



WESTSIDE BAPTIST CHURCH

A Look Back at where God has brought us from and How we got over...

Our God has been so faithful, for He has brought us a mighty long way...

During the fall of 1983, Lakeland Baptist Church under the leadership of Pastor Ben Smith asked Min. Roosevelt Brown to become the pastor of a new church in Lewisville, Texas called Westside Baptist Church.

Pastor Roosevelt Brown began working in January of 1984, searching the community for people who were interested in helping start a church. He held Bible studies at various homes in the community. On March 8, 1984, Pastor Roosevelt Brown led the first worship service in the car wash behind Lakeland Baptist Church and Carissa Paul was Church Treasurer. In June of that year, the church began having Sunday School classes for adults, youth, and children and Paul Nealy was Sunday Director.

1985 Reginald Rembert became Church Treasurer/Hershel Graham, Kenneth Jackson, Edna Shambry (Trustees/Money Counters).

1986 proved to be a good year for the church. In April, a choir was organized, in August the church had its first vacation Bible School and in December, the church began planning.

In 1987, the church began community evangelism work made a commitment to win more souls for Christ by making its presence known in the community by ministering to the needy, giving to missions, ministering to people who lived in Lewisville and providing activities for the youth and children. Lonnie Tipton, Choir Director / Nursery organized under Myrtle Tipton.

In 1988 Westside Baptist Church established a Church Council to monitor its activities, selected its first two deacons (Charles Hoskins & Robert Paul), and organized the Brotherhood and Women's Missionary Union. During the latter part of 1988, Pastor Roosevelt Brown and wife Tonnette relocated to California as he became a Navy Chaplain. The church organized a Pulpit Committee to select a new leader. After interviewing candidates for the Pastor's position, the Pulpit Committee made their selection and presented Min. Kenneth W. Blake to the church as Interim Pastor.

Min. Kenneth W. Blake, voted by the membership, was ordained as pastor of Westside Baptist Church on March 19, 1989. He and his wife Venita have outreached to the members of the Westside Baptist Church through spirit-filled teaching, preaching, praying, and singing. Once ordained as pastor of Westside Baptist Church, Pastor Blake organized a Nominating Committee to select trustees and additional deacons. Charles Hoskins was the Deacon Board Chairman and Robert Paul was head of the Drama ministry.

The Building Committee was organized and the "Together We Build" Campaign lead by Reginald Rembert Sr. began a fund-raising Program to acquire land for the construction of a new church building.

WESTSIDE BAPTIST CHURCH

In the spring of 1990, Westside Baptist Church acquired land, and in the fall of the same year, broke ground for our new church facility.

The dream of moving into our own building at 802 Bellaire (200 seat capacity) became a reality in February of 1991. Membership and participation increased greatly, and in October of 1991, the Lord put upon Pastor Blake's heart to request the church to allow him to become a full-time Pastor of Westside. The church received him with open arms because we all knew he was already giving us his full-time service. Larry Willis was named Bi-vocational Minister of Education and Discipleship classes began on Sunday night.

1993 Discipleship Classes moved from Sunday Night to Wednesday Night due to church growth / Chris Crowder, Youth Minister. Robert Paul served one term as Deacon Board Chairman.

In the fall of 1994, we expanded and opened our educational wing. As the 90's was completed the "United We Build" campaign began, and we completed our "Family Life Center". This allowed us to have two Sunday morning worship services enabling our church family to grow. Minister Willis began G.O.S.S. Sunday School Training which grew the Sunday school to overflowing. The WBC Track Team with 75 kids from ages 4 to 18 years old was launched and lead by Reggie Johnson-Athletic Director, Sharlene Brittian-Head Coach, and Terry Brittian-Asst. Head Coach.

1996 Ruby Derrough headed up our Nursery & Children's Church. John Perry, Long Range Planning Committee.

1997 Chris Respass, Bi-vocational Youth Minister / Freddie Jackson, Church Administrator/Treasurer /Howard McCoo, Sr., Chairman of Deacon Board/Doris Scales, W.H.O. Ministry.

