

Shared Stories: Religion

African Americans in North Mecklenburg



Reeves Temple AME Zion Church



What we did, we got to go on Sunday School picnics, that was our recreation. If you were in church, you were happening. Because you had fun, you had Westminster Fellowship that connected with what was going on in school and what was going on in church.

—Ruby Houston



Old Gethsemane Baptist Church Potts Street

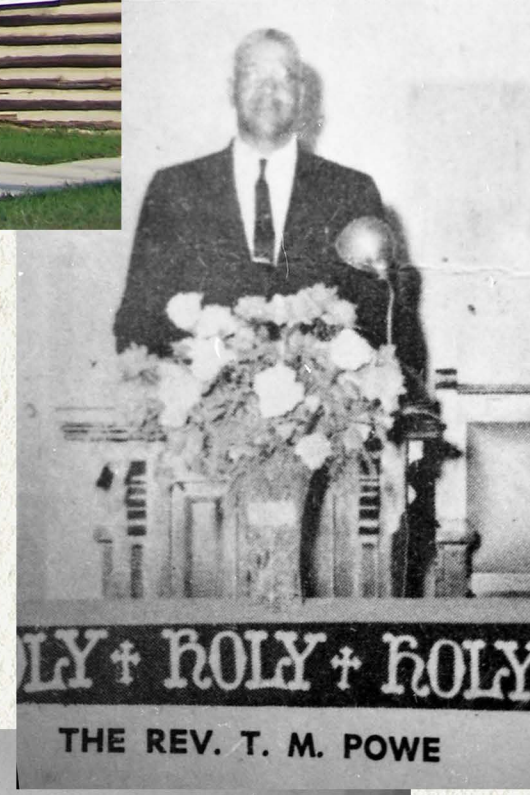


Gethsemane Baptist Church

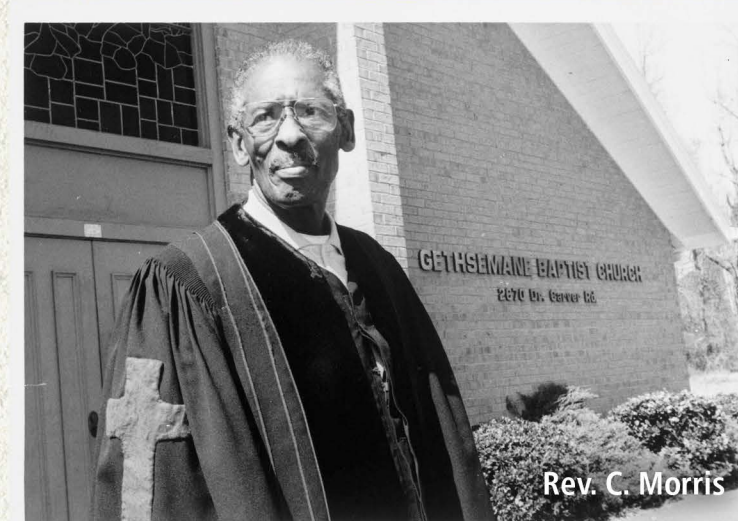
GROUND BREAKING FOR GETHSEMANE—Pastor Clement Morris of Gethsemane Baptist Church watches from the podium as Rev. Tom Hayes of Torrence Chapel takes the second shovel of dirt in the ground breaking ceremony held Saturday. The new \$17,000 church will be located on Jetton Street in Davidson.



Reeves Temple Children's Choir



THE REV. T. M. POWE



Rev. C. Morris

Gethsemane Day is celebrated

by Jewel Donaldson
One day about three weeks ago some young ladies at Gethsemane Baptist Church thought of an idea on how the members could get together as a family. The young ladies discussed it with the church members and they loved the idea.

Saturday, August 29, 1981 was set aside as "Gethsemane Day" by the church members and surrounding area residents who helped them celebrate. Members of the planning committee were Ms. Frances Alexander, Chairman, Loria Houston, Lula B. Houston, Dora Barringer, Lola McCain, and Dorothy and Jimmy Kerns.

Some of the highlights of the day were a softball game, the old against the young, sock races, three-legged races, horseshow throw, volleyball, balloon tossing, and ballow showings.



Enjoying a snow cone are, (left to right first row) Chantelle Carr, Tamika Phifer, Kelsy McCain, (back row) Chelaris Carr, Kesha Donaldson and Michelle Donaldson.

