

G.T.A.H.

Great Things Are Happening

September 2012

Volume 3, Issue 8

In This Issue:

125 YEARS! HOW TIME FLIES! Looking back at Union Grove's past Shepherds	4
CELEBRATING 125 YEARS! Celebrating the entire month of September!	6
TRAVIS GREENE LIVE! You're in for a special treat—Free Admission!	9
A NIGHT OF ELEGANCE WITH RECORDING ARTIST BEN TANKARD A Black and White Formal Affair	11
MINISTERS' ORDINATION Four ministers commit themselves to God's call to ministry	13
UG SOUVENIR BOOK Pay tribute to a loved one, acknowledge a major achievement or share the good news about your business or club	16



Senior Pastor David A. Clarke
 First Lady Michelle W. Clarke



Celebrating 125 Years!

September Birthdays



Kimai Adams	Ardell Johnson	Brenda Nichols
Annie Allen	Craig Jones	Bessie Nixon
Barnette Anderson	Jasmine Jones	De'Queveon Parker
Gabrielle Benton	LaBrenda Jones	Carlos Perry
Kesha Bray	Mawusi Kambui	LaKeitha Randolph
Marilyn Byrd	Tevin Kendall	Anita Reynolds
LaDareon Copeland	Emmanuel King	Arthur Riley Jr.
Vernita Corbett	Jasmine King	Tiney Rolle
Tommie Cornish	Annie Lamar	Lashonia Rouse
Quinten Culpepper	Tanya Lambert	Terrance Slocumb
Johnny Dawkins	Hosea Laney	Curtis Solomon
Fannie Epperson	Maalik Leggette	Beverly Talton
Russell Gilbert	Joseph Legras Jr.	Cleophus Tate Jr.
Nia Glover	Charles Lenoir Jr.	Aubrey Thornton
Altha Jackson	Virgil Lewis	Diamond Tillman
Bobby Jackson	Hannah Little	Goldia Toliver
Dorothy Jackson	Rosemary Marsalis	Louise Waiters
Wanda Jackson	Iyonna McLean	UrLeaka Woodard
Deshon James	Darchelle Mitchell	Iris Wynds
Catherine Jarvis	Jordan Murrell	

September Anniversaries



David & Rhonda Salone
 September 24th
 Celebrating 18 Years

CHURCH SERVICE HOURS

SUNDAY MORNING PRAYER
 8:00 a.m.

SUNDAY SCHOOL
 9:00 a.m.

SUNDAY WORSHIP
 10:30 a.m.

SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY
 6:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY
 Mid-day Manna Noon
 Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

RADIO BROADCAST
 980AM, 1400AM, 100.5FM
 Clarkehouse Leadership Moment
 Sundays: 1:15pm—1:30pm

Union Grove Broadcast
 Sundays: 1:30pm—2:00pm

~ Learn ~ Serve ~ Give ~ Connect ~

OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday—Friday
 8:00 a.m.— 4:30 p.m.

Monday
 Office Closed

Additional Church Hours
 Tuesday — Friday
 6:00 p.m.—9:00 p.m.

Janice Scott
 Administrative Assistant



Join us as we celebrate Union Grove's
125th Anniversary
 the entire month of September



Sunday, September 2
 10:30 a.m.

Pastor Josh Kirvin
 First Baptist Church
 Warner Robins, GA



Revival, September 5 & 6
 7 p.m.

Pastor Wendy Smith-Martin
 Greater Victory Christian Center Church
 East Point, GA



Sunday, September 9
 10:30 a.m.

Pastor Lorenzo Heard
 Greater 2nd Mt. Olive BC
 Albany, GA



Saturday, September 15
 6:30 p.m. (Concert)

Sunday, September 16
 10:30 a.m.
 Minister Travis Greene
 Gospel Artist
 Stellar Award Nominee



Revival, September 18 & 19
 7 p.m.

Pastor Kenneth Doe
 Bethesda Christian Fellowship
 St. Helena Island, SC



Revival, September 20
 7 p.m.

Pastor E. Dewey Smith
 Greater Traveler's Rest
 Decatur, GA



Sunday, September 23
 10:30 a.m.

Pastor Bobby L. Smith
 Zion Canaan Baptist Church
 Columbia, SC



Banquet, September 28
 6 p.m.

