UNSUNG HEROES

Telling Our Stories
Department of Religious Education

Fire Baptized Holiness Church of God of the Americas, Incorporated
In this world of athletes and actors who are revered as heroes, there stands apart those unsung heroes, who, with their quiet strength, wisdom, and courage, have made innumerable contributions in the Fire Baptized Holiness Church.

They have done more to shape this church than one could imagine. The stories of the trailblazers contained in this book do not have a single narrative, but contain common threads of resilience and perseverance. Although many are gone on to be with the Lord, there are umpteen others that continue to carry the torch.

The Department of Religious Education is extremely pleased to present this edition of Unsung Heroes.

We extend a special thank you to all the individuals that helped to make this project possible.

Please know that we would not have made it without your prayers, support, encouragement, and the information you submitted.

We view this project as a work in progress. You can submit additional Unsung Hero stories at any time. We plan to post at least two stories in the next edition of the True Witness.

Dr. E.D. Lawson  
1st Episcopal Diocese

Sister Janice R. Jones  
2nd Episcopal Diocese

Sister Litrea Hunter  
3rd Episcopal Diocese
INTRODUCTION

An unsung hero can be defined as a person who does great deeds and receives little or no recognition for them or a person whose bravery is unknown or unacknowledged.

There are countless Unsung Heroes in our church! You can find them in every arena (local or national) and ministry of this grand ole Fire Baptized Holiness Church. They have laid foundations and left their foot prints in the sands of time.

These unsung heroes are shining examples of individuals who strengthened the church through extraordinary everyday acts of service who never looked for recognition. They gave from an abundance of God’s love that others might know Christ.

We pause to salute and reflect on the contributions these heroes have made to the rich fabric that makes up the Fire Baptized Church. There are many untold stories that reveal the best of these members who stepped up when duty called, to make their church a better place to serve.

Some of the individuals in this presentation are well known because of the positions they hold in our church. We are identifying them as “unsung” because of their “behind the scenes” acts of kindness, service, and support.

Our goal is to showcase the selfless acts of service and dedication to God’s people and His church by our heroes. We pray that you are inspired by and encouraged to write and tell your story.
Unsung Heroes

Our Stories

Bishop William Edward Fuller Sr. Founder of the Fire Baptized Holiness Church of God of the Americas, Incorporated.

Stepped out like Moses to join the FBH Association as the only “colored” among them. Stepped out in a time in history where segregation and racism were “normal”. Stepped out when “holiness”, entire sanctification, and the baptism of the Holy Ghost was ridiculed and scoffed.

Walked nine miles to have church with two members..... Untold acts of bravery, countless sacrificial moments.....

Bishop W.E. Fuller Jr. was truly a servant of Christ, a teacher, a preacher, a visionary, an administrator, and a friend to all. As a young child he was inspired by the ministry and was often found preaching the funeral of dead chickens, cats, and dogs.

His dedication to the FBH church is beyond documentation! He guided the church as bishop for 49 years with sternness, but in love. We will remember Bishop Fuller as a prolific thinker and a man of many words.

His powerful words still resonate today as in this excerpt copied from "Gospel Echoes", The Northeast Ohio District Newsletter, May 1959.

“Let us hold on to this great church and work untiringly that we may hear the words coming from the Master of men, the Captain of our Salvation, the One who sprinkled shining rays of sparkling sunshine across the bosom of a fleeing day and one who drives His chariot across the highway of centuries, say, ‘Well done thou good and faithful servant, thou hast been faithful over a few things, now I will make you ruler over many.’”

Dr. Anne W. Fannin is a woman of dignity, grace, and wisdom. Dr. Fannin earned a Ph.D. from Atlanta University with advanced study in Guidance and Student Personnel. She is the former Principal of Southwest High School in Atlanta, Georgia.

Dr. Fannin was chosen as the Bronze Women of the Year in Education in Atlanta, Georgia. She was cited by the House of Representative – Georgia Legislative for Outstanding Leadership in Education. She has been featured in the Calendar of Atlanta Black History, and recognized as Outstanding Leadership for Blacks in Higher Education. Dr. Fannin was selected as a key participant in the First Georgia Forum for
Women Administrators in Higher Education. She is a member of Fuller’s Memorial Tabernacle Atlanta Georgia and currently serves as the Executive Secretary to the Board of Bishops.

Dr. Fannin is a blessing to the church and the people of God. Much of her work is completed quietly with little fanfare. Dr. Fannin, we appreciate you!

Sister Ola Mae Terrell was born August 8, 1911 in Atlanta Georgia. She was a gifted composer who stood on street corners sharing the gospel of Christ. As a Fire Baptized Holiness singer, she inspired and encouraged many. She was affectionately referred to as the “Wandering Holy Ghost Preacher”.

It has been said that Evangelist Terrell would sing and as the crowd gathered, Bishop W.E. Fuller Sr. would preach the gospel.

Many fondly remember her playing the guitar during conventions as she handed out one dollar bills, and while doing so, it was not uncommon for her to share memories she had of Bishop W. E. Fuller Jr. when he was an infant. She passed away in 2006.

Elder Robert Leonard Fields was born December 14, 1932 to the late Joseph L. & Beatrice Holley Fields in Cleveland, Ohio. He was the third of five children and was educated in the Cleveland Public School System.

Elder Fields was saved, sanctified, and filled with the Holy Ghost in 1942 at Athens F.B.H. Church under the pastorate of the Late Elder U.B. Bobo.

He was assigned to pastor churches in Cleveland, Pittsburgh, Akron, and Youngstown. God blessed Reverend Fields and he became the Elder of the Northeast Ohio District. Elder Fields served his district well. He was an articulate man of great integrity; one that loved his church and the Northeast Ohio District. The Lord called his servant home on May 12, 2009 and Northeast is grateful to have served under such outstanding leadership.

Elder Gilbert L. Hardy Sr. was born to Brother Will and Reverend Sister Britt Martin Hardy in the month of October in Gadsden, Alabama. Elder Hardy is married to Sister Jessie M. Hardy and is the father of 11 children.

Elder Hardy began his journey with the FBH Church as a youth in 1949 under the leadership of his Pastor and Elder, Elder J.D. Goodbread Sr. at Zion Temple FBH Church in Gadsden, Alabama. He served in many capacities in the church including: HYPU President, Junior Deacon, and Deacon.
Elder Hardy’s mother and father were strong advocates of the FBH Church. His mother was a local minister and supported the church in any way that she could. As a young person, it was instilled in Elder Hardy that God and the church were first and if the church had a need it should be taken care of. His mother was a giver and always made sure that the needs of the Bishop as well as the District Officials were met when they visited Zion Temple. Elder Hardy, like his mother continues the tradition of giving, loving, and being committed to the FBH Church.

Zion Temple was initially a block building with a wood floor that had cracks which showed the outside underneath. There was no indoor plumbing or toilets in the church when Elder Hardy became a member. As an HYPU President, Elder Hardy was responsible for placing a hard wood floor in the church and providing adequate lighting. His love for the church inspired him to implement change for the better. He continues to work tirelessly today.

“One of the most exciting experiences that happened to me when I accepted Christ was a phenomenal encounter with the Lord. I was transported from the back of the church to the front of the church as if on an escalator. At the time that I accepted Christ, there were no escalators. Later in life, I had the opportunity to ride on an escalator, which brought back that phenomenal experience..... I am a stronger person for all of the events that I have experienced as a member of this great church...” Today finds me as excited as I was in 1949 about the goodness of the Lord. I retired as Elder in 2012 and I am currently a Pastor at St. John FBH Church in Anniston, Alabama under the leadership of Elder Quinton L. Hughley. I am enjoying Jesus, Hallelujah”.

**Elder David S. Pinckney** worked diligently in this FBH Church and exemplified a life of continual service for more than 60 years. He began his service as a deacon in Atlanta, Georgia. He served as pastor for 48 years. He presided as Ruling Elder for 29 years. He served the following districts as Elder:

- Southeast Georgia
- Northeast Georgia
- Tennessee
- South Carolina #2
- Western North Carolina
- Southwest Ohio

Elder Pinckney served the church with a family of five (5) children. “Sometimes the way was very, very dark and the Saints did not want us because we had little children. But the Lord had called me to go and preach the gospel; it was sanctioned by the church, so I had to go.”

He continues to be an inspiration to all who know him. His legacy lives on through the church and his loving family.

**Elder J.B. Thomas** served as Ruling Elder of the Southeast Georgia District for 16 years. He has been saved for over 60 plus years. He has been married close to 70 years.

He has been faithful to the Lord and to the Southeast Georgia District. He’s a very humble man, one that loves the Lord. And we can say as the Bible says of David, he’s a man after God’s own heart.
We, on the Southeast Georgia District, love Elder Thomas. He has been there for us in the good times and the bad. The day or night was not too early or too late and the distance not too far for him to come and see about his members. He has proven time and time again that he loved and still loves us, as we do him.

Mother Madele T. Brown, International Directress of Foreign Mission, is a trailblazer in the FBH Church.

Mother Brown was born in Abbeville, South Carolina, and educated in the public school system at Youngstown, Ohio graduating from the Rayen High School.

