

The History of Trinity Baptist Church St. Joseph, Missouri

The Trinity Baptist Church was organized on January 3, 1925, by Rev. H. J. Herring. He was assisted by Rev. George Chinn and Rev. J. L. Ferguson, pastor of Savannah Avenue Baptist Church in St. Joseph, Missouri. The first pastor was the Rev. H. B. Stone. The first recommendation from the Board was to have Rev. George Chinn fill the pulpit on the following Sunday and thereafter use the local ministers. The first sermon was preached by Rev. Chinn. Then Rev. Hammons, a local minister supplied the pulpit until June 1, 1925 when Rev. H. B. Stone was called as the regular pastor. He served faithfully until January 1, 1928 when he was stricken and called to the great beyond. During his administration, many were united with the fold. Due to Rev. Stone being ill one year, the church paid his weekly salary until his death. Rev. J. Q. Evans served the church from September 1, 1927 through 1928.

The pastors who served at Trinity Baptist Church are listed below:

Rev. H. B. Stone – June 1, 1925 - January 1, 1928

Rev. J. Q. Evans - September 1, 1927 – December 31, 1928

Rev. R. O. Johnson – January 1, 1929 – 1934

Rev. A. J. Clayton - April 5, 1935 – 1938

Rev. Charles Albert Henson – May 10, 1939 – 1942

Rev. R. B. Cannon – May 12, 1943 – 1946

Rev. G. D. Favors - January 14, 1946 – December 1946

Rev. W. A. Phillips – January 27, 1947 – 1958

Rev. J. O. Bass - November 1958 – April 18, 1960

Rev. Harold Johnson – August 1960 – 1962

Rev. T. A. White - July 1962 – 1964

Rev. Leroy Powell – January 10, 1965 – 1970

Rev. W. C. Seiver – September 1970 – August 1971

Rev. Hamilton Brown, Interim, 1971- 1972

Rev. Curtis Williams – February 23, 1972 – January 1975

Rev. James Kelley – May 18, 1975 – August 10, 1997

Rev. Pamela J. Brown – July 26, 1998 – Present

Rev. Pamela J. Brown still serves as the pastor at Trinity, now named Trinity Full Gospel.

The Charter Members of the Baptist Church are as follow: Andrew Baker, Richard Anderson, Bettie Anderson, Louisa Hatcher, Thomas Hatcher, Mary Finley, Hattie Gillum, Louis Gillum, Alonzo Hayes, Daisy Hayes, Sallie Phenix, Elizabeth Miller, Ernest Hill, Charles Wheatley, Henry Johnson, and Ethel Yancey. This makes a total of 16 members in the organization of the church. The first Deacons were Ernest Hill, chairman, Richard Anderson, secretary, Henry Johnson, Louis Gillium, Frank Lee, William Phenix, and George Cook. The members of the first Trustee Board were Andrew Baker, Chairman, Edward Lee, Secretary, Alonzo Hayes, Thomas Hatcher and Charles Wheatly. Other boards and ministries were filled as follow:

First Church Clerk -Hattie Gillium

First Treasurer-Dr. Charles Wheatly

First Pianist – Ethel Miller

First Choir President-Sallie Phenix

First Mission President - Winnie Scott

Ladies Aid Society – Isora Garrett

The Sunday School was organized by Professor C.W. Black, president of the Mt. Zion District Sunday School and B.Y.P.U. Louis Gillium was Superintendent and William Phenix was the B.Y.P.U. Director. The Ladies Aid Society was organized and Sister Isora Garrett Davis was elected president.

The information below about Trinity Baptist Church was recorded in 1956 during the during the Mt. Zion District Diamond Jubilee. Enrolling in the Book of Remembrance Celebration are Mrs. Leona Mitchell, Miss Georgia Mitchell, and Mrs. Ella Murray.

Those of the present membership in 1956 enrolling in the Diamond Jubilee Book of Remembrance were: Mrs. Carrie M. Tate, Mrs. Agnes Anderson, Mrs. Lucy Lee Meredith, Mrs. Emma L. Meredith, Mrs. Ruth Lee Mabin, Mr. Clarence Lee Mabin, Mrs. Eleanor Janice Mabin, Mrs. Isabelle Hollis, Myra Hammers, Mr. William A. Hammers, Mrs. Maple Lovejoy, Mr. A. G. Carpenter, Mrs. Martha Lee Minnenhall, Mr. Clarence V. Minnenhall, Mrs. Omeal Minnenhall, Mrs. Nadine Martin, Mrs. Hattie Phillips, Mrs. Rosie M. Phillips, Mr. Dwight Phillips, Mr. John Phillips, Mrs. Fada Scott, Mrs. Stella Mae Terrell, Mr. Frank Terrell, Mrs. Arabelle E. Owens, Mrs. Frances L. Harper, Mrs. Mayme Smith, Mrs. Julia M. Scott, Mrs. Mamie Bibbs, and Mr. Henry Yancey.

**History
of
New Hope Missionary Baptist Church
St. Joseph, Missouri**

In 1884, a group of believers who were members of First Baptist Mt. Union Church felt led of the Lord to move from South St. Joseph to other parts of the city. Three different churches were birthed from this endeavor – New Hope, St. Francis, and Trinity.

