## MT. ZION BAPTIST CHURCH

# 158th Church & 32nd Pastor's Anniversary

# CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY BOOKLET (FLIP CLASSROOM METHODOLGY)



"Preparing the Next Generation to Be Faithful Stewards of Mt.

Zion's Legacy"

(2 Timothy 2:1-2, KJV)

Sister Hannah Miller, Supt. of Sunday School Dr. Daniel Simmons, Senior Pastor

2023 Legacy Teach-In Anniversary Committee

Deneen Burnett Charlene Duncan Jewel Faison Heather Fulton

Linda Hille Gwen Kelly Ethelene Kimber Sandra Satchell

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## HISTORY OF THE MT. ZION BAPTIST CHURCH OF ALBANY, GA

The Mount Zion Baptist Church was organized December 8, 1865 by the late Rev. R R. Watson in a building then known as the Jerry Water's Blacksmith- Shop, located on the corner of State Street, (now Highland Avenue) and Jackson Street. Six months after establishment of the church, the Rev. David Hines of Atlanta succeeded in drawing around himself enough of Mt. Zion members to establish another church, The JACKSON GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH. A successful financial drive resulted in Twenty-six hundred dollars being raised to purchase land and build a Church at Washington Street and Highland Avenue. However, the structure was destroyed by a storm before completion. Then, the property at South Street (now Whitney Avenue) and Jefferson Street was purchased. A Yankee Colonel named Howard gave the membership an old house, which was moved :from Leesburg, Georgia to become *our* first church structure on this property. Northern teachers taught school in the building until a schoolhouse was later built.

Initial progress and success of the church was good, though there were many hardships. After a few years, some confusion developed and a segment of the members withdrew and established the EUREKA BAPTIST CHURCH. There also appeared on the scene at this time a Rev. Morris who was successful in persuading more of the members to join with him in establishing the SHILOH BAPTIST CHURCH.

Rev. Watson served the church well until his death after which, Rev. N. B. Williamson became pastor. He taught at the Albany Normal School during his tenure as pastor. After his five years he resigned to go elsewhere.

Rev. T. J. Simpson became the next pastor. Under *his* ministry in 1905 the church house was demolished and construction began on a new building. Church services were held in a Lodge Hall for about one year. After 1 I years of faithful service, Rev. Simpson resigned. More members left at this time and formed the MOUNT HEBRON BAPTIST CHURCH.

In 1916, the Rev. W. J. Jenkins came to serve as pastor when the state of affairs of the church was poor. Members were confused and the church was heavily in debt. In this dark hour God smiled on our wavering church, and there developed, out of turmoil, a determined band of Christian Soldiers who rallied around their good leader and together revived the spirit and future of Mount Zion. The debts of the church were paid and remodeling began. New lighting, pews, and heating systems were installed and mission work was expanded.

After nine years of service, Rev. Jenkins was called to his reward on September 7, 1925. His leadership had set the stage for the future of our church. The membership stood together and in 1926, the Rev. N. B. Wright of Augusta, Georgia became pastor,

but he only served for two years during which time efforts were made to purchase our first organ.

From 1929 to 1932. the Rev. 1. A. Harris served as pastor. In March 1932 the church was damaged by another storm. Meetings were held in the Masonic Hall until June 1932. During this time another segment of the church moved out and formed the MOUNT CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH. Without leadership, the loyal members struggled on until the Rev. H. M. Smith became pastor in June, 1933. During his ministry, the purchase of a parsonage was initiated, membership increased handsomely, church indebtedness decreased, and the influence of the church spread throughout the state.

In 1944, Rev. E. James Grant became pastor. During his years of service the church enjoyed fine Christian progress. The Church Auxiliaries increased to 19 in number and membership increased continually. Eventually the dream of a new church home became a reality with its members marching into the present building on the first Sunday in July 1972. Under the leadership of Rev. E. James Grant, the Deacons and Trustees were organized into separate boards, twelve active Auxiliaries were established, and two Office Clerks and two Building and Grounds Superintendents were employed.

During Rev. Grant's tenure, the Mt. Zion Garden Apartments, a federal housing project was constructed and occupied. In 1988, the E. James Grant Family Life Center, which is a multi-purpose building that houses a gymnasium, clinic, nursery, library, jogging track, and rooms to accommodate the Sunday School, conferences, and other family related activities, was added to the present structure. Rev. Grant retired in 1991, after 48 years of faithful service as Pastor. He died as Pastor Emeritus in 1994, having been appointed to that title in 1992, by Pastor Daniel Simmons.