Ben Tankard
 Recording Artist
 Location: Galleria Conference Center

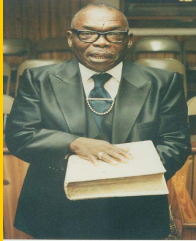
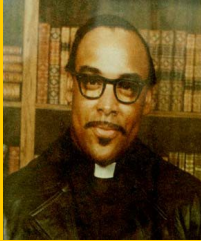


Final Celebration

Ministers' Ordination
 Sunday, September 30
 10:30 a.m.



125 Years — We Have Come This Far By Faith

	Years of Service	Total Years of Service	Notable Events
Minister Cleveland	<i>1887-1898</i>	11	Deacon and Mother Boards, Mission established.
George Bank	<i>1889-1900</i>	2	
Cleveland Smith	<i>1900 - 1903</i>	3	
Min. Ray	<i>1903-1906</i>	3	
Min. Gibson	<i>1906-1909</i>	3	
Min. Maddox	<i>1909-1913</i>	4	
Min. Mallory	<i>1913-1914</i>	1	Deacons A.J Stephens and Harry L. Davis were ordained.
Min. Matthews	<i>1914-1916</i>	2	
George Washington	<i>1916-1923</i>	7	
Min. Gilmore	<i>1923-1928</i>	5	
Oscar Edmond	<i>1928-1938</i>	10	First Mother of The Church (Ellen Carswell)was recognized
Eugene Edmond	<i>1939-1949</i>	10	Senior Usher Board established. Land for our present location was purchased.
Vacancy	<i>1949-1951</i>	2	
L. J. Ross	<i>1951-1956</i>	5	Youth department established.
R. D. Cummings	<i>1956-1959</i>	3	

	Years of service	Total Years of Service	Notable events
<p><i>Pastor James Henry Williams</i></p> 	1959-1968	8	New pews purchased for the sanctuary, Mission Department and Bible Study were organized.
<p><i>Pastor Augustus G. Tharpe</i></p> 	1968 - 1976	8	Communion Sundays held, Youth Department recognized, The Gospel Ensemble Choir was organized
<p><i>Pastor Bobby L. Smith</i></p> 	1977 - 1991	14	Food service department established. Construction of fellowship hall, kitchen, restroom, offices, Pastor study and pool started in 1976.
Vacancy	1991-1992	2.5	
<p><i>Pastor Arthur Lee Hicks</i></p> 	1992 - 2000	8	Built new sanctuary in 1995, implemented major ministry model; licensed and ordained numerous ministers
<p><i>Pastor David A. Clarke, Sr.</i></p> 	2002 - Present	10 Years and Counting	Purchased seven acres on S. Davis Dr., purchased and paid off the Vision Center, launched church website, GTAH newsletter, mission trips to Ghana, West Africa, digital marquee, expanded full-time staff, Life Changers relocation, Summer Camp

Pastor Josh Kirvin



Pastor Josh B. Kirvin, Sr. is a native of Warner Robins, Georgia and was educated in the public schools of Houston County. He received his Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of South Carolina in Columbia, South

Carolina. He has done graduate studies at Georgia State University and continues to receive additional educational and professional training.

At an early age he accepted Christ as his personal Savior, was baptized, licensed and ordained to preach the glorious gospel of Jesus Christ. He has served as pastor of First Baptist Church of Garmon Street since December of 1980, the church he affectionately calls the greatest church in the world.

The Kirvins are the parents of three children: Shanele Kirvin-Moultrie, a graduate of Albany State University; Josh, Jr. is a graduate of Warner Robins High School and Jana is continuing her education at Fort Valley State University. They have also been blessed with a son-in-law, Gregory Moultrie and grandchildren, Jaidyn Shanele Kirvin, Gavin Gregory Moultrie, Josh B. Kirvin, III (Tre'), and Lauryn Mitchum.

Pastor Kirvin has been blessed with the favor of God upon his life. He has preached throughout the United States and abroad. He has served on many and varied boards and committees throughout the state of Georgia. He continues to be requested for sundry assignments, which ultimately brings glory to God and blessing to the body of Christ. Why? FAVOR!

Pastor Kirvin says, "To those persons reading this, I have purposely omitted much of the 'filler' which often makes up one's biographical sketch. I am of the opinion that the anointing to preach God's Word and the character I display will tell you more about me than what you read. It is my prayer that you will find me being that which God has called me to be and doing that which He has called me to do. I am saved and I love the Lord and the Lord's people."

