

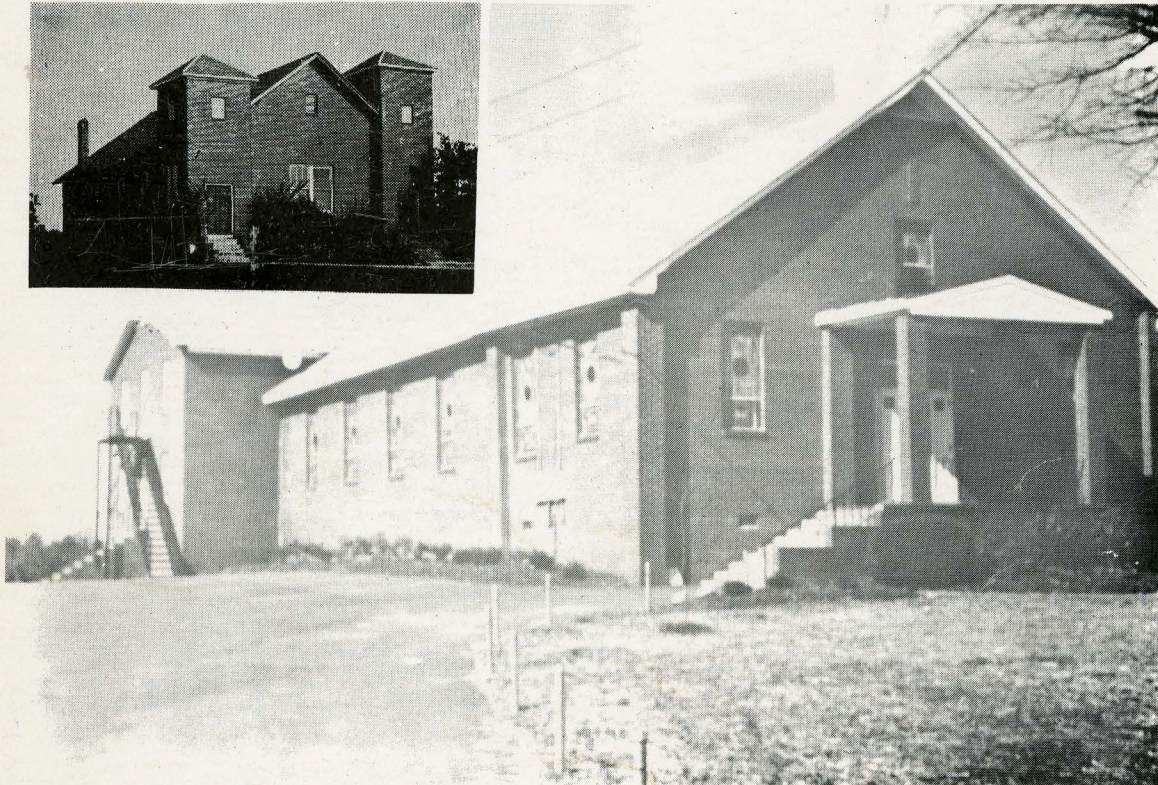
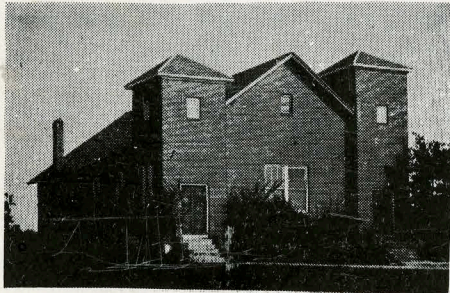
# TORRENCE CHAPEL A.M.E. ZION CHURCH

Torrence Chapel Church Road  
Cornelius, North Carolina 28031

## *115th Anniversary*

1869-1984

Sunday, August 12, 1984



The Right Reverend William Milton Smith, Presiding Bishop  
Mrs. Ida M. Smith, Missionary Supervisor  
Reverend Horace C. Walser, Presiding Elder  
Mrs. Josephine Walser, District President W.H. & O.M. Society  
Reverend G. Sidney Waddell, Pastor

# PREFACE

This one hundred fifteenth souvenir book has been published as a memoir that we hope will be treasured and kept as a reminder of many fond memories of what was, what is, and visions of what is to come.

As we look back, let us not count our failures, heartaches, and disappointments as pitfalls or stumbling blocks, but as stepping stones to higher degrees of God's grace. We pray for a better understanding, to know our role in His magnificent and ultimate plan. Let us strive forward with the knowledge that we have God's guidance and love to lead us to great things. We should always be supportive to our church, pastor, and leaders. By working together as one in Jesus Christ we will reach our goal.

We owe it to ourselves to stay in the Holy realm of God's eternal will. Above all, let us thank God for He has brought us from a mighty long way.

This information has been collected, arranged, compiled and edited by the committee as relevant material for this Anniversary observance.

We sincerely appreciate the cooperation of our clubs, boards, choirs, and members in taking space in this book. We also appreciate the ads given for publication by our business friends and patrons, whose financial contributions helped to make this book possible.

A "special thanks" to Rev. and Mrs. Waddell and fellow members for their assistance, encouragement, and suggestions. We would like to acknowledge the reprint from previously published materials: Historical Briefs of Torrence Chapel A.M.E. Zion Church by Reverend D. L. Blakely, A.B., Pastor, 1949 and One Hundred First Anniversary, 1869-1970 booklet.

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## A MESSAGE FROM YOUR PASTOR:

“Not By Might, Nor By Power,  
But By My Spirit, Saith the  
Lord of Hosts

Zec. 1:4:6

### Greetings:

As we celebrate the one hundred and fifteenth anniversary of this Gods' Church, (Torrence Chapel A.M.E. Zion), we cannot help but to praise and thank God for all of His blessings.

On May the sixteenth this year, God blessed me to prayerfully celebrate my twenty-seventh year in the ministry of His church, and the Seventh Appointment, all good appointments. And so as I pause to reflect on just how good God has been to me and my family, my wife and I join with the faithful and loyal officers, members and friends of this great church, praising God from whom all blessings flow.