In the year 1932, she was saved, sanctified, filled with the Holy Ghost, and called to the ministry. Subsequently, she was licensed in July, 1937, and ordained in October, 1950. Sister Brown enrolled at Moody Bible Institute and graduated with honors in 1949.

Mother Brown was a woman of exemplary character, an author, Bible scholar, Bible teacher, and most certainly a Missionary – at home and abroad. She has worked in many capacities - Sunday School Teacher, secretary to various auxiliaries in the church, one year as an assistant Pastor and one year as Pastor, several years as trustee, and president of the H.Y.P.U.

Her work in Africa made history! She walked away from an airplane crash and made a 20 mile trek on foot through the jungle. Her many narrow escapes in war torn villages may not have been TV newsworthy, but her labor for the Lord is not in vain.

Sister Brenda Conley National Jr. Missionary, Emeritus works quietly in the background to keep things in place and in order for our Elder and District Workers as District Secretary.

We all turn to Sister Conley for help that we may stay on task with the work of this great church. She gives us a feeling that we can trust her, and she just looks like she knows it all.

Northeast Georgia District
Mother Beatrice Roberts Johnson

Mother Johnson’s service to the Fire Baptized Holiness Church include: Dean of Women F.N.I.I., Greenville, South Carolina, National Y.P.I. Supervisor, District Missionary President, and National Mother of the F.B.H. Church.

Her faithfulness to God, St. Matthew and the F.B.H. Church will always be remembered.

Mother Grace King McCowan was born on March 2, 1907 in Pike County Georgia to the late Mr. George W. and Mrs. Daisy Hunter King. In her early childhood her parents moved to Knoxville, Tennessee where she accepted the Lord as her Savior at age 13.

She was an outstanding scholar and applied her spiritual teachings to practical everyday life. In 1924, she was joined in Holy Matrimony to the late Rev. Charles E. McCowan and to that union, five children were born, two girls, Millicent and Constance, and three boys, Charles Jr., Gordan, and Leonard, and two grandchildren raised in the home, Leonard and Grace.

Her quiet manner and gentle speech attracted people wherever she went. In 1952, Reverend & Sister McCowan along with their 5 children moved to Anderson, South Carolina and were assigned to pastor Fuller Temple F.B.H. Church. She was a devoted wife until his demise. She then continued as a model church worker and held many offices at Fuller Temple.

In 1953 she was appointed as District YPI Supervisor. She served for 20 years. In 1974 she was elevated to National YPI Supervisor and presided over the Second Episcopal Diocese.

Sister McCowan died early Friday morning, April 26, 1991. Her life is summed up in two words, Faithful Service!
Minister Gregory C. Black serves at Antioch F.B.H. Church in Knoxville, Tennessee. Minister Black serves as the General Finance Officer, a Sunday School teacher, a musician, and a minister of the Gospel.

Most importantly, Minister Black, performs the day-to-day operations and even the less than desirable tasks in the church without fanfare.

He enjoys service, but it is not out of desire for attention. He does all he does out of a pure heart for the Lord!

Mother Berdie Wilson Beatty moved to Newton, North Carolina with her parents and family at the age of 9, being the youngest of 11 children. They lived at 618 East “A” Street, which is the current location of the New Jerusalem FBH Church today.

This property was purchased by her parents and the members of Snow Hill AME Zion Church of Newton.

Sister Beatty joined New Jerusalem the 3rd Sunday in September, 1942 (age 9). She received the Holy Ghost the 3rd Thursday at age 17 in a revival. Elder McDaniel’s wife was speaking at the time.

She remembers when New Jerusalem was known as Old Jerusalem Church. Old Jerusalem was organized by Reverend Kissy Cauthen through Cottage Prayer services.

Sister Beatty has served in various capacities down through the years: Jr. Leader of the Jr. Church, Church Clerk, Usher, Ambassador, Field Worker, Missionary President, Sunday School Teacher, and Directress of Foreign Mission (6 years). She is presently serving as District Mother of the Western North Carolina District, President of HYPU, member of the Senior Choir & Young Adult Choir, and pianist.

She has served New Jerusalem for over 72 years with joy, faithfulness, and God’s direction.
**Mother Evelyn Tolbert Beatty** has been a faithful member of New Jerusalem in Newton, North Carolina for over 50 years.

She was a teacher for the card class, president of the usher board and the Mother’s Board. The song that was always on her heart was, "All my help comes from the Lord". Mother Beatty had a true determination to keep holding on.

**Mother Virginia Blueford** is the loving wife of Elder Willie Blueford for 63 years and the 1st Lady of St. Matthew FBH Church in Columbus, Ohio.

She was born in Columbus, Ohio and a retired employee of the Easter Seals Corporation of 25 years.

Mother Blueford started attending St. Matthew at the age of 10 by going to Sunday school. At the age of 14 she gave her life to the Lord and was saved under Reverend E.M. Anderson. She is thankful to God for keeping her saved. Even at the young age of 14 Mother Blueford never looked back but stayed with the Lord and work diligently in her home church.

Mother Blueford has served as the church finance secretary and church clerk. She was the president of the HYPU and Sr. Mission. She held the office of the Sunday School Superintendent and teacher. She is on the Trustee Board, Mother Board, and a member of the Interdenominational Association of Minister’s Wives and Minister’s Widow’s sector in Columbus Ohio.

She is a prayer warrior and exemplifies the attributes of a First Lady and Mother of the church to the highest. The life she lives brings God glory.

The lord has given Mother Blueford the gifts of prayer, wisdom and consultation. On many occasions she has prayed for countless young women and men and has counselled numerous young married couples. Her desire is to see others saved, walk close with the Lord and learn more of God.
Mother Lula Hazeleene Borden was born September 15, 1933. She was married to the late Pastor James T. Borden and seven children were born to this union.

Mother Borden joined Mt. Olive FBH Church in 1965, under the leadership of Reverend Franklin N. Mills, Sr. She has been a faithful and dutiful member since that time. Also, Mother Borden has served under the leadership of her husband, Pastor James Borden, Pastor Jesse Holt, Pastor Joe Daughtridge, Elder Willie Bogier, Pastor Johnnie Ravenell, and Pastor Ronald Daughtridge. She still serves as the Chairman of the Deacon Board and Trustee Department, Sunday School Superintendent, Choir Member, and Treasurer for the Missionary Department, as well as Mother of the Church.

She loves the Lord and leans and depends on Him. Her favorite songs are “Walk with Me Lord” and “I've Come too Far to Turn Around”.

Mother Minnie Bradley is the oldest Mother of Zion Tabernacle FBH Church, Thomasville, NC. She was one of the original members. This is a recent article from the Thomasville Times:

~Growing up, Minnie Bradley never thought about growing old. As a child, the Manning, South Carolina native only wanted to reach 20. So living for more than a century didn't even enter the picture.

Bradley turns 102 today, and even though she may not have the eyes of a hawk or the ears of a deer, she still can sing like a bird.

"I didn't want to be but 20 years old," Bradley said in a raspy southern voice. "I just wanted to get 20 so I could be grown up and when I got a whipping I could cry all I want to. When you got a whipping they told you to stop crying. I said when I turned 20 I would cry all I wanted to. I wanted to cry when I got a whipping or a spanking. I didn't want to get one and not be able to cry."

Father Time has taken Bradley's sight and she struggles to hear clearly, but her mind remains sharp. She remembers phone numbers, enjoys gospel music and isn't shy about singing a song to someone.

"I whisper a prayer in the morning, I whisper a prayer at noon, I whisper a prayer in the evening to keep my heart in tune," Bradley sang while talking with the Times.

Born on March 27, 1911, Bradley recalled a simple childhood spent going to church, school and playing "ring go round" in a small South Carolina town southeast of Columbia with her four siblings. Bradley's mother passed away when she was very young, prompting a move to Thomasville in 1927 to live with her brother and sister.

"I lost my mother when she was 33," said Bradley. "I was too young to be hanging around by myself. I like it here and I'm satisfied. I say God's got my soul and my life is in his hands."

As an adult, Bradley married her husband Joshua in 1933 and made a career working in nursing homes, tending to the elderly. If given the chance, Bradley said she wouldn't change a thing.
"My best memories are things that are past and gone," Bradley said. "I would like to do it again but I can't do it now. Maybe some of it, if I could see."

Despite spending much of her time in a wheelchair, Bradley isn't afraid to show how much juice she has left in the tank.
"I feel good," said Bradley just before she tried to stand up. "I'm all right. I pray night and day off and on. Some nights I sleep good, some nights I don't. On the nights I don't sleep good, I lay there and pray to God. Whenever people ask me, I say He keeps me in the right mind, not crazy and not knowing what I'm saying. God is on my side."

Bradley's nephew and neighbor, James Henry, said she is pretty self-sufficient during the day. She doesn't hesitate to pick up the phone and call him if she needs anything.
"More of less, she just likes to sit here and listen to her gospel music on the radio," Henry said. "She knows all her phone numbers and she can call anybody. Her mind is in good shape. It's just a blessing."

While Bradley doesn't have any secrets for her longevity, how she treats others may have something to do with eclipsing the century mark.
"Honor thy mother and thy father so your days will be long upon the land which the Lord by God giveth thee," Bradley said quoting Exodus 20:12. "I was never sassy. I didn't start no arguments and I didn't talk back to grown people."

