

Historical View of Central Baptist Church
~ Now Central Baptist Church of Camp Springs
May 29, 1964 – May 19, 2019

Rev. Dr. Henry S. Moore, Sr. (Deceased)

Founder and Organizer~ May 29, 1964 - November 22, 1987



Rev. Dr. Henry S. Moore, Sr. (1914-1995), was born in Conway, SC, to the Rev. Philip and Sister Maggie Moore*. He was educated in the public-school system and graduated from Whittimore Senior High School. He accepted Christ at an early age and was united with the Hemingway Chapel A.M.E. Church.

Pastor Moore was married to the former Rehodonia Dixon*. To this union two sons were born, Benjamin and Henry S. Moore, Jr., and one daughter, Joann (Moore) Lewis. In 1940, he moved his family to Washington, D.C., where he united with the New Bethany Baptist Church pastored by Rev. John J. Koger*. He was baptized by immersion in water in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost.

In 1942, Pastor Moore was appointed to the Deacon Board and was ordained in 1943. He served as the President of the Baptist Training Union, Chairman of the Deacon Board, Superintendent of the Sunday School, and President of the Pastor's Aide Club. He organized a Bible Class, a Willing Workers' Club, and sang in the choir for several years.

While serving as Chairman of the Deacon Board, Pastor Moore heard a call from God to preach His Word. In 1951, he preached his initial sermon and was licensed by Pastor Koger*. In 1956, he enrolled in the Washington Baptist Seminary and was ordained in 1957. During that year, Pastor Koger* appointed Rev. Moore as the Assistant Pastor; he served faithfully until 1964.

While serving as Assistant Pastor at New Bethany Baptist Church, Pastor Moore was led by the Holy Spirit to start a Branch of Zion; the first location was at 413 Fourth Street, N.W., in Washington, D.C.

After many prayers and much meditation, the first worship service of Central Baptist Mission was held on April 5, 1964. On that day, God's spirit led seven persons to join the mission--Sister Rehodonia Moore (his wife), Brother Henry S. Moore, Jr., (his son), Sister Margie Spain (his aunt), * Sisters Hazel V. Hardy, Marsha Crumer Reynolds-Coleman, Lucille Gates,* and Bernice Wallace Harmon.

As God added to the mission, Pastor Moore saw the need to organize Central Baptist Church. This worship service was held on May 29, 1964. Since the church was in a redevelopment area, Pastor Moore set out to find a new location for the church. He located and purchased a building at 2417 Naylor Road, S.E., Washington, D.C. On November 1, 1964, the first worship service was held at this edifice.

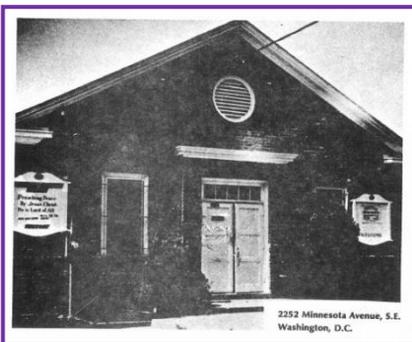
During the first four years (1964-1968), 18 auxiliaries were organized, including the Deacon and Deaconess Boards, the Board of Directors, Bible Class, Church Training Union, Senior Citizens Club, the Food Bank, and many other helpful entities. Rev. Robert Howard* served as the first Assistant to the Pastor until he was called back to his home church, Mt. Pisgah Baptist Church; and the first two sons of Central were borne--Rev. Samuel A. Ross* and Rev. Randolph Brunson*. Rev. Samuel A. Ross* served as the Assistant to the Pastor and Rev. Randolph Brunson* served as Minister to the Sick.



2417 Naylor Road, S.E., Washington, D.C.

Some of Central's other first appointed officers were: Mother of Central, Sister Margie Spain*; Deacon of Central, Oscar Woodward*; Chairman of the Deacon Board, Amos Jackson*; Chairlady of Deaconess Board, Nettie Nixon*; Chairman of Board of Directors, Deacon James R. Revell*; the first female Chairman of Board of Directors, Sister Jean L. Easter; and Chairman of the Board of Christian Education, Deacon William Neal.

There were 25 spirit-filled brothers on the Deacon Board, many ordained by Pastor Moore: Deacons Audry Bennett, Jerry Calhoun*, Charlie Campbell, William Crudup*, Eugene Edmondson*, George A. Fitzgerald, James Fitzgerald*, George C. Gilbert, George K. Gilbert*, John Harnett, Amos Jackson* (Chairman), Lewis Jackson, Preston Jones, Timothy Jones, John Kendrick*, Perry Lee*, Wilbert Lewis, Ernest Mathis*, William Neal, James Palmer*, John H. Parker*, James R. Revell*, Fletcher Rosser*, Benjamin Sanders, Jr., and Oscar Woodward.* Four deacons still remain at Central—Deacons Audry Bennett, Charlie Campbell, Preston Jones, and Benjamin Sanders, Jr. The remaining deacons have moved on to other churches or are ministers or pastoring at other churches.



As God continued to bless Central, it became apparent that a larger facility was needed. The Pastor and church located and purchased property at 2252 Minnesota Avenue, S.E., Washington, D.C. Pastor Moore and others did many things to beautify the building and make it a comfortable edifice.

As God sent more laborers into the vineyard, four persons were called to the Gospel Ministry: Rev. Earl A. Ross (son of Rev. Samuel A. Ross*), Rev. George C. Gilbert, Evangelist Hazel V. Hardy, and Rev. William Neal.

On March 27, 1977, a Mortgage Burning Worship Service was held for 2252 Minnesota Avenue, S.E., Washington, D.C.; it was a glorious occasion in the history of Central Baptist Church. As the mortgage was burned, we could see the need to expand or relocate. After looking at several properties, the church settled on the location at 3160 Pennsylvania Avenue, S.E., Washington, D.C. On the first Sunday in December 1977, the church joyfully relocated there.



For the first 14 years at this location, God continued to add more laymen and ministers to the fold. The ministers were Rev. Smiley Sapp, Evangelist Ruth Sapp, and Revs. Ray H. Bolen*, Charles Wilson, George A. Fitzgerald, James Sturdivant, John H. Parker*, Richard West, Reginald Sanders *, Stanley Kelley*, William H. Spencer, Jr., Johnny Ferguson, Marion H. Pierce, Jr., and Arthur Buchanan. Some of the remaining Ministers are pastoring at other churches and some have united with other churches.

In 1979, Pastor Moore organized the Men's and Women's Departments. Deacon Audry O. Bennett was President of the Men's Department and Sister Geneva B. Williams was the President of the Women's Department. Both departments worked diligently for the Lord. Pastor Moore also organized the Youth Department. Sister Geneva B. Williams was also the Directress of the Youth Department. On each fifth Sunday, the youth rendered spirit-led and spirit-filled worship services.

In May 1982, God saw fit to take from our midst Rev. Randolph Brunson and on August 25, 1983, our beloved First Lady Rehodonia Moore. We truly miss them dearly, but God loved them best.

On December 16, 1984, Pastor Moore earned an Honorary Doctor of Divinity Degree for his contribution in educating so many of his associates in the Gospel Ministry. This degree was conferred upon him by the Rev. J. Haskell Mayo, Bishop of the 16th Episcopal District of the African Methodist Episcopal (A.M.E.) Church.

Pastor Moore faithfully served Central Baptist Church as its Organizer, Pastor, and Spiritual Leader for 23 1/2 years. On November 22, 1987, he retired from this pastorate.

On December 10, 1987, the church elected Assistant Pastor John H. Parker* to become the Pastor-Elect of Central Baptist Church. At that time, the title of Pastor Emeritus was bestowed upon Pastor Moore.

On March 27, 1988, Rev. John H. Parker* was installed as Pastor of Central Baptist Church. This celebration was highlighted with three spirit-filled services. This was indeed a grand occasion in the history of Central Baptist Church.

**Deceased*



Rev. John H. Parker, Pastor (Deceased)

March 27, 1988 - February 12, 2012

Pastor John H. Parker (1939-2012) was born in Monroeville, AL, to Rev. and Sister M. H. Parker*. At an early age, Pastor Parker joined New Nazareth Baptist Church in nearby Deatsville, AL, and was baptized by immersion in water in the name of the Father, Son, and the Holy Ghost. He attended public schools in the area. Pastor Parker married the former Diane Elois Harvey; to the union two lovely daughters were born, Chandra and Lynn.

Upon graduating from high school, Pastor Parker joined the U.S. Army where he served honorably for 22 years.

After retirement from the U.S. Army in October 1980, Pastor Parker moved to Washington, D.C. and immediately united with Central Baptist Church. In 1981, he was appointed to the Deacon Board and was ordained on October 10, 1982.