Yours in Christ,

Rev. & Mrs. G. Sidney Waddell  
Minister and wife



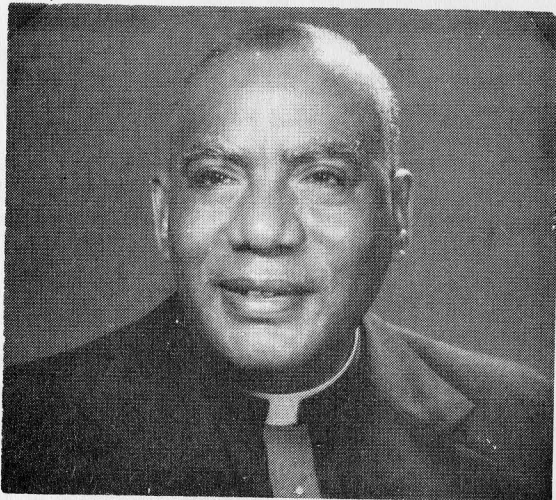
**MESSAGE FROM THE BISHOP  
TO THE MEMBERSHIP OF  
TORRENCE CHAPEL A.M.E. ZION CHURCH**

Dear Pastor and Members:

We have observed the labors and cooperation of this faithful congregation and pastor with much satisfaction. As you celebrate this another milestone in the life of what I consider one among the leading churches of the Western North Carolina Conference, Mrs. Smith joins with me in wishing for you, a glorious celebration. Our prayers are with you for continued success in Kingdom building.

Yours in the Master's Service

Bishop and Mrs. William M. Smith



## FROM THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDING ELDER OF THE NORTH CHARLOTTE DISTRICT

Please permit Mrs. Walser and I to express our sincere gratitude to the members and friends of this great church for their unyielding support and untiring love.

We have tried to provide leadership of constructive quality and Christian concern, and you have responded with great enthusiasm for the work. May God continue to bless you as you continue to celebrate with thanksgiving to Almighty God.

Reverend and Mrs. Horace C. Walser



# HISTORICAL SKETCH: PAST AND PRESENT

## STEWARD BOARD

The Board of Stewards was organized about the time that the Trustee Board was organized. The members often served interchangeably on both boards. The following includes names of persons who served as stewards as near as can be determined: Jack Glaspie, Aaron Burton, Alex Pickens, Julius Reid, I. A. Withers, Graham Patterson, Charlie Torrence, Jordan Withers, Sr., John Brice, Johnnie Heath, Ozon Brice, Willie Bell Sloan, Sr., C. C. Cornelius and Margaret Howard—all deceased. Others who have served are Gerald Potts, Thomas Howard, James Davis, Ferman Hill and Wilson Potts.

Present Officers: Preacher Steward—C. W. Howard, Vice Chairman—Willie Gaston, Recording Secretary—Jerry Kornegay, Financial Secretary—Annie Mae Gaston, and Treasurer—Cleo Montieth. Other members are Matthew Barringer, Sammie Barringer, Steven Howard, James Forney, James Derr, James Reid, Johnnie Pitts and John Haywood Gaston.

## TRUSTEE BOARD

The Trustee Board began with the founding of the church. Mr. Jack Glaspie, Mr. Plumber Johnson, and Mr. Rufus Potts were among the first trustees. Mr. C. C. Cornelius, Mr. Jordan Withers, Rev. R. C. Jones, Mr. Kenny Davis, and Mr. Elrado Davis were the Trustees on record until 1949. Some others who have served through the years are Wm. Wor, Wilson Black, John Brice, D. S. Reid, Towy Withers, Johnnie Heath, James Barringer Sr., Ozon Brice, Waddell Henderson, Mrs. Nora Caldwell, Craven Davis, James Davis, Eugene Howard, Matthew Barringer, James Foster, James Derr, Willie Torrence, C. W. Howard, James Forney, James Reid. The present board consists of Chairman—Raymond Cuthbertson, Vice Chairman, R. A. Work, Secretary—Daniel Work, Assistant Secretary—Wilson Potts, Home Treasurer—Ferman Hill, and General Secretary—Anitra Howard. Other members are Thomas Howard, Gerald Potts, Clifford Caldwell, Wilson Stinson, William Barringer and Samuel Knox and Rev. G. Sidney Waddell.

## THE BUDGET COMMITTEE

The Budget Committee in the past was known as the General Claims Captains. Mr. Ozon Brice served as chairman of this committee until his death. Mrs. Jennie V Brice served as chairperson after her husband's death until 1983.

In 1983 Mr. Willie H. Gaston was elected as chairman and remains in that position to this date. Other captains are: Mrs. Estelle Withers, Mrs. Mazella Forney, Mrs. Lillian McNeely, Mrs. Gertrude Long, Mrs. Bobbie L. Potts, Mrs. Mary Reid, Mrs. Vertie Torrence. Ms. Annie M. Gaston is the Secretary for this group.

## BUILDING COMMITTEE

The Building Committee was revised in October 1962 with Rev. J. N. Torrence as pastor. The officers were Chairman—Wilson Potts, Secretary—Samuel Knox, and Treasurer—Raymond Cuthbertson. A new addition—twenty-four by forty foot front, which included an office, a classroom, and a balcony to seat 109 persons—was added to the church in 1964.

Under the leadership of Rev. E. W. Hayes, our present educational building was constructed in 1971. It is a two-story building with a kitchen, dining room, two restrooms, an office, and choir room on first floor. On second floor, you will find classrooms, a nursery, a library, and the pastor's office. Also during this time a new altar railing was built, central air was installed and parking area was paved.

In 1982 we made a change in the front of the church. What had been a classroom and an office, was changed and two restrooms were built. We also built a ramp and reserved two parking spaces for the handicapped.

## STEWARDESS BOARD NO. 1

Stewardess Board No. 1 was organized under the pastorate of the late Rev. H. H. Jackson in 1911 with the late Mrs. Liza Stinson serving as president for forty years. Other presidents include Mrs. Bessie Bush, Mrs. Lucy Patterson, Mrs. Mary Stinson and Mrs. Annie Work (all deceased). Present officers are: President—Miss Diane Work, Vice-President—Mrs. Georgia Work, Secretary—Mrs. Rosena Work, Assistant Secretary—Marilyn Work, Corresponding Secretary—Jennie V. Brice, Co-Chaplains—Mrs. Lottie Little and Mrs. Bennie Waddell.