Henry said Bradley also keeps up with world events, including the inauguration of President Barack Obama. Coming from the deep south during a time of intense segregation, living to see the country's first black president was special.
"I just said we had to pray to get him in [office] and we had to pray to keep him in," said Bradley. "We had to ask God to help him and remember the whole wide world."

Whatever Bradley lacks in vision or hearing is made up 10-fold though her zest for life. The spirit of her songs reflect a 102-year-old life spent serving God and treating others how she wanted to be treated. Bradley may not have thought about life after 20, but it turned out she found a lot more to do than cry after a whipping.

**Reverend Leila Breeze** was born on June 21, 1936. She married Reverend Ralph H. Breeze on March 22, 1952 and to this union 6 children, 31 grandchildren, 34 great grandchildren and 2 great-great grandchildren were born.

Reverend Breeze joined Mt. Zion, Seneca, South Carolina in 1947 under the leadership of Rev. T. E. Grate. Her Bishop was Bishop W.E. Fuller, Sr. and her Elder was Elder P.S. McDaniel.

Sister Breeze left her home church to follow her husband in the ministry. She served as pastor of St. Paul in Greenwood, South Carolina for 15 years and Mt. Olive, Williamston, South Carolina for two years.

Memorable Moment: when S.C. District #1 held an Appreciation Program to show love for her dedication and hard work to the F.B.H. Church.
Mother Johnnie Mae Butler Burton was born February 17, 1927 in Trenton, South Carolina: to the late John L. and Leola Butler. She graduated from Cardoza High School and attended Federal City College which is presently known as the University of the District of Columbia. She retired from the Government Printing Office in May 1975. She married Ted Burton on February 14, to this union they had 11 children; Willie, Edith, Emma, Samuel, Oscar, Freddie, Ted Jr., Delores, Leona, Leroy and Walter. Mother Burton has 37 grandchildren and 19 great-grandchildren.

Mother Burton has been saved since 1969 and joined Faith Tabernacle Fire Baptized Holiness Church under Rev. S.O. Murray. She acknowledged the call to preach in 1974. She has served in numerous positions in the church such as a deaconess, chairman of the Trustee Board and chairman of the Finance Board. She has sponsored numerous programs such as the State Rally, the Twelve Tribes of Israel, One Hundred Women in White, yard sales, and bus trips to raise funds for the church. As president of the Missionary Board, Mother Burton would buy and cook food for the hungry, give shelter to the homeless, and clothe the naked. As chairman the Pastor's Aide Committee, she made clergy shirts and cooked for the pastor. She believes in supporting her pastors one hundred percent. As a youth leader, she sponsored Joy Night services every 2nd Saturday night because she believed in giving the young people an opportunity to display their talents and gifts.

As chairman of the Cutlery committee, she became famous for bake sales and dinners. She was the director of the Vacation Bible School for many years at Faith Tabernacle. Mother Burton would have a cook out and take all the kids to Marshall Hall, Wildwood in New Jersey or Dutch Wonderland after the Vacation Bible School.

Mother Burton has always worked as a missionary in the communities in which she lived. Her main goal is, winning souls for Christ and helping those less fortunate then her. Mother has always said that God told her to mother every living creature. She not only loves her own children, but she also loves the neighbours’ children, the church children, and her nieces and nephews. She was everybody's "Ma". Mother Burton always had the love for young people at heart. This was evident when she steered them toward the love of Christ by having prayer meetings and bible study in her home. She also formed youth choirs. In her life, she has touched many people, young people as well as old, by teaching and preaching the Word of God.

Mother Burton really loves the church and the people of God. She strives to teach that one's character should be above reproach and always try to do your best and give to the Lord until it hurts. 

Washington/Virginia District

Mother Leathea Burton was a member of Solomon Temple Church for more than 50 years. During the time of her membership, she held various offices in the church such as: Church Secretary, Mission President, Member of Trustee Board, and a member of the W.L. M. Chorus.

Minister Burton was an active and vital member of the local church. Through her ministry, she helped many families and friends to find salvation through Jesus Christ. She was a true pioneer of the church and loved giving of herself through spreading the gospel and serving others with great passion.

Minister Burton departed this life in December 2006, but we will all remember her favorite sermon found in St. Matthew 25:10, “and while they went to buy the bridegroom came and they that were
ready went in to the marriage and the door was shut.” Her subject was: “They Went Too Far, Stayed Too Long, and Got Back Too Late”.

Washington/Virginia District

Deaconess Joanne Wilder Charles is the daughter of the late Richard Wilder & Mother Hattie B. (Mack) Wilder. She is the third child of ten, born on April 5th in a magnificent year.

Ms. Joanne Charles was married to the late Patrick J. Charles and was blessed with two precious daughters, Atiya D. Charles and Tamiko N. Fletcher. She is adored by her two wonderful grandsons, Donivan M. Thomas and Wallace P. Charles.

Her mother, Mother Wilder, and sister, Minister Betty A. Robinson, were members of Open Fountain FBH Church in Summerton, South Carolina when she moved back home. She remembered so well during the 1970s visiting her mother and going to church with her.

The mothers of the church, Mother Hattie Bell Wilder, Mother Belle Wilson, and Mother Mary Ragin, were a great influence on her life. The mothers had many sayings such as: “If you can’t say anything good about someone, don’t say anything at all”. “Be nice to people and treat others the way you want to be treated.” “Trust God and look to Him”

Open Fountain was a little wooden church which withstood Hurricane Hugo. The protective Hand of GOD covered the church and no harm came upon it. Now they have built a beautiful block church.

It was at a revival that God saved me. I couldn’t stop crying and thanking the Lord for saving me. Every since that day, she strives to live holy and serve the Lord.

She remembers how Bishop Fuller, Jr. would always encourage the saints to do their best. Sister Annie Whack always said, “Remember the ground crew because they helped you to get where you are. Also, she would say, “When you have the Lord living in your heart, you will do the right thing and treat people the same way you want to be treated.”

She says, people are not devoted to their salvation or the work of the Lord as it was in the past years. At the age 31 in 1983 until the present, many of her duties in the church were and are serving on the Mother Board, HYPU President, Missionary Secretary, Usher, Senior Choir Member, Church Clerk, Sunday School Teacher, Sunday School Secretary, and a host of other related duties.

She is saved, sanctified and filled with the Holy Ghost and that with Fire.
Deacon Arthur Lee Coe Sr. was the son of the late Louvenia Robinson Coe. He was born in Hartsville S.C. on March 6th, 1928. He was married to the late Sister Willie Mae Coe. Deacon Coe had five children. He was educated in the public schools of Darlington County. Deacon Coe served in the U.S. Army. Deacon Coe was a hard worker. He was a brick mason at Millikens Mills Plant, a pallet maker at Mafco Company, and he retired from Clayton Car Sales.

In the year of 1975, the Lord saved, sanctified, and filled him with the Holy Ghost. In the year of 1976, Deacon Coe was made a Deacon of Nathan Temple FBH Church where he served faithfully for 38 years. In the year of 2009, he was made District Father of the Year. He has been very proud of that honor and always prays that he does nothing to embarrass his pastor or the church as a whole.

One of his favorite songs is “Walk with me Lord I can’t make this journey by myself.” Deacon Coe’s favorite saying when you ask him how he is doing is “I'm blessed by the help of the good Lord, no more and no less.”

Deacon Coe has a great love for his pastor Elder Charles Frazier, Nathan Temple Church and the FBH Church as a whole. He asks that if anyone can get a prayer through pray for him, because Heaven is his home.

Sister Rosa Lee Corry has been a faithful member of Mitchell Chapel ever since she was saved at the age of 14 and now is 98 years young.

She found Christ at the early age of 14. When she came to church she would walk every Sunday and stay all day and night. When she married she raised her family in the church, four children of her own, four grandchildren, and one great grandchild, who attended and walked to church with her as well.

Sister Corry taught Sunday School, held HYPU meetings, Vacation Bible School, and worked hard in the Missionary Department. She has been a faithful member who has seen several pastors come and go. She always talks about being under a wonderful woman for the first time, who she is proud to call Pastor, Pastor Lawson, her little girl.

Sister Corry is a role model for the saints at Mitchell Chapel F.B.H. Church in Gaffney, South Carolina. Throughout her membership in the church she has been a faithful tither and diligent worker. Even now, she makes sure she takes care of her church as well as her pastor. Sister Rosa Lee was at Mitchell Chapel before the rebuilding and after. She continues to watch it grow. Sister Rosa Lee Corry is 98 years young. Her mother lived to be 106 years old. Both faithful member were pastored by Sister Lawson.
**Unsung Heroes**

**Sister Marie Logan Davis** is a faithful member of John’s Chapel FBH Church in Hickory Grove, South Carolina for 76 years, and is now 89 years old. Her mother Lizzie Williams was also a faithful member of the church.

During convention times hosted at John’s Chapel, Sister Marie and her mother would take in saints at their own home to stay while the convention took place. The saints would sleep in the beds, while the children slept in pallets on the floor. When the saints would have meals they had automatic air conditioning, which the children provided with fans.

Sister Davis was also faithful in executing in rebuilding of the new John’s Chapel Church.