On November 17, 1991, Rev. Daniel Simmons was installed as Mt. Zion's ninth pastor in its 126 year history. "A New Beginning" was the theme for his installation service. Diane his wife,- Maya his daughter and other family members were a present support at his installation service. During Pastor Simmons third year of ministry, the Church Building was engulfed with approximately 8 Ft. of water during the" Great Flood" of 1994. Though many areas of the City were inundated by the flood waters, God caused many doors to be opened within the community for the Mt. Zion family to conduct meetings and services, one of which was the Temple B'nai Israel, a local Jewish Synagogue where our worship services were held. The Congregation marched into the reconstructed and renovated sanctuary in early summer 1995.

For the past 20 years under the spiritual and creative leadership of Pastor Simmons, the church has grown phenomenally in membership, ministry outcomes, and stewardship; all of which led to building expansion and which under gird evangelism, discipleship, fellowship, and missions in the city of Albany, throughout Southwest Georgia and beyond. On April 1, 2010, Mt. Zion celebrated the Grand Opening of our new Edifice at 901 South Boulevard, located on a portion of Mt. Zion's 109 acre property. The church continues to use the Sanctuary and Family Life Center on Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive

for selected Programs and Community Services. "Reaching the World for Christ "continues to be Mt. Zion's focus of service, as we are One Church at two locations. The following are a list of the many creative works that have been inspired and initialized under the Spiritual leadership of Pastor Daniel Simmons:

Samaritan Clinic **Adolescent Health** Scholarship Committee Adult Pantomime Praise Group **Security Ministry** Athletic Ministry Senior Adult Care Ministry AV/Media Ministry Bible Study (Wed Nights-Adults and Children) Singles' Ministry Sunday (Church)School **Black History Youth Ministry** The Jewels of Zion **Boy Scouts Transportation Ministry Boys to Men Outreach** Wealth Creation and Mgmt. **Brotherhood Ministry** Youth Bank of Zion C.A.P.S. (Claiming Academic Power & Success) **Youth Ministry** Children's Church Dougherty Cty. Jail Ministry **Courtesy Guild Performing Arts Ministry** Cradle Roll Ministry **Prayer Ministry** Daughters of Zion Ministry **Prison Outreach Ministry Deaconess Ministry** New Member Acceptance Min. Deaf/Sign Language Ministry New Member Orientation Min. Family Group Ministry **Outreach Ministry** Gospel Choir Outreach Ministry Pastor's Aid Ministry **Greeters Ministry** Leisure Plus Intercessory Prayer Ministry **Medical Health Ministry** Marriage Ministry; Music Ministry (The E. J. Grant Cherub Choir, The Mass Choir, The Male Chorus, The Praise Team, The Sanctuary Choir, The Voices of Zion, The Youth Choir)

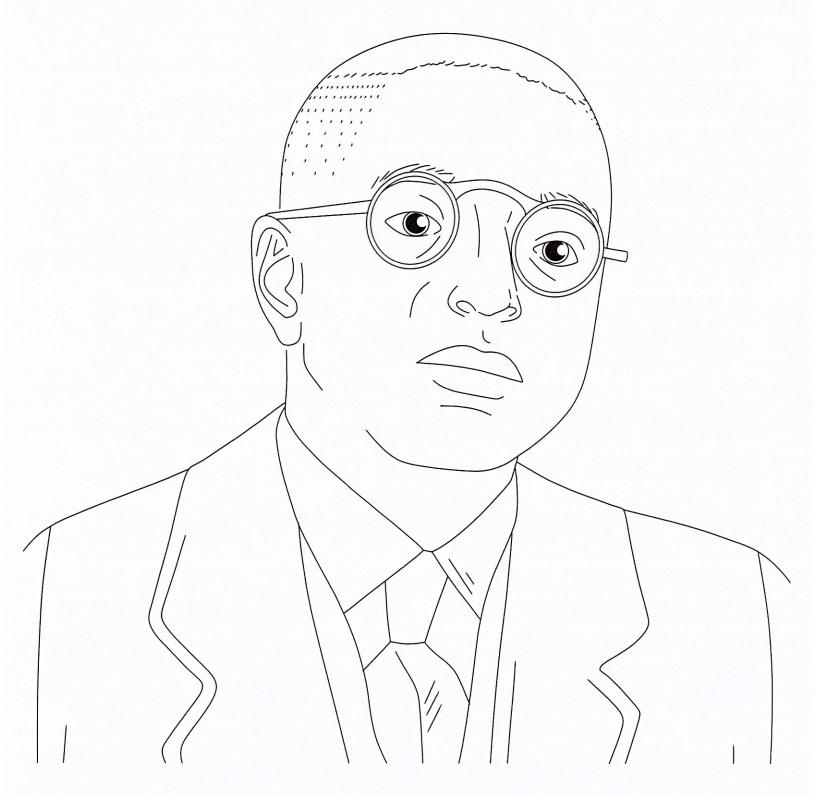
Other active Ministries, i.e. Leisure Plus, General Missionary Society, Soup Kitchen, Sunday School, Ushers Ministry, Willing Workers, Floral Club, Deacons Ministry, Boy Scouts, and The Zion Informer were begun prior to Pastor Simmons' Pastoral leadership.