In 1984, God called Pastor Parker into the Ministry to preach the Gospel. The Rev. Dr. Henry S. Moore, Sr., licensed him. On April 11, 1987, he was ordained and installed as the Assistant Pastor of Central Baptist Church. On December 10, 1987, he became Pastor-Elect and on March 27, 1988, was installed as the Pastor of Central Baptist Church. In June 1988, he resigned from the U.S. Postal Service to serve as full-time pastor.

Pastor Parker attended Prince George's Community College and the University of the District of Columbia. On May 25, 1996, he graduated from the Washington Bible College with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Biblical Studies and Urban Ministries.

Pastor Parker was the source of much pride and admiration in the church and the community for his profoundness as a Gospel preacher, his dynamic leadership, and most of all, for the record he established in bringing lost souls to Christ.

On May 27, 1988, Central Baptist Church held its First Anniversary Banquet at the LaFontaine Bleu Caterers in Landover, MD. This affair was held in honor of our beloved former Pastor and Organizer, Rev. Dr. Henry S. Moore, Sr.*, who retired November 22, 1987.

On October 22, 1988, Rev. Samuel A. Ross departed this life. Many other members are now deceased, and we thank God for their love, work, and fellowship while they were here with us.

On March 26, 1989, Pastor Parker celebrated his first anniversary as Pastor of Central Baptist Church at the 10:45 a.m. worship service. Much joy was spread on that day for the Pastor, his family, and the church. Pastor Parker's older brother, Rev. Mack H. Parker*, Pastor of The Good Ship Baptist Church in Millbrook, AL, preached a spirit-filled sermon.

Faith and prayer have truly been our church reward under Pastor Parker's capable and spiritual leadership. In October 1989, the mortgage for Central Baptist Church at 3160 Pennsylvania Avenue, S.E., Washington, D.C., was paid in full. On November 11, 1989, a Mortgage Burning Worship Service was held commemorating this glorious affair.

In 1989, we were blessed with the ordination of four additional deacons to The Board--Deacons George Miles, Lindsay Williams, Walter Weaver, and Bernard Jackson. Also, Deacon Phillip Green* united with the church and was appointed to The Board.

During the week of April 23-27, 1990, Pastor Parker preached his first revival at Old Way Baptist Church, located at 1335 Michigan Avenue, N.E., Washington, D.C.

In August 1991, five ministers were added to the Gospel Ministry--Ministers Lincoln M. Burruss, Jr., Reginald K. Thornton, Bernard Jackson, Charles Russell, and Lewis Jackson. God continued to bless Central Baptist Church.

Also, during 1988-1992, Pastor Parker made many worthy contributions. He organized the Henry S. Moore Inspirational Choir, a New Members Orientation Class, an annual church cookout and a nine-member Trustee Board. He also implemented a scholarship fund for college-bound students, computerized the church office, established a "unified" church budget, organized a Pastoral Advisory Committee, a Food Share Program, established a Cub Scout pack, and a noon-day Bible Study.

In February 1993, an Ordination Service was held for three more deacons--William Lewis*, McLloyd Mansfield, and Willie Rawls, Sr.* Also in 1993, to encourage more participation in the Youth Department and the Men's Department, the Youth Department was changed to the Youth Ministry and the Men's Department was changed to the Men's Ministry; and an Outreach Ministry was also established. In keeping with other auxiliaries and to encompass a broader prospective of outreach programs, on October 9, 1994, the Women's Department became the Women's Ministry.

Also, in 1994, approximately 3.2 acres of land was acquired on Linda Lane and Old Branch Avenue in Camp Springs, MD, for the building of a new edifice for Central Baptist Church.

On January 20, 1995, our Founder and Organizer, Pastor Henry S. Moore, Sr., left this earthly home and went home to be with the Father in Heaven. Pastor Moore gave up so much to obtain and sustain Central Baptist Church and his hard work will never go in vain. We at Central Baptist Church shall never forget him. His love will always remain in our hearts; we honor his legacy, and his spirit will always culminate around us. Although we will miss him greatly, we know he is at peace with the Lord.

On June 13, 1995, Pastor Parker appointed Minister Lewis Jackson as Assistant to the Pastor to share some of the duties in his absence.

In December 1995, Pastor Parker changed the Trustee Board to the Trustee Committee and changed all other auxiliaries to Ministries, except for the Deacon Board.

On September 1, 1996, an Ordination Service was held for Minister Lewis Jackson at his home church, Macedonia Baptist Church, in Heathsville, VA. Many prayers went out to Rev. Jackson on that day, and the church has been richly blessed because of his ordination. Rev. Jackson later became Pastor of his home church.

In 1997 and 1998, five members were called to the Gospel Ministry. On July 13, 1997, Deacon William Crudup* and on August 10, 1997, Brother Alan Anderson preached their Trial Sermons. God blessed us in a mighty way! Also on September 7, 1997, Pastor Parker invited Evangelist Gwendolyn Leftwich to the pulpit--the first woman under his leadership to join the fold of the Ministerial Staff. On November 16, 1997, Sister Miranda Williams preached her Trial Sermon and was the first woman under Pastor Parker's leadership to be licensed as a minister. What a joyous occasion it was to have these two women added to the Ministerial Staff. God further blessed us on March 8, 1998, when Sister Patricia Ruffin preached her Trial Sermon.

We thank God for the wisdom he provided Pastor Parker as he led this congregation onward to greater heights while he preached God's mighty Word. On December 19, 1998, Minister Lincoln M. Burruss, Jr., was ordained at the New Home Baptist Church in Landover, MD. Also, in this same year, additional property was acquired on Linda Lane and Old Branch Avenue--the land needed to supplement the building site.

On July 10, 1999, the Constitution and Bylaws were ratified, and the mission of Central Baptist Church was established and has become a part of our 7:30 a.m. and our 10:45 a.m. worship services.

On April 30, 2000, the fifth Sunday services were changed to *Family Day*. What a joyous and spiritual fellowship we enjoyed as we celebrated the occasion on that day.

God is continually sending laborers to the vineyard. On February 4, 2001, Rev. Braxon Williams* received the right-hand-of-fellowship and was invited to join the Ministerial Staff. On March 25, 2001, Sister Lynda Brown-Hall; on April 29, 2001, Sister Sadie M. Martin; and, on May 27, 2001, Sister Lena Douglas, respectively, preached their Trial Sermons and became a part of the Ministerial Staff.

On November 27, 2001, to further spread the gospel of Jesus Christ, Pastor Parker established an Evangelistic Outreach Ministry, which focuses on evangelism, witnessing, and discipleship.

On January 28, 2003, a new choir structure was initiated and implemented by Pastor Parker and our Minister of Music, Sister Devoyne Young: A Women's Choir that combined the Senior Choir and Gospelites; the Henry S. Moore Inspiration Mass Choir that combined Henry S. Moore Inspirational Choir, Young Adult Choir, and the Mass Choir; Male Chorus; and a newly organized Youth Choir and Heavenly Angels Choir.

Also, in January 2003, the fifth Sunday, Family Day, ended and the fifth Sunday service returned to the two worship services.

On March 9, 2003, 21 graduating members of the Evangelistic Outreach Ministry were presented to the church at the 7:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. services. The newly-trained members of this Ministry now go out and seek lost souls for Christ.

On March 30, 2003, the Henry S. Moore Inspirational Mass Choir, now one of Central's largest choirs, was presented to the church as it sang with such vigor and with the spirit of the Lord. Also, on May 11, 2003, the Youth Choir was presented to the church.

On September 20, 2003, at 10:30 a.m., the ground breaking ceremony was held for Central Baptist Church of Camp Springs, MD. The theme was *Preserving the Past While Building the Future*; Scripture: Proverbs 24:27. Prince George's County Executives and other dignitaries participated in our celebration. It was a grand momentous occasion in the history of Central Baptist Church. God continued to bless Central Baptist Church.

On July 16, 2004, Deacons Timothy Jones, Chairman of the Deacon Board, Willie Rawls, Sr.*, Vice-Chairman of the Deacon Board, Wilbert Lewis, Secretary of the Deacon Board and Project Manager of the building site, and Trustee Francis Bryant signed the official loan papers for construction of the new edifice at Linda Lane and Old Branch Avenue in Camp Springs, MD.

On July 10, 2005, the Central family held its last worship service at 3160 Pennsylvania Avenue, S.E., Washington, D.C., and on the next Sunday, July 17, 2005, at 10:00 a.m., we began our worship service at the Orr Elementary School located at 2200 Minnesota Avenue, S.E., Washington, D.C.

We then began the process of selling our edifice at 3160 Pennsylvania Avenue. As God provided us with a purchaser of our old building on July 29, 2005, the papers were signed, and our old building was now sold. On November 27, 2005, we held our last Sunday worship service at Orr Elementary School. As we were looking forward to moving in our new edifice, we were thankful to the school administrator for providing us with a place to worship while our new church was being erected.