**Mother Elizabeth Davison** - Her 3 favorite songs are “Like a Tree Planted by the Rivers of Water”, “Praise the Lord Everybody”, and “I Know the Lord Laid His Hands on Me”.

*New Zion FBH, Greenville, South Carolina*

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**Reverend Novella Denny - Pastor** (Deceased) was a member of Danner’s Chapel FBH Church, North Wilkesboro, North Carolina.

Reverend Denny has served as Western North Carolina YPI Supervisor and District Missionary President.

Early Memory: Dinners served under the trees in the summer time and gospel singing programs on Sunday afternoons. Quartets and choirs from different cities in North Carolina came to Danner's Chapel to sing. People from across the county came and the church was full to capacity.

Sunday Service: Church services were great. They were lively and full of the spirit with saints singing, clapping their hands, feet patting the floor and shouting. The drums were played by two lay ministers, and Rev. F. C. Danner played the cymbals.

As a young girl, the services appeared to last a long time late into the night. As a Christian and later Pastor of Danner’s Chapel, the time of service did not seem to be long at all. The church was full every Sunday night. Other churches across the county did not have Sunday night service, so their members came to Danner’s Chapel. The services were always lively and high spirited.
Sister Virginia Denny (Deceased) was a member of Danner’s Chapel FBH Church, North Wilkesboro, North Carolina.

Her daughters joined the church between the ages of 9 and 16. She served the church as a Missionary President.

Earliest Memory: Going to church when we met in the members’ homes. Sometimes the only light in the room was one overhead light suspended from the ceiling; also, the excitement of moving into our first church.

Memorable Events: Dinner served every Sunday under the two oak trees beside the church. During the winter, dinner was served in the back of the church by placing two benches together and spreading the food on the long pews. There was enough food to feed and army. Once the fellowship hall was built, Sunday dinner was moved inside. This was a weekly event with all the saints bringing together their harvest of blessings.

Sunday Service: Our Sunday School started later than other churches because of the distance our pastor had to travel. We had afternoon service at 3:00 and evening service at 7:00. These services were conducted every Sunday regardless. The service format was devotional service with high spirited testimonies. The drums were beating, cymbals were hitting together to the rhythm of the song. Saints were clapping their hands and patting their feet on the wooden floor. Rev. Danner would come forth and deliver a great message given to him from the Lord. Each service was one of inspiration and delight. The only time services were not held at Danner’s Chapel was when the conventions were in session.

Mother Sophronia Favors

There is no one like Sister Sophronia Favors. She has worked hard in our local church as well as the district. Mother Sophronia Favors began to attend Mt. Moriah FBH Church of Knoxville, Tennessee in 1948 at the age of 14.

Throughout her nearly 70 year tenure, she has served faithfully as a member of the Kitchen Committee, Choir member, YPI president, HYPU president, Trustee Secretary, Deaconess, Chairman of the Mother Board, and Sr. Mission Secretary.

On a district level she has served as District Supervisor and an Ambassador for Christ. Currently at the age of 81, she still serves as Deaconess and supportive member. In addition, she faithfully attends our electrifying and riveting Hour of Power every Sunday evening, often joking of being the only senior in the number.

She possesses a great love for this church and has proven herself time after time to be true to her commitment.
**Mother Esther Lee Livingston Ford** was born on August 17, 1915 in Newbury, South Carolina to Mamie L. and Edward Livingston. She was the 7th child of 11 children, two boys and nine girls. Little Esther and her family attended the Baptist Church and she was educated in the public schools of Newbury.

While in her early twenties, Esther moved to Baltimore, Maryland along with two of her older sisters, Myrtle and Sarah. She 'got saved in the Fire Baptized Holiness Church in Baltimore where Rev. M. J. Smith was the pastor. She has been Fire Baptized Holiness ever since.

Esther Livingston was called into the ministry shortly after receiving salvation and was licensed by Reverend Wiley. Her first ministerial charge was to go back home and witness to her family in South Carolina. After obediently submitting to God's will, she was anointed to be a missionary.

Sister Livingston's years of missionary and evangelistic work allowed her to travel the entire Eastern and Gulf coasts of the United States. She started out alone, travelling to Connecticut, Massachusetts, and Pennsylvania. Later, she was joined by her long time companion and friend, Sister Dorothy Griffin.

The two of them travelled together, evangelizing all over the country and doing their missionary duties for more than 20 years. Countless souls were set free because of these two remarkable women. Sister Livingston's missionary travels took her places such as Bridgeport, Connecticut; Boston, Massachusetts; Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Detroit, Michigan; Columbia, South Carolina; Newport News, Virginia; Hartford, Connecticut; Baltimore, Maryland; Wilmington, North Carolina and numerous other cities and towns proclaiming to everyone to “Look Up and Live.”

Through the Depression, Jim Crow, war rationing, World War II, and the Civil Rights Movement, Sister Esther Livingston kept her eyes on the prize and forgot about those things which are behind. She kept reaching forth unto those things which were before her and pressed toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

She forgot family, friendships, marriage and even her own personal desires. She tirelessly worked to please God. She labored doing the Will of God. She placed Him first in her life and trusted Him to supply her needs. She traveled hundreds of miles to places she had never been; yet, she always obeyed and trusted the Lord to take care of her. Then, the Lord began to reward her for her many years of unselfish dedication. As stated in Ruth 2:12 "The LORD recompense thy work, and a full reward be given thee of the LORD God of Israel, under whose wings thou art come to trust." Now, she is being rewarded for her many years of toil.

Sister Livingston joined Bethlehem Fire Baptized Holiness Church in Washington, DC under the leadership of Sister Lucy Woolard. She continued her missionary worked until the late 1960's.

On February 17, 1968, Esther Lee Livingston was joined to Deacon Jessie Ford, Sr. in Holy matrimony by her son-in-law Reverend Jessie Ford, Jr. Deacon and Mother Ford are still very active in the Fire Baptized Holiness Church. For many years, Mother Ford organized bus trips to the annual Youth Congresses in Greenville, South Carolina. She wanted the children who never traveled outside of the metropolitan Washington, DC area to experience other places. In August 1996, she was honored during the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Youth Congress as a Special YPI Worker.
Even today, at the age of 84, Mother Ford tirelessly works in the Fire Baptized Holiness Church. At her home church, she was the Sunday School's Adult Class emeritus, Bethlehem's YPI Special Worker, and a member of the Mother's Board. She was also a Washington/Virginia District Evangelist.

Her life was a perfect example of waiting on and trusting in the Lord. She waited for the Lord to give her a saved husband and companion. She trusted Him to supply her needs as she traveled the country doing her missionary work. The most important thing we must remember about her life was that she continued to work as she waited and God provided many of her heart's desires.

Her inspiring testimony to "Wait on the Lord" was good sound advice for the youth. Her words of wisdom to the adult church were "You Can't Scale a Fish until You Catch It." She said that the Lord told her to "Shake the Church and Wake up the Saints."

Esther Lee Livingston Ford continued to do just that and consistently advised us to "Look Up and Live."

Washington/Virginia District

Deacon Edward Sylvester Frazier was born to the late Minister Eugene and Minister Janie Frazier on September 17/27 in 1930 delivered by a midwife. He grew up to be a Godly man along with his sisters and brothers -- Janie Eugenia, Augusta, Amos & Agnes (twins) Esther, Albert B., Johnny C, and Roderick.

He was married to the late Sister Vernice and to this union 8 children were born, Edward, Sherry, Ouida, Donald Derrick, Ronald Eric (twins) Stanley, Angela, and Opal. He is a Grandfather, Great Grandfather and Great-Great Grandfather.

On January 9, 1947, Deacon Frazier celebrated his spiritual birthday (the day he got saved) and also when he joined Macedonia FBH Church. A year after Deacon Frazier joined the church he was given the duty of a Jr. Deacon and was ordained as a Deacon under Elder Barber in 1951.

Deacon Frazier has been a Deacon for 62 years and was honored with an Appreciation Service at Macedonia on Sunday, January 27, 2013. He is a man of service and exemplifies this through his work with the Outreach Ministry, serving as a Poll worker for 12 years and fellowship in supporting churches on the district and community churches.

He believes that we must reach our highest potential through education and through gaining a skill. Deacon has a Small Motor Certification. You can find him, when the weather is nice, working on a neighbor's lawnmower.

He is a role model for all that know him.
**Sister Betty Fuller**, a notable woman of God, continuously shows her dedication to the FBH Church. The Fuller Legacy lives on through the life of this soft spoken spiritual warrior. We applaud Sister Fuller for the great things she has done.

*Northeast Georgia District*

Mother Annie Mae Gibbs was born on June 24, 1925. She was married to the late James L. Gibbs and to this union they have 10 children and 23 grandchildren. Mother Gibbs joined Mt. Zion F.B.H. Church, Seneca, South Carolina in 1937 under the leadership of Sister P.M. Birmingham Fuller. She served in many capacities of the church under the leadership of 22 pastors. She was called into the ministry in 1975. Thank God for all of His bountiful blessings. She is now serving under the leadership of Elder B.P. Raiford. During Mother Gibbs membership in the church she has seen many things take place in changing times.