"It is my prayer that my past, present and future are embodied in the following: If I can help somebody as I pass along, if I can cheer somebody with a Word or a song, if I can show somebody how they're traveling wrong, then my living shall not be in vain. If I can do my duty as a good man ought, if I can bring back beauty to a world up wrought, if I can spread love's message as the Master taught, then my living shall not be in vain."

Pastor Wendy Smith



Pastor Wendy Smith Martin is known as a woman of character, integrity and wisdom. Born in Jackson, Tennessee, Pastor Martin is a learned minister. In 1984, she received her Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration from Lane College in Jackson, Tennessee. Recently, she received a Masters of Arts from Beulah Heights University Bible College in Atlanta, Georgia.

Because she is a woman with a God-given mission for ministering to the total man— spirit, mind, and body— Greater Victory Christian Center will set a new standard for ministering to the Christian and to the world. Pastor Martin's vision transcends all racial lines – preaching a fresh and inspiring message of hope, restoration, and healing. Pastor Martin's style has always been uniquely her own. Her words are dense with poetic commentary, startling insights, and contemporary applications of the Bible's timeless message.

She gives of herself unselfishly to the things of the Lord. In depicting Pastor Martin, one could say that she is God Chosen, Jesus sanctioned, and most of all Holy Ghost empowered, to bring about a transformation in the Body of Christ. Pastor Martin is a respected and dynamic preacher; a visionary, a beloved friend and mentor to many. She is nationally recognized as one "Chosen for Such A Time As This."

Pastor Lorenzo Heard



Pastor Lorenzo L. Heard is a native of Leesburg, Lee County, Georgia. Pastor Heard began preaching at the age of seventeen and after three years began his first pastorate at the Macedonia Baptist Church in Patterson, Georgia. In 1987, he became the pastor of the Saint Galilee Baptist Church in Sparta, Georgia. In 1993, he became pastor of the Greater 2nd Mt. Olive Baptist Church in Albany, Georgia where he is presently pastoring.

He is a 1981 Graduate of the Lee County High School. After high school, he attended the formerly known FVSC, which is now known as Fort Valley State University and after two years transferred to Morehouse College in Atlanta. He received a Bachelor's Degree in Business Management from Albany State University.

With his outstanding ability to lead and relate to people and his commitment to community and citizen building, Pastor Heard, along with others, have built an outreach program for the East Albany community that is definitely making a difference in the city. Since his arrival at Greater Second Mt. Olive Baptist Church, his commitment to "building a model community that in turn becomes a model church" can be seen in building structures and community programs, but most of all, in the changed lives of people that have been helped by the church and the outreach program.

Under the leadership of Pastor Heard, more than twenty-five hundred people have joined The Greater 2nd Mt. Olive Church family. He is leading his congregation and citizens of the community to be active in their communities, civic organizations and in setting the political agendas of the city. He challenges them to be conscious of world and community issues and to be proactive instead of reactive about how they will affect their lives. He also challenges everyone to be involved in the political system and agendas of the city and the nation by registering to vote and attending community meetings to be aware of the issues.



Minister Travis Greene



Pronounced dead twice by doctors and raised back to life by God, Travis Greene is on a mission to reclaim this generation for the Kingdom of God!

Travis feels that music is the universal language of this generation and he is filled with the expectation that his message will proclaim hope to the desperate and lead them to Christ through passionate worship. Travis wants his music to be received by those who know nothing about church and

nothing about the Bible. Travis says:

"I have been raised to be the voice that goes into the dark and desolate places to expose the life of Christ. I am not satisfied with doing the minimum when I encounter God, because when you are truly in His presence...something changes."

The mission of Travis is not political but is considered his personal responsibility and that is to expose this generation to the glory of God. The foundational scripture on which he stands is Romans 8:28 *"All things work together for good to those who love God, To those who are called according to His purpose."*

Originally from Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, Travis was signed to Pendulum Records in 2009 and received his first Stellar Nomination in 2010 for Best New Artist.

