

A Brief History of Zion Christian Church

Zion Christian Church was established in 1846 by Mrs. Ann Terrell (grandmother of the late Mr. E.C. Terrell), Mrs. Eddie Pettie, and Rev. Albert Rosner Flippo, a farmer who lived and preached at Guinae in Caroline County. Mr. Flippo helped to pay for the building, and he preached without remuneration until the loss of his properties during the Civil War.

The land for the first building was given by Colonel Fountaine, of Beaverdam Farm, and was located on part of the Alexander farm. In 1894, the church was relocated to a piece of land where Trainham Auto Repair now stands. In 1927, the church moved to its present location on land given by the Philips family, devoted members of the congregation. In 1857, an attractive brick rancher parsonage was built on Beaver Dam Road, a mile and a half south of the church. A special gift from the late E.C. Terrell made possible an education and fellowship hall building. The Terrell Memorial addition was dedicated on December 13, 1964.

Some of the pastors who have served the Zion Christian Church are: Silas Shelburn, Mr. Abell, J.B. Ernest, Alfred Sims, J.R. Glen, C.M. Ford, R.A. Atkins, J. Mitchell Hoye, and Dr. Richard W. Wallace (1945-52). Dana Hunt (1952-53) and Robert Parrish (1953-55) were ordained to the ministry at the Zion Church. Dr. John A. Tate served from 1955 to 1957 and Robert Cooper from 1957 to 1967. James C. Keesee served in 1967 to 1968, and Alvin R. Reynolds from 1968 until June 1971.

W. Kenneth Hughes began his work on June 15, 1971, as the first full-time pastor in the history of Zion. Edward H. Parrish, III began his ministry with Zion in May of 1976 and served until June 1982. James E. Wilson served as interim minister from July 1982 through December 1982, and again from October 1985 to May of 1986. Eugene S. Riley served as pastor of Zion from December 1982 until July 1985. Steven G. Scott began his ministry with Zion in May 1986 until 1988. Jerald R. McCaskey served as pastor from 1989 to 1993. Robert W. Maphis was Interim for two years, and Andy Woodward began his ministry in April of 1995.

The current pastor of Zion Christian Church is Joan Daniels.