Reverend Robert Glover was the pastor of Hills Temple FBH church in Winder, Georgia 1977-1978. He set the best example of a servant-leader. He and his wife drove from the Atlanta area every Sunday to be at the church. He would always say, "I am God's humble servant". He was a soldier who always saw to the needs of the Saints and put them before his own.

Sister Safina H. Hatley was a bright and living example to all the young women in the church. Her motto was “I never let anything die on me”. Every office that she held was successful. Every report exceeded the other. If others failed to support the work, she sponsored programs in her own home to raise money. Her favorite scripture: II Chronicle 7:14.
Deacon Jesthroe Hunt and Rev. Jeanette L.M. Hunt

Deacon Hunt was a member of the FBH Church for over 80 years.

Reverend Jeanette Hunt has served as Pastor of James Chapel for over 26 years.

Sister Ada Bell Johnson was the first member of Holy Temple. She was influential in getting several of her family members to come to the Lord.

Sister Johnson was saved in 1954 in Bulloch County at a little church called Hunter's Grove Fire Baptized Holiness Church of God of the Americas. At the time when she got saved Holy Temple didn't exist. The late Reverend S.C. Hunter had his church in Bulloch County. But after getting quite a few members from Screven County he decided he needed a church in Screven County. He converted what was to be a rental property into what is now Holy Temple.

Sis. Johnson was called into the ministry in 1960. She held many positions in the church. She was best known for her foot stomping and her faithfulness to her church. When she received the Holy Ghost she went and told her mother and other family members.

Her mother, at the time, was of the Methodist faith. Her mother was saved, but she knew, once Sister Johnson told her about the Holy Ghost, that she needed something more than what she had. So, her mother came, was sanctified and filled with the Holy Ghost, and joined Holy Temple. Her mother became the first mother of the church. In 1955, Sister Johnson’s husband and eldest sister were saved and joined the church.

Sister Ada Johnson was very faithful to the church. She was the mother of five children. One child is still in the church and serving the Lord. Sister Johnson was born September 17, 1929 and passed away on April 18, 2002. She is missed by her church and her family.
Deaconess Vera Johnson is the daughter of the late Mr. Anthony and Mrs. Viola Mouzon. She was born in Clarendon County on July 28, 1935 and was the fifth child of six children.

She attended Manning Training School (1st thru the 12th grade) in South Carolina and graduated in 1955. She also graduated from Garner’s Beauty School in Sumter, South Carolina in 1956. She married the late Mr. Ulysses Johnson in 1955. She is the mother of three wonderful sons, Glenn, Richard, and Lyndon.

Deaconess Johnson joined St. John F.B.H. Church in Kingstree, South Carolina at the age of 20. Sister Johnson has held many positions in the church: President of Mission, Church Clerk, Superintendent of Sunday School, Church Treasurer, Finance Board Official, Mother Board, and Deacon Board (Ordained Deaconess).

As a child she recalls the old hymns that were sung and the good ole songs. One service that stands out in her mind was the one in the Sunday School Convention that was held at Silver Macedonia F.B. H. Church, when the pastor was Sister Annie Lou Riley. “The Spirit of GOD was so strong and dwelt among us so powerfully.”

"I have served in all of the organizations, auxiliaries and I have been involved in all of the ministries of the church. I feel blessed to have so many people of GOD involved in my life and I in theirs.

I remember Bishop Nathaniel J. Roach being firm in his beliefs and he went by the word. Sister Annie M. Whack was known as Mrs. Personality. Elder J.O. Baldwin was so humble and he always said, “I am your servant. The good part was when five people joined the church at the same time and the bad part was when five people left at the same time. I feel bad because we have only a few members and no one has joined the church recently.

But we are still working and compelling men, women, boys and girls to come to Jesus Christ. I am still saved from sin, sanctified and filled with the Blessed Holy Ghost.”

Mother Alberta Carmon Jones was born in Winterville, North Carolina on May 24, 1933 to the late Ludell and Bonnie Carmon. She was educated in Winterville, North Carolina. Reared on a farm, she spent most of her younger years farming.

One day, the slim and ravishingly beautiful Alberta mesmerized young, debonair, and extremely shy Wesley Jones while she was in Kinston, North Carolina. Shortly after this encounter, she married him on February 14, 1953. This storybook fantasy was continued when Alberta and Wesley were saved on the same day at Zion Hill Baptist Church in Ayden, North Carolina.

While living in North Carolina, their first five children were born. They are Ruby Jean Jones Stroy, Wesley Jr., Ricky Dale, Sylvia Gail Jones Taylor Hill and Jesse Earl. Seeking a better life for their family, the Joneses moved to Washington, DC and five more children were added to this union; Jacqueline Cassandra Jones Butler, Eric Durrell, Trumeda Alicia, Paulette Lorraine and Cynthia Denise. Mother Jones also has 28 grandchildren and five great grandchildren.
Mother Jones loved ministering to people. She demonstrated this gift by being a Mistress of Ceremonies in many programs, planning programs, and counselling the young Christian women.

Mother Jones loved the church. Some of her favorite things are going to church, entertaining, going out to dinner, and listening to Gospel music. She was a great cook. KFC had nothing on her for she was the originator of the "mean greens." She was also famous for her North Carolina "barbecue".

She started fellowshipping at Bethlehem almost 30 years ago. Although they were not members, the Joneses were dedicated, active officers and members of the Sunday School throughout their association with Bethlehem. In 1991, Reverend and Mother Jones became members of Bethlehem Fire Baptized Holiness Church.

Mother Jones was a prayer warrior. She served on the Floral and Pastor's Aid Committees. She was a member on the Mother's Board and Program Committee. Although she was sick and home bound for over a year, Mother Jones continued to minister to her Christian sisters and brothers. She loved the young people and constantly encouraged them.

Mother Alberta Carmon Jones was a precious jewel who was always a sparkling ray of love.

Washington/Virginia District

**Mother Florence Kindle** is one of the oldest Mothers left at Good Hope FBH Church. She first started coming to the church when it was on the Branch. She's been a member for over 59 years. Her daughter was 5 years old when they came.

Mother Kindle has enjoyed being in the movement. She says, “the older saints knew how to fellowship and they were saints indeed. They had their own type of music and they were on fire for the Lord.”

Mother Kindle is one, sure enough seasoned saint. She is full of wisdom that's being passed on to us younger saints.

While at Good Hope, Mother Kindle not only raised her biological children, but she had a special place and she still has it for the Wilson family. She helped their mother and grandmother raise the Wilson children.

Two words that describe faithful, and they are: Mother Kindle.
Deacon Allen Knight Jr. was born October 20, 1933 in Wilmington NC. He came to Buffalo NY in 1943 with his mom and dad, Allen Knight Sr. and Lillie Knight.

When they relocated to Buffalo, they attended a COGIC Church on Clinton Street with a friend of his mom.

In 1946 his mother, Deaconess L. Knight along with a few other women, Sister Watson, Lela Holland, and Clara Cummings had a meeting to discuss opening the 1st FBH Church in Buffalo New York at the corner of Spring and Sycamore Street, in a store front building.

That same year, New Macedonia FBH Church of God of the Americas was formed with the help of close friends of Deaconess L. Knight and Bro. A. Knight Sr. Pastor Thomas Lawyer became the first Pastor of New Macedonia.

Deacon Knight was the only child in the church. He was saved during Sunday School Class at the age of 13. Later at the age of 14 he became the Jr. Deacon and was called "Little Young Deacon".

In 1949 New Macedonia moved to the new building at 64 Peckham Street. Reverend Bowman along with Elder Bobo ordained Deacon Knight at 17 years of age, right before his 18th birthday. He became the first deacon.

He served as Superintendent of Sunday School, Chairman of the Finance Board, Chairman of the Trustee Board, and Chairman of the Deacon Board. He was also Chairman of the Floral Treasure. While attending Hutch Tech High School for drawing and architect he drew out the blueprints to remodel the downstairs apartments of the church, sanctuary and fellowship/dining room.

Deacon Knight would also light the fire in the coal heater before service started to make sure the church was warm. He was the one to "greet" all the pastors that were appointed to New Macedonia since 1946.

As of today, Deacon Knight continues to work as Chairman of the Trustee Board and a member of the Finance Committee.
Mother Edith Mansell was born on January 19th. She was married to the late Columbus Mansell on Sunday, December 21, 1947 and to this union they have 6 children, Kay, Diane, Cathy, Wendell, Roger and Donna. She has 11 grandchildren, 14 great grandchildren and 1 great great grandchild.

Mother Mansell is an avid reader. She loves gospel music, sings, loves to cook, and serves the Lord with a willing Spirit. She has been a Deaconess for many years and a member of Smith Chapel F.B.H. Church in Pickens, South Carolina for over 50 years.

She has held many offices in the church, Trustee Chairman, Deaconess, Senior Missionary President, and Sunday School Superintendent. Mother Mansell is a lady that wears many hats!

Deacon James McCollough is a faithful and devoted deacon at Nathan Temple FBH Church, and has been, for well over 60 years now. Because of his cheerfulness, he is known as the “Glad Man”. He truly has been an inspiration to many, far and near. He has served Nathan Temple faithfully without wavering in his faith.

Deacon is the father of 11 children, many grand & great-grand children who address and esteem him highly. He has led by example before his children and they comment as to how he lives a life that honors and pleases God.