Pastor Simmons' vision is one of greatness for the church and the community. His Vision Statement has been embraced with passion and celebration by all Ministries as written thusly: "Mt. Zion is a Vibrant church that reaches the world for Christ through evangelism; discipleship, fellowship, and missions" -- October, 2002.

# PASTOR E. JAMES GRANT



# PASTOR H. M. SMITH



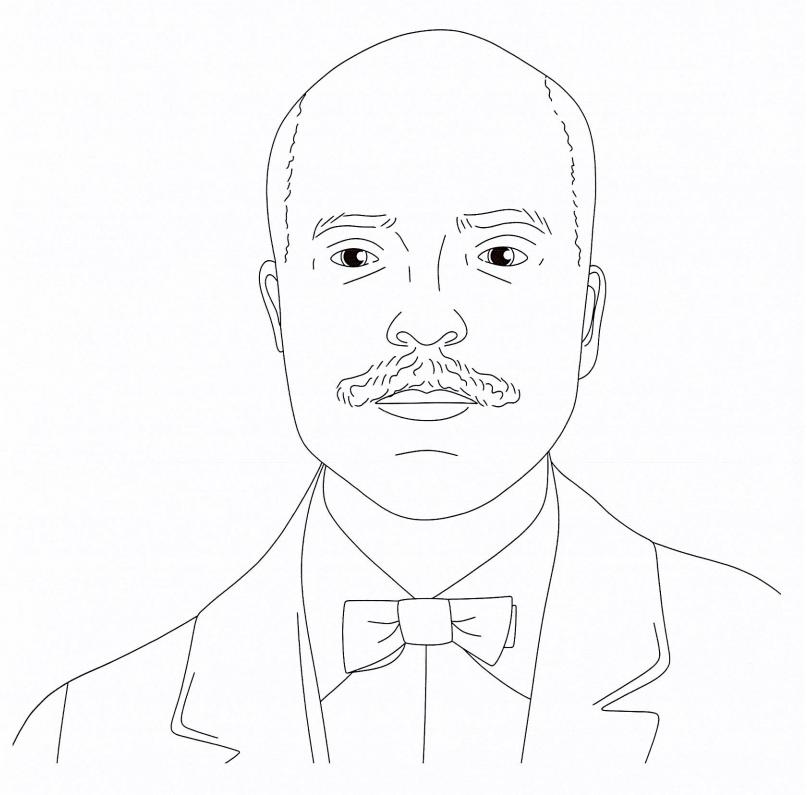
# PASTOR I. A. HARRIS



# PASTOR N. B. WILLIAMSON



# PASTOR N. B. WRIGHT



# PASTOR R. R. WATSOM



# PASTOR T. J. SIMPSON



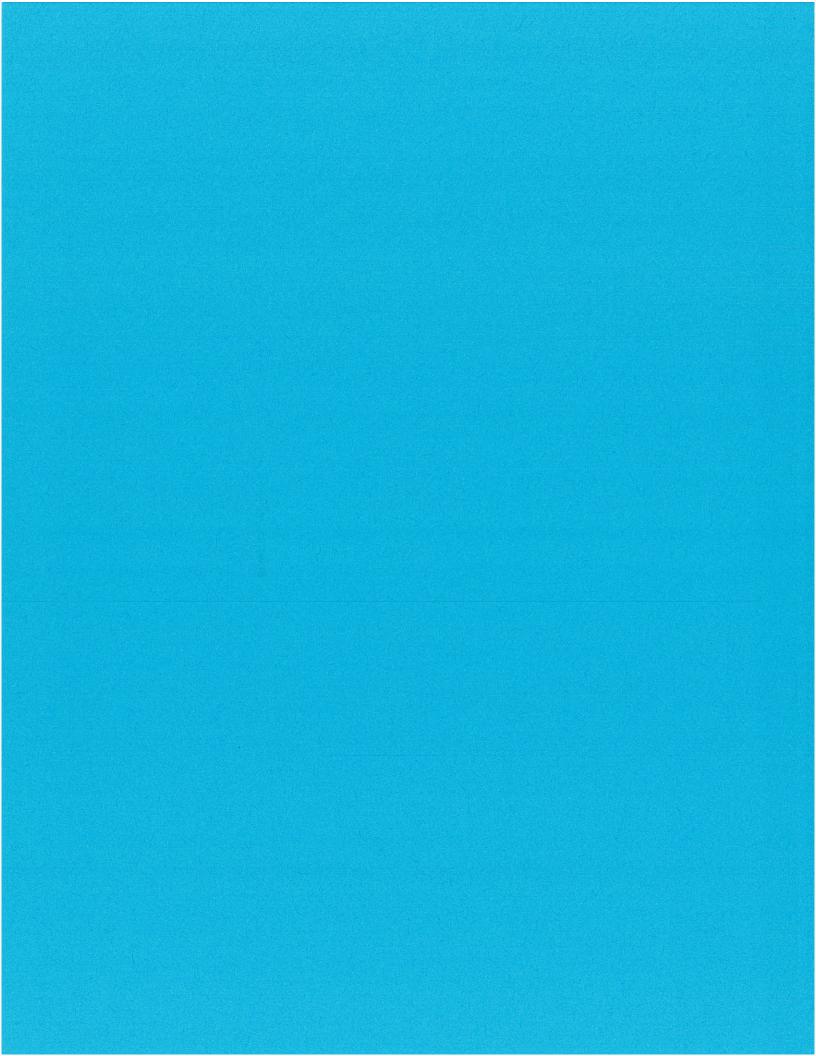
# PASTOR W. J. JENKINS



# PASTOR DANIEL SIMMONS



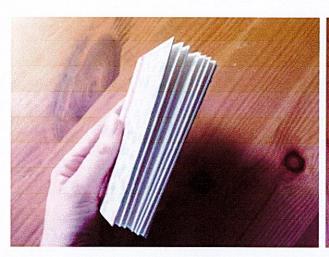
Pastor Daniel Simmons is the ninth pastor of Mt. Zion Baptist Church.

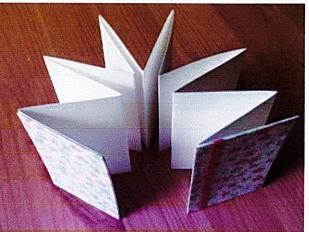


# MY FUN, FLIP, FACT BOOK

## about

# Mt. Zion Baptist Church





Using the historical information about Mt. Zion Baptist Church that you have read or that you listened to at <a href="https://mtzionofalbany.org/our-story">https://mtzionofalbany.org/our-story</a>, make an engaging, funny fact book by asking some of these select questions in the form of a riddle. Then answer it as a FACT. Draw funny pictures to add excitement to your book and extend it as long as you like. Simply, tape on additional paper, fan-fold it, and continue making riddles and answering them. Here's an example:

#### Funny Riddle:

Showing up from Atlanta, he tried to help; But instead he became a magnet that led some around his belt. Who was He?

Answer: Rev. David Hines

## MAKE FUN RIDDLES THAT GIVE CLUES TO THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION

When was Mt. Zion Baptist Church was first organized? Who was the organizer of Mt. Zion Baptist Church?

What building was the original church located in?

What happened to the first structure before it was built?

What was the second structure that housed Mt. Zion?

Who donated the second church structure?

What else was the second church structure used as?

Who was the pastor during the time the third church structure was built?

Where was the location of the fourth church structure?

Where is the location of the fifth church structure?

What year was the fifth church built?

Who was the pastor during the time the fifth church structure was built?

How long did the first pastor of Mt. Zion Baptist Church serve?

Who was the second pastor of Mt. Zion Baptist Church?

Name the 5 churches that was birth from Mt. Zion Baptist Church?

What did the old church at the corner of Whitney and Jefferson become?

Name the distinguished ladies that were a part of the Civil Rights Movement.