Finally, after two years of building, the new church was now ready for us to move in; and on December 3, 2005, we held our Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for the Central Baptist Church of Camp Springs, located at 5600 Old Branch Avenue, Camp Springs, MD. It was a glorious occasion in the name of the Lord. On December 4, 2005, we held our first Sunday worship services in our new building at 7:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m., with Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. We praised God for blessing us so bountifully.

In January 2006, an Hour-of-Power Prayer Service was established to be held on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

On February 26, 2006, at the 10:45 a.m. worship service, we held our first Baptism at our new church; we observed the baptismal pool where eight candidates were baptized.

The dedication of our church to God began on May 15-19, 2006, with a week of evening services, culminating on Sunday, May 21, 2006, at 10:45 a.m. with a Homecoming Service. The theme was *Praising God for a Marvelous Thing!* Psalms 98 and 118:23. Dr. Earl A. Ross, a son of Central and Pastor of Randall Memorial Baptist Church, preached at the service.

On July 30, 2006, at the 10:45 a.m. service, we held our First Annual All States Day. Its purpose is to share the uniqueness and diversity of a state, as well as establish an Annual Mortgage Burning Fundraiser. North Carolina was the host state and the event was sponsored by the Deacon Board. Bishop Jessie Jones and his choir of Rouse's Abundant Life Ministries, Ayden, NC, were our guests.

On December 17, 2006, at the 10:45 a.m. service, the Music Ministry presented its first Christmas Cantata, *Born to Set Us Free*, consisting of three spiritual acts, music, dance, and spiritual discourse, which were magnificently blessed.

Also in 2006, three ministers united with the church--Rev. George A. Hinton, Jr., Geoffrey Thomas, and Dr. Mary Ann Sykes*—and six deacons united with the church from other churches--Deacons Herman Jones, Maurice Williams, T. Edison Crabbe, Sr., Elmer Jackson*, Walter Williams, and Rudolph Hodges.

In February 2007, Rev. Shirley Darden became a member of Central; later in the year she was invited to the pulpit.

On May 12, 2007, the Golden Light Seniors Ministry hosted its First Senior Banquet and Annual Day Worship Service on May 13, 2007. The Ministry was originally organized by Rev. Dr. Henry S. Moore, Sr.* as the Seniors Club, and the name was later changed to Golden Light Seniors Ministry.

On July 29, 2007, we celebrated our Second Annual All States Day, hosted by the States of Virginia and West Virginia, at the 10:00 a.m. service. The theme was *Virginia Is for Lovers and God Is Love*; Scripture: 1 John 4:7-8. Rev. Dr. David A. Cunningham, Pastor, First Baptist Church, Colonial Beach, VA, and his choir were our guests.

To show Pastor Parker our love as our leader, on December 9, 2007, a Pastor's Appreciation Day was held in his honor. Sermonettes were preached by Rev. Lincoln Burruss, Jr. and Minister Lynda Brown-Hall at the 7:30 a.m. service followed by a reception in the Fellowship Hall; at the 11:15 a.m. service the sermonettes continued with Rev. Ray Bolen* and Minister Miranda Williams. This day was one of glorifying God for his greatness of having Pastor Parker as our Spiritual leader and a man who loves all his flock.

Also, in 2007, the Kericho, Kenya, Foreign Mission Project opened the doors of The Kipsitet Baptist Church Medical Clinic in Kipsitet, Kenya (East Africa). The Clinic is funded by donations and an annual fundraiser breakfast and to date has seen over 237,000 people who have been treated for various illnesses. The proceeds are used to purchase medicines for the clinic and its preservation. The Mission Partners are Rev. Larry W. Jordan, Pastor & Mission Coordinator, Maple Springs Baptist Church, Capitol Heights, MD; Dr. James Thompson, Ph.D., Mission Ambassador, Maple Springs Baptist Church, Capitol Heights, MD; Rev. Lynda Brown-Hall, Mission Ambassador, Outreach Ministry, Inc., Washington, D.C.; Rev. Hezron Cheruiyot, Lott Carey, Superintendent, Kenya, East Africa; Rev. John H. Parker, Central Baptist Church of Camp Springs, Camp Springs, MD; Rev. Ernestine Battle, New Hope Free Will Baptist Church, Washington, D.C.; Rev. Bernard Taylor, Open Door Baptist Church, Washington, D.C.; Ms. Denell E. Parker, Parker Events & Consulting, Newport News, VA; Ms. Catherine Kilonzo-Yara, RN, Registered Nurse, Bowie, MD; Elder

Debra James, Zion Baptist Church, Washington, D.C.; Minister Deborah Boston, Capitol Heights, MD; Mr. Morse Hall, III, On with Life Therapies, Inc., Washington, D.C.; and Salvation Music Ministry, Washington, D.C.

On March 20, 2008, at 7:30 p.m., a Maundy Thursday Communion Service was held at Fort Foote Baptist Church. It was a night of fellowshiping together through preaching and song with fellow participating churches such as: Christian Unity Baptist Church, Pastor Rodney J. Blackmon; First Rock Baptist Church, Washington, D.C., Pastor Anthony Minter; Forest Heights Baptist Church, Pastor Gary Javens; Fort Foote Baptist Church, Pastor Joseph W. Lyles; Fort Washington Baptist Church, Pastor Darin V. Poullard; Kingdom Baptist Church, Waldorf, MD, Pastor Kenneth Brown; New Hope Baptist Church of Prince George's County, Pastor Carl Tilghman; and True Gospel Tabernacle, Pastor Marvin Battle.

On March 29, 2008, six Deacons-in-Training--Francis P. Bryant, Robert A. DuPree, Clifford E. Hendking, Burnut L. Lane, Donald L. Tuck, and Jonathan Williams--were catechized by deacons from surrounding churches. They all passed the catechism, leading to the Deacon Ordination Installation Service that was held on March 30, 2008, at 4:00 p.m. It was a day highlighted with Pastor Larry Philip McCray of Mt. Calvary Missionary Baptist Church, Temple Hills, MD, delivering the message; the Ordination Prayer was given by Pastor John H. Parker, and the charge to the deacons given by the Chairman of the Deacon Board, Deacon Timothy Jones. Those deacons became members of the Deacon Board with all rights as other deacons of Central Baptist Church of Camp Springs. It was a glorious Ordination Service--the third installation under the leadership of Pastor Parker.

God blessed Central in providing us with a glorious leader. On April 20, 2008, Pastor John H. Parker celebrated his 20th Anniversary as our Pastor--the first time celebrating it separately from the Church's Anniversary. What a glorious day of celebration! The day was highlighted with Rev. Patrick J. Walker, Pastor, The New Macedonia Baptist Church, Washington, D.C., who preached at the 7:30 a.m. service, and presided by Minister Miranda Williams, the first woman minister to be licensed by Pastor Parker; Pastor Parker's brother, Pastor Mack H. Parker* of The Good Ship Baptist Church of Millbrook, AL, who preached at the 11:15 a.m. service, presided by Minister Lena Douglas. The unofficial Cantata Choir provided the music at both services. Reflections of Pastor Parker were given by three members of the church at each service. It was truly a day of honoring Pastor Parker, with our First Lady, Sister Diane H. Parker, daughters, Chandra and Lynne Parker, and grandson, Isaiah. We give God all the praises.

On August 31, 2008, at the 10:00 a.m. service, we celebrated our Third Annual All States Day--the District of Columbia was the host. It was given full rights as a state in participating in our Fundraiser All States Day. Theme was *Disciples of Christ Standing Boldly on God's Promises*; Scripture: 2 Chronicles 7:14. Native Washingtonian Rev. Dr. James L. Martin, Sr., Pastor of Corinthian Baptist Church, Lanham, MD, and the Anointed Voices were our guests. It was well attended by many members and nonmembers.

We were blessed to have additional ministers unite with us. On September 14, 2008, Rev. Dr. Betty Ross was invited to the pulpit with full rights as other ministers of our church. Also, Pastor Clarence Lindsey* of Potomac Baptist Church, Washington, D.C., joined Central and became a part of the Ministerial Staff. Also, in 2008, Deacons from other churches joined the church. They are Deacons Melvin Ross and James Blake.

On January 1, 2009, Rev. Lincoln Burruss, Jr., became the Assistant Pastor. Also, all newly-appointed church officers, deacons and deaconesses from other churches, and newly-appointed deaconess were installed.

On February 1, 2009, Children's Church began, and Minister Sidney Williams was appointed Youth Pastor.

On June 7, 2009, Rev. Roy Wesley joined the Associate Ministers of Central and has been an intricate part of the Ministerial Staff.

On June 28, 2009, Sister Johnetta Lee preached her Trial Sermon and was licensed by Pastor Parker as a Minister of Central Baptist Church of Camp Springs with all privileges as other ministers in the pulpit.