1998 Family Life Center was completed, which doubled our worship services.

1999 Minister Larry Willis & Minister Chris Respass became full-time / Alma Terry, Nursery Team Lead

2001 Added "Prayer Walk" through the neighborhood to VBS / Ray Bowens, Deacon Board Chairman.

2002 Minister Chris Respass called to plant Antioch Christian Center / Joe Fields became Bi-vocational Youth Minister / Rosalind Spencer became bi-vocational Children Minister, "Forward by Faith" Campaign began.

2003 First Purity Dinner / Began Boy Scout Charter / Began AWANA Charter

2004 Nationwide Minister of Music search hailed Dr. Patrick Bradley / Dr. Davidson became Bi-vocational Counselor/ Evangelism team started Youth Prison visits under Dwayne Pipkins. With the new millennium came a new vision from Pastor Blake to build an edifice for true worship. The church family joined the leadership in prayer and the process of erecting a "House of Worship and Prayer" began. A building



WESTSIDE BAPTIST CHURCH

committee was formed and the fund raiser, "Forward by Faith" was introduced to the church body. Through much prayer and sacrifice we marched across the street and broke ground on 900 W. Bellaire Blvd.

By the end of 2005, we were ready to enter our "House of Worship" blessed by God. We moved into the 900 W. Bellaire campus a 1500 seat Worship Center in December and had our 1st worship service. The WBC Childcare Center formed under Minister Rosalind Spencer. "The Net" evangelism method incorporated / Full Orchestra & Notes of Hope Chorale Debut/Avet Anderson, Event Coordinator/Vincent Vann, Media Ministry.

2006 Lacy Lytle became Deacon Council Chairman/ Chester Anderson, Stewardship Ministry / Friends & Family Ministry organized under Rhonda Brown/Debra Reliford, W.H.O. Ministry.

2007 Assistant Pastor Larry Willis called to Pastor Morse Street / Louis Rosenthal became Bi-vocational Minister of

Education / S.H.O.P. organized by Minister Rosenthal /Stan Walker, Deacon Council Chairman/ Greeters Ministry organized by Demetria Thrash.

2008 Louis Rosenthal became full-time Minister of Education / Chester Anderson, Church Treasurer / Remnant Choir organized, Remnant Ministry organized by Ashley Hyder/ / Barbara Jackson W.H.O. Ministry.

2009 Minister Joe Fields was called to plant "New Beginnings" / Minister Rosalind Spencer was placed over Youth & Children / Youth & Children Ministry name change to Pebbles to Living Stones Ministry.

2010 WBC Childcare Organization name change to Westside Baptist church Christian Academy under Deione Reeves.

2011 Minister Rosenthal was called to Pastor the McKinney First Baptist Church / Eddie Robinson, Evangelism & Outreach / Jai McIver, S.H.O.P. leader / Minister Henry Marshall, Minister of Education / Dr. Traci Petteway, Counseling Ministry / Stephanie Warfield, Remnant Servant Leader/Jody Grasty Deacon Council Chairman.

2012 Westside went through many transitions. In November 2012, Pastor Kenneth W. Blake resigned after serving Westside Baptist Church for twenty-five years and the staff was reduced.

As we keep this momentum into the new millenniums, we ask that God continue to guide and bless us with a vision.

2013 Taft Sales became Interim Pastor / Notes of Hope sung at the George W. Bush Library opening/One Witness CD project released /Cori Riley, Director of Westside Christian Academy/Nominating

WESTSIDE BAPTIST CHURCH

Committee was voted in by the church and consisted of, Minister Rosalind Spencer Chair, Debra Sidberry Co-Chair, Melvin Franklin Secretary, Rosie Blow, Bowie Humphrey, Al Duncan, Ruthie Hogue, Alshare Hughes, Lilly McDuff and Alarice Vann. The Pastoral Search Committee was formed and voted in by the church and consisted of Carron Perry Chair, Terry Brittian Co-Chair, Gloria Massey secretary, Mae Barea, Patrick Bradley, Lance Sumpter, Jody Grasty (Deacon Chair) and Toronto Spikes (Asst. Deacon Chair). In December, we closed out our year, celebrating the birth of our Savior with the Christmas concert where we were blessed to have world-wide recording artist Rance Allen and our 100+ men male chorus.