The WBTV Fun Bus was there to take everyone for a ride to the Cowan's Ford Dam and around our community.

Hot fish in the black pot was like old times—everyone sitting around waiting on that hot fish.

Some of the other goodies were hamburgers, hot dogs, baked beans, lemonade and snowballs.

Everything to eat and the ride on the WBTV Bus was free.

Gethsemane members have decided to have another Gethsemane Day next year because they feel that they accomplished the "church family" goal.

Rev. Clement J. Morris is the minister of the church located in Davidson.



Davidson Presbyterian Church

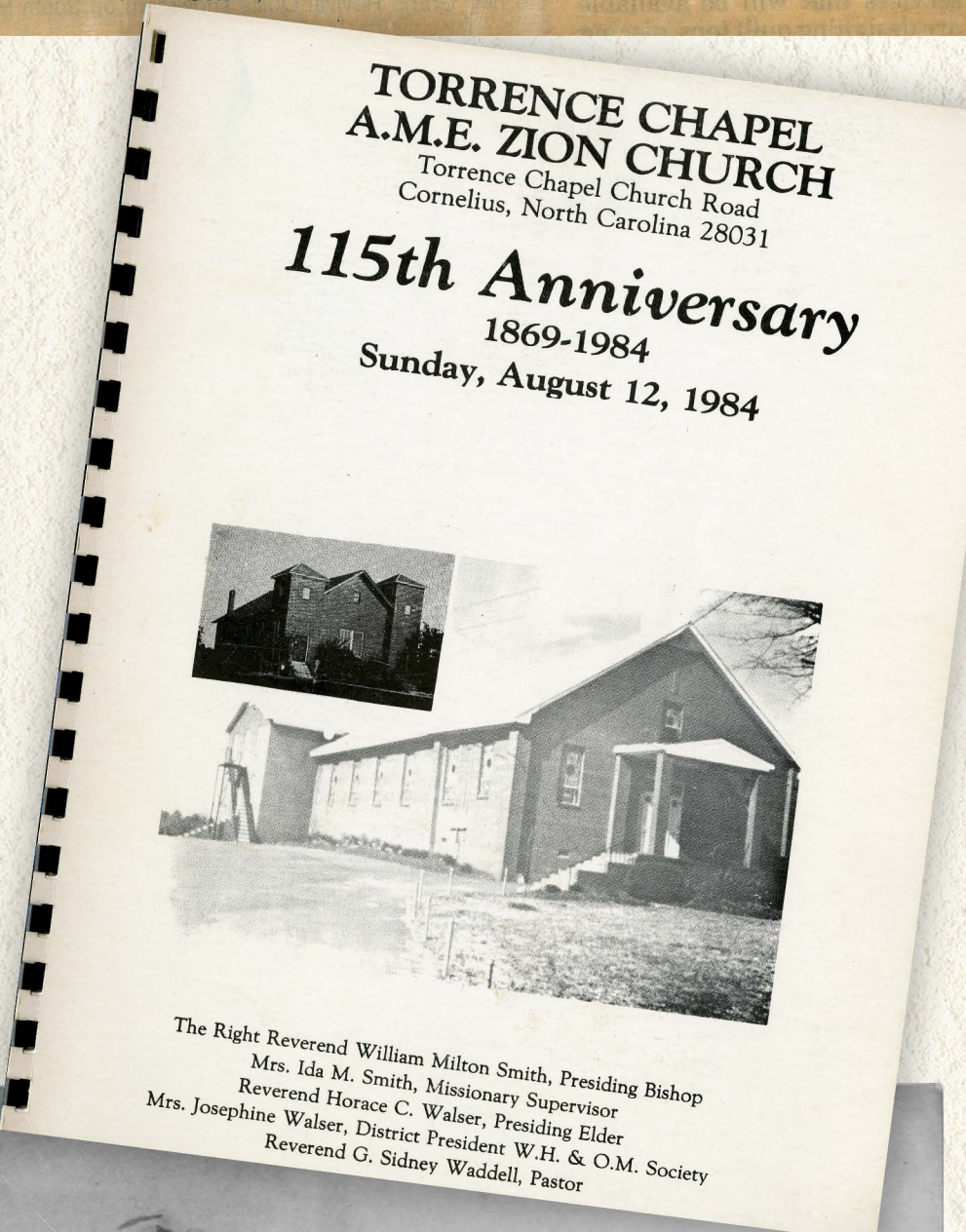


I grew up in Davidson Presbyterian Church, that was my home church. When we got older we moved over to Gethsemane Baptist Church where our father was at. Jimmy and myself were the first two of us who left the Presbyterians to go over to the Baptists. I was 15 when I went to the