Who was the daughter of Mt. Zion's sixth pastor who also participated in the Civil Rights Movement through demonstrations and songs?

Who was one of the first Blacks to integrate Albany High School?

Name the 2 sisters that was jailed in Camilla, Georgia during Martin Luther King's big Albany March?

What does SNCC stand for?

~ And any others that you can think of!!!

# LEGACY WORD SEARCH (7-8 YEAR OLDS)

C	N	I	Z	0	L	C	E	J	R	0	N	I	J
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N	0	Α	L	N	R	E	C	٧	0	E	Α	E	L
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Α	G	E	Ε	0	V	E	Α	N	S	U	S	E	J
Y	N	C	C	Y	C	U	D	0	٧	E	N	E	J
Α	0	R	Ε	Α	L	I	Z	Α	T	I	0	N	N

GOD
JOY
HEAVEN
REPENTANCE
HEART
ACCEPTANCE
CONVICTION
SALVATION
LOVE
PEACE
JESUS
TURN
CONFESSION
REALIZATION

Play this puzzle online at : https://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/6024198/

# LEGACY WORD SEARCH (9-10) YEAR OLDS)

0	C	R	Ε	P	E	N	T	Α	N	C	Ε	R	Н
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Н	Ι	Α	N	N	T	N	0	I	N	J	E	N	T

**TRUST** SALVATION GOD CONFESSION LIVING TURN **HEART ACCEPTANCE** REBELLION **PEACE** LOVE HEAVEN REALIZATION REPENTANCE CONVICTION JOY DOCTRINE BELIEVE **JESUS** 

Play this puzzle online at : https://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/6024198/

## LEGACY WORD SEARCH (11-13) YEAR OLDS)

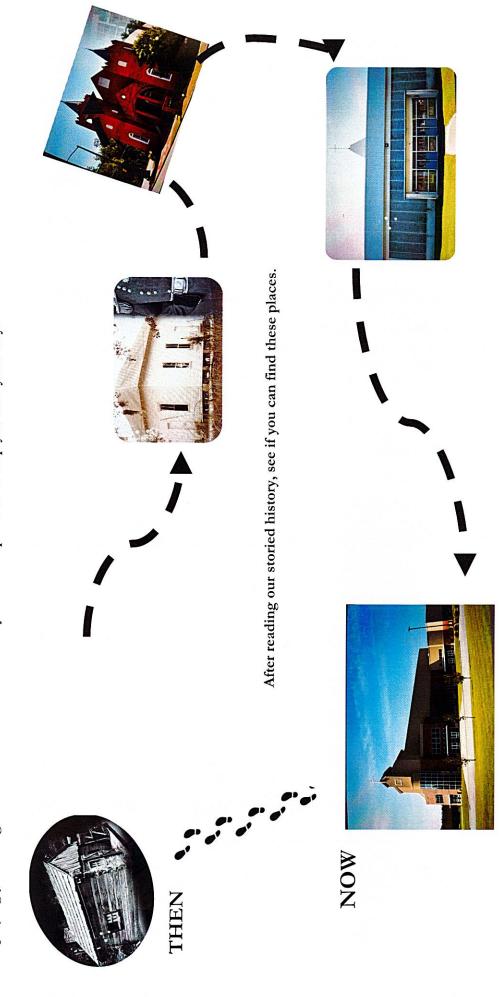
Ε	Α	Α	R	Υ	D	0	C	T	R	Ι	N	E	D
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I	Ε	C	U	I	C	J	Ε	S	U	S	0	R	0
F	В	Ε	R	N	В	L	I	T	R	L	T	L	R
I	Ε	N	R	0	0	Ε	0	W	В	Ι	U	N	D
R	L	S	Ε	I	T	0	L	٧	E	C	R	0	S
C	L	I	C	S	R	0	Н	Ι	Ε	N	N	I	Α
Α	I	0	T	S	U	Ε	E	Н	E	Α	R	T	L
S	0	N	I	Ε	S	Ε	Α	N	Α	V	R	P	٧
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L	V	Н	N	N	U	Α	Ε	G	0	D	W	Ε	T
S	D	0	T	0	S	P	N	Α	S	E	0	D	I
I	R	P	T	C	0	Ε	Ε	N	C	0	P	Ε	0
N	D	N	Α	Н	T	Н	G	I	R	Ε	E	R	N