Members are: Mrs. Lola Harrison, Mrs. Ada Caldwell, Mrs. Katherine Work, Mrs. Odessa Haynes, Mrs. Emily Kornegay.

## **STEWARDESS BOARD NO. 2**

The Stewardess Board No. 2 was organized much later than Stewardess Board No. 1. Mrs. Nora Lee Caldwell served as president of Board No. 2 for a number of years. Mrs. Henrietta Work has served as president from 1970 to the present. She has served well and she has a membership of 17. Other officers are: Secretary—Mrs. Margaret Sloan, Treasurer—Mrs. Estelle Withers.

## **DEACONESS BOARD**

The original Deaconess Board was organized under the leadership of Rev. D. L. Blakey. It was composed of seven faithful members: Mrs. Maggie Reid, Mrs. Lucy Patterson, Mrs. Lettia Black, Mrs. Cora Robinson (all deceased), Mrs. Agnes Potts and Mrs. Maccie Cornelius. As years passed Mrs. Girlee Brice, Mrs. Sarah Gaston, Mrs. Bunie Heath, Mrs. Mattie Reid (all deceased), Mrs. Louise Anderson and Mrs. Catherine Work became members. The present officers are: President—Mrs. Annie Barringer, Vice President—Mrs. Jennie V. Brice, Secretary—Mrs. Rosena Work, Assistant Secretary—Mrs. Mattie Monteith, Treasurer—Mrs. Marjorie Thompson. Present members are: Mrs. Mary Kerns, Mrs. Juanita Archie, Mrs. Katie Reid, Mrs. Ella Mae Black, Mrs. Ada Caldwell, Mrs. Cordia Cherry, Mrs. Odessa Haynes, Mrs. Katie Graham, Ms. Katherine Work, Mrs. Maccie Cornelius and Mrs. Agnes Potts.

## **THE CHRISTIAN EDUCATION DEPARTMENT**

The Christian Education Department was organized in 1968 under the leadership of Rev. J. N. Torrence. The first officers were: President—Samuel Knox, Vice President—Mrs. Bobbie Potts, Secretary—Mrs. Eudean Knox, Treasurer—Willie Torrence. Mrs. Bobbie Potts, Mrs. Eva Torrence and Raymond Cuthbertson have served as president of this organization through the years. Our present officers are Mrs. Susie Cuthbertson, Director; Mrs. Juanita Archie, Assistant Director; Ms. Vertie Torrence, Secretary; Mrs. Georgia Black, Assistant Secretary; Mrs. Nannie Potts, Treasurer.

## **THE WOMAN'S HOME AND OVERSEAS MISSIONARY SOCIETY**

The Woman's Home and Overseas Missionary Society is presently under the leadership of Mrs. Robertta Derr. Mrs. Derr has been the president for over twenty years. Mrs. Derr succeeded Mrs. Maggie Reid as president. She has served well and the society has been very successful in their mission. The present officers along with Mrs. Derr are: Vice President—Mrs. Rissie Work, Secretary—Mrs. Margaret Sloan, Treasurer—Ms. Martha Black.

## **THE BUDS OF PROMISE**

The Buds of Promise was reorganized in 1963 under the leadership of Rev. J. N. Torrence. Mrs. Elsie Sherrill was named superintendent of the Buds of Promise. Today, 21 years later, Mrs. Sherrill is still serving as superintendent of the Buds.

Many of the Buds have since become members of the Young Y's, and YAMS (Young Adult Missionaries). Their theme song is "Blooming For Jesus" and their hymn is "I Will Be True". The colors are green and white. The age is Beginners 3-6, Primary 7-9, and Juniors 10-12.

## **YAMS**

At the inception of the YAMS (Young Adult Missionary Society) in 1982, 12 young women between the ages of 27 to 40 formed a working organization separate from the parent body of WHAFO Missionaries. This group was headed by President Margaret J. Howard. Our goals were and still are to help the parent body. Present officers are: President—Jennie Patterson, Vice President—Frances Foster, Secretary—Anitra Howard, Treasurer—Deborah Howard.

## **THE PASTOR'S AIDE BOARD**

The Pastor's Aide Board was reorganized under the leadership of the Rev. E. K. Walkins during the year of 1957. The purpose of this board was and is to help the pastor, his family and the church in any way it can. The Pastor's Aide Board takes pride and enjoys carrying out its responsibilities.

The officers in 1957 were: President—Mrs. Theolia Davis, Vice President—Mrs. Essie Davis, Secretary—Ms. Annie M. Gaston, Treasurer—Mrs. Geneva Black. In 1968, Mrs. Nannie Potts was elected pres-

ident of the board. At this time the Stewardess Board worked very closely with the Pastor's Aide in providing Sunday meals for the Pastor and his family. Mrs. Henrietta Works was in charge of the meals.

In 1980, Mrs. Bobbie L. Potts was appointed president under the leadership of Rev. G. W. Thompson. Mrs. Potts and her members worked together faithfully in helping with the needs of the pastor and his family. Mrs. Jennie V. Brice became president in 1981 and is still serving in this capacity. The other officers are: Vice President—Ms. Vertie Torrence, Secretary—Ms. Annie Mae Gaston, Assistant Secretary—Mrs. Willie Brice, Treasurer—Mrs. Essie Mae Davis.

### **CLASS LEADERS**

Class Leaders were organized as a working body along with the development of the church. Among the early leaders were: Rufus Potts, L. Potts, Green Grier, Sam Stinson, William Work, David Reid, Towy Withers, Maggie Reid, John Brice, Geneva Black and Ozon Brice (all deceased). Mrs. Frances Reid and Mrs. Bertha Jones also served as leaders in past years. The present leaders are Mrs. Macie Cornelius, James Reid, R. A. Work, Ms. Catherine Work, Mrs. Susie Cuthbertson, Mrs. Henrietta Work, Mrs. Bobbie Potts, Mrs. Jennie V. Brice, Mrs. Vertie Torrence, Mrs. Juanita Archie, Mrs. Annie Barringer and Mrs. Jennie Patterson.