Baptists. I liked it and I stayed over there. [The minister was] Rev. Nash, Thomas Nash, he was from Salisbury. We had service church every other Sunday. We didn't have it every Sunday. [We had] Sunday School every Sunday because the teachers were local. They lived in Davidson, Miss Brandon and John Brandon. That's who taught Sunday School for us.

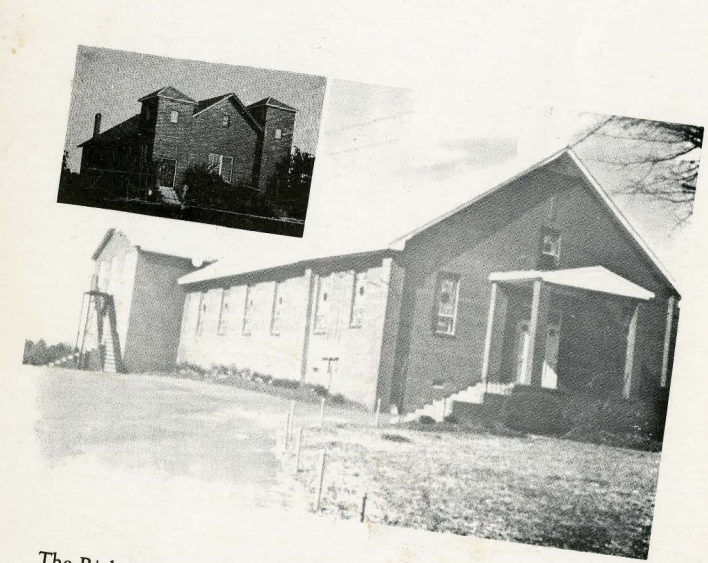
—Dorothy Burton

There were a lot of activities. It was all three churches together. We participated together. We went places to Georgia, up to the mountains, White Sands. We just had a good time at church picnics. They had buses and they packed lunches for us. We got off the bus and spread the lunch and we had a good time.

—Dorothy Burton



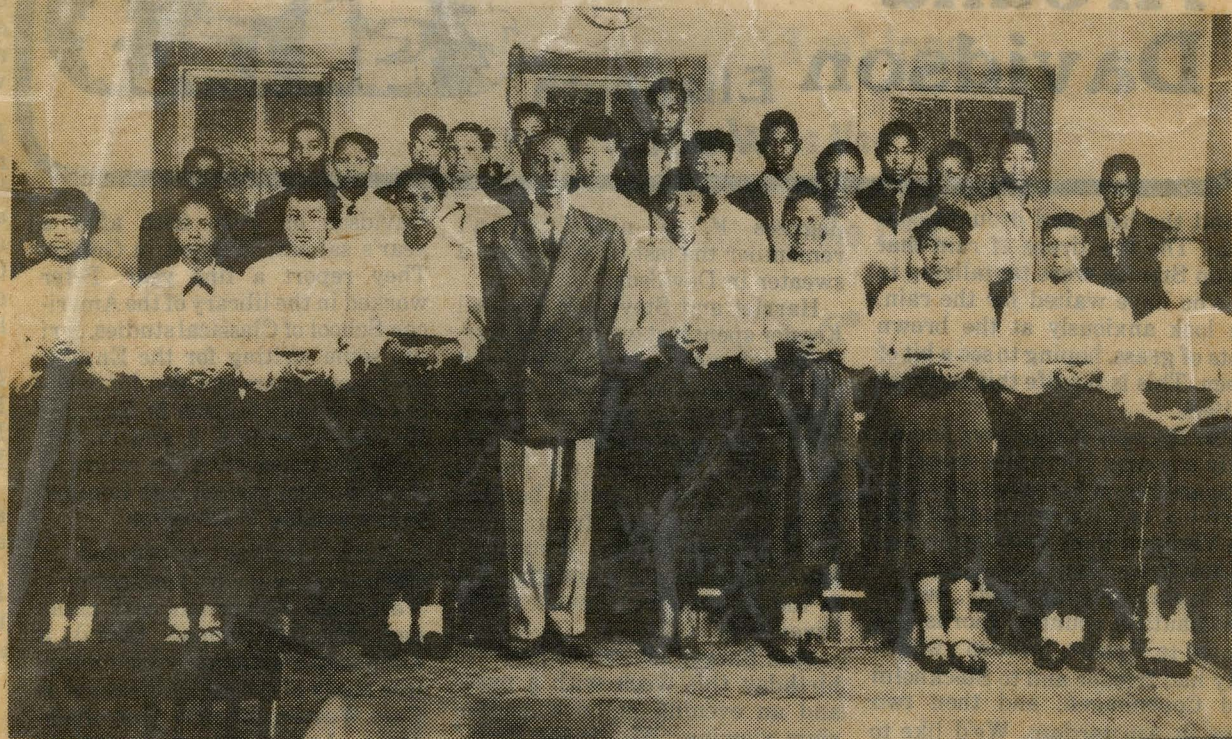
TORRENCE CHAPEL A.M.E. ZION CHURCH
Torrence Chapel Church Road
Cornelius, North Carolina 28031
115th Anniversary
1869-1984
Sunday, August 12, 1984