**HEAVEN** CONFESSION ASCENSION PEACE DOCTRINE SACRIFICE REBELLION GOD **TRUST** REURRECTION **JESUS** SALVATION **HEART** LOVE CONVICTION RIGHT-HAND REDEMPTION TURN SIN BELIEVE **BLOOD POWER** JOY

Play this puzzle online at : https://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/6024198/

# SCAVENGER HUNI MT. ZION BAPTIST CHURCH

Your BRAIN is the ultimate technology. Read THE HISTORY OF MT. ZION BAPTIST CHURCH. Then take a car adventure with your parent(s) and put your imagination to work! Find the places where Mt. Zion Baptist Church once stood. Stand on the ground. Close your eyes and imagine the Mt. Zion Church erected on that very spot. Use a poster to draw what you imagine. Win a CASH PRIZE displaying your imagination! Use the written history and these pictures to help you find your way!



MT. ZION'S HISTORICAL PEOPLE LEGACY
Complete the crossword puzzle below Name:

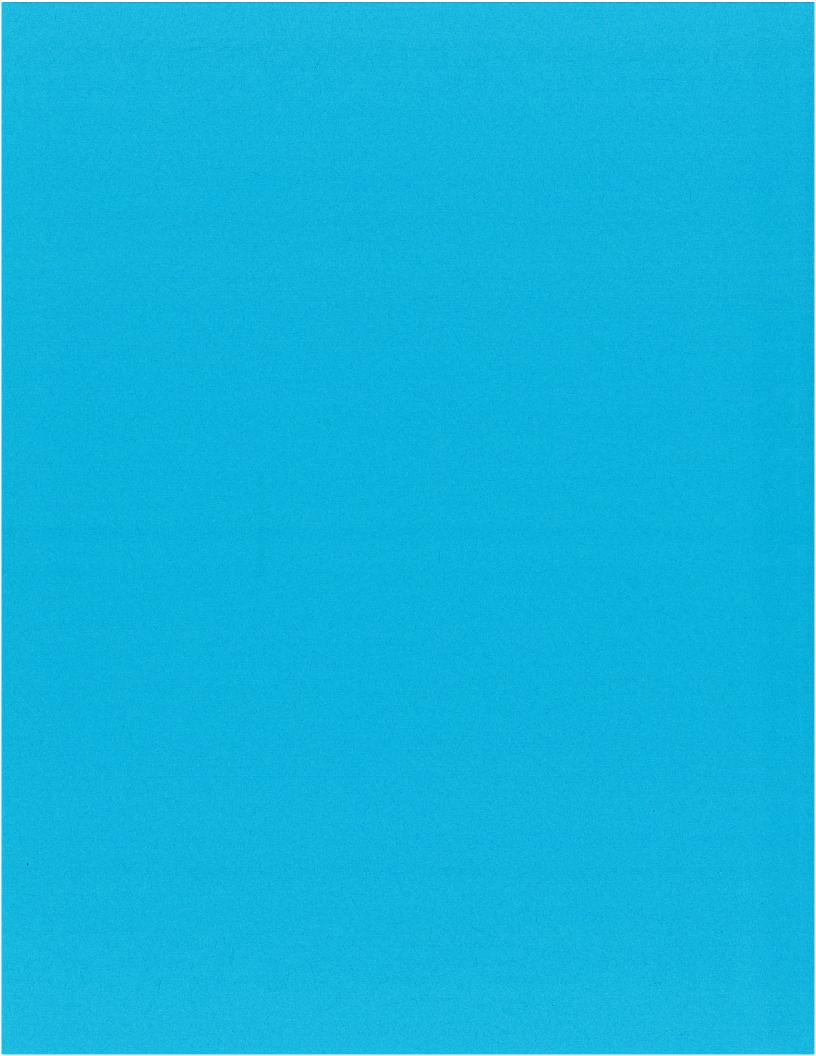
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2		Rev	s I	• T	&		K c V	26

# Across

- Under this pastor's leadership the church grew tremendously. The Deacons amd Trustees were organized into separate boards. (rev e james grant)
   This gentleman was the pastor of Mt. Zion during the time that Shiloh Baptist Church was started. (rev watson)
- During this pastor's tenure a parsonage was initiated and the church became an influence beyond Dougherty County (rev hm smith)
  - Was the pastor from Augusta, Georgia under whose leadership the first church organ was purchased. (rev nb wright)
- 7. Was the partor of Mt. Zion and also taught at the Albany Normal School during hi tenure a Pastor (rev nb williamson)
- 8. The pastor who in 1905 demolished the old house structure and began construction on a new building (rev tj simpson)
  - The organizer (pastor) of Mt. Zion Church of Albany, GA (rev rr watson)

