

# **Friendship Baptist Church**

**Davis Street and Wesley Avenue**

**Greeneville, TN 37743**

**1894-1985**



**C. C. Mills, Sr., Pastor**



### THE PASTOR'S MESSAGE

In the year of 1894 the Friendship Baptist Church set forth on its wilderness journey, and for almost 91 years we have been on this wilderness experience. We want to thank God for His goodness to us through the years. We realize that God asks us to do the impossible. The impossible not only takes longer, but it also takes courage. We in the church must have the qualities of mind and heart which enables us to surmount difficulties with patience and confidence.

Courage is of the intellect and will; it requires determination and perserverance. For you see the church is everybody's business, but it is your leadership as christians that should keep the Friendship Baptist Church moving toward its Canaan land.

At times we must pause for re-evaluation of our goals. We need to test our values, reappraise our growth, and face up to those ills in our christian society which impede our progress. We must recognize that all of the issues in the world today have spiritual overtones, and that the way we face those issues determines the christian image we give to the world.

Reverence for the past is important, but the past must not lay heavily upon the present or future. Our Red Seas must be put behind us, for our Jericho walls loom ahead of us. We must appraise and accept the challenges of our times. We must put on the full armor of God and go forward through the ages. Only then will Friendship Baptist Church be able to do its part in curing some of the ills of our society.

Now with renewed courage to do the impossible; to approach our task with humility, not pride, and to conquer with love in a world of hate, to this end we strive. With these concepts we will indeed go forward to greater heights.

We have come hither by the divine, unseen hand. We praise Him for miracles wrought and trust Him for the anticipation of goals viewed above. We call upon each member of the church and all friends to join us in our onward march. I am sure that the wilderness consists of wide rivers, and high hills, and deep plains, and dense forests, but we are confident of all marching orders. We have strong faith in our commander, and we know that we shall reach the land of promise—that is if we faint not.

**C. C. Mills, Pastor**



## FRIENDSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH HISTORY

1894 - 1985

It was in 1894, that a small group of Baptist believers, under the leadership of the Rev. C. W. McGee, met in the warehouse of Doughty-Stevens on Depot Street to organize the Friendship Baptist Church. Worship services were held in the warehouse for some time.

The Rev. Farmer followed Rev. McGee and moved the congregation to a little house on Railroad Street, which was soon enlarged to meet the needs of the growing membership. Under Rev. Farmer's leadership, the first parsonage was built near the church site.

Other ministers to serve the church at the Railroad Street location included Rev. Snow, Nathaniel Tolliver, A. R. Thompson, J. B. Thompson and J. M. Thompson. The three (3) Thompsons were brothers. The church was remodeled under the leadership of Rev. J. M. Thompson, who served as pastor until his death.

In 1925, the Rev. H. J. Bailey accepted the pastorate and served until 1928. The Rev. W. H. Stokely of South Lynchburg, Va., came as pastor in 1928. He was an energetic young man who saw that the growing membership needed a larger building.

Through the power of God and the work of the members and many citizens of the community, the dream of a new church became a reality in 1934. It was then that the congregation moved into the present structure which surely stands as a monument to Rev. Stokely who labored here for nearly eighteen (18) years.

The Rev. G. Allen Boyd of Pink Hill, N. C., followed Rev. Stokely. The church progressed financially and improvements were made to meet the needs of modern development during Rev. Boyd's pastorate, including the purchase and renovation of another parsonage. This was the site where the present parsonage stands.

In 1951, the Rev. W. C. Morrison of Louisiana, came as pastor. He placed major emphasis on a junior church and other outstanding accomplishments were made during his pastorate.

The Rev. R. L. Addison served the church for a very brief period.

In 1956, the Rev. C. C. Mills of Jefferson City, accepted the pastorate. Under his leadership, the church is still progressing spiritually and financially and many major improvements have been made.

In 1963, the present parsonage was constructed at a cost of \$30,000 (a debt which was paid in full six years later).

A disaster to be long remembered was the fire that almost destroyed the church in February of 1958. Hard work by the members and efficient guidance by Rev. Mills soon restored the building.

In December, 1980, ground was broken for a new addition to house the education department. It was completed in early spring the following year. The sanctuary was also enlarged and completely renovated. A new baptistry was installed and a ramp was built to meet the needs of all members and visitors. Other beautification measures were also made. In less than three (3) years, Oct. 31, 1983, the \$72,000.00 indebtedness on this project was paid in full.

In the spring of 1983, the parking lot adjacent to the church was repaved at a cost of \$2,500.00.

We also take pride in our bus ministry which was initiated some years ago. We have acquired two (2) vans which are used to transport anyone desiring to attend church functions.



**Mass Choir**



**Fidelity Club**



**Musicians**



**Church Officers**



**Junior Usher Board**



**Usher Board**





**Sunshine Band**



**Children's Choir**



**Sunday School Teachers**



**Agape' Club**



**Youth Group**



**Brotherhood Club**





**Bessie Combs Circle**



**Trustee Board**



**Jolly Workers Club**



**Hattie Bryant Circle**



**Rev. & Mrs. C. C. Mills, Sr.**



**Deacon Board**





ANDERSON, EDDIE, MARY  
JARA



ANDERSON, ELIZABETH



ANDERSON, LULA



ANDERSON, MILDRED



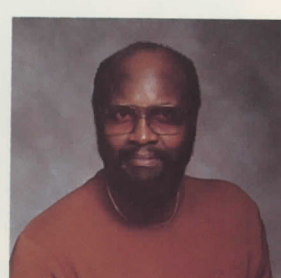
ANDERSON, RACHEL  
GILLESPIE, BRENTON  
BRAD, DARRELL



ANDERSON, WILLIE, BRENDA  
MONICA



ARNETTE, L. T., LOTTIE



BARKLEY, TOMMY



BARNER, DAVID, BETTY  
ONYA



BARNER, MARK, BARBARA  
BRABSON, MITZI  
MERRIWEATHER, TERRA



BARNER, PAUL, MARIE



BLACK, DOROTHA



BLAIR, EULA



BLUE, ALMA



BOWERS, SYLVIA A.