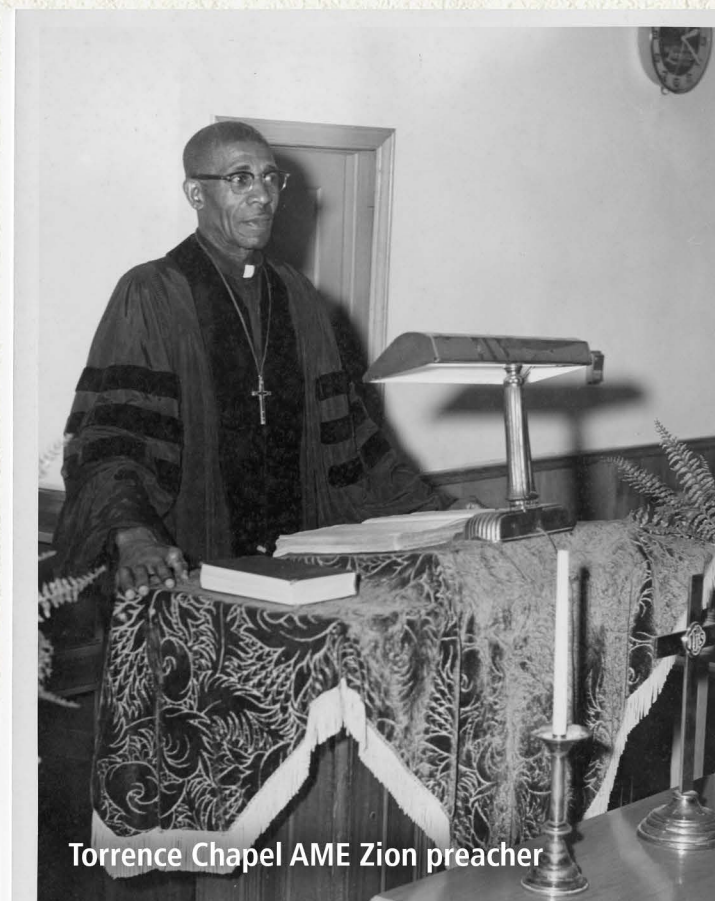
The Right Reverend William Milton Smith, Presiding Bishop
Mrs. Ida M. Smith, Missionary Supervisor
Reverend Horace C. Walker, Pastoring Elder
Mrs. Josephine Walker, District President W.H. & O.M. Society
Reverend G. Sidney Waddell, Pastor