### **CHURCH SCHOOL**

Our forefathers realized that the church school department was a vital component of any church. Therefore, it was one of the original auxiliaries established during the organization of Torrence Chapel Church.

Superintendents and dynamic leaders during the earlier years of the church were: Mr. Sam Glaspie, Mr. L. A. Little, Mr. Jim Dean, Mr. G. A. Burton, Mr. C. A. Caldwell, Mr. D. S. Reid, and Mr. William S. Work. These leaders were so dedicated that some were inspired to have Bible study or story hour for community residents wherever they could find space.

Some of our more recent superintendents include Mr. R. A. Work, Mr. James Davis, Rev. R. C. Jones, Ms. Joan Stinson, Mr. R. E. Cuthbertson, Mr. James Barringer, and Mrs. Mattie Montieth, our current superintendent. Other current staff members and officers are: Assistant Superintendent—Mr. Wilson Potts, Secretary—Mrs. Juanita Archie, Treasurer—Mrs. Mary Frances Kerns, Teachers—Mrs. Lottie Little, Mrs. Lillie Von Caldwell, Mrs. Georgia Black, Mrs. Vanessa Ramseur, Mrs. Henrietta Works, Mr. Donald McNeely, Mrs. Susie Cuthbertson, and Ms. Anitra L. Howard.

### **TODAY'S THOUGHT**

I truly believe a college education is important for both men and women but a knowledge of the Bible with a college course is more valuable than a college course without the knowledge of the Bible.

### **SENIOR USHER BOARD**

The first usher board was organized in 1932. James Torrence was appointed president and served very efficiently to the year 1935. Jordan Withers, Jr., was elected from 1935-1939; James Davis, 1939-1942; and Bobbie Potts, 1942-1946.

October 16, 1949 the board reorganized under the ministry of Rev. D. L. Blakey. Bobbie Potts was appointed president and served in this capacity until the year 1981. Officers were Carrie Howard, Vice President; Annie M. Gaston, Secretary; C. W. Howard, Treasurer; Margaret Howard, Program Chairperson. Willie Torrence served as treasurer for a number of years.

This board made many donations to the Trustees and did much toward the comfort and beautification of the church. The Senior Usher Board led the campaign to install new pews and later for better comfort had cushions made. This board was responsible for installing carpet and lights.

Margaret Howard was elected president 1981-1983 until her death. Mrs. Carrie P. Howard, vice president, led the Usher Board to finish out the conference year. Vertie D. Torrence is now president, and doing an excellent job. A number of eager young members have joined and they are willing and ready to do whatever they can. Present officers along with the president are: Vice President—Carrie Howard, Secretary—Annie Mae Gaston, Assistant Secretary and one of the Head Ushers—Jennie Patterson, Treasurer—C. W. Howard; the other Head Usher—Wilson Stinson.



## THE JUNIOR USHER BOARD

The Junior Usher Board was reorganized in 1974 by the late Mrs. Margaret Howard. Previously the group had served as Willing Workers. Projects undertaken by the ushers were serving on each youth Sunday and purchasing of a cross for the church.

Mrs. Mae Audrey Springs became adviser of the board in 1980. She served for two years. The Board continues to grow and serve on each Sunday receiving the Junior Church offering.

In 1982 Mrs. Carrie Howard was named adviser of the board. Projects undertaken include purchasing of Bibles for the church.

Presently the board consists of 52 members. They celebrate their anniversary each year. At this time a contest is held. In 1983 the winner was Qulanda Barringer and runner-up was Yashia Brandon. Leslie Mayhew was 1983 Usher of the Year. 1984 winner was Yashia Brandon and runner-up was Alan Work. Usher of the Year for 1984 was Sharon Stinson. We thank God for our many blessings and the success of all our achievements.

Junior Usher Board Officers are: Adviser—Mrs. Carrie P. Howard, President—Karen Thompson, Vice President—Carolyn Stinson, Secretary—Leslie Mayhew, Assistant Secretary—Mia Sloan, Treasurer—Monica Work, Chaplain—Rena Thompson, Head Usher—Missy Stanback, Program Chairperson—Cindy Brice, Sick Chairperson—Sharon Stinson.

## THE JUNIOR CHURCH

The first organized Junior Church was under the supervision of Mrs. Bertha Jones, who served many years. Others who have served as leaders through the years are: Mrs. Margaret Howard, Mrs. Mazella Forney, Mrs. Eudean Knox, Mrs. Mary Frances Kerns, Mrs. Lottie Little, Mrs. Patricia Stinson, Mrs. Ethel Davis and Mrs. Dorothy Knox. The present Junior Church is under the leadership of a Junior Church Board. The officers are: President—Mrs. Margaret Sloan, Vice President—Mrs. Emily Kornegay, Corresponding Secretary—Mrs. Eudean Knox, Financial Secretary—Steven Howard, Treasurer—Gerald Potts. Recently new robes have been purchased for two singing groups. A very successful concert was presented on May 6, 1984. Our singers were under the direction of Sonny Turner, Jr., at the time of the concert. The Junior Church is in charge of morning worship service the last Sunday of each month. Our youth are very aggressive and eager to serve in the service of our Lord and Savior. All members of the Junior Church do not belong to the singing groups. However, they render other services such as ushers, stewards, etc.

We are very proud of our youth.

## THE JUNIOR STEWARD BOARD

The Junior Steward Board was organized in 1982 by Rev. G. Sidney Waddell. Rev. Waddell began meeting with this group of young men, holding workshops to better acquaint them with the history and duties of the A.M.E. Zion Church.

The present group consists of nine active members. Their major project undertaken has been carrying out the "Children's Story Hour" each month on Youth Sunday.