Deacon McCollough is a spirit led, man of God. He knows the Word very well and will gladly explain it to you at any given time. He is a man of wisdom. Many young people speak of the life lessons they have learned and how being in his company has enlightened them.

Nathan Temple has enjoyed Deacon J. McCollough’s prayers, songs, testimonies/sermons, and smiles down through the years. He speaks with boldness and power. He believes in giving God his best. Truly Deacon McCollough has the favor of God, and it is evident to all.

We, the Nathan Temple Family, really admire and love Deacon McCollough. He has always been willing to serve in any area to promote Nathan Temple’s agenda. Deacon lives according to his testimony. God has blessed him to live 88 years, most of which were lived singing and blessing God, drawing others to Christ.

To God Be the Glory for such a man as Deacon James McCollough!
Reverend Daniel McCullough

In the Old Testament there is a prophetic book written by a man named Daniel. In his writings we find a young man of integrity, strong character, and virtue. Pastor Daniel McCollough possessed these qualities as well. Like Daniel, he carried himself as a man who knew, loved, and worshipped God. Pastor Dan was a distinguished gentleman who was in a class of his own. He professed a fervent hope in Christ.

Born just 9 years before the great stock market crash of 1929 he believed that if you furnish God a life, he would bless you. In the mid thirties he moved from his hometown in Russellville, Alabama to Chicago where he continued his high school education concentrating on industrial technology. Rev…, as he was called, was very good with his hands and eventually became an excellent carpenter.

He credits his mother for the spiritual guidance that led him to accept Christ at an early age. Rev later came to know the Lord as his personal Savior. His faith and reliance on the Lord prepared him for the call of God to preach the gospel and shepherd people. His preaching made sense and told the truth that cut to the core.

In the early seventies, the Lord put it on Pastor McCollough ’s heart to start a church. Within 2 years Christian Temple F.B.H. church was founded on November 6, 1972 …with just 5 members. The church came together and worshipped in the home of Pastor McCollough. Many difficulties and obstacles confronted him in his attempts to secure a permanent house of worship. Following God’s lead and with the support of his meager membership, he purchased a property located at 218 North Pulaski which is the church’s current location today. It was at this place that his dream of acquiring a place of worship for the people of God became reality.

Reverend McCollough remained a diligent, devoted, and committed leader until his death. You could count on him to financially support and participate in any event going on in the Southwest Ohio District. He loved going to conventions and attended them faithfully. He was always glad to be in the fellowship of the saints. As Rev. McCollough submitted to the leadership of pastors and elders and bishops he grew in spiritual knowledge. Pastor McCollough dedicated his life to the betterment of mankind.

We miss his presence, his grace, and his instruction.

Mother Amelia Louise Satterfield Meek served as District President for over 32 years and YPI Supervisor for 15 years. Her faithfulness and loyalty to the church and to Tennessee is unmatched. She has been a mainstay of both Mt. Moriah and the FBH Church.

She has been a member of the church for over 70 years. She is described as being a supporter with a willingness to help all who make their needs known. She often says “many hands make light work”.

Department of Religious Education
Fire Baptized Holiness Church of God of the Americas, Incorporated
Mother Margret Norman has been attending and has been in the movement for many years. Good Hope FBH Church has been her church. Her mother, sisters, her children, and other family members attended and still attend the church.

Mother Norman is a seasoned Saint. She is faithful to the church. Her saying is, “I’m willing to do my part.” The church is always on her mind. She comes in with a praise on her lips.

Mother Norman carries on the legacy of her mother, Mother Gertrude Kindle, who was also faithful.

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<td>Reverend Dorothy Palmer</td>
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Mother Amanda Stewart Reid “Momma Reid” - 1908-1997
Mother Reid became a member of the Fire Baptized Holiness Church of God of the Americas at the age of 17 years old. She was a member of Mt. Olive FBH Church, Maiden, NC. Following her marriage to Mr. George Reid, and the burning down of their home in the Little Coulter’s Area, they moved to Newton, NC. After moving to Newton, she moved her membership to New Jerusalem FBH Church, Newton, NC.

Mother Reid was very active in the church. She served as President of the Senior Mission, President of the Senior Choir, Deaconess, Treasurer of the Trustee Board, and whatever she could find her hands to do.

Mother loved this Fire Baptized Holiness Movement and didn’t mind letting anyone know. She was a great pillar of the church. She was a stickler and a dedicated member of this Fire Baptized Holiness Church of God of the Americas movement for over 70 years. She encouraged the young people to stay with the Lord and be faithful to the church.

Mother Reid was also well known throughout the Catawba County (and other counties) for her soul stirring singing. When she sang, everyone sat up and took notice. As they say, “She would bring the house down”.

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Unsung Heroes

Her favorite saying, when she was feeling bad was, “If I can just get inside the door, everything will be alright.”

Mother Reid is greatly missed at New Jerusalem Fire Baptized Holiness Church, Newton, NC. She will always be in our memory for her love, encouraging words, and the life she lived before us.

*The New Jerusalem FBH Church Family*

**Mother Drucilla Verdell Bailey Robinson** was born December 23, 1917 in Fountain Inn, South Carolina to the late John and Moriah Bailey. She is one of 17 children. She and one sister (Mrs. Cora Bell) are the only survivors in her family.

She was married to the late John Henry Robinson in 1935. They have three sons, John Albert, Willie James, and Randy (14 grandchildren).

Reverend Robinson has been a member of the Fire Baptized Holiness Church for more than 50 years. She has served as pastor of Mt. Olive F.B.H. Church, Mt. Zion F.B.H. Church, Greer, South Carolina, Fuller Temple F.B.H. Church, Anderson, South Carolina, and Smith Chapel F.B.H. Church, Pickens, South Carolina. She is presently a member of Macedonia F.B.H. Church.

Mother Robinson restarted Fountain Inn, Mt. Olive F.B.H. Church with her husband as Deacon. She preached and carried members to church in her station wagon. There were no obstacles too great for her. Mother Robinson fed many people on the church grounds preparing all food. She served in her home for Missionary Meetings. She taught pure Holiness and is yet living Holy. Many souls were saved under her ministry.

**Pastor Norris Robinson and Deacon W.G. Robinson**

Pastor Norris Robinson and Deacon W.G. Robinson founded the New Testament Holiness Church in November of 1995. Services were held in the living room of their home. The Lord laid it on their hearts to feed the people spiritually and naturally. During each service the people would be fed the Word of God and after each service they would serve dinner for members and visitors; everyone was welcome to participate.

The ministry thrived in the home of the Robinson’s for eight years. After much prayer and laying before the Lord it was time to build the Lord a house. In January of 2003 the Lord allowed New Testament to move into an edifice debt free. New Testament Holiness Church “the House that God built”. God instructed them as to who would build the church, where the church would be built and how the church would be built. God even shared what the church would look like before it was built.

In the year of 2001 the Lord laid it on the Robinson’s hearts to build a house for people that were faithful in the kingdom and were in need of a place of refuge and restoration. At the same time the Lord laid it on their oldest daughter’s heart to have a house for people to go and recuperate and be
healed. In January 2002 this same daughter gave birth to a son. This son lived for 4 days then went on to be with the Lord. She and her husband named the son Zion. Zion is the place where the Lord lives. The Lord laid it on their heart to name the house they were to build Zion’s house.

Approximately 9 years later the vision was manifested. This came after much prayer, and waiting on the Lord. We dedicated Zion House to the Lord on December 18, 2011. The miracle of Zion House and New Testament Church is the fact that we moved into both debt free. This is an example of how prayer, being obedient and waiting on the Lord will result in the victory.

Approximately 9 years later the vision was manifested. This came after much prayer, and waiting on the Lord. We dedicated Zion House to the Lord on December 18, 2011. The miracle of Zion House and New Testament Church is the fact that we moved into both debt free. This is an example of how prayer, being obedient and waiting on the Lord will result in the victory.

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**Deaconess Alma Scott-Buczak**

Twenty-one years ago, Pastor Eula Shinholster prayed that the Lord would send in members that loved Him and would be a blessing to His kingdom! Before Pastor could get off her knees, Sister Alma walked into the church, joined that very day, and began her journey as an Unsung Heroine of the New Jersey District.

Sister Alma already helped the community in many ways prior to joining our church, whether it be in the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Clubs, serving with the Council of Adoptable Children, or joining the board of directors of her alma mater, Lafayette College.

Since joining our church, she has opened her home to National Officials as they travel throughout the Metropolitan area, served as a local DRE, and Deaconess. She started a small scholarship program in 1999 for district graduates from high school or college, providing them with funds to buy a book or an interview outfit.

Since its inception, she and her husband, Bill, have provided 80 scholarships ranging from $75.00 to $125.00 for each graduate along with 12 post graduate academy awards in the amount of $25.00 each. Bill and Sister Alma used their personal money for these scholarships in the hope that they would encourage our teens and young adults to stay both in school and actively involved in the FBH church.

Day in and day out, Sister Alma continues to do many things for her church & the New Jersey District without any formal recognition and this is why she is our Unsung Hero!
Mother Ida Mae (Adams) Slappy was born in Birmingham, Alabama January 11, 1915.