Through all of the hundreds saved, ministering weekly, a major recording deal, and the embrace at radio, Travis stays grounded by maintaining accountability to his spiritual covering – Pastor David Chadwick and Pastor Shamar White. Travis is also accountable to those he mentors and travels with because it gives him a reason to step-up to the challenge he dishes out. He serves at his local church, Forest Hill Church (Charlotte, NC) as Associate Minister of Worship and Music. Once his music is heard and received, millions will be thankful Travis Greene is indeed **"Still Here."**

Pastor Kenneth Doe



Pastor Doe is a native of Burton, Beaufort County, South Carolina. He is the fourth of seven children born to the late Deacon James E. Doe, Sr. and the late Sister Julia E. Donaldson Doe. He is married to Gwendolyn Hollis Doe and they have three daughters: Ariel, Julia and Kirsten.

He is a 1970 graduate of Robert Smalls High School, a 1974 recipient of a Bachelor of Arts from the University of South Carolina, Columbia, South Carolina, a 1977 recipient of the Master of Divinity from the Morehouse School of Religion of the Interdenominational Theological Center in Atlanta, Georgia, and a recipient of the Doctor of Ministry, Erskine Theological Seminary, Due West, South Carolina.

Pastor E. Dewey Smith

E. Dewey Smith, Jr. is the senior pastor/teacher of The Greater Travelers Rest Baptist Church – The House of Hope, located in Decatur, Georgia. Prior to moving to metro Atlanta, Pastor Smith served the Beulahland Bible Church in Macon, Georgia, as senior pastor/teacher.

A native of Macon, Pastor Smith received his Bachelor of Arts degree in religion from Morehouse College in Atlanta, and has done graduate studies at the Interdenominational Theological Center, Morehouse School of Religion. Smith graduated magna cum laude from Southern Christian University, Montgomery, Alabama, with a Master of Science degree. He received a Doctor of Divinity degree from The United Theological Seminary and Bible College, Monroe, Louisiana, and has completed postgraduate studies at the historic Oxford University in England.

E. Dewey Smith, Jr. commenced his preaching ministry at the tender age of 17 and his pastoral ministry at age 19. God has favored him by allowing tremendous and explosive growth to accompany his ministry. His first congregation grew from 48 to more than 3,000 members in 13 years. After faithfully serving at Beulahland, God elevated Pastor Smith to become pastor/teacher of The Greater Travelers Rest Baptist Church in January 2004. In just a short time, the church's membership has quadrupled and now exceeds 8,000. Amazingly, in just his fifth year as its pastor/teacher, The Greater Travelers Rest was blessed to acquire a seven building (totaling 300,000 square feet), 55-acre campus, featuring a 7,000 seat Cathedral – all for the glory of God!

Pastor Smith's Internet broadcasts are viewed weekly by millions around the world via StreamingFaith.com. He was selected as the "Up and Coming Broadcaster" of 2006 and the "Most Inspirational Person" of 2007 on the Streaming Faith network. Smith's works have been published in The African American Pulpit journal and he proudly serves on the board of directors of The Morehouse School of Religion (ITC) (Atlanta, Georgia) and The United Theological Seminary and Bible College (Monroe, Louisiana). Additionally, he was inducted into the Martin Luther King, Jr., Board of Preachers at Morehouse College as a Distinguished Preacher.

He is married to the lovely Andrea F. Smith, who is his best friend and the most influential person in his life. They have been blessed with two sons – Kamari Elijah and Kylen Isaiah.





*Union Grove Missionary Baptist Church Presents
Gospel Recording Artist & Stellar Award Nominee*

TRAVIS GREENE LIVE

*Saturday
Sept 15, 2012*

FREE ADMISSION

*6:30 p.m.
at Union Grove*

Pastor Bobby Smith w/ Zion Canaan



Pastor Bobby Smith answered God's call into the gospel ministry in August 1967. He began his ministerial work at Hopstein, Germany as an auxiliary Chaplain. He served as the pastor for the Gospel Hour service on Anderson Air Force Base, and the Naval Station, Guam. He became the associate pastor in 1975 at Union Grove Baptist Church of Warner Robins, Georgia and later became Pastor in March 1977. He served as Pastor of Union Grove until he became pastor of Zion Canaan in June 1991. "God truly smiled upon us when he blessed us with Pastor Smith and his family."

Pastor Smith's vision is to "serve the present age, his calling to fulfill" by establishing an environment where the family will feel safe and where their spiritual and physical needs can be met. This vision has come to life with the recent establishment of the *Center for Community and*

Family Transitions, an incorporated and 501 (3) (c) organization. He also believes God is calling out a new breed of believers who will walk in holiness, and so position themselves with God to receive the favor of God, the anointing of God and signs, wonders, and miracles will manifest in peoples' lives. Under his divinely inspired leadership, the people have experienced so many great and wonderful blessings: they have grown numerically and spiritually in their walk with the Lord and the church has become a purpose-driven church, where God is glorified and Jesus Christ is exalted in *worship, evangelism, discipleship, fellowship and ministry*.

