oh yes! “The best is yet to come, The half hadn't been told” concerning what God will do for us in the future.

In the past six months, I have felt that we were standing right outside of your door and here recently I had a strong inkling that not only myself, but many of you were knocking on that same door. Beloved, I can feel it in my spirit, it won't be long before God does more than just open the door. I think He's going to tear it down! I have Glory to His Name!!

Jesus says in Mark 12:30-31 “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength. The second is this ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no greater commandment than these.”

Finally, I declare that God will be glorified and the chains of oppression from the evil one will be broken.

In Romans 15:13 it says “Our hope comes from God. May He fill you all with joy and peace because of your faith in Him. May your hope grow stronger by the power of the Holy Spirit.” Amen! Amen!!

~Dr. O. Wendell Davis

New Members

We welcome you, with the joy of the Lord, to the Union Chapel Missionary Baptist Church family! It is our prayer that your faith will be strengthened as we learn and grow together. We invite you to explore the ministries of the church and ask God to show you where He wants you to get connected. We are truly excited you are here.

Aiden Jeremiah Baker

Ryanne Lee

Carl P. Dorsey

Aubrey Ann McGuire

Rita Yvonne Williams

We Celebrate You...



Congratulations to Amber N. Martin, who recently received her PhD in Health Behavior from University of Alabama - Birmingham School of Public Health.

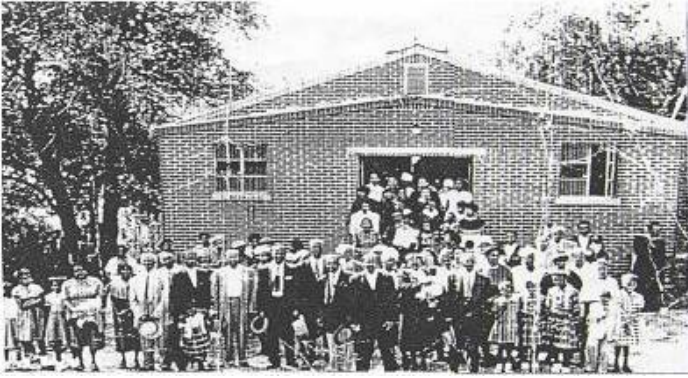
Dr. Martin is currently a licensed counselor in the State of Alabama, a research scientist at CorEvitas, project consultant at the University of San Francisco on Structural Racism in Healthcare and the owner of WellWithin. WellWithin provides education and resources to fight against mental health stigma and foster collective healing.

Dr. Martin is the daughter of Sister Margarette and Minister Lennon Martin, and the sister of Kennon and Benjamin Martin.

Church History Facts

Looking Back Thirty Years - Sixtieth Homecoming and Church Anniversary of the Union Chapel Missionary Baptist Church, 100 Orange Drive, NW, Huntsville Alabama 35810. Theme: "Serving the Lord is a Family Affair" – Joshua 24:15. Sunday, August 15, 1993. O. Wendell Davis, Pastor. G.L. Gist, Associate Pastor. Early Worship Service - 7:45 a.m.; Youth Worship Service - 10:00 a.m.; Mid-Morning Service - 11:00 a.m. Sunday School - 9:15 a.m. Following are highlights from the Services and the Historical Summary: **7:45 a.m.** - Devotion – Deacons & Other Brethren; Altar Call - Minister Horace Allen, Jr.; Message - Pastor Gregory Haygood, Pilgrim Baptist Church, South Bend, Indiana. **10:00 a.m.** – Call to Worship – Minister Archie Morris, II, Presiding. Welcome/Occasion – LaToya Beale. Period of Meditation – "What do you tell the children? Let the children speak." Joshua 4:1-24: Commitment – Rochelle Conley; Obedience – Stacey Pleasure; Faith – Tasheia Ector; Love – Desmond Rice; Summary – Jacinta Tibbs. **11:00 a.m.** – Devotion – Mothers Lucille Jones and Leona Miller, Sisters Gail Epps, Ann Erskine, Bettye Pope, Maggie Reed, Betty Showers and Elizabeth Thomas. Welcome – Sister Brenda Mallard. Occasion/History – Sister Lamurel Richardson. Recognition of Visitors & Courtesy - Sister Mildred Blackshear. Responsive Reading - Sister Tonita Phipps. Altar Call – Sister Dorothy Moore. Reflections - Sister Diane Boone. Message - Pastor Davis. **Historical Summary: "To God Be the Glory!"** – Through the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we have been blessed by the visions of our leaders. We must continue to strive to carry out the great mission of unity as we move forward on a progressive journey through spiritual power at Union Chapel, where **"Everybody is Somebody, and Jesus Christ is Head!"**

Church History



1958

530 Gardner Street; Sanctuary initiated under the leadership of the founder, **Pastor O.D. Boone**, was completed by **Pastor L.F. Lacy**.

1969

Sept 3rd, services were held at **100 Orange Drive** under the leadership of **Pastor L.F. Lacy**.



1982

April 11th: a new educational complex was added to the **100 Orange Drive** location under the leadership of **Pastor L. F. Lacy**. The building included a gym, day-care center, classrooms and church office space. In 1995, an expansion of the educational complex to include additional classroom space, upper level and conversion of the gym to a larger sanctuary space was completed under the leadership of **Pastor O. Wendell Davis**.

2002

Pastor O. Wendell Davis conducted the first service at the **315 Winchester Road** location on January 6, 2002. The edifice totals 55,000 square ft. and includes a 1,500 seat sanctuary, classrooms, church administrative offices, library, fellowship hall with commercial kitchen, basement, baseball field and picnic area.