At the age of six her family moved to Waukegan, IL. She accepted Christ at the age of 15 and was baptized by Reverend Jonas Porter, pastor of First Corinthian Baptist Church.

During this time she met Reverend Joseph Slappy whose mother had a Fire Baptized Mission in Lake Forest, Illinois. She was sanctified on a Friday night and how the Holy Ghost rained on her soul. She later joined Zion Chapel F.B.H. Church under the pastorship of Reverend A.C. Williams.

In 1932 she married Reverend Joseph Slappy and to this union 11 children were born. Over 50 years Reverend and Mother Ida Slappy served the Fire Baptized Holiness Church. From Evanston, Illinois they began their journey. Reverend Slappy moved to Cincinnati, Ohio, to pastor Macedonia F.B.H. Church.

In 1949 they were moved to Columbus, Ohio to pastor St. Matthew F.B.H. Church. There were no strangers to Reverend Slappy. Through his faith in God, he taught his family to love the Lord and the Fire Baptized Holiness Church. By the preaching of the Gospel and living a consistent Holy life, many souls were saved and led to Christ. Psalms 37:37 “Mark the perfect man, and behold the upright; for the end of that man is peace.”

Their journey ended in Columbus, Ohio, the Lord called her faithful husband home.

Mother Slappy remained a faithful member of St. Matthew F.B.H. Church. She served on the Mother Board and served as President of the Senior Mission for over 20 years. Her favorite song is “I want to live so God can use me any time anywhere”.

Her testimony is sure “Praise God I’ve held on to Gods unchanging hand, and today I’m saved, saved, saved by the precious blood of Jesus. I’ve been holding on now for Ninety Eight years. Pray for me.”

Mother Ida Slappy was a first Lady and a lady she was indeed; rearing her children, teaching each one of them their Easter and Christmas speeches. Mother Slappy made sure everyone of her children had memorized a song, a scripture verse, or speech for every occasion. There were no excuses in her house! Every one of her children had to know their part.

As the family grew, they formed a singing group known as the Slappy Gospel Singers and would travel with their father and sing at various events in Columbus, Ohio.

God Blessed Reverend and Mother Slappy. In 1984 The Slappy family was voted “Black Family of the Year”.

Reverend Joseph & Mother Ida Mae Slappy
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In 1949 they were moved to Columbus, Ohio to pastor St. Matthew F.B.H. Church. There were no strangers to Reverend Slappy. Through his faith in God, he taught his family to love the Lord and the Fire Baptized Holiness Church. By the preaching of the Gospel and living a consistent Holy life, many souls were saved and led to Christ. Psalms 37:37 “Mark the perfect man, and behold the upright; for the end of that man is peace.”

Their journey ended in Columbus, Ohio, the Lord called her faithful husband home.

Mother Slappy remained a faithful member of St. Matthew F.B.H. Church. She served on the Mother Board and served as President of the Senior Mission for over 20 years. Her favorite song is “I want to live so God can use me any time anywhere”.

Her testimony is sure “Praise God I’ve held on to Gods unchanging hand, and today I’m saved, saved, saved by the precious blood of Jesus. I’ve been holding on now for Ninety Eight years. Pray for me.”

Mother Ida Slappy was a first Lady and a lady she was indeed; rearing her children, teaching each one of them their Easter and Christmas speeches. Mother Slappy made sure everyone of her children had memorized a song, a scripture verse, or speech for every occasion. There were no excuses in her house! Every one of her children had to know their part.

As the family grew, they formed a singing group known as the Slappy Gospel Singers and would travel with their father and sing at various events in Columbus, Ohio.

God Blessed Reverend and Mother Slappy. In 1984 The Slappy family was voted “Black Family of the Year”.
### South Central North Carolina

#### Mt. Zion

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Minister</th>
<th>Mother</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>JoAnne Blackmon</td>
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#### New Bethlehem

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<td>Vennita C. Poe</td>
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<td>Rosa Hall</td>
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#### Mooresville Mission

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<td>Effie Fetterson</td>
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### Sister Leila Smart

Sister Leila Smart was saved in 1989 under the leadership of the late Reverend Edward Hunter Sr.

Sister Leila Smart has been the Youth Sunday School teacher for the last 20 years. She constantly drills her students on the Bible and leadership. Sister Smart is a motivational youth speaker.

For the last 15 years she has honored her students that graduate from high school. She's very dedicated to her church. Her current pastor and first lady is the Reverend Leroy and Sister Mae C. Green.
Deacon John Samuel Smith is truly a pillar of strength and faithfulness to the legacy of Mt. Moriah in Knoxville, Tennessee.

Affectionately called Brother Sammy, he is known as a man of prayer and great faith. As a second generation member of the Smith family to attend Mt. Moriah, he has been a faithful member for over 60 years.

Brother Sammy has served in many capacities, including member of the Deacon Board, Trustee Board, and A.L. Rodgers Male Chorus. He played the guitar, and for decades, served as a faithful custodian to our edifice, both internal and external.

Brother Sammy has a gentle spirit and is an encourager to the young and old, alike.

Mother Rose Lee Smyre is a member of St. Matthew FBH Church in Gastonia NC. Her pastor is Elder Troy E. Bethune, Presiding Elder of the South Western North Carolina District.

Mother Smyre got saved in 1960. She attended a Baptist church but visited a holiness church. After receiving the Holy Ghost, she joined St. Matthew FBH Church on Lincoln Avenue.

Mother Smyre had one child who was two years old when she joined the church. She raised all 6 of her children right here at St. Matthew, teaching them to love the Lord and their church. When Mother Smyre joined St. Matthew, Elder F.E. Robinson was the Pastor and the Elder of the Eastern North Carolina District. The Bishop at that time was C. A. Mills. “I joined when St. Matthew was on the Eastern District you know”. Mother McGlee and Mother Louise Bryant were instrumental in her development as a Christian.

Mother Smyre served on the Mother Board and on the Usher Board. She was a faithful usher and loved to hold the door at the church. She says one of the things that bothers her now is how much walking the children do in church. When she was an usher the children went to the bathroom during the offering and when the preacher got up to preach there was no moving. “That is how it should be now I believe.”

Mother Smyre has been a faithful member of St. Matthew for 51 years. She often tells us during her testimony that she has only been a member of two churches in her life. She was a member of Mt. Pisgh Baptist Church until she got sanctified and Sis. McClee encouraged her to come to her holiness church and she did just that and is still there.
Mother loves to read the 14th chapter of St. John and her favorite song, which she often sings, is “Just One More Time.”

**Elder Andrew L. Spellman** was born August 15, 1916 in Shiloh, North Carolina to Andre and Gracie Ann Spellman. He married Maude M. Thornton in 1940. They had two children while in North Carolina, and then decided in 1946 to move to Delaware. Elder and Mother Spellman have 12 children in total.

Elder Spellman served under the late Bishop David Shockley; he was an ordained Deacon and then was ordained an Elder in 1950. He served as an Assistant Pastor until 1959. He went out in a Greenfield to start his church. Elder Spellman had Sunday School in the saint's homes and held revivals on migrant camps on Old State Road in Ellendale. He built his first building for service and named it New Shiloh.

He joined the Fire Baptized Holiness Church of God of the Americas. The church was dedicated in 1961. Elder Spellman was blessed with the second building as a gift from the old Mt. Zion building in Ellendale.

Elder Spellman jobs include working for Sussex Poultry, Burris Packing House, Tined Chickens, working on the Dover Air Force Base in the chow hall, and he was also a Construction Laborer. He joined the Labor union and was a shop steward for 23 years.

Elder Spellman was the pastor of New Shiloh FBH Church for 49 years. He attended Fuller Normal School Ministers Retreat every other year. He was a dedicated and faithful pastor. Elder Spellman joined the NAACP, the Ellendale Community Association, and is a chaplain for both organizations.

He served as Trustee Treasurer of the Annual Tri-District Conferences. He is now the District Father and Adviser of the Maryland/Delaware District.

**Reverend Mae E. Sullivan** has served the Fire Baptized Holiness Church for more than 60 years. She has provided priceless service as church secretary & church clerk for Antioch and as a secretary during many Annual and Sisters of Charity Conventions. She also served as a nurse in the Youth Congress for many, many years.

As District President of the Southwest Ohio District, she would take money out of her pocket on behalf of the churches on the district, so as not to burden them.

In her younger days, you could find her driving the Saints back and forth to church and to the conventions. She will always help anyway she can.
Unsung Heroes

She was the pastor of New Hope FBH Church for eight years. Mother was recently appointed District Mother of the Southwest Ohio District.

Only the Lord surpasses her love of her family and the church.

Sister Mercy Dea Thomas is a native of Youngstown, Ohio. She was married at the age of 13 to Mr. LeeRoy Thomas. They had three children Bernard, Lundeana and adopted son LeeRoy Thomas.

At the age of 55 she attended Youngstown State University and earned her degree as a Teacher and a Masters Degree as a Reading Specialist.

She was saved at a prayer meeting and began attending Mt. Olive FBH Church. She was the musician for the church. Through her faithfulness to God the Lord called her to the ministry. She has served as pastor of Mt. Sinai Wellssville, Ohio, Mt. Sinai Alliance, Ohio, Mt. Moriah, Campbell, Ohio, St. Matthew Columbus, Ohio, St. John, New York and Athens Cleveland, Ohio.