BROWNLOW, ELAINE



BROWNLOW, EUPHENE



CAMPBELL  
ANGELA, KENNY



CARR, LENA



CARTER, ALESIA



CARTER, EMMA



CARTER, WILLARD  
FOSTER, REBA  
CARTER, TYRONE



CATES, AUDREY



CHAPMAN, ALFREDIA  
JOHNA



CHARLES, BEULAH



CRUM, HANNAH



CRUM, JOHNNIE, SALLIE



DABBS, VANESSA



DAVIS, LULA, JIMMY, TIM  
ANDERSON, ANNA, MICHAEL  
MAHOGANY



DAVIS, MARY



DENTON, CHESTER, KATHY  
STACI, CHRISTINA



DENTON, GERTRUDE  
BERTHA



DICKSON, DAVID, MAXIE  
SHEREE



DOWN, KATIE  
AGNES



EDMONDS, WILLIAM, EMMA  
ELISE, ERIN



ELDRIDGE, MAYME



FORBY, ANNIE  
BEATRICE, ARCHIE



FORTE, BELLE MAE



GILLESPIE, BETTY  
CHRIS



GILLESPIE, LLOYD, EZELL  
JIMMY





GILLESPIE, LUCY  
SHIPE, RENA



GOODE, ANITA  
ASHLEY



GUDGER, BESSIE  
JAMES, KRISTY



GUDGER, JOHN, JOANN  
LAMMAR



GUDGER, LONNIE, TREVA  
LON, DAWANA



GUDGER, NORMAN, JANICE



GUDGER  
TONYA, DAVID



GUDGER, WILLIAM, JOY  
TWILA, BILL



HACKLER, LAURA  
TEMPLE, MARGO



HALL, ADA  
STEVEN, KELLY, COLBY



HALL, MARY  
BRIDGET, ANGELA, JEREMY



HALL, RUTH



HAMILTON, G. W., GERALDINE  
ANITA, DENISE



HAMILTON, ROZETTA  
STELENA



HARDY, LORRAINE  
LARRY, RONALD, ROCHELLE  
RON, JOHN



HENRY, LOTTIE



HUMPHREYS, LYNNETTE  
TRACY, AARON, ASHLYNN



JACKSON, LETHA  
STEWART, CRYSTAL, JEROME  
MORRIS, JAMIE



JEFFERSON, ISIAH, SHARON  
ALFIE, GIA



JONES, CLARA  
HALL, MICHAEL



JONES, ELIZABETH



JORDAN, HENRY, THELMA



KNUCKLES, JAMES, NANCY



KNUCKLES, KEITH, HELEN  
PAIGE, JODY



LOLLAR, PENNY  
BRANDON, TIFFANY



LYONS, FRANK, NAOMI



MANUEL, DEVOYD, MARGARET



MANUEL, GROVER



MANUEL, PRISCILLA  
FELIX



MCPHAIL, JAMES, CAROLYN  
EBONY



MCPHAIL, JOHNNIE, BRENDA  
TYSON



MILLER, ADA  
SHARON



MILLS, C. C., ELIZABETH



MILLS, GARY



MURRAY, MARTHA



PEELER, ALBERT, BARBARA



PRICE, EMMA MAE



PRICE, FRANCINA  
NOEL



PRICE, MARY  
ANDRELE



RIPLEY, MARCO  
JOHNISA





ROBINSON, BOB, BARBARA  
DAVIS, LEE, LETITIA  
STEPHANIE



ROGERS, VIVIAN  
ROLLINS, JANA, WILLIAM



ROGERS, WALTER, MARISA  
LYNETTA, LETISHA



ROLLINS, VIOLET  
SONJA, MICHAEL



SARDEN, ANNIE MAE  
JIM, TASHA, JOHN-TAE



SHIPE, JOANNA



SMITH, WALTER, ANNIE



SNAPP, WILLIE K.



WHITE, DENNIS, ANNETTE  
TAMMY



WHITE, JAMES, EVA



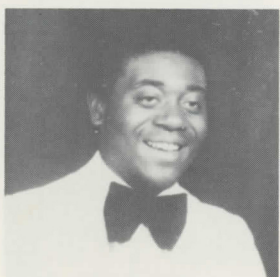
WILSON, THEODORE, DENISE  
VERONICA, ANTOINETTE  
THEODORE



SUBMITTALS



GUDGER, ANTHONY  
WASHINGTON, DC



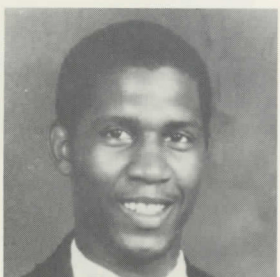
JORDAN, DORIS  
GREENEVILLE, TN



POSEY, MINNIE  
GREENEVILLE, TN



REYNOLDS, ROSIA LEE  
BENHAM, KY



WHITESIDE, JAMES JR.