New Hope church was organized under the leadership of Rev. Sam Smith. He was installed as pastor in 1887. Active Deacons were George Goodloe, Brian Peoples and Horace Perry, serving a membership of about 40 people. The first church was located at 714 S. 16th Street and remained there for 27 years.

In 1914, under the guidance of Rev. J. W. Gordan and Deacons D. Jackson, S. Mays, J. Williams, G. Armstrong, G. Pennell, J. Randell and S. Banks, the cornerstone was laid. The charter members and founding fathers and mothers are all deceased at this time. From 1884 to 2010 New Hope Missionary Baptist Church has been blessed with 21 pastors. The names of the pastors serving at New Hope are listed at the bottom of the following page.

In 1983 Rev. Louis A. Monroe was called to pastor New Hope. Under his leadership, two Deacons accepted the call to the Pastorate – Rev. Finest Banks and Rev. Charles E. Johnson. Rev. Banks served as Assistant Pastor at New Hope Church until his homegoing. Rev. Charles E. Johnson is founder and pastor of New Life Baptist Church in Tracy, Missouri.

Many improvements have been made to the church building to enhance its beauty, its comfort and durability. Other valuable additions to the church include classrooms, a prayer room, an office, remodeling of dining and kitchen area, steps, and the addition of eleven beautiful church windows.

More important than church work is the work of the Church. Since 1983, under the Preaching and Teaching of Pastor Monroe, many souls have received Christ as Savior and many have been baptized into the Family of God. Others have come by Christian experience and under the Watch Care Ministry of New Hope Baptist Church.

The Church Family has experienced continued growth and development. The Holy Spirit led us to set apart two loyal Deacons – Deacon Celester Hollingshed in 1991 and Deacon James Wilson in 1994. Later, under the leading of the Holy Spirit, two associate ministers accepted their call to preach the gospel and were ordained by Council: Rev. Melvin Gorman Jr. in December 2006 and Rev. Tyrone Piercy in December 2008. In recent years, three men have been set aside for Deacon-In-Training: Deacon Arthur Griffin in 2018 and Deacon Mike Caton and Deacon Harold White in 2021.

In 2015 the church celebrated the completion of the new addition to the church building coming 100 years after the laying of the original cornerstone in 1914. Under the guidance and direction of the Holy Spirit, New Hope Missionary Baptist Church will continue to grow in Spirit, in Grace, in Knowledge, and in Number. We know that “We are Powerless without Christ, Helpless without His Spirit, Unarmed without His Word.”

Pastors of New Hope Missionary Baptist Church

Rev. S. Smith 1884 -1914
Rev. J. Brooks 1916 – 1919
Rev. I. T. Talley 1919 - 1922
Rev. J. W. Jordan 1922 –1932
Rev. C. H. Bratton 1933 - 1937
Rev. J.R. Easley 1937
Rev. C. D. Saunders
Rev. W. J. Jackson
Rev. W. M. Holmes
Rev. A. J. Johnson
Rev. H. L. Kemp

Rev. C. W. Dawson 1953 – 1960
Rev. J. Porter 1960 – 1963
Rev. S. Cooper 1964 – 1965
Rev. L. E. Williams 1966 – 1979
Elder P. Lau 1979 (Interim)
Rev. R. C. Davenport 1979 – 1983
Rev. Louis A. Monroe 1983 – 1996
Rev. Chester F. White 1996 - 1998
Rev. Titus Johnson 1998 - 1999

Rev. Louis A. Monroe 2002 - Present

History of First Baptist Mt. Union Church St. Joseph, Missouri

Mt. Union Baptist Church was organized as early as 1860. The first pastors were Rev. Morton of Plattsburg, Missouri, Rev. William Mitchell, Lathrop, Missouri, Rev. Booker, Plattsburg, Missouri, and Rev. Clark of Linneus, Missouri. Some of the early officers of the church were Charley Lewis, William Jones, Gibson Murphy, Joseph Leonard, Peter Turner and Albert Smith.

Mt. Union Baptist Church is in South St. Joseph. When the population of Negroes had increased and the membership of Mt. Union Church had decreased by death, and some by moving to the city, Wash Williams gained employment at Vallan and Roberts Packing Plant. The officials of that plant asked Wash Williams if he could get more Negroes to move to town. They told Williams that they would give them employment, but Williams told the officials that they would not leave their church in the country. The plant officials then told Williams to try again to get them to come and if he could get them to come, the company would buy them a lot to build a church. Materials were donated and a brick church was on Division Street under the direction of the first pastor, Rev. Carter of Oregon, Missouri. The church was named First Baptist Church. The first superintendent of Sunday School was James Anderson. The attendance and support of the church was great. In 1895 the Mt. Zion District met here.

In the meeting a plea was made to consolidate the two churches, the new organization to be named the First Baptist Mt. Union Church. The first officers of the combined institutions were Henry Owens, Wash Williams, Joseph Smith, Richard Price, James Anderson, Albert Jones, and Henry Matthews.

Since the consolidation of the churches, twelve pastors have served, including the present pastor and Moderator of the Mt. Zion District Association in 1956, the Rev. C. O. Banks, who had been with this church for thirteen years.

Enrolling in the Diamond Jubilee Book of Remembrance in 1956 were Mrs. Nannie Armstrong, Carrie Botts, Caddie Agee, Cecile McGinnis, Lucy Harris, Mable Goodson, Dr. F. N. Goodson, and Henry Tapp.