

and adults, as well as the smaller children. All classes stressed "The Meaning of Church Membership", "Doctrines of the Baptist Faith", and "Modern Marriage and the Family". He showed a keen interest in all of these programs and taught many of them.

Rev. Davis was aware of the progress or stalemate of any of the church family groups. It was to this end that he re-organized the Missionary Society into the Women's Baptist Mission Society under the American Baptist plan. This plan called for dividing the women in circles instead of clubs and naming them after various women of the Bible.

He was loved and highly respected in the community for his forthrightness and his readiness to speak out against discrimination and his fight for equal rights and opportunity for all people. He constantly sought jobs for the Negro population.

Rev. Davis was much in demand as a speaker in the schools, colleges and Church Conferences. He was a member of the Speakers Bureau of the Seattle Chapter of the National Council of Christians and Jews.

He also found time to serve as President of the local branch of NAACP, President of the Seattle Urban League and Board Chairman of the Christian Friends for Racial Equality for 5 years. No group was too small for him to serve. He served on the East Madison YMCA, the Mayor's Committee on Civic Unity, member of the Trustee Board of the Washington Baptist Convention, member of the Trustees Board of the Washington Baptist Convention, member of the Madison USO and as Worshipful Grand Master of Prince Hall Masons, State of Washington and its jurisdiction. Rev. Davis entered politics and ran for the City Council. He was the only Negro ever to be nominated for that office at that time.

It was said of Rev. Davis that he had an unusual insight into the problems of the Day. For people of every walk of life, regardless of race or religion, called on him for guidance. He was noted for his spiritual guidance, not only to Mount Zion, but the community at large. He showed a tremendous concern for young people and spoke their language. At the same time, he led them into a new thirst for Christian Education.

Under Rev. Davis' pastorate, the campaign for our new sanctuary was started and the chairman of the beginning building committee was Mrs. Jessie Shields.

Rev. Davis remained pastor of Mount Zion from July, 1942 until July, 1954, 12 fruitful years. He resigned to accept a call to the New Bethel Baptist Church in his home town. On one occasion, Rev. Davis closed his sermon with these remarks, "Mount Zion must move ahead! Yesterday is gone! Tomorrow is here. Committed unto us is a great responsibility."

Rev. Gil B. Lloyd and his musically talented wife and 10-year old daughter, Doris, better known as "Bunny", came to Mount Zion in February of 1955. Rev. Lloyd retained his position as pastor until March, 1957. He then resigned and returned to Chicago, Illinois. Since that time, Rev. Lloyd has returned to Seattle and is presently pastor of Cherry Hill Baptist Church and Dean of the Northwest Bible College.

In an interview with Rev. Lloyd, he described his call to Mount Zion as follows:

*"One of the most responsible challenges of my ministry came in the official call to the pastorate of the largest Negro Baptist Church East of Denver, Colorado and North of San Francisco, California. At this time, the Pacific Northwest is one of America's last frontier areas and Seattle, a bejeweled infant cosmopolis is struggling hard to be a sophisticated urban community. The city is a diamond in the rough whose facets are representative of the polyglot peoples of her several timbered hills and valley areas. Their cultures and traditions blended to enrich the beautiful Queen City as she nestled in the shadow of Mt. Rainier. Perhaps the most challenging responsibilities imposed by Mount Zion came from her need for preparing to construct accommodations for her burgeoning congregation and services...And now, in her year of Jubilee, Mr. Zion is a diamond shining in all her glory." ★ ★*

★ ★ Quote from Rev. Gil B. Lloyd during the Diamond Jubilee Celebration in 1965.