Mr. Tony Howard is chairman of the Junior Steward Board. Members include: Gary Potts, Sammy Barringer, Jr., Milton Potts, Jerry Potts, Richard Black, Jr., Milton Howard, Pete McIntyre, Drake Caldwell, Maurice Caldwell, Walter Green, and Timmy Knox.

## LAY COUNCIL

The Lay Council was first organized in 1978 under the leadership of Rev. Edward W. Hayes. We have twenty-one active members. The first and present officers are: President—Gerald Potts; Vice President—Willie H. Gaston, Secretary—Mrs. Juanita Archie, Assistant Secretary—Ms. Annie M. Gaston, Treasurer—Mrs. Nannie H. Potts.

The members of the Lay Council have tried to plan programs to meet the educational, economical, social, and spiritual needs and interests of the church and community. On Mother's Day, beginning in 1980 we honored the oldest mother in the church, Mrs. Mary Miller (now deceased) along with twenty-one other mothers. We honor the fathers on Father's Day. Each year the Lay Council selects five members of the church to be honored at the North Charlotte District Lay Council Banquet. We have also led the project to purchase hymnals for the church on two different occasions.

## THE SPIRITUALAIRES

The Spiritualaires were organized in 1980 by Dr. G. W. Thompson, then pastor of Torrence A.M.E. Zion Church. Their fundamental responsibility has been to minister God's word through song. Each year during the month of October, the Spiritualaires celebrate their anniversary by performing in concert.

Mr. Earl Wooten, a student from Davidson College served as pianist of the group until he graduated May, 1984. The present group consists of 27 members and is under the direction of Mrs. Sarah Wilson.

Past presidents include Norgeia Cornelius, 1980-1981; Eudean Knox, 1981-1982; Florida McCauley, 1982-1983; and Tony Howard, 1983-1984. Mildred Barringer is vice president at this printing.

## STROLLER SINGERS

March 1945

Rev. Hill

President: James Derr  
Vice President: Geneva Black\*  
Secretary: Wilson Black\*  
Treasurer: Wilson Black\*  
Director: Etta Burton

\*DECEASED

### MEMBERS:

George Black  
Joe E. Black  
Margaret Black

Theolia Davis  
Roberta Derr  
Melvin Derr  
Rossielee Forney

Daisy Shipp  
Elsie Sherrill  
Rissie Work

1984:

President: James Derr  
Vice President: Frances Foster  
Secretary: Roberta Derr  
Assistant Secretary: Zellar Morrison  
Treasurer: Gilbert Cherry  
Director: Rissie Work  
Assistant Director: Theolia Davis  
Announcer: Cynthia Bailey  
Sick Committee: Treva Watts and Cynhia Bailey  
Program and Dress Committee: Chairperson—Vanessa Ramseur, DeVondia Stinson,  
Marilyn Williamson, Norma Hunsucker, Cindy Saunders



STROLLER SINGERS

**MEMBERS**

Eugenia Bailey  
 Sentonya  
 Louise Benson  
 Richard Black, Sr.  
 Yolanda Black  
 Marcille Brown  
 Kelly Carr  
 Cordelia Cherry  
 Sudie Cornelius  
 Theodore Cornelius  
 Pansy Derr  
 James Fallie

James Foster, Jr.  
 Yolanda Foster  
 Debora Howard  
 Tamika Howard  
 Nerissa Hunsucker  
 Norris Hunsucker, Jr.  
 Ramon Hunsucker  
 Sudie Johnson  
 Timothy Knox  
 Mary Latten  
 Gregory Massey  
 Pete McIntyre

Ashley Morrison  
 Reshika Ramseur  
 Cortney Saunders  
 Elsie Sherrill  
 Larry Sherrill  
 Tina Sherrill  
 Kerry Smith  
 Colette Stinson  
 J. C. Williamson  
 Marilyn Williamson  
 Shantaya Williamson

# SENIOR CHOIR

The Torrence Chapel Senior Choir was organized in 1885. The following persons served as choisters:

Monroe Johnson	1885-1890
John Johnson	1890-1900
J. A. Dean	1900-1918
R. C. Jones	
Lonzo Jackson	
Susan Brice	
Lilly Caldwell	1980-Present

The past presidents of the Senior Choir were:

I. A. Withers	1918-1933
Gospie Caldwell & Larry Withers	1935-1968
No Record	1968-1970
Ozon Brice	1970-1975
Samuel Knox	1975-Present

The Senior Choir sponsored the following projects:

1. Seats in Choir
2. Organ
3. Sound system
4. Furniture in Choir room
5. Beautifying church yard (flowers)

Our Present officers are:

Samuel Knox	President
James Forney	Vice-President
Hazeline Knox	Financial Secretary
Margaret Slaon	Recording Secretary
Estelle Withers	Treasurer
R. C. Cutherbertson	Chaplin
Bennie Waddell	Assist. Chaplin
Lilly Caldwell	Choister & Painist
Mary Deese	Assist. Choister
Mazella Forney	Organist
Dorothy Knox, Martha Black, & Edith Reid	Wardrobe Committee

Members are Theolia Davis, Lillian McNeely, Edna Cornelius, Hollis Cornelius, Henrietta Work, and Eugene Howard

6. Financial Support to Building Fund
7. Financial Support to Trustees
8. Water Cooler & Flags
9. Piano



# TRUSTEE BOARD

**OFFICERS:** Chairman—Raymond Cuthbertson; Vice Chairman—R. A. Work; Secretary—Daniel Work; Assistant Secretary—Wilson Potts; and Treasurer—Ferman Hill

**MEMBERS:** Thomas Howard, Clifford Caldwell, Wilson Stinson, Samuel Knox, Gerald Potts, William Barringer, and Rev. G. Sidney Waddell.