On July 26, 2009, at the 10:00 a.m. service, we celebrated our Fourth Annual All States Day--the State of South Carolina was the host. The theme was *A More Perfect Way of Building God's Kingdom: Jesus*; Scripture: Matthew 6:33. The Rev. Dr. James H. Cokley, Pastor, Cherry Hill Missionary Baptist Church, Conway, SC, and his choir were our guests.

Also, in July 2009, Minister Dr. Earlene Hooker joined the church and was invited by Pastor Parker to join the Ministerial Staff with all privileges as other ministers in the pulpit.

On December 12, 2009, Ministers Lynda Brown-Hall and Miranda Williams were ordained by Pastor John H. Parker. The church was blessed to witness the questioning by the Ordination Council and Ordination Service. Rev. Dr. Regretta Ruffin, Pastor of New Saint Paul Baptist Church, Washington, D.C., presented the message.

Also, in 2009, the Young Adult Women's Ministry was organized. The purpose of the group is to provide opportunities for young women to share what they have heard, seen, and what they think will make a difference in the lives of other young women as they transition into fully active, participating, adult Christian women.

In January 2010, the Jewels of God began their Ministry. The Ministry was established to foster a "Christian self-esteem" for girls ages 10-14. The sessions consist of Bible Study and discussions about establishing a place in the Kingdom of God and being comfortable in that place. Deaconess Deborah Crabbe is the Chairperson and Sister Martha Brooks, the Co-Chairperson.

On August 29, 2010, at the 10:00 a.m. service, we celebrated our Fifth Annual All States Day--the State of Maryland was the host. The theme was *God's Grace Will Carry Us through All Seasons: Restoring, Redeeming and Releasing*; Scripture: Hebrews 4:16. The Rev. Dr. Welton Fields, Jr., Pastor, Southern Friendship Missionary Baptist Church, Temple Hills, MD, and Salvation Music Ministry were our guests.

Also, in August 2010, the Intercessory Prayer Ministry of Central Baptist Church of Camp Spring was birthed out of a vision of Pastor John H. Parker. He, being a man of prayer, had a desire to see Central Baptist Church become a "House of Prayer for all people." Pastor Parker, with the approval of the Deacon Board of Central Baptist Church of Camp Springs, appointed Rev. Dr. Betty Ross to head the Intercessory Prayer Ministry. The purpose of this Ministry is to equip the believer as to why and how to "stand in the gap," that is to intercede for the pastor, leadership, families, communities, schools, nations, President of

the United States, and all those who are in authority over us--pleading with the Lord for mercy to hold back the hand of God from consuming this Nation. The objectives are:

- Equip the believer with Biblical principles for understanding the importance of prayer;
- Understand how prayer is the union of the believer thoughts with the will of God;
- Understand how combining the power in prayer and the power in the Word of God results in renewed faith, victory, and answered prayer; and
- Understand that prayerlessness is a sin.

On July 31, 2011, at the 10:00 a.m. service, we celebrated our Sixth Annual All States Day--the States of Alabama and Georgia were the hosts. The theme was *Reliving the Dream*; Scripture: Joel 2:28. Rev. Mack H. Parker*, Pastor, The Good Ship Missionary Baptist Church, Millbrook, AL, and his choir were our guests.

On February 12, 2012, we lost our second leader, our earthly shepherd, Pastor John H. Parker, who brought in many who gave their lives to Christ. He will never be forgotten because he did so much for the congregation. He knew his members and was there for us to the very end. Now, we know he is looking down upon us, encouraging us in our spirit. We shall never forget him; he lived his life so boldly and impacted our lives so greatly.

On April 13, 2012, Rev. Lincoln M. Burruss, Jr., became Pastor-Elect of the Central Baptist Church of Camp Springs. What a glorious time for the congregation! The torch has been passed on spiritually from Pastor John H. Parker to Rev. Burruss. On June 23, 2012, Rev. Burruss was installed as Pastor of Central Baptist Church of Camp Springs.

**Deceased*

Rev. Lincoln M. Burruss, Jr., Pastor
April 13, 2012 - Present



Rev. Lincoln M. Burruss, Jr., was born on October 25, 1965, in Washington, D.C., to Sister Dorothy B. Burruss and Brother Lincoln M. Burruss, Sr.*; he is one of three children. Rev. Burruss is married to the former Angela Greenfield and is also the father of three children—Jada, Jalyynn, and Javon.

At an early age, Rev. Burruss accepted Christ and was baptized at Rehoboth Baptist Church where he was a member of the Young Adult Choir and church drummer. Later, he joined Central Baptist Church--now Central Baptist Church of Camp Springs--where he sang with the Young Adult Choir, played the drums, taught Sunday School, served as the Youth Pastor, and conducted new members training.

Rev. Burruss graduated from the University of the District of Columbia and received a Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering. He attended the Maple Springs Baptist Bible College and Seminary and is currently pursuing a Master's and Doctorate in Biblical Studies at Trinity Theological Seminary in Newburg, Indiana. In 1991, Rev. Burruss became a licensed Minister and was ordained in 1998. In November 2008, Rev. Burruss was appointed and voted in as the Assistant Pastor, and on April 13, 2012, he was voted in as Pastor-Elect of the Central Baptist Church of Camp Springs.

On June 23, 2012, at the 11:00 a.m. service, the church held an Installation Service for Rev. Lincoln M. Burruss, Jr. The theme was *Recognizing God's Divine Plan Blessed is the Man You Choose*; Scripture: Psalm 65:4. Rev. Rodney Ruffin, Pastor, Elim Baptist Church, Temple Hill, MD, was the guest preacher. Many pastors/ministers from other churches were present, as well as legislative officials. Rev. Mack H. Parker*, brother of Rev. John H. Parker*, and Pastor of the Good Ship Baptist Church, Millbrook, AL, presented our new Pastor to the church. Oh, what a glorious occasion in the Lord, which transpired on that day!

Rev. Burruss also served as President of the Mount Bethel Baptist Educational Congress from 2012 to 2015. He was the youngest President to ever serve. He is a certified teacher of the Congress. Also, he holds the office of Youth Director of Mount Bethel Baptist Association. During his tenure, he organized the first City-Wide Annual Youth Prayer Breakfast and Forum for the Congress. He is currently employed as a project manager with The Computer Sciences Corporation in Lanham, MD.

Rev. Burruss is a child of God who loves the Lord with all his heart, mind, and soul. He is a diligent and dedicated soldier for the Lord and loves to teach and preach God's Word. His desire when he preaches and teaches is that you will get to know God's Word in your mind, stow it in your heart, show it in your life, and disseminate it in the world.

On July 15, 2012, Deacon James Blake was appointed by Pastor as the Chairman of the Deacon Board. Deacon Blake brings a wealth of experience to the position of Chairman. Central Baptist of Camp Springs is overjoyed by the dedication this man of God has displayed as a member of the Deacon Board. With the help of the Lord, we know he will do great things as the Chairman and will provide the commitment Pastor Burruss needs to fulfill his vision for the church.

Surely, we are pressing on to higher ground under the leadership of Pastor Burruss. One vision of Pastor Burruss is to create a Community Outreach Day, which he and the Evangelism Outreach Ministry organized. Our First Annual Community Day was held on August 25, 2012, 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., and each ministry participated, offering clothing and Christian literature to the community. We conducted praise and worship services through sermonettes; and the Anointed Expressions Mime Ministry, Muppet Ministry and Daughters of Judah liturgical dancers performed. Congressional, State and County officials were present and vendors; they made presentations and presented literature and token gifts to all. The theme was *“Emulating the Love of Jesus.”* Much love was shown on that day and we were blessed mentally, physically, and spiritually.

Another one of Pastor Burruss’ visions is to enhance our spiritual education with more than one Bible Study class. He organized five fourteen-week noon-day Bible Study classes and four 14-week evening classes, and on September 12, 2012 we began the Bible Study classes. The noon-day classes were Bible 101, Historical Books, Poetical Books, Prophetic Books, and The New Testament Survey; the evening classes consisted of the above except The New Testament Survey.

On September 21, 2012, the Virtuous Young Ladies 4 Christ Ministry was organized of young ladies ages 14-18 from the Youth Ministry. The purpose of the Ministry is to develop and empower young ladies. They receive instructions on how to become Godly young ladies, such as instructions in etiquette, educational enrichment and life skills. The Ministry meets on the first and third Fridays of each month and Sister Janeise Beckwith is the coordinator.

On September 30, 2012, at the 10:00 a.m. service, the church celebrated its Seventh Annual All-States Day where all states were involved. The theme was *A Country United Together, God’s Church Forever*; Scripture: Psalm 133:1. One of the sons of the church, Rev. Roy L. Wesley, was the preacher of the hour and our very own Installation Choir delivered songs of praise. On this occasion, the Installation Choir was introduced as *“The Voices of Central”* and will sing on every fifth Sunday during the year.