Pastor Thomas continues to serve each and every day. Her favorite song is “Order My Steps” which the Lord has truly done.

Vernell Turner grew up in the Fire Baptized Holiness church. She has been a member of the church for 46 years.

Sister Turner is an individual whose commitment, hard work, and dedication to the Fire Baptized Holiness Church are unparalleled.

Her willingness to serve the church, and her diligence to duty, has earned our admiration and our gratitude.

She stands tall among those who believe that a lifetime serving others is a life well spent. Vernell doesn’t just look around and see things that need attention but she is the person who does something about it. Sister Turner is a woman of action who knows how to rally the troops to get the job done.

She is the originator of our national church website – www.fbhchurch.org and the creator of a bookkeeping system designed specifically for our church, FBH Financials. She maintains the website and our national Facebook page singlehandedly.

Her actions and accomplishments may not have been heralded by the media, and made known to the American public, but she is revered among her peers as somebody you should know. And so, we are proud to recognize her as an unsung hero.
Reverend Lois Vandiver-Galloway was born in Anderson County in Anderson, South Carolina on October 17th, 1919, to the Late William C. & Olivia Williams Vandiver. She attended Anderson County Training Schools and later completed her High School Education at Fuller Normal Industrial Institute in Greenville, South Carolina. She graduated with honors and in later years received an Honorary Doctorate given by the late Bishop W. E. Fuller Jr.

Dr. Lois Galloway, former member of Fairview AME Church in Denver, South Carolina, joined St. Luke FBH Church in Pendleton, South Carolina after her true conversion.

She often testified of her true conversion and how she walked from Sandy Springs, South Carolina to Pendleton to be saved that night. She said she was not going home until the Lord saved her soul. The sermon that night was from Proverbs 27:7...Subject: “And Her House is the Way to Hell”. She said she didn’t want to die and go to hell like that.

Mother Galloway served in many offices of the church. She was the pastor of Faith Chapel in Walhalla, South Carolina, Williamston, Victoria, Jones Chapel in Spartanburg, South Carolina, Mt. Moriah, Central, South Carolina.

Mother Galloway served as District President for 25 years and asked to retire from her position due to the leading of the Lord. Mother Galloway was an exceptional Woman of God. If you ever met her you knew her. She was solid in spirit and spoke whatever the Lord gave her to speak. She loved people of all walks of life. One of her main scriptures she used to live by was Phil 1: 21 “To Live is Christ & to die is gain.” She just knew she was a winner no matter what came her way.

The Songs of Zion were her life as was her preaching the Gospel. One noted Sermon was “Every Man in His Place” Judges 7: 21.

She was a woman who demanded order. She was a praise and worshipper, noted for her Holy Skip. Many were healed and delivered as she passed by them in her skipping around the church.

Sister Elvenia Walker has been a faithful and loyal member of the Fire Baptized Holiness Churches in Chattanooga, Tennessee to include both New Bethel and Macedonia for over 50 years.

Sister Walker is known across the district and in her community for the love she has for young people. She works in the surrounding housing projects near her church. She has dedicated her time in sharing the gospel through various methods.

One method worth mentioning is “Greenfield”. Greenfield was what she termed her efforts of working in the community and raising money. Greenfield faithfully contributed $100 on the Annual Children’s Day.
Sister Walker also plays the snare drum during weekly services. A notable hobby is writing letters to encourage those whom the spirit places on her heart. The recipients witness that the letters come at times when they are most needed. She is an unsung hero.

**Mother Ruby Jean Love Wallace** says there is nothing like our Church. She says she “truly believes in the doctrine of the FBH Church and how it sticks to the word of God. FBH tells it, right down - the line, whether right or wrong.”

Northeast Georgia District

**Mother Thelma O’Dell Warren** was born on March 27, 1923 in Suffolk County Virginia. Little Thelma’s mother passed during her birth; however, she was reared in the loving care of her grandmother, the late Carrie Lundy. She attended the public schools at Stoney Creek Virginia and finished her education in the District of Columbia.

On November 1939, she married the late Maurice Warren, Sr. To their union were born five children: Mable, Edward, Mary Ann, Maurice Jr., Anita and an adopted son, James. She has 26 grandchildren, 61 great grandchildren and seven great-great grandchildren. Mother Warren loves her family.

Mother Warren was saved in Baltimore, Maryland in a prayer meeting at the home of Rev. Carolyn Wheaten who was the pastor of Blessed Assurance Mission. And today she still proclaims that she is saved, sanctified and filled with the Holy Ghost. She joined the Fire Baptized Holiness Movement in 1974.

Since joining Bethlehem Fire Baptized Holiness Church under the leadership of the late Rev. Lucy Woollard Murray, Mother Warren has been a faithful and devoted member. Mother Warren has served as the chairman of the Mother Board, vice president of the Missionary Board, member of the Outreach Committee, member of the Mass Choir, Holiness Young People’s Union (HYPU), Worker, and faithful member of the Sunday School.

Mother Warren has always worked as a missionary. She volunteers her time and energy to help in the church, community, and with her family. Mother Warren doesn't mind being a servant because she loves the Lord, the church, and people. She loves attending the numerous services, seminars and conventions that occur in the Fire Baptized Holiness Church. Her favorite event is the Sisters of Charity Convention. Mother Warren believes in giving the Lord her best in praise and services.

Mother Warren is the District Mother of the Washington/Virginia District. On March 27, 2013, she celebrated he 90th birthday.
Sister Ola Mae Wheeler is a member of New Bethel FBH Church in Chattanooga, Tennessee. Mother Wheeler received Christ in her life at the age of 28 during a revival service. She joined the church that same year in 1949.

She was saved and joined New Bethel under the leadership of Pastor Alice Owens; the presiding elder was Elder E.J. Boyd; and Senior Bishop was Bishop W.E. Fuller Sr. Sister Hately was the District Supervisor and then she became District President.

New Bethel is the only church she knows and through her tenure at New Bethel she has seen the church change locations, buy property, change districts, and go through eight different pastors. She is now 91 years old and still serves as the church secretary, Sunday School secretary, and Mission secretary. Through the years there have been ups and downs, good times and bad times, but she is determined to be faithful unto death.

Minister Wheeler's mother promised God that if he would save her, she would make Him a soldier. Her determination is to keep that promise. Because of her age, she is not able to travel to conventions and district functions as she used to, but she is a faithful mother to New Bethel. She is always in full support. Her favorite scripture is I Corinthians 15:58 “Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labor is not in vain.”

Sister Blossie Whitt Williams was born on April 22, 1923. She came into True Light F.B.H. Church at the age of 26 years old and stayed until her death.

She was married to Deacon Ezell Williams. They did not have any biological children together, but they raised 3 of Deacon Ezell’s grandchildren in the home, Carolyn, Jack, and Marilyn after their mother died.

After Deacon Williams’ death Sister Blossie became the Chairman Deaconess at True Light. She held many offices at the church, Chairman Deaconess, Church Secretary, Superintendent of the Sunday School, and President of the Mission.

Sister Williams was a faithful member, always looking out for the welfare of the pastors that came to True Light. Whatever the pastors needed she was there to accommodate, whether it was a home cooked meal, a place to sleep, transportation, or whatever, she was there to help in any way that she could. You don't find that often in the church today.

We salute Sister Williams for her dedication and hard work. She died on April 8, 1993.
Deacon Edward Williams was born in Asheville, North Carolina in approximately 1874. He moved to Greenville, South Carolina and received his salvation under a tent revival conducted by Overseer W.E. Fuller, Sr.

They needed a place to worship so Deacon Williams donated Bishop Fuller land to build St. Peter, F.B.H. Church, 301 Pine Street, Greenville, South Carolina. He was the first Deacon of St. Peter and helped Bishop Fuller with his personal needs, buying him shoes and other items. Deacon Edward Williams lived to be 112 years old. Praise God for Deacon Williams!

District Mother Pearl Williamson is a jewel! Northeast Georgia depends on her to help make the program. She is known for quoting the books of Bible and always has some beautiful reading to share with us during our district programs. She is a willing worker for the Lord.

Zion Tabernacle, Atlanta

Brother Matthew Wilson was born April 1, 1923 in Salisbury, North Carolina to the late Reverend John Wilson and Virginia Jeffries Wilson.

On July 3, 1946 he married the love of his life, Lee Ola Henderson. To this union eight children were born.

He was the last member of the Eagle Jubilee Gospel Singers.

His courage, determination, and strength of character positively impacted the lives of many. He will be missed at Zion Tabernacle.

Reverend Ruby Young also known as "Queen" is a member of St. Matthew - the Praise House in Gastonia, North Carolina. Her pastor is Elder Troy E. Bethune.

Sister Queen, as she is most often called, serves in many roles. Currently she is a District Evangelist, South Western North Carolina District Editor, church clerk, and a member of the Mothers Board.

She has a smile that lights up a room and believes in giving you a great big hug. She has a beautiful spirit and she is always showing love. One of her favorite sayings is "love is what it does, it is an action word". Sister Queen is a prayer warrior and a mighty vessel that doesn't mind being used by the Lord.

The South Western North Carolina District loves her very much. She is our hero!
## DEPARTMENT OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

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