## STEWARD BOARD

**OFFICERS:** Preacher Steward—C. W. Howard; Assistant Chairman—Willie Gaston; Recording Secretary—Jerry Kornegay; Financial Secretary—Annie M. Gaston; and Treasurer Cleo Montieth

**MEMBERS:** Johnnie H. Gaston, James Forney, James Derr, Steven Howard, Sammy Barringer, Johnny Pitts, Matthew Barringer and James Reid



## SENIOR USHER BOARD

OFFICERS: President: Ms. Vertie Torrence; Vice President—Mrs. Carrie Howard; Secretary—Ms. Annie M. Gaston; Assistant Secretary—Ms. Jennie Patterson; and Treasurer—Mr., C. W. Howard



# LAY COUNCIL

OFFICERS: President—Gerald Potts; Vice President—Willie Gaston; Secretary—Juanita Archie; Assistant Secretary—Annie Gaston; and Treasurer—Nannie Potts



# DEACONESS BOARD





**PASTOR'S AIDE BOARD**



**CLASS LEADERS**



**STEWARDESS BOARD #1**



**STEWARDESS BOARD #2**

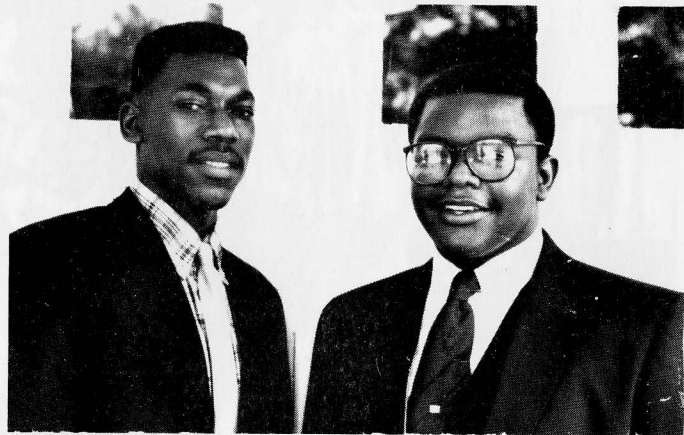


## BUDS



## JR. STEWARD BOARD

Tony Howard and Samuel Barringer  
Not pictured: Gary Potts, Jerry Potts, Milton Potts, Richard Black, Jr., Drayton Caldwell, Maurice Caldwell, Milton Howard, Walter Green, Pete McIntyre and Timmy Knox.



## CHURCH SCHOOL



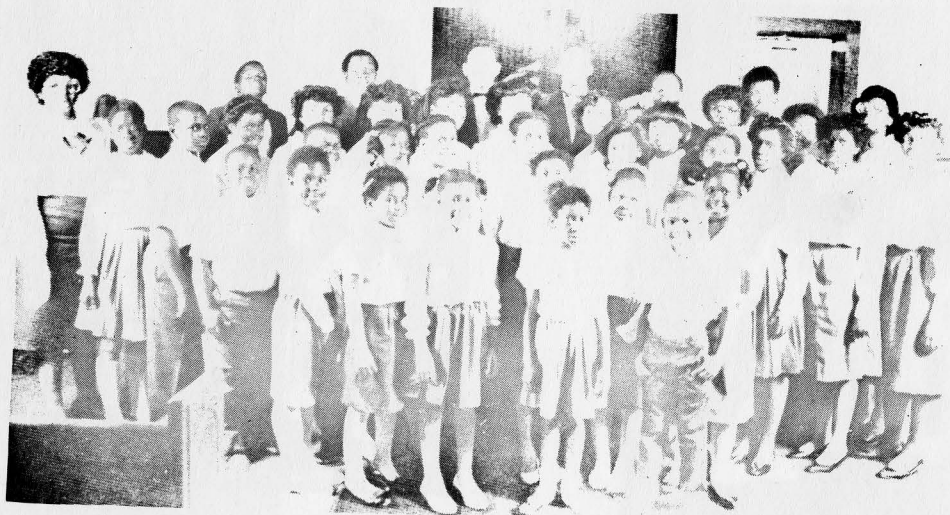
## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION DEPARTMENT



# WOMAN'S HOME AND OVERSEAS MISSIONARY SOCIETY



# JUNIOR USHER BOARD



# JUNIOR CHURCH

**Young People's Ensemble**



**Young Messengers**



**Junior Church Board**

# ACTIVITIES

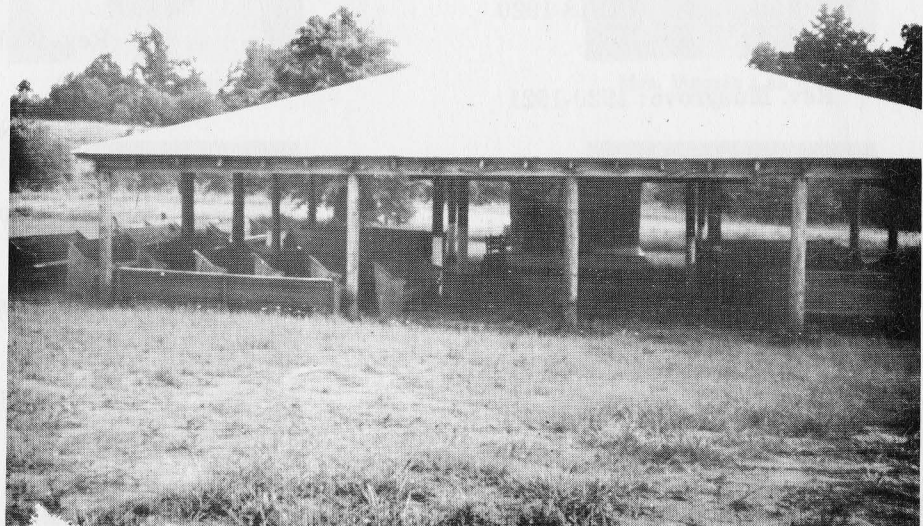
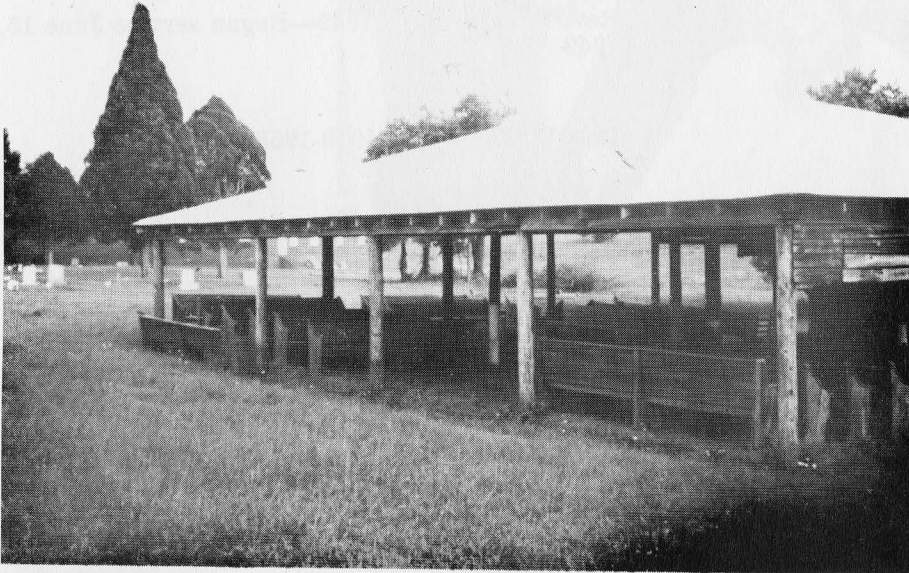