On November 11, 2012, at the 11:15 a.m., service, the Evangelism Outreach Ministry held its First Annual Day. The theme was *Reclaiming the Mission of God*; Scripture: Matthew 25: 35-36, 40. Pastor C.A. Thompson, Mt. Rona Missionary Baptist Church, Washington, D.C., was the guest preacher. Our Heavenly Angels ministered to the congregation in songs of praise. The Ministry is diligently pressing towards fulfilling the mission of our church *“To seek lost souls for Christ.”*

Also, in November 2012, Pastor Burruss created and implemented a reorganization of the church—accepted and approved by the church body; Deacon McLloyd Mansfield was elected by the Deacon Board to the office of Co-Chairman of the Board; three deacons from other churches—who have faithfully attended Central for nearly two years or more—were introduced to the church as Deacons Under Observation; and nine of our brothers who were nominated were also introduced to the church as Deacons-in-Training. Deacons Under Observation are: Deacons Cain Brimage, Dennis Blake, and James Hauser; Deacons in Training are: Brothers Vincent Hill, Roger Hooker, Shervell Jackson, Billy Larry, Carl Linton, Henry Pulley, Harold Reddick, George Watkins, and Chester Williams.

In December 2012, Pastor Burruss announced the need for two support groups in the church: (1) a Widows and Widowers' Support Group to be organized by the Deaconess Ministry and (2) a Caregivers' Support Group to be organized by Sister Patricia L. Morris, a licensed social worker and former caregiver. Also, in December, a Chess Club was organized.

On January 6, 2013, at the 7:30 a.m. service, Minister Dr. Kenyon E. McAfee was invited to the pulpit by our Pastor, with all rights as all Ministers in the pulpit.

On January 27, 2013, at 3:00 p.m., Deaconess Shirley R. DuPree preached her Initial Sermon; her message was titled: *Walk in the Spirit*, Galatians 5:16-23. Minister Dupree is the first person to be licensed by our current Pastor, Rev. Lincoln M. Burruss, Jr. What an honor for the church and Pastor since our last Initial Sermon was in 2009.

Also, in January 2013, the Church Library, which had been equipped with computers and upgraded to a network system some time earlier by Pastor Burruss, was named The John H. Parker Memorial Library; and Hands of Hope Foundation--the caregivers' support group facilitated by Sister Patricia Morris--began meeting on the third Saturday of each month.

Praise God! Another one of Pastor's visions is a Holy Communion Service each month on the 4th Tuesday following the Hour- of- Power Prayer Service and on the fourth Wednesday following noon-day Bible Study. Our first Holy Communion Service was held on the fourth Tuesday and Wednesday of February.

On March 29, 2013, at 7:00 p.m., our Arts and Drama Ministry, organized in January 2013, presented its first Easter production – *Judas' Betrayal of Jesus*, inspired by the biblical books of The Gospels. What an awesome production! It really brought out the true Easter message. We thank the directors, Deaconess Ruth Blake and Sister LaShawn Van Horne, the writer of the play, for this production.

On April 21, 2013, the church celebrated Pastor Burruss' First Pastoral Anniversary. The theme was Pastor Burruss' favorite scripture, *No weapon formed against you shall prosper*; Scripture: Isaiah 54:17. The day was highlighted with guest preachers Pastor Tyrone Queen, Mt. Sinai Baptist Church, Washington, D.C., at the 7:30 a.m. service and Pastor Ronald K. Minor, Sr., First Baptist Church of Deanwood, Washington, D.C., at the 11:15 a.m. service. Our own Male Chorus ministered to the church in songs of praise. The church thanks God and Pastor Burruss for his leadership.

On May 19, 2013, during our 49th Church Anniversary, Pastor Burruss named and presented to the church one of our Charter Members, Sister Bernice Wallace Harmon, as the "Mother of Central Baptist Church of Camp Springs." What an honor and an appropriate occasion in the History of Central to be named "Mother of the Church!" We thank God for Sister Harmon's 49 years of dedication and faithfulness.

On June 8, 2013, the Deaconess Ministry hosted the kickoff fellowship for the Widows and Widowers' Heart- to-Heart Support Group. The fellowship was well attended--40 church members. The group meets the second Saturday of each month and is spearheaded by Minister Sadie Martin. Also, in June, Pastor Burruss appointed Sister Maya Anderson as our Foreign Mission Ministry Representative.

On September 15, 2013, at our United Men and Women's Day Worship Service, Gloria Lawler, Secretary of Aging, Maryland Department on Aging, presented to the church a \$10,000 grant for our seniors. Also, several County officials were in attendance during both services and letters of congratulations from Congressional and State officials were received.

All States Day-- which original purpose is to raise funds to burn the mortgage—was renamed by Pastor Burruss "Sacrificial Sunday or Sacrificial Offering Day," and on September 29, 2013, we held two Sacrificial Offering Worship Services. Guest Preachers were: Rev. Charles McNeill, Pastor, Unity Baptist Church, Washington D.C., at the 7:30 a.m. service and our neighbor, Rev. Dr. Kerry Hill, Pastor, New Chapel Baptist Church, Camp Springs, MD, at the 11:15 a.m. service. We praise God for blessing us so abundantly.

Also, in September 2013, Rev. Reginald Thornton--who had returned to the church in January 2013 and is our Fitness Instructor--was invited to the pulpit by Pastor Burruss with all rights as the other Ministers in the pulpit.

In October 2013, Rev. Roy Wesley began his Saturday Spiritual Warfare Bible Study classes. We were very excited to have a Saturday Bible Study class, as many members were in attendance. We thank God for Rev. Wesley and all our instructors for their servant hearts.

During our Annual Prison Day Worship Service on October 20, 2013, at 11:15 a.m., Sister Michele Reynolds, Central's Volunteer Manager of the Good News Jail and Prison Ministry, received a commendation from the Prince George's Correctional Center for her dedication and exemplary service—transforming lives behind bars by bringing hope through the Word of God. To God Be the Glory!

In December 2013, the Deacons under Observation--Deacons Dennis Blake and James Hauser--were appointed by Pastor Burruss to the Deacon Board with all rights as Deacons of Central Baptist Church of Camp Springs. Also, Sisters Maya Anderson, Mary Cole, Elaine Murchison and Virginia White were appointed by Pastor Burruss to the Deaconess Ministry. We thank God for these laborers in the vineyard for Christ.

On January 5, 2014, Minister Shirley R. DuPree, our Church Historian for approximately 19 years, went home to be with our Heavenly Father. Minister DuPree was a dedicated and strong woman of God—fully clad in the whole armor of God. We will sorely miss Minister DuPree and will cherish her beautiful, sweet spirit.

On February 2, 2014, the Young Adult Ministry, ages 18-35, held its first meeting. Pastor Burruss, First Lady Angela Burruss, Minister Dr. Kenyon McAfee, and Sister Terethea "Tee" Jones chaired the meeting.

On May 11, 2014, Deaconess Patricia Williams was officially appointed Church Historian by Pastor Burruss. For the past two years, Deaconess Williams has revised and updated the Church History.

May 12-18, 2014, we celebrated our great milestone – 50th Church Anniversary. May 12-15, we held evening spirit-filled worship services; May 16, a Musical Concert; May 17, our 50th Church Anniversary Banquet at the Martins Camelot in Upper Marlboro, MD; and May 18 was highlighted by two spirit-filled worship services. Our theme was *Reflecting on Our Past, Thanking God for the Present, While Praising Him for Our Future*; Scripture: Philippians 3:13. Rev. Dr. Henry P. Davis, III, Pastor, First Baptist Church of

Highland Park, Landover, MD, preached God's Word at the 7:30 a.m. service and Bishop C. Matthew Hudson, Pastor, Matthews Memorial Baptist Church, Washington, D.C., preached God's Word at the 11:15 a.m. service. We thank God for the abundant blessings He has bestowed upon us for 50 years—His love, faithfulness, grace and mercy.

On June 28, 2014, the Evangelism Outreach and Men's Ministries hosted our first combined Annual Community Day and Church Cookout. The theme: *Jesus is the Key of Life*. Scripture: John 3:16. Thanks be to God for a fun-filled and spiritual day!

On July 27, 2014, at 4 p.m., Sister Michele Reynolds, our Volunteer Manager of the Good News Jail Prison Ministry, preached her Initial Sermon and was licensed by Pastor Burruss with all privileges as other ministers in the pulpit. Her message was titled: *No Longer a Prisoner of Sin: Your Message In This Mess*, Psalm 51:1-12. Minister Reynolds will serve as Minister on the Chaplain Support Team at the Prince George's County Correctional Center.