Pastor Smith is a retired veteran of the United States Air Force of 20 years. He is a cum laude graduate of Fort Valley State University, with a Bachelor of Science degree in Music. Pastor Smith has also studied at Moody Bible College; East Carolina, El Paso Community College, and Macon Junior College. He received a Master of Divinity degree from the Interdenominational Theological Seminary in Atlanta, Georgia in 1986.

He received certification in Clinical Pastoral Education from the Milledgeville Hospital in Milledgeville, Georgia and holds the distinction of being the first Black Chaplain of the Warner Robins Police Department. While in Warner Robins, Georgia, he became the first black president of the Minister's Alliance and was former President of the SCLC. Pastor Smith is presently an active member of The SC Baptist E & M Convention, a former teacher in the SC Baptist Congress of Christian Education and a member of the Executive Board of the Gethsemane Baptist Association.

Pastor Smith was born in Wheeler County, Georgia, but grew up in East Orange, New Jersey. He is the son of Mrs. Dobie Smith and the late Mr. Willie Smith. Pastor Smith is married to the former Mrs. Carolyn Jean Hill and is the father of six beautiful children, eighteen grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. They reside in Hopkins, South Carolina.

Pastor Smith is recognized as a "Wonderful Master Work of God." His ministry is intrinsically linked to the #7 which denotes "perfection, completeness, and wholeness." Pastor Smith is truly loved and appreciated; for he is indeed a man with a heart for God and His people.

Gospel/Jazz Recording Artist Ben Tankard

Several years ago Ben Tankard's NBA basketball career dreams ended almost before it even started...with an injury. Since then God has saved him, anointed him to play keys, and placed him on a "Kingdom Team" that is undefeated!

Ben is now the Bestselling Gospel/Jazz Musician of all time with numerous Stellar, Dove, and Grammy awards, and gold albums.

He is the founder, owner, and president of *Tribute/Ben-Jamin' Records & Films (with Universal Studios)*, the Nashville based record label that discovered and produced Yolanda Adams, and many others. His new television show "Gospel Cribs," premieres in 2012.

Ben's instrumental recordings are enjoyed by millions and as a "Modern Day David," he is frequently summoned by Kingdom generals and organizations to release his musical anointing and teaching. These invitations include: The White House, NBA, Dr. Creflo Dollar, Bishop T.D. Jakes, and Dr. Bill Winston, Gospel & Jazz festivals and more.

He and his wife, Jewel, pastor the Destiny Center Church. One church in two locations: Murfreesboro & Nashville, Tennessee. He is a certified private pilot of his own aircraft fleet and is in training to become a minority owner of a NBA Team.

Ben says, "I stopped complaining about my many hats and my busy schedule after I was blessed to meet a man that owned 153 businesses. My anointing is to provide the soundtrack for Kingdom Multiplication. When I play and speak -- people increase."



*Union Grove
Missionary
Baptist Church
125th
Anniversary
Banquet*

"A Night of Elegance"

Black and White Formal Affair

*Featuring Jazz Recording Artist **Ben Tankard***

Friday, September 28, 2012

6:00 pm

Warner Robins Galleria Conference Center

2922 Watson Blvd

\$30.00 per person

Children under 5 are free

Dinner will be served

For More Ticket Information Call 478.922.5514





For we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord; and ourselves your servants for Jesus' sake — 2 Cor 4:5

Final Celebration:

Upcoming Assistant Pastor John Dukes is originally from Mulberry, Florida. He moved to Warner Robins, Georgia in 1985 and is married to Minister Dannie Lamon Dukes for a total of 13 years and counting. Together, they have a total of ten children: two sets of twins, Rodney and Rodrick, Farrell and Darell, two girls Stephine and Karen, and John F., Jerome, John Jr., and Joe. He and his wife have been members of Union Grove since 1991.

When asked about how he feels on Union Grove's Assistant Pastor, he says, "I feel capable of filling the duties that are prescribed." Minister Dukes has been a licensed minister since 1994 and ordained in 1997.

He loves doing what he is called to do by God and loves each and every day of it.