## THE BRUSH ARBOR

Torrence Chapel A.M.E. Zion Church had its beginning a few years prior to 1869 by the Rev. Ephrim Torrence with only a few members.

After many trials and hardships, a "Brush Arbor" was built to serve as a place to worship. The land for this structure was located across the road (what is now Torrence Chapel Road) from the present church. Here each year, relatives and friends came from far and near to commune and worship God, meet old and new friends, and have one glorious good time—sometimes lasting on into the early morning.

A few years later, the membership moved to the present location and built a frame structure (in the year 1869), on a site of land given to them by white friends. Years passed and the Trustees were told by the Blakely family (owners of the land) that the Arbor had to be moved. In 1941, the Rev. N. V. Jones and the Trustees saw fit to move the Arbor onto the present church property. The present Arbor is the place where members, relatives and friends meet on the second Sunday in August each year for camp meeting. The Arbor is also used for family reunions and is ideal spot for a Easter Sunrise service.



# MINISTERS

(IN ORDER OF SERVICE)

- Rev. Ephrium Torrence: Founder of first church—  
Began serving prior to 1869
- Rev. Huttle: 1886-1888
- Rev. Stitts: 1888-1894
- Rev. M. C. Cray: 1894-1896
- Rev. Hite: 1896-1898
- Rev. S. W. Hamilton: 1898-1900
- Rev. Muddock: 1900-1902
- Rev. Hite: (returned) 1902-1904
- Rev. Blanton: 1904-1905
- Rev. J. J. Parks: 1905-1909
- Rev. Newby: 1909-1910—Rebuilt church
- Rev. Joe Torrence: 1910-1911
- Rev. H. H. Jackson: 1911-1918
- Rev. B. J. Ivery: 1918-1920
- Rev. Musgrove: 1920-1921
- Rev. C. E. Morment: 1921-1923
- Rev. Linsey: 1923-
- Rev. T. P. Turner: 1923-1928
- Rev. B. A. Crawford: 1928-1932—Began new church
- Rev. W. T. Welch: 1932-1933
- Rev. Robert Simmons: 1933-1934
- Rev. L. E. Carr: 1934-1936—Moved in new church
- Rev. N. V. Jones: 1936-1943—Finished new church  
and built arbor
- Rev. V. R. Hill: 1944-1949—Left June 12, 1949
- Rev. D. L. Blakey: 1949—Began service June 15,  
1949
- Rev. W. F. Owens: 1949-1953
- Rev. G. Burnett: 1953-1954
- Rev. L. A. Holloway: 1954-1955
- Rev. Bagby: 1956-1956
- Rev. E. K. Walkins: 1957-1959
- Rev. W. J. Jiles: 1959-1961
- Rev. H. D. Bonner: 1961
- Rev. Walton: 1961-1963
- Rev. J. N. Torrence: 1963-1970
- Rev. E. W. Hayes: 1970-1980
- Rev. G. W. Thompson: 1980-1982
- Rev. G. Sidney Waddell: 1982-present

# PAST AND PRESENT SENIOR MEMBERS

## *Ye Christian Heralds!*

Ye Christain Heralds! Go proclaim  
Salvations thro' Immanuel's name;  
To distant climes the tidings bear,  
And plant the Rose of Sharon there.

And when our labors are o'er,  
Then shall we meet to part no more.  
Meet with the blood-bo't throng to fall,  
And crown our Jesus—Lord of all.



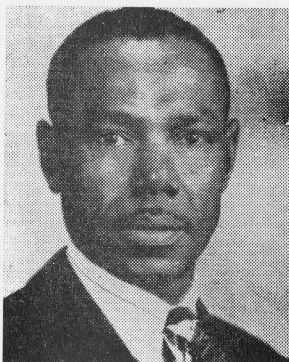
R. C. Jones



Mrs. Bertha Jones



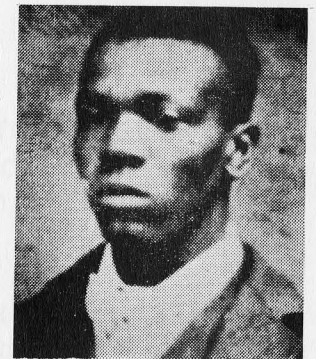
Mrs. Maggie Lee Reid



Jordan W. Withers, Jr.



