

Church History

From Then to Now

Where we are today comes from a long ways back. On February 26, 1998 this ministry was birthed through Rev. B.J. Clark. Rev Clark, Deacon James Andrew, Deacon Hilliard Clark and Deacon Ronald Watkins came together to discuss the vision that God had placed in the heart of Rev. Clark. After much prayer and discussion, the meeting was dismissed with the birth of New Creation Baptist Church. Immediately after the meeting, New Creation got on the move. The first worship service was held in The Grinner Funeral Home at 240 Evander Holyfield Highway in Fayetteville, Georgia. There were 33 members initially and as time passed, many more came to be a part by Christian experience and for baptism.

During the tenure of Rev. Clark, there were many additions to New Creations. An 8:00am worship service, a new worship center (875 Flint River Road), a fellowship hall, church van, musical equipment, a steeple, paving of the parking lot and an array of tangibles. Early on, two ministers were added: Rev. Ramone Arnold and Minister David Daniels. Two new deacons joined; Deacon John Keith and Deacon Edmond Pettigrew. A youth usher board was formed under the leadership of Sis. Diane Keith and Sis. Jeanette Register. The Finance Department was restructured with Bro. Jeff Akerson in leadership. Sis. Brenda Allen was appointed over the culinary committee. A new membership orientation was developed by Deacon Keith. An awesome outreach program was brought forward by Sis. Vines. We picked up the homeless and brought them in and allowed them to clean up if they desired to, then later, attend our worship services.

In 2001 Woman to Woman was born under the leadership of Sis. Sonji Clark. Youth Sunday School classes were conducted in the fellowship hall. Sis. Clark also established and led the Girl Talk ministry.

In 2003 an interior facelift was done to our place of worship. A local Atlanta Church donated pews to New Creation. Since we were moving out all of the present seating, Rev. Clark decided that we would do a much needed carpet change and repaint our interior.

In 2004 a Children's Church Ministry was formed through the leadership of Sis Tomekia Akerson and Sis. Cassandra Moore. Four new ministers were also added; Minister Sonji Clark, Minister Edmond Pettigrew, Minister James Morrow and Minister Brenda Allen. A Men of Standards Ministry was formed under the leadership of Bro. Jeff Akerson. Rev Edmond Pettigrew started our Boys to Men Ministry. Sis Rhonda Parker started the K.I.T ministry, Keeping in Touch.

In 2007 God would allow New Creation to go on a journey, thus moving to several different locations. While based in Fayetteville, the Lord placed it in Rev. Clark's spirit to change our name from The New Creation Baptist Church to The House of Change Ministries. We continued to follow the leadership of Rev. B.J. Clark and on October 24, 2010 we moved our ministry to the Ramada Inn located at 357 Lee St, Forest Park, Georgia.

On June 12, 2011 the membership faced a test of faith. Rev. Clark came before the congregation and shared that God had placed a new calling on his life, therefore, this would be his last Sunday as Pastor of the House of Change Ministries. At the end of worship service, Deacon Keith announced that in lieu of Bible Study the following Tuesday, we would be having a Church conference. At the conference, the question was posed, "Do we press on as a ministry or do we give up here and now?" Without hesitation the membership were all in agreement that we would continue to move forward from here. With the approval of the membership, Deacon Keith called on a friend of the ministry, Rev. John R. Lacy to assist us during our time of transition. Rev Lacy stated that he would be happy to help in any way possible. On the third Sunday in June, Rev. Lacy came to us. We knew that he was God sent because he spoke to our exact situation without any inside information. On June 19, 2011 Rev. Lacy's sermon entitled, "It's Already in You, You Just Need to Get Stirred Up", scripture of concentration, I Timothy 4:14-16. Rev. Lacy created a roster of four ministers along with himself and they preached Christ week after week. The daughter of the House, Minister Zoe' Singleton, was a part of that roster. Deacon Keith and Minister Singleton carried on with our Bible Study each Tuesday evening. We were really blessed as a ministry to see how God kept us in such perfect peace. For six months we were without Pastoral leadership. After coming together on numerous occasions, the Lord placed our new Pastor in our spirits with unanimous agreement. Rev. John R. Lacy would be called as Under Shepard of The House of Change Ministries and his first official Sunday as Pastor was the first Sunday in January 2012. God has greatly shown himself through our new Pastor. Much has been accomplished under his leadership.

Our first order of business was to find a place of worship to call our own. Bro. Campbell found our present location. It was less than desirable to the eye but our faith as a ministry made us believe that we could make it a more than presentable place of worship. With little money, big ideas, and great faith, we went from a building with an interior of black walls and black ceiling tiles to a wonderful sight to see. With the Lord on our side we called on the membership who gladly gave of their time, talent, and finances to construct walls and add carpet. To complete our transition, God moved on the hearts of Churches outside of our affiliation to make it possible for us to purchase a complete sound system, pews, and pulpit furniture. We also received donated items such as lighting and a piano.

On May 6, 2012 we departed the Ramada Inn parking lot (our home since Oct 2010) with a motorcade of members and entered our present location of 6290 Highway 85 Riverdale with great joy. Most recently, we were able to "go behind the wall" to construct a multipurpose fellowship hall for education and special occasions.

Rev. Lacy has been consistent with the word and steady in his leadership. It has been said, that the strength of a ministry is show by the attendance in Bible Study. On the average, week after week, we have more than 75% of our members present in Bible Study. Our Ministry is continuing to grow in membership, faith and finance. God has done much but, there is so much he's going to do through this Ministry. To God be the glory for the things he has done.