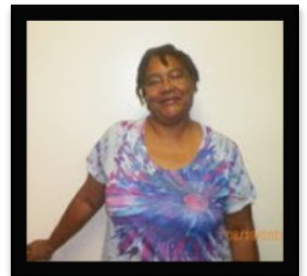
Minister Tommy L. Gray is originally from Mansfield, Louisiana. He and his family have been at Union Grove for approximately three years. Minister Gray and his wife have served as ministry leaders for the Equally Yoked Marriage Ministry for approximately three years. You could say they hit the Grove Zone running.

He came from a household of eight people. His mother's name is Emerline Gray and father's name is Louis Gray. He grew up as one of five boys and three girls at home. He left home at the age of 19 and joined the United States Air Force. He spent 26 years of military service and then retired. After four years of service, he married the love of his life, Mrs. Linda G. Jones, of Alexandria, Louisiana. Together, they have two girls, Renessa Strait and Kimberly who has completed medical school and is waiting to get accepted into a residency program. They have three grandchildren, Robert (12), Dara (3) and Joshua (21 months).

Minister Gray is thankful to God for allowing him and his family to come to Warner Robins, Georgia for such a time as this. He believes that they are under Godly leadership and a Man of God who wants to please God more than anything else. Minister Gray has been patiently waiting for this type of leadership and God has delivered. He is excited and humbled at what the Lord is doing. He is also grateful and thankful to God and Pastor Clarke for being who he is in Christ.

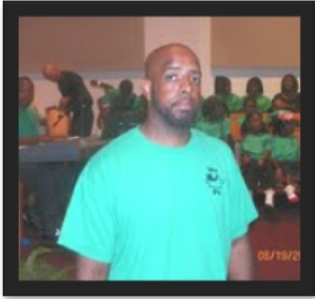


Minister Connie Dinkins was born in Madison, Georgia on January 4, 1956. In 1965, her family moved to Fort Valley, Georgia where she graduated from Peach County High School and later graduated from Fort Valley State University with a degree in Accounting. Upon graduation, Minister Dinkins worked for Fort Valley State University in the Business Department revamping their payroll system. In 1979, she started her career with the United States Postal Service. During this time, she gave birth to her son Corey in 1974 and her daughter Casey in 1979. In 1982, she transferred to the post office in Warner Robins where she later moved to the city. She became a member of Union Grove on November 21, 1982. On January 4, 2003, she and Joseph Dinkins were married and became a blended family of six children. They now have eight grandchildren. Minister Dinkins recently retired from the United States Postal Service on June 1, 2012.



She began serving at Union Grove in the Nursery Department, where she eventually led the department for eight years. She then started teaching Adult Sunday School class. Minister Connie continues teaching the Adult Sunday School and also Women's Bible Study, and leads the Women's Ministry. On August 8, 2008, she was licensed into ministry to preach and teach the Word of God. She believes that being ordained brings her closer to her purpose of teaching and training other ministers. For her, this is not the end of the journey, but only the beginning.

Ministers' Ordination



Minister Rashee Nehrod Ragin was born and raised in the city of Warner Robins, Georgia. He is 35 years old and has been married for five and a half years to his beautiful and lovely wife, Keshia. They have two beautiful children, Aamir Rashee Ragin "Prince" (3) and Laila Neriah Ragin "La La" (7 months). He has been attending Union Grove literally all of his life and became a member in the mid-90s.

Minister Ragin is completing his third year as Youth Vision Leader for the Youth Ministry along with his wife. They have served in this ministry for five years. Minister Ragin says, "Each year has brought forth growth and I truly enjoy walking in what God has called for me to do."

Minister Ragin initially had mixed feelings towards becoming an ordained minister. He says this because he really didn't want the responsibility that accompanied it, but he wanted to do what God had in store for him. "I wondered if I was ready. However, now I know that God wouldn't have placed me in this position if I wasn't ready and it's necessary to be able to carry out the charge on my life as well as my family. At one point in my life, I said I would never come back to Union Grove, but look at what God is doing now! Not only did I HAVE to come back, but He has me serving and ministering over our youth. At this time, there is nothing I'd rather be doing than being involved in the shaping of Union Grove's youth. I'm glad I didn't stick to that "never." Union Grove is my home and it's my home because it's where my heart is. I thank you all, as you have watched me grow whether it was from a distance or up close and personal.