Mrs. Thelma Graham



Joseph D. Grier



**Torrence Chapel Members who have served on the  
North Charlotte District and the  
Western North Carolina Conference:**

Annie M. Gaston  
Financial Secretary of District Ushers  
Past Treasurer of Conference Ushers  
Past President of North Charlotte District Lay Council

Carrie Howard  
Past Vice President of District Ushers  
President of District Ushers

Patricia Stinson  
President of North Charlotte District Jr. Ushers  
Secretary of Conference Christian Education Board

Lottie Little  
Chairman of the Second Mile Club

Jennie Patterson  
Social Committee Chairman North Carolina District

Sarah Wilson  
District Director of Girl Scouts

Gerald Potts  
Past First Vice President of District Lay Council

Bennie Waddell  
Chairman of Life Members of Womans Home and Overseas Missionary

Vertie Torrence  
Chairman Conference Ushers Program Committee

# In Memoriam



1936-1983

Margaret J. Howard

*A tribute to a loving Mother  
and a faithful worker in the  
Torrence Chapel A.M.E. Zion Church*

*We will always love you and cherish your memory.*

*Love,*

*Steven, Anitra, Avery, Audrey, Kelly & Kerry*

Mrs. Howard served in the following capacities on the church level:  
Secretary of the church; President of the Senior Usher Board;  
Secretary of the Steward Board; A Member of the Lay Council; Missionary Society;  
Pastor's Aide Board; and Central Treasurer Committee.

**On the District Level:**

She served as President of the Board of Ushers of the North Charlotte District;  
1st Vice-President of the Lay Council and Conference; 1st Vice-President of the  
Board of Ushers; Secretary of Lay Council; and President of the Conference  
Junior Ushers.

Happy 115th Anniversary  
to  
Our Church Family

*Compliments of*

**P&T  
Cakes and Catering**

Nannie Potts & Vertie Torrence



**L-R: Odessa Haynes, Muriel Reid, Lottie Little, Jennie V. Brice**

These are the daughters and son of the late David and Maggie Reid. They are all members of the A.M.E. Zion Denomination. Odessa is the oldest—85 yrs; Muriel and his family just recently moved back home after living in Maryland for 30 years; Lottie, who is the youngest, is in ministry; Jennie V. is a devoted church worker.

*Congratulations and  
God Bless You*

**The Barringer's  
Sam, Mildred, Sammy and Nokisha**

*In Loving Memory of*

**Billy Archie  
Lena S. Archie  
Alford Davis**

*A Special Memory for*

**Roy E. Lynch**

Best Wishes  
and Congratulations

**Debra, Carrie  
Tony and Thomas Howard**

Love,  
**Juanita Archie**

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***In Memory of our loving Mother and Grandmother***  
**ANNIE MERVEN REID WORKS**



*Let not your heart be troubled; ye believe in God believe also in me.  
In My Father's house are many mansion's; if it were not so,  
I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.  
And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and  
receive you into myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.*

John 14:1-3

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Your Sister, Jennie Patterson

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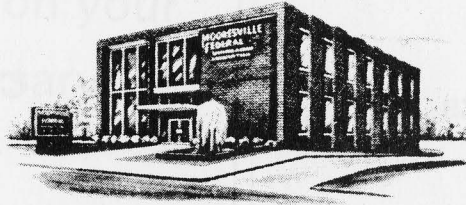
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*Congratulations*

**Ms. Vertie Torrence  
and  
The Torrence Chapel  
A.M.E. Zion Church Family**

Compliments of

**University Park Baptist Church**

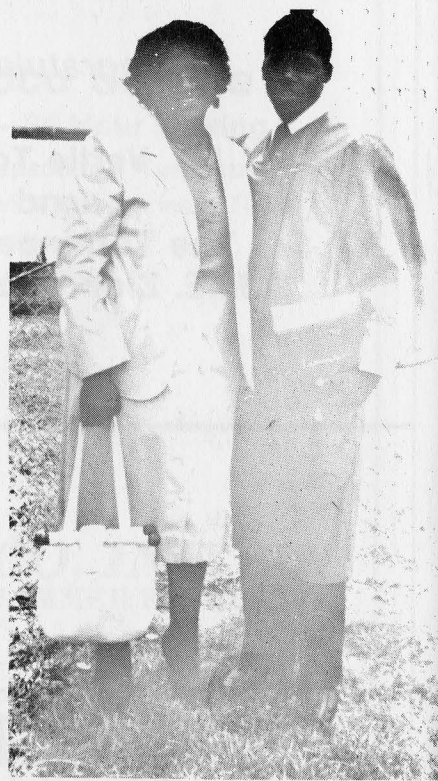
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CONGRATULATIONS AND

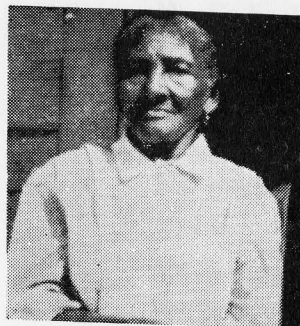
BEST WISHES TO  
**TORRENCE CHAPEL CHURCH**

Wilson, Bobbie and Family

# Remembering Our Loved Ones



**Grandfather  
Charlie Torrence**



**Grandmother  
Julia Torrence**



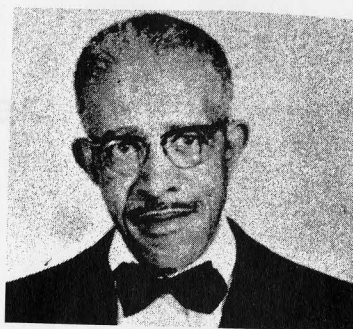
**Father  
James Torrence**



**Father  
Carrie Reid**



**Uncle  
Rush Torrence**



**Uncle  
Towy Wither**

**Aunt—Margaret Torrence McNeely**

**Aunt—Iris Reid**

**Vertie D. Torrence  
Gordon & Eva T. Ried  
Lillie T. Anderson**

Congratulations  
Torrence Chapel A.M.E. Zion Church

## My Grandmothers



Mrs. Annie W. Sloan



Mrs. Teratha Torrence

## My Great Uncle



Willie B. Torrence

## My Great Aunt



Mrs. Estelle Withers

From Your Grandson and Great Nephew Argelo Quentin Reid



*In Memory of My Mother  
Mrs. Sarah Gaston and  
Sisters*

*Sarah Lomise and Helen Gaston*

**Minnie G. & Floyd Glaspie**

*In Memory of Our Beloved Mother  
Mrs. Annie Louise Davis Gaston*

**Willie H. Gaston  
Emma L. Sloan**

**Virginia D. Mayhew  
Annie M. Gaston**

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