On August 23, 2014, the new John H. Parker Cancer Awareness Ministry held its first series of monthly cancer presentations/discussions. The Ministry was initially established by Rev. John H. Parker* in 2011, to educate, enlighten, and raise church and community cancer awareness and stress early detection (checkups) and prevention through proactive education methods. Brother Albert Robinson is the President and Brother Leon Turner, Vice President.

On January 18, 2015, at 3:00 p.m., Deaconess Geneva B. Williams preached her Initial Sermon and was licensed by Pastor Burruss as a Minister of Central Baptist Church of Camp Springs with all privileges as other ministers in the pulpit. Her message was titled: *If They Only Knew*, First Corinthians 2:9-10.

On February 17, 2015, the Women's Ministry launched a Destiny Call pilot program curriculum, "Divine Discipleship for Sisters (DDS) Living in Him." This nine-month training program is for all women who are interested in maturing their relationship with Christ and fellowshiping with like-minded sisters.

May 19-22, 2015, 7:30 p.m., we hosted our first City-Wide Revival of the Baptist Convention of DC and Vicinity. We were blessed by five (5) prolific preachers of the Gospel: Rev. Matthew L. Watley, Reid Temple AME Church, Glenn Dale, Maryland; Pastor Johnteris Tate, First Thessalonians Baptist Church, Memphis, Tennessee; Pastor F. Bruce Williams, Bates Memorial Baptist Church, Louisville, Kentucky; Pastor Tolan Morgan, Fellowship Bible Baptist Church, Warner Robins, Georgia; and Pastor Dewey Smith, House of Hope--Atlanta, Decatur, Georgia. Also, music was ministered by the City-Wide Revival Choir.

On June 7, 2015, Rev. Annie Giles was invited by Pastor Burruss to join the Ministerial Staff with all privileges as other ministers in the pulpit.

On July 1, 2015, Minister Michele Reynolds, our Volunteer Manager of the Good News Jail and Prison Ministry, became Chaplain and Assistant to Senior Chaplain James Penn at the Prince George's County Correctional Center. Chaplain Reynolds will continue to conduct Bible Study and one-on-one counseling with the females.

On July 5, 2015, Rev. Justin Williams, a former member, and his wife, Minister Tierra Williams, joined the church. They were invited by Pastor to join the Ministerial Staff with all privileges as other ministers in the pulpit.

On July 12, 2015, Pastor Burruss (1) appointed Rev. Justin Williams as Youth Pastor. Rev. Williams and his wife will oversee the Youth Ministry; (2) invited Minister David Miller to join the Ministerial Staff with all privileges as other ministers in the pulpit, appointed Minister Miller as our Volunteer Manager for the Good News Jail and Prison Ministry and to assist Pastor with visiting the sick and shut-in; and (3) appointed Rev. Annie Giles as Minister to Seniors.

Pastor Burruss, in keeping with the times of modern technology and to enable our seniors to learn how to use the computer, as well as bridge the gap between the seniors and youth, initiated the following training classes: (1) On July 16, 2015, 6 p.m., the pilot Computer Training Class; and (2) On July 21, 2015, 11a.m-12 p.m. and 1:30-3:30 p.m., the Smart Phone Training Class

On August 15, 2015, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., the Nurses Ministry partnered with the Lott Carey Disaster Services Network and the American Red Cross to host our first Blood Drive. The Blood Drive was conducted to bring awareness to the African-American community about: (1) Sickle Cell Disease, which affects 90,000-100,000 people in the U.S. and about 1,000 babies who are born with the disease each year and (2) the benefits and rewards of being a blood donor. The American Red Cross focuses on awareness each February during Black History Month, and in September, which is Sickle Cell Awareness Month. Soon, the Nurses Ministry plans to host more blood drives.

On September 12, 2015, we partnered with Evangel Assembly to participate in the Convoy of Hope (Washington, DC), ministering to and offering impoverished, hungry and hurting individuals in the community free groceries, health and dental screenings, haircuts, family portraits, hot meals, career service training, and much more to the working poor. At the event, several people accepted Christ.

On October 17, 2015, at 1:30 p.m., the Divine Discipleship for Sisters (DDS) "Living in Him" Class held its graduation ceremony. We congratulated the following eleven (11) graduates for their commitment and dedication to this nine-month program: Deaconesses Ruth Blake and Elaine Hendking, Sisters Darlene Carter, Liz Chambers, Kathy Dixon, Brenda Gales, Lavonne Grant, Sylvia Lindsay, Gwen Stewart, Grace Williams, and Tolya Williams. Minister Rhonda Tuck of Hemmingway AME Church delivered the message, Psalm 139:1-14 (focus on verse 14), and the Women's Choir ministered in song.

On October 18, 2015, Pastor Burruss invited Minister Jacqueline Burke to join the Ministerial Staff with all privileges as other ministers in the pulpit. Minister Burke will assist in teaching Sunday School.

Due to the "Blizzard of 2016," on January 24, at 11 a.m., we held our first tele-conference Sunday worship service. Pastor Burruss delivered the message, *Waiting on God in a Messed-up Situation*, from Psalm 130. We thank God for modern technology that allowed us to come together and glorify Him during the storm. Also, we thank Rev. Dr. Betty Ross for offering the use of the prayer line.

March 8-11, 2016, we hosted our first National Progressive Baptist Convention, Inc., Annual Session of the 53rd Eastern Region. The theme was *Rediscovering the Power of Fellowship through Communion, Community and Commerce*; Scripture: Acts 2:44-47. As host preacher, Pastor Burruss opened the Pre-

Annual Welcome Service Pastor also delivered the message, *The Coming Together of the Past and Present to Move into the Future*, from Ezra 3:10-12. Rev. Keith W. Byrd, Vice President of the Eastern Region, thanked us for allowing the Eastern Region to use our church and said our church is a model for other churches in the Eastern Region to hold future conventions.

On March 24, 2016, we held our first Good Friday, noon-day Seven Last Words worship service. Our sons and daughters delivered a message on the Seven Last Words: (1) Minister Jacqueline Burke, Luke 23:34, *An Unselfish Prayer*; (2) Minister Johnetta Lee, Luke 23:43, *What Has Happened?* (3) Minister Dr. Kenyon McAfee, John 19:26-27, *It's A Family Affair*; (4) Minister Dr. Earline Hooker, Mark 15:33-34, *Separation from the Father*; (5) Rev. Reginald Thornton, John 19:28, *The Living Water*; (6) Rev. Justin Williams, John 19:30, *The Work is Over*; and (7) Rev. Geoffrey Thomas, Luke 23:46, *A Relationship with the Father*.

On April 9, 2016, the Golden Light Seniors Ministry hosted its first Senior Prom for seniors aged 55 and above. The theme was *A Night of Golden Lights: A Blast from the Past* and Scripture, Ecclesiastes 3:4. Deacon Autry Bennett was crowned Prom King and Sister Mary Raspberry, Prom Queen. It was a night of sheer elegance and to be remembered.

On May 5, 2016, 11:00 a.m. -3:00 p.m., the Intercessory Prayer Ministry hosted our first National Day of Prayer Worship Service. Representatives from several churches participated in the service. Fervent prayers, supplications and petitions were lifted to our Father on 27 prayer points. Theme: *Watch and Pray Always*; Scripture: Luke 21:36.

July 11-15, 2016, our Vacation Bible School was held in honor of Sister Ruth Campbell. Superintendent of Sunday School and Vacation Bible School, who went home to be with the Lord on May 18, 2016.

On November 10, 2016, 27 sisters graduated from the Living in Him Divine Discipleship for Sisters (DDS) Curriculum. The 2016 graduates are: Deaconesses Vivian Hodges and Patricia Williams; Sisters Betty Alsobrooks, Johnetta Brown, Betty Carter, Jill Carter, Loisteen Clark, Lillian Dillard, Veronda Dorsey, Scarlett Fields-Johnson, Katrina Frazier, Linda Hubbard, Kendra Jones, Zarin Jones, Julietta Larry, Frances S. Mann, Pearl Mansfield, Lorac A. Nix, Gloria Oliver, Michelle Pegues, Margaret Pulley, Edna Robinson, Scarlett Small, Lydia Smith, Shaunise Stewart, Mable Wade, and Jackie Whiting. Minister Deborah Leaner, First Baptist Church of Glenarden, Upper Marlboro, MD, who is the originator of this curriculum, delivered the message. Theme: *It's A Wonderful Life*; Scriptures: Isaiah 9:6 and Luke 4:16-21 (focus on verse 18). The trained Facilitators for the 2016 classes were Deaconesses Mary Cole, Elaine Hendking and Ruth K. Blake, and the Assistant Training Facilitators were Minister Johnetta Lee and Sisters Grace Williams and Darlene Carter. As this was a pilot program last year, we thank God for the increase in participants and the addition of a noon-day class and another evening class.