Minister James E. Ford, a native of Conway, South Carolina, was born on August 15, 1940 to Rev. Thomas J. Ford (deceased) and Mrs. Elmita A. Ford. He is married to the former Anna Singleton, and they have five children: Rodney I. Ford, Andrea Nicole Ford, Jennifer Ford, Sherolyn Lemorris Ford-Sellers, and Thomas J. Ford. He was educated in the public schools of Conway, South Carolina graduating from Whittemore High School in 1959.

On February 26, 1974, Minister Ford acknowledged God's miraculous healing/deliverance from alcoholism. In March 1979, under the leadership of Pastor Bobby L. Smith, he accepted Christ's plan of salvation. He said, "Since 1978, my calling has been to minister to alcoholics and addicts in the Middle Georgia Communities including churches and prisons."

Minister Ford has had an extensive educational history. He has obtained a degree from each of the following institutions of higher learning: The Community College of the Air Force, Associate Degree, 1977, Ball State University, Muncie Indiana, Sociology Degree, 1976 to 1978, Air Force Substance Abuse Technical Training, Basic School, June to September 1978, and Advanced School, March 1979. Johnson Institute, Chemical Dependency Counseling, July to August 1979, University of Georgia, Family Systems Theory and Counseling, August 1980., Hazelden Institute, Individual, Group and Family Counseling, March 1981, Moody Bible Correspondence School, Introduction to the Bible, 1982 to 1983, Christian Counseling Concepts, Rev. Dr. Jay Adams, Nouthetic Counseling, (June to October 1983), Rutgers University, Advanced Counseling Skills, June to July 1984, Georgia Southern University, School on Addiction, July 1985.

While stationed at Warner Robins Air Force Base, Minister Ford joined the UGMBC congregation and became a very active member. In 1982, he was ordained as a deacon under the leadership of Pastor Bobby L. Smith. In 1981, he led the Addiction Recovery Ministry for a number of years.

In the community, Minister Ford has been active with the Peachbelt Mental Health, Advisory Board, 1979 to 1988; Georgia Addiction Counselors' Association (GACA), Board of Directors, 1981 to 83; Georgia Addiction Counselors' Association, Certification Board, 1983 to 86; Minority Affairs Committee, Chairperson, 1987 to 1993; Counselors' Professional Development Institute (PDI), 1989 to 94; Crandall Junior College, Advisory Council, 1989 to 1992; Alcohol/Drugs Prison Ministry, Assistant District Representative, 1983 to 1988; and Alcohol/Drugs Prison Ministry, District Representative, 1988 to Present.

Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think any thing as of ourselves; but our sufficiency is of God — 2 Cor 3:5

UNION GROVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH 125TH ANNIVERSARY

❖ In preparation for the 125th Anniversary celebration during the entire month of September 2012, the Church is requesting members, businesses, clubs, and organizations be a part of this history making event by placing an ad in the Souvenir Booklet that will capture the essence of this month long event.

❖ This is an excellent opportunity to pay tribute to a love one, acknowledge a major life achievement, or share the good news about your business or club.

❖ Your message will forever be a part of this very special 125th UGMBC Anniversary Souvenir Booklet.

Souvenir Booklet Cost Per Ad:

Full page	\$100.00
Half page	\$ 75.00
Quarter page	\$ 50.00
Business Card	\$ 25.00

(NOTE: There will be a list of patrons who contribute less than \$25)

POC: Min. Tammy Carpenter, 334-8997
or
Ms. Carolyn Jackson, 923-3957

thank
you



A special
THANK YOU
goes out to our
Anniversary
Committee for
all their hard
work in
planning and
organizing
Union Grove's
125th
Celebration!

Information

~ Ministerial Staff ~

Senior Pastor David A. Clarke, Sr.	478-988-9358
Minister Milo Bradley, Jr.	478-971-3346
Minister Tammy Carpenter	478-334-8997
Minister Connie Dinkins	478-335-1790
Minister Dannie Dukes	478-953-8789
Minister John Dukes	478-953-8789
Minister Leo Finkley	478-953-7625
Minister James Ford	478-929-0577
Minister Arie Freeman	478-333-3110
Minister James Gaines	*deployed*
Minister Tommy Gray	478-218-0482
Minister Rushia Jackson	478-923-1350
Minister Mary Lenoir	478-953-2350
Minister Keith Perkins	478-227-2509
Minister LaTonya Phillips	404-849-1502
Minister Rashee Ragin	478-960-6180
Minister Antonia Simmons	478-953-4290
Minister Mary Ann Swinney	478-918-4311
Minister Cornelius Thorpe	478-955-0126