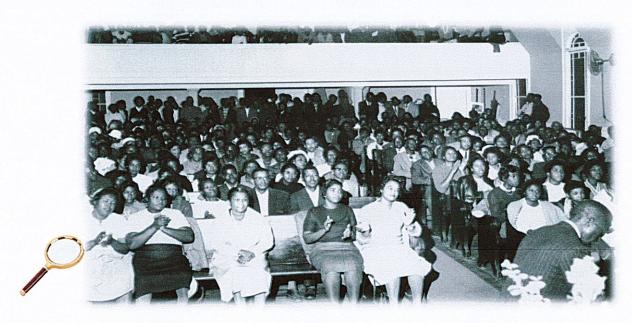
# Down

- 1. Became the Pastor of Mt. Zion in November 1991. His leadership has netted much of the growth that we see currently. (rev daniel simmons)
  - This pastor was the leader in 1916 and is today given credit for pay the church's debts (rev wj lenkins)
- 4. Was the pastor who in March 1932 held church meetings in the Masonic Hall (rev i a harris)



# MT. ZION BAPTIST CHURCH 'A SAFE PLACE'

# NOTED LIVING LEGENDS FROM THE ALBANY CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT SEARCH & FIND ACTIVITY



Can you find a relative or a friend of the family in this picture?

Many citizens from around Southwest Georgia met and were inspired to stand up for equality and freedom at Mt. Zion Baptist Church. The Old Mt. Zion Baptist Church (on the corner of Whitney and Jefferson) has been added to the Historic Registry and has become the home of the Albany Civil Rights Movement Museum.

Currently, Mt. Zion Baptist Church (on the corner of S. Westover Blvd. and Oakridge) has several distinguished members that were a part of the Civil Rights Movement. These LIVING LEGENDS mentioned include Lula George, Rutha Mae Harris, Beverly Plummer Wilson, Lynconia Plummer Davis, Rosemary Plummer Laramore, Adrian Jenkins, and Alma Noble. Many times, these Civil Rights Giants sit quietly on the church pew right next to YOU! Can you spot them in the congregation,

introduce yourself, and then ask them for their **AUTOGRAPH**? Here is some more information and a few pictures that will help you on your quest.

#### BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR



**Rutha Harris** is the daughter of our sixth pastor, the Rev. I. A. Harris. As a young person Rutha participated in the Civil Rights demonstrations and found power in *SONGS*. The songs were needed to help protesters to not to be fearful when they were marching or walking the picket lines.

Rutha, and others began to change the lyrics of spiritual songs they had grown up with in church to reflect the spirit of the Movement. The Albany Movement allowed them to name the people who were using harassment and jail against them, like Mayor Asa Kelley and Chief of Police Laurie Pritchett. Not only could they call their names and say what they wanted to say, but no one could stop their melodious sounds.

After seeing the impact that the movement songs played in Albany, Cordell Reagon decided to pull together a group that could bring those songs to the nation. He recruited Rutha Harris and 2 others to join him in forming the original Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) Freedom Singers. They traveled the country singing at colleges, churches, coffeehouses, and concert halls, to raise money for the Movement, and share the people's movement against the inequities and oppressions that was happening in places like Albany. In August 1963, they sang "We Shall Not Be Moved", in front of the thousands of people who had gathered for the historic March on Washington.

Being a Freedom Singer allowed Rutha to express herself about the wrongs that were done to black people and how badly they were treated. She also got a chance to tell the story of both the Albany Movement and the larger Movement happening throughout the country.

Beverly Plummer Wilson, Lynconia Plummer Davis, and Rosemary Plummer Laramore were also part of the Civil Rights Movement. They are sisters. The sisters' parents were very involved in the movement. The Student Nonviolent Coordinating

Committee (SNCC) stayed at their house when in Albany. Both whites and blacks SNCC and they all stayed at the Plummer's house when demonstrating in Albany.