On January 28, 2017, 1 p.m., the following nine Deacons-in-Training were catechized by Pastor Burruss: Vincent T. Hill, Sr., Roger L. Hooker, Shervell W. Jackson, Billy Larry, Carl L. Linton, Henry D. Pulley, Harold Reddick, George H. Watkins, and Chester Williams. They passed the catechism and the Ordination Service began. Rev. K. Miner, Sr., Pastor, First Baptist Church of Deanwood, Washington, D.C., delivered the message. The subject: *You Are Not Out of Options*; Scripture: 2 Kings 7:3-11. Rev. Rodney Ruffin, Elim Baptist Church, Temple Hills, MD, offered the Ordination Prayer and our very own Deacon McLloyd Mansfield presented the Charge to the Deacons. These deacons became members of the Deacon Board with all rights as other deacons of Central Baptist Church of Camp Springs. Also, Pastor Burruss honored

and named the following deacons as Deacons, Emeritus: Audrey Bennett and Benjamin Sanders, Jr, who served over 50 years; and George T. Miles and Walter Weaver, who served over 25 years. This was a joyous and momentous occasion and the first under the leadership of Pastor Burruss. We thank God for these new nine deacons and the Deacons, Emeritus who continue to labor in the vineyard. To God be the Glory!

On April 22 and 23, 2017, Pastor Burruss celebrated his 5th Pastoral Anniversary. What a wonderful time we had in the Lord, Jesus Christ. Pastor was blessed with much love on April 22 and again at two worship services. The theme was: *Giving Unconditional Love, With No Strings Attached*. 1 John 3:16. At the 7:30 a.m. service, the Word was delivered by Rev. Dr. Alvin Dockett, Pastor, One Church, District Heights, MD, and at the 11:15 a.m. service, Rev. C. Que Hickerson, Pastor, Springfield Baptist Church, Washington, D.C. We thank God for our Pastor and his leadership, and for his wife, our First Lady, Angela Burruss, and his children, Jada, Jalynn and Javon.

On April 30, 2017, at the Golden Light Seniors Ministry (the Ministry) Annual Day Worship Service, Pastor Burruss, Coordinator of the Ministry, Deaconess Gloria Haywood and Minister to Seniors, Rev. Annie Giles honored the following members: (1) Brother Seldon and Sister Pinkey Stewart, the oldest members of the church, were honored as Honorary Members of the Ministry; and (2) Brother Alphonson Campbell, the oldest member of the Ministry, was honored as Emeritus Member. What a moment of surprise and rejoicing by all.

On May 22, 2017, Sister Belinda Watson of the John H. Parker Resource Center and the Women's Ministry began their Financial Workshop Presentations. The theme was *Worth*. Scripture, Matthew 10:31b. June 1-14, 2017, a *Financial Fast: Putting Your Money on a Diet* was held.

On September 3, 2017, Rev. Pamela Newton officially joined the Ministerial Staff and has all privileges and rights as the other ministers in the pulpit. Rev. Newton joined the church on June 18, 2017, and has been commuting from Richmond, Virginia, where she is employed at Virginia Union University.

On September 7, 2017, Rev. Braxton Williams, Sr., our senior minister, went home to be with the Lord. Rev. Williams and his wife, Deaconess Nelease Williams, joined Central in February 2001. Rev. Williams' knowledge and wisdom that he shared with everyone will be remembered.

On October 7, 2017, the Women's Ministry hosted a 5K Cancer Awareness Walk in recognition of Breast Cancer Month. The goal was to walk around both parking lots seven times beginning at the second parking lot entrance. Rev. Reginald Thornton, our Fitness Instructor, was our coach and supporter.

On February 4, 2018, Deacon James Blake, Jr., resigned as Chairman of the Deacon Board and Pastor appointed Deacon Preston E. Jones as Chairman of the Board. Deacon Jones is a long-standing member of the Deacon Board and once served as Secretary. He brings a wealth of knowledge to the Deacon Board.

On April 1, 2018, Sister Clara Patterson was officially appointed Superintendent of Sunday School and Vacation Bible School (VBS) by Pastor. Sister Patterson was Acting Superintendent, as well as Assistant Superintendent, since the passing of our Superintendent of Sunday School and VBS. Sister Ruth Campbell.

On April 21, 2018, the Deacon Board and Deaconess Ministry hosted their first Prayer Breakfast at this location. The theme: *The Prayer of Faith*; Scripture: James 5:15. Prayers, supplications and petitions were lifted to our Heavenly Father. Bishop Lanier C. Twyman, Sr., of St. Stephens Baptist Church, Camp Springs, MD, presented The Word. We thank God for the great privilege of prayer.

April 21-22, 2018, we celebrated the 100th birthday of Brother Alphonson Campbell and Sister Catherine Adams. Brother Campbell is the oldest and Emeritus Member of the Golden Light Seniors Ministry. We thank God for so much knowledge and wisdom Brother Campbell and Sister Adams are sharing in our lives.

On May 10, 2018, the Golden Light Seniors Ministry hosted its first Spring Fashion Show and Luncheon. Our theme was: *Seniors Strolling Into Spring*; Scripture: Psalm 92:14. The senior models of Central Baptist Church were very beautiful and professional. They are Sister Vicky Anthony, Brother James Baylor, Pastor Lincoln Burruss, Sisters Annie Chambers, Loisteen Clark, Lillian Dillard, Deaconess Evelyn E.B. Green (also Coordinator of the Fashion Show), Sister Cora Henderson, Brother Arthur Holliman, Sisters Elaine Paye, Margaret Pulley, Patricia Rawls, Marianna Ray-Nor Hill, and Deacon George Watkins. Professional senior models from Hillcrest Heights Seniors' Center are Sisters Cassandra Harrison, Gloria Jackson, Jean Jackson, Addie Lewis, and Vivian Silver. Our youth models, Aniya Brooks, Alon Howard, Joshua Mack, Leigh Ann McNeil, Kori V. Smith, Micah Williams, and Ayana Young, were adorable. We thank God for such a magnificent and spectacular event.

On June 22, 2018, the Rev. John H. Parker Cancer Awareness Ministry, in partnership with the Golden Light Seniors Ministry, hosted a Wills Seminar. Expert presenters were: The Honorable Cereta A. Lee, Prince George's County Register of Wills; and Attorney ShaRon M. Grayson of The Kelsey Law Firm. The following topics were presented and discussed: Why should you make a will? Can you change a will? What if there is no will? Information packets were passed out to all attendees.

On June 30, 2018, the Women's Ministry hosted an AARP Smart Driver Course, 9 a.m.-12 p.m., in the Rev. Dr. Henry S. Moore, Sr., Fellowship Hall. The AARP Smart Driver Course is the Nation's first refresher course specifically designed for drivers age 50 and older. Upon completion of the three-hour course, the senior is awarded a Certificate of Completion that may qualify the senior for a discount on his or her auto insurance premium.

On July 29, 2018, Minister Oolooteka Bey was invited by Pastor Burruss to join the Ministerial Staff with all privileges as other ministers in the pulpit. Minister Bey joined the church on March 29, 2015 and has been active in the Evangelism Outreach Ministry. Also, Pastor Burruss appointed Sisters Mary Raspberry and Mary Russell as Mothers of the Church. Sisters Raspberry and Russell have many years of experience and service in the Church and we congratulate them on their well-deserved appointments. Our Charter Member, Sister Bernice Harmon, who was appointed Mother of the Church by Pastor at our 49th Church Anniversary, was honored to share the position with Sisters Raspberry and Russell.

On September 22, 2018, Pastor Burruss held a Social Justice Ministry Inaugural Meeting. The Social Justice Ministry is committed to the call by God in Micah 6:8 and Jesus in Luke 4:16-19. The Ministry will address local, State, national and global injustices in a systematic way. Pastor Burruss and Dr. Keith Byrd, 2nd Vice President of the Progressive National Baptist Convention (PNBC) and Pastor of Zion Baptist Church of Washington, D.C., presented Biblical views and insight as to why Central Baptist Church of Camp

Springs should be involved. At the present time, we were called to be involved in the November Mid-Term Elections by assisting in voter registration and verification and bringing souls to the polls. The following five issues are part of PNBC's Social Justice Action Plan:

- (1) End to Voting Discrimination and Suppression;
- (2) End the Assault on Poor and Working People and a Call for Jobs;
- (3) End of Mass Incarceration, Over Policing of Black and Brown Communities, and the Public School to Prison Pipeline;
- (4) End to the Attack on Healthcare; and
- (5) 2020 Digital Census Preparation, ensuring all Americans are counted.