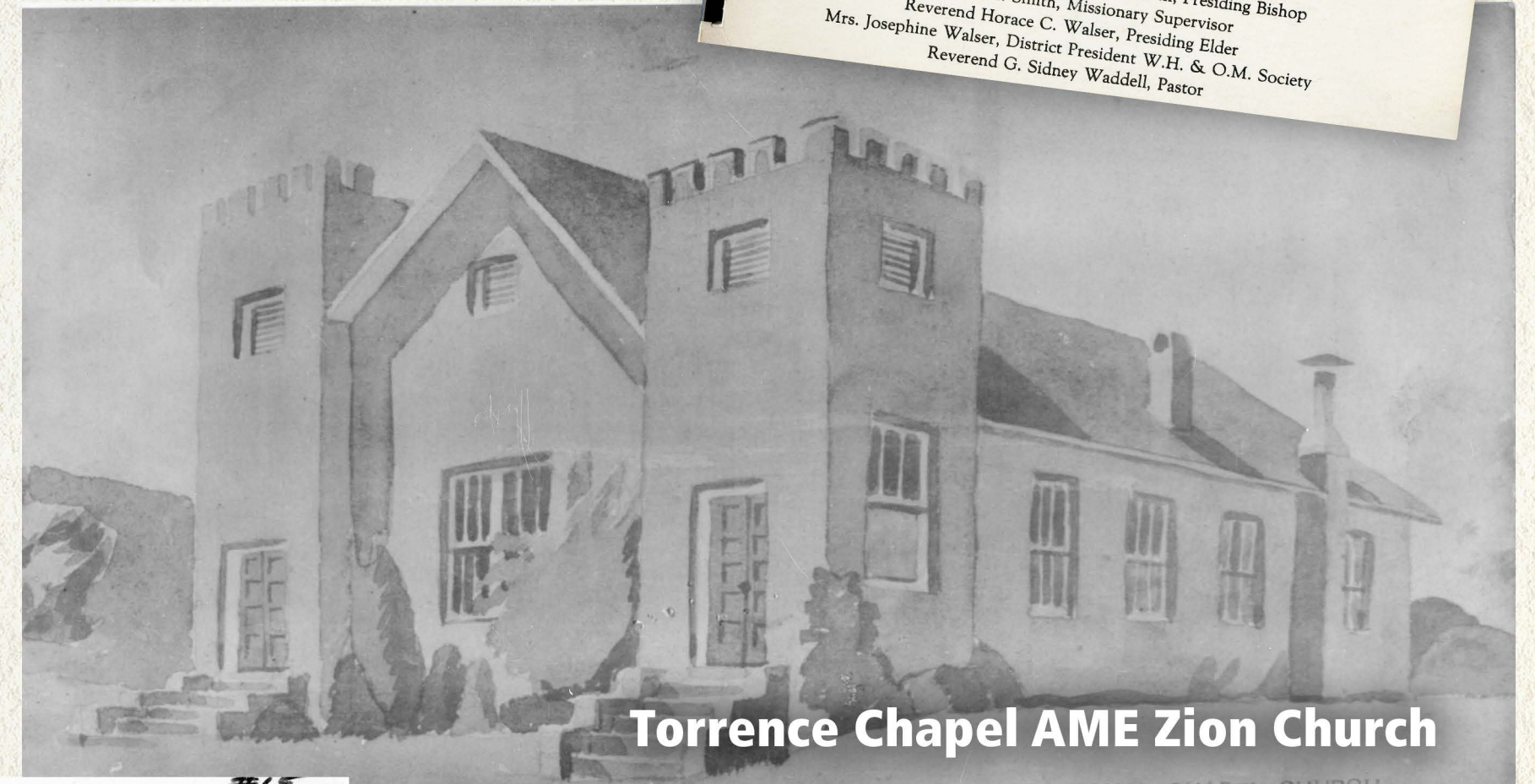
Church-Social Notes by Marjean Torrence



We would like to share with you this photo of a Junior Choir taken in 1953. Pictured in the photo are Director—Lester Hunsucker, and choir members Joyce Johnson, Carolyn Mundy, Marjean Torrence, Barbara Springs, Helen Grier, Nannie Rey, Houston, Virginia Houston, Betty Knox, Gwenlyn Caldwell, Harold Houston, A.G. Houston, Gene Parson, Farman Twitty, Robert Dubose, Calvin Houston, Josephine Torrence, Verger Parson, and Willie Gene Torrence.



Torrence Chapel A.M.E. Zion preacher



Torrence Chapel A.M.E. Zion Church



Families Present Church Steeple

Church Steeple Presented
On Sunday, April 12, 1987 at 4 p.m. the families of the late Elmore and Beulah Stinson and Jennie H. Ross presented a church steeple to Union Bethel A.M.E. Zion Church in memory of their parents.
The pastor, Rev. C.L. Griffin, delivered a very appropriate message.

Union Bethel A.M.E. Zion Church



Torrence Chapel ushers



Torrence Chapel officers