~ In Training ~

Sister Marie Anderson	478-218-0072
Sister Linda Gray	478-218-0482
Sister Africa Porter	478-923-6770
Sister Earnestine Thompson	478-396-5890

~ Deacons ~

A-C	Deacon Jerome Stephens	478-929-1476
D-F	Deacon Slater Thorpe	478-218-8736
G-I	Deacon Donald Woodard	478-987-9865
	Deacon Louis Laney	478-329-0957
J-K	Deacon Robert Simmons, Sr.	
	Deacon Robert Simmons, Jr.	478-953-4290
L-N	Deacon T.C. Caldwell	478-293-8428
	Deacon Charles Lenoir	478-953-2350
O-R	Deacon Monroe Clark	478-953-2044
S	Deacon Alvin Myrick	478-788-5696
	In Training—Bro. William Jackson	478-929-4918
T-V	Deacon Edward Jarvis	478-923-5139
W-Z	Deacon Nathaniel Davis	478-923-7713

~ Where to Serve ~

Business Stewardship Ministry—Trustees, Finance Committee, Personnel Committee, Security, Wedding Coordinator— Contact Bro. Anthony Steedley/335-7838

Outreach Ministry – Evangelism, Missions, Prison Ministry, Recreation Ministry

Worship Ministry – Ministerial Staff, Music Ministry, Ushers/Greeters Ministry, Surrendered Dance Ministry, In Door Reporter, Genuine Praise Step Team, 4-Him2, 4-Him—Contact Sis. Africa Porter/923-6770

Teaching Ministry – Sunday School, Bible Study, New Members Orientation, Training Ministry, PLACE Ministry—Contact Sis. Wanda Verrett/328-1483

Spiritual Enrichment Ministry – Deacons Ministry, Deaconess Ministry, Men’s Ministry, Women’s Ministry, Single’s Ministry, Married Couples Ministry, Golden Achievers Ministry, Glory Girls Book Club, Healthcare Ministry, Grief Support, Serenity/Addiction—Contact Dea. Donald Woodard/987-9865

Operational Support Ministry – Media Ministry, Computer Support Ministry, Floral Ministry, Public Relations, Bus Ministry, Food Service, Funeral Coordinator, Newsletter Ministry

Youth Ministry – Children’s Church, Nursery Ministry, Puppet Ministry, Scholarship Ministry, Girl Power, D.E.T.O.U.R. Ministry—Contact Min. Rashee Ragin/322-208

All announcements for the bulletin, screen, and website can be submitted by email to uniongrovl@aol.com or complete a bulletin request form, and place it in the Administrative Assistant box no later than Wednesday at 5:00pm.

To schedule funerals at the church, please contact Sis. Wanda Verrett at 478-328-1483

Vision Center Scheduling/Viewing. Please contact Sis. Latonya Phillips at 478-929-4022 to schedule events at the Vision Center.

For a ride to Sunday services, please call 478-922-5514 by Thursday, 5:00pm

Great Things Are Happening

And the Best is Yet to Come!

The G.T.A.H. Staff

Jairee Williams

Carolyn Jackson

Shirley Jackson

Ashley Whitehead

Jackie Powell

Willie Smith

Leo Finkley

The G.T.A.H..Newsletter is published by the last day of the month. If you would like to see your ministry or event featured in the G.T.A.H., contact any member from the Newsletter Ministry or email us at GTAHNewsletter@gmail.com by the 3rd Friday of every month or place them in the Newsletter/G.T.A.H. box in the copy room.

Note:

Please limit all articles solely for the great things that are happening at Union Grove when emailing your submissions. Articles should be no more than 500 words in length, with Times New Roman Font, Size 12 single-spaced. While all submissions are welcome, the G.T.A.H. Staff has the right to make any necessary revisions and make the decision to exclude the article if it does not meet the above criteria or fit the theme of the newsletter.

The Newsletter Ministry would like to thank everyone who contributed to the September issue. Your support and assistance have truly been a blessing to the ministry.

THANK YOU!

G.T.A.H. Mission Statement

To aid others in spreading the knowledge of Christ and encouraging spiritual living through printed words