On October 2, 2018, our "Hot Sauce" Fitness Trainer and Motivational Speaker, Rev. Reginald Thornton, hosted a Fitness, Nutrition and Medicare Wellness Benefit Seminar featuring his trainers, mentors and fitness gurus as follow: Mr. Universe, Yohnnie Shambourger; and Guinness Book World Record Holder, 83-year-old Ernestine Shepherd. A packet was distributed which include information on Five Steps to a Healthier Life, A Better You, and AARP Medicare Supplement Health Insurance.

On October 6, 2018, we hosted the "Be Red Cross Ready" Training offered by the American Red Cross. Everyone knows the Red Cross helps people during emergencies, but you may not know that it is also part of its mission to help you help yourself. Becoming "Red Cross Ready" for an emergency means following three simple steps in advance to ensure you and your family can weather a crisis safely and comfortably. We must have (1) a survival kit, (2) plan for escape or evacuation, and (3) be informed of types of disasters and weather conditions. We have taken the step to make sure our members have fire alarms. *Members* signed up for fire alarms and Trustee Arthur Holliman installed fire alarms in their homes. He also gave us information on "Developing a Home Fire Escape Plan" and "A Fire Prevention Checklist" and "Preparing for Snowstorms and Extreme Cold Weather."

On October 13, 2018, the Daughters of Judah celebrated its 7th Praise Dance Extravaganza. The Daughters of Judah's Director, Sister Alison Linton, and Assistant to the Director, Sister Demeta Green, invited the Golden Girls Praise Dancers of the Golden Light Seniors Ministry (GLSM) to participate in the Extravaganza. Minister Geneva Williams, Deaconess Evelyn Green, Sisters Vicky Anthony, Annie Chambers, Loisteen Clark, Lillian Dillard, Elaine Paye, and Rosalind Thompson ministered to the song "God is Good" by Regina Belle. There are 18 Golden Girls, including the 8 above: 3 are inactive, Mother Bernice Harmon, Sisters Queen Hooks and Shirley Thorne; and 7 are active, Minister Johnetta Lee, Deaconesses Kathy Weaver, Patricia Williams, Sisters Verley Burton, Frances Mann, Pearl Mansfield, and Loretta Wheeler. The Golden Girls were first introduced by Sister Alison Bowling, their Coordinator and Co-Coordinator of GLSM, at the GLSM Annual Day on May 31, 2015. The Daughters of Judah, the Anointed Expressions Mime, and visiting churches' Praise Dancers and Mimes ministered to us in song, dance and interpretation. The theme: *Unconditional Praise for God is Still Good*; Scripture: Ecclesiastes 3:4b. It was truly an afternoon of praise and worship to our God.

On October 14, 2018, Pastor Burruss announced the creation of a Singles Ministry to be spearheaded by Rev. Pamela Newton. The Ministry's first meeting is October 26, 2018. The mission is to see single adults, men and women, increase in greater intimacy with God and to consecrate their hearts and lives as they pursue God in every area of their lives.

On October 19, 2018, the Women's Ministry "Am I My Sister's Keeper" Book Club celebrated its First Anniversary with a book and movie discussion about "The Shack." The movie was based on the best-selling novel written by Wm. Paul Young and both takes you on a father's transformative journey after a family tragedy.

On November 10, 2018, Council Member Obie Patterson, in partnership with Sister Patricia Morris, Founder and CEO of Hands of Hope Foundation, hosted a Caregiver's Conference, 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. in the Rev. Dr. Henry S. Moore, Sr., Fellowship Hall. Healthcare providers and other expert professionals were available to discuss the following: Alzheimer's disease; Diabetes; Physical Fitness; Gerontology and Wills and Estates. Also, handouts were available. Dr. Lonise P. Bias, Inspirational Motivator, was our Guest Speaker.

On January 31, 2019, we offered free meals and groceries to furloughed Federal and contract workers from 2 p.m. to 8 p.m. Although the furloughed ended on January 28, we were still blessed to have many come out, fellowship and give praises to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

On February 14, 2019, we celebrated Valentine's Day in a special way. Pastor Burruss hosted a Newly Wed Game which included four couples (members) who were married in 2018 as the game contestants. The contestants were (1) Brother Teke and Sister Elosi Monono, (2) Brother Reginald and Sister Edna Tate, (3) Brother William and Sister Rosalyn Watson, and (4) Brother Michael and Christine Womble. The Tate's won first prize and The Watson's the second prize. Each received a beautiful basket created by Trustee Jean Jackson. Following the Newly Wed Game, we were blessed with a Biblical play, A Love Story of Boaz and Ruth, written and directed by Brother Keith Young and Deaconess Ruth Blake. Naomi, the mother-in-law, was played by Sister Frances Mann; Ruth, the daughter-in-law, by Deaconess Mary Cole; and Boaz, a man of great wealth, by Dr. Kenyon McAfee. The evening was filled with love and joy.

On May 11, 2019, the Deaconess and Women's Ministries sponsored a Mother's Day Rainbow Tea. Theme: *Celebrating God's Covenant Promises for Our Mind, Body, and Soul*; Scripture: Ezekiel 17:12. Organized by Deaconess Vivian Hodges, the deaconesses and women from the Women's Ministry decorated her table in a rainbow color, and coordinated her attire, including hat and gloves, with the color of her table. Also, her guests' attire corresponded with the rainbow color of her table. The Origin of Tea was presented by Deaconess Hodges and six readings of herbal teas in the Bible were read: (1) Mint, Deaconess Patricia Williams; (2) Rosemary, Sister Dazelene Forte; (3) Thyme, Deaconess Elaine Murchison; (4) Hyssop, Deaconess Maya Anderson; (5) Cinnamon, Deaconess Rose Crudup; and (6) Cloves, Deaconess Shirley Jones. We praised God in song and dance by Sister Michelle Brown and The Coward and Green Families. The beautiful tables were judged by Sisters Frances Mann and Constella Tate and beautiful hats by Sisters Jackie Simpson and Tolya Williams. Sister Marianna "Brandi" RayNor-Hill won the prize for the best table design and arrangement and Sister Alison Bowling won the prize for best looking hat. All the tables were beautiful, as well as the women in their Sunday best. It was an afternoon of sheer beauty and we thank God for such a beautiful occasion.

On May 18, 2019, we had a pre-Church Anniversary celebration fellowship. Tributes were made to our Organizer and Founder, Pastor Henry S. Moore, Sr., by Deacon Benjamin Sanders and our second leader, Pastor John H. Parker, by Sister Sabrina Andrews-Reddick. Reverend Reginald Thornton, our Fitness Instructor, coached us in chair exercises and Deacon Hodges presented us with a quiz, finding 30 Books of the Bible. What a challenge! Sister Alison Bowling won. Pastor Burruss gave inspirational remarks,

especially on “Unity” and quoted the Scripture, Psalm 133:1. Mother Mary Russell won a gift for being the oldest senior member at the Fellowship. We praised God with songs by Brother Melton and Sister Sharon Hill and dance by the Golden Girls. It was an afternoon of remembering what God has done in the past and thanking Him in advance for future blessings.

On May 19, 2019, we continued to celebrate our 55th Church Anniversary at two spirit-filled worship services. At our 7:30 a.m. service, we were graced with the Word by Pastor Henry P. Davis, First Baptist Church of Highland Park, Landover, MD, and at our 11:15 a.m. service by Pastor Regretta Ruffin, Greater New Saint Paul Baptist Church, Washington, D.C. Our theme is: *We Have Come This Far By Faith*; Scripture: Psalm 118:24. God has truly brought us thus far by faith, leaning on and trusting Him, and His amazing grace. We thank God for his continued unconditional love, faithfulness, grace and mercy He has bestowed upon Central Baptist Church of Camp Springs for 55 years and thanks to Pastor Burruss for his continued guidance and leadership. We give God all the glory and honor. Deacon Lindsay Williams was honored by Pastor Burruss as Deacon Emeritus. We thank God for Deacon Williams’ 30 years of service on the Deacon Board. We also thank God for our two centenarians, Brother Alphonson Campbell and Sister Catherine Adams, who are now 101 years young. Sister Adams, our charter member and Mother of the Church, Mother Bernice Harmon, Mother Mary Raspberry and Mother Mary Russell were in attendance at the 11:15 a.m. Anniversary Worship Service. Thanks Be To God!

We cherish the memories of our members who have gone home to be with the Lord, especially those who have served well in ministries.

Central Baptist Church of Camp Springs continues to carry out its mission--to seek lost souls for Christ, to edify the saved, and to glorify the Savior--through praise, worshipping the Lord in spirit and in truth, religious education and evangelizing.

**Deceased*



Deaconess Patricia Williams,
Church Historian



Original Charter Members



Mother Bernice Wallace Harmon
Mother of Central Baptist Church of Camp Springs



Brother Henry S. Moore, Jr.



Marsha Crumer Reynolds-Coleman



Dr. Hazel V. Hardy

To God Be The Glory!