2014 WBC Mass Choir debut on B.E. T's Bobby Jones Gospel / One Witness CD nominated for six (6) Rhythm of Gospel Awards / Teller Committee formed, Branon Gilbert chair / Under Charles Holmes, Communication Committee became a standing committee/ Church awaits The Man of God he is preparing.

2015 Guy Madison, Deacon Council Chairman/ Pastor Thomas Bessix., Elected by an overwhelming 91% majority Ashley Johnson, Media Ministry /Turkessa Shelley, Director Westside Baptist Church Christian Academy/ Kelli Lorne, Remnant Ministry/Robert & Kissera Sheets, Singles & Single Again ministry/Mark Wilcox, Greeters Ministry/ Kay Futrell, Friends of the Family Ministry/ John Thompson, Stewardship Ministry/Michael Sidberry, Athletic Ministry/Leepora Thomas Owl Ministry/Melanie Johnson, Evangelism & Outreach ministry / Ted McClennon - Chair, Communication Committee & Sharlene Brittian - Chair, Marketing/ Tracy Madison Personnel Committee.

2016 Pastor Thomas Bessix lead the church into another season of "Greater Works", which included the partnership with the North Texas Food Bank to serve our community. Under Pastor Bessix there were a couple of ministries developed and some renamed and revamped. In alignment with the Pastor's vision, new ministries created, Care and Compassion Ministry lead by Tina Rosado and Social Justice Ministry lead by Ken Washington. The Job Ministry was renamed to the Career Ministry lead by Amber Winston, the Friends to Family Ministry was renamed to the Timothy Ministry lead by Avis Nichols and the Communication Committee was revamped and renamed to the MarCom (Marketing & Communications) Ministry lead by Sharlene Brittian. The MarCom ministry launched and revamped the new Westside's website, social media platforms Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and YouTube. Under the education ministry, the Sunday Morning Bible Study was renamed to "Kingdom Connection Hour" transitioning from Lifeway ... to "National Baptist Sunday School Publishing". In addition, Wednesday night bible was renamed to "Re-Fuel Wednesday".

WESTSIDE BAPTIST CHURCH

2017 Westside went through another transition, our senior pastor Thomas Bessix resigned, and the staff was reduced.

2018 The Pastoral Committee was voted in to find us a new pastor. The committee consisted of Gail Massey Prince (Chairperson), Donovan Brittian (Assistant Chairperson), Chanta Walton (Secretary/Parliamentarian), Schawanda Henderson (Assistant Secretary), Jennifer Hannah, George McKnight, Reginald Rembert Jr., Michael Sidberry (Deacon Chair), Shirley Byrd and Vaughn Deary (Assist. Deacon Chair). In the Interim the Pulpit Supply Committee hired an Interim pastor to oversee WBC through these trying times. Dr. Delvin Atchison gracefully accepted the position with a heart filled God spiritual attitude. The MarCom Ministry launched a new way to relay the announcements via voiceover for each worship services. We continued to minister through song, worshipping with worldwide recording artist Kirk Franklin as he launched "The Exodus" Music Arts Festival, Prairie View A&M University Marching Storm Band and Yolanda Adams & Dy'Verse Music Group during their launch of "Save the World" Gospel Benefit Concert with the following supporting artists Vanessa Bell Armstrong, Lillian Lloyd, Andrea Helms, The Blairs, The Andrews Brothers, Cardell Booker, Chadney Christle, Drea Randle, Ruth Goolsby, David Starks, St. John Baptist Choir and our own Westside Baptist Mass Choir.

2019 WBC elected Dr. Delvin Atchison and Dr. Brenda Atchison with an outstanding 97.1% majority as Senior Pastor and First Lady of Westside Baptist Church.

God has grown our church from having only 5 ministries to 32 in the past 35 years. In the past 35 years Westside Baptist Church has seen over 30,000+ people come through its doors. We give all praise to God for what He has done and is doing here at Westside Baptist Church and look forward to our next 35 years of service until He comes.

Through the years our church has changed faces and we would like to greatly thank the many who have helped us along this journey. Westside will continue to grow over the years as God has continued to guide and bless us. We look forward to "Appreciating Our Past, Celebrating Our Present, and Anticipating Our Future" (1 Samuel 7:12).

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