Also, Beverly Plummer Wilson was one of the first Blacks to integrate Albany High School in 1964. She became involved in the movement when she was in the ninth grade. She and her younger sister, Lynconia, participated in the marches. They went to the march when it was organized at Shiloh Baptist Church, which was prominently located across from the Old Mt. Zion Baptist Church. Dr. Martin Luther King spoke at the rally and there was a big march that led out from the church after his speech. This was the first time these two (2) sisters were arrested. The Albany jail became full because so many people were arrested. So, Beverly and Lynconia along with others were hastily taken to Camilla, Georgia on a bus where they were jailed. They were jailed for six nights and seven days; away from their parents, away from their home, frightened, but comforted by each other and singing freedom songs from their jail cell.

Beverly went to jail a second time for fighting to take the "WHITES ONLY" posters off the water fountain. When the time came to integrate the Dougherty County Schools, Beverly told her mama that she wanted to be one of the ones who would integrate the then all white, Albany High School. Beverly was in the twelfth grade. Beverly said, "Somebody has to do it and I want to be that somebody!" She reported to the office of the famous black attorney, Mr. C.B. King, and signed up to go. They said that there was a long list but only six went. Beverly didn't know who all was going, she was only concerned about making a difference. They were taken to Albany High School in a car and policemen and state troopers were there. As they walked into the school, they were called the N-word and were told to go back, but they marched on into the school changing the history of Albany High School forever.

The Plummer family was very active in the Civil Rights Movement and as members of Mt. Zion Baptist Church. Today they are remembered as the *Plummer Sisters* and are still prominent members of Mt. Zion Baptist Church. Their younger sister, Rosemary Plummer Laramore, was one of the first blacks to integrate Merry Acres Middle School. Both Rutha and Beverly's contributions to the Movement are chronicled forever, in the Civil Rights Museum located at 328 West Whitney Avenue.

## THE SEARCH, FIND, MEET & GREET ACTIVITY

There are other accomplished **LIVING LEGENDS** who participated in rallies, marches and sit-ins during the Albany Civil Rights Movement who are still active members of Mt. Zion Baptist Church. They include **Lula George**, **Adrian Jenkins**, **Sr.**, **Alma Noble** and others. Specific acts of (s)heroism are too numerous to recount, **but** if you'll find these people, audio-record their stories and get their AUTOGRAPH to bring to the Legacy Teach-In Sunday School class, there will be a special GIFT waiting for you!

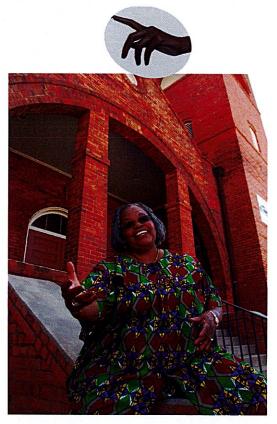
### TOUCH A LIVING LEGEND



Rosemary Plummer Laramore

Get An AUTOGRAPH

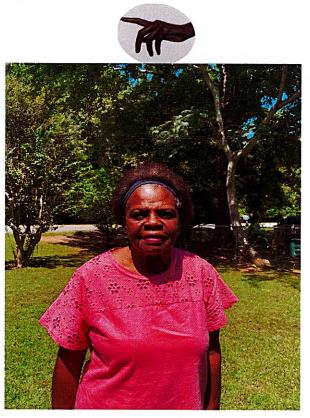
### TOUCH A LIVING LEGEND



Rutha Mae Harris

Get an AUTOGRAPH

### TOUCH A LIVING LEGEND

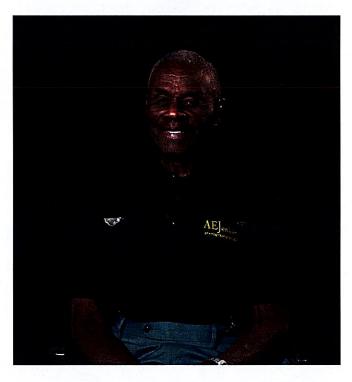


Beverly Plummer Wilson

Get an AUTOGRAPH

### TOUCH A LIVING LEGEND





Adrian Jenkins, Sr.

Get an Autograph

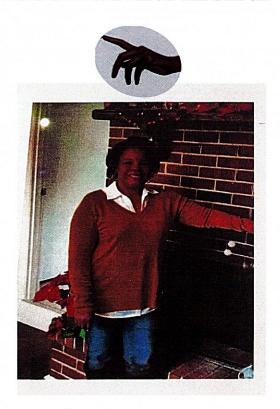
## **TOUCH A LIVING LEGEND**



Dr. Alma Noble

Get An AUTOGRAPH

#### TOUCH A LIVING LEGEND



Lynconia Plummer Davis

Get An AUTOGRAPH

