

*Mt. Pleasant
A. M. E. Zion Church*

DANBURY, CONNECTICUT

August 1969

Mrs. Muriel E. Miller
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Danbury Ct 06810

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Forward

The planning and the preparation of this book started with the idea of presenting the congregation of the Mount Pleasant A.M.E. Zion Church, a composite picture of its church and organizations and the work which is so dear to our hearts. Since a great deal of time is necessary to put together all the information required to make this a worthwhile book, new names have been added and some of the individuals in former organizations have passed on or have taken new duties. Generally speaking, the church remains the same.

The nature of the church has made it almost impossible to acquire all the past history and pertinent information of the past ministries. It is hoped that the preceding pages will be some small tribute to their labors and spiritual endeavors in this community.

The reader should keep in mind that the memorials, donors and sponsors at best were limited and that a truer picture can only come with time.

Dedication

The contents of this book is dedicated to the Building Committee. Since its organization, this Committee has worked faithfully to make the building program a success. We are aware of the many efforts, struggles, disappointments and joys shared by this Committee. With these thoughts, we dedicated this book humbly for their tireless efforts

The Souvenir Book Committee

Memorials

"Then shall the dust return to the earth whence it came, and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it". (Ezekiel 12-7)

Peace be with you, all whom death has united in this field, the last home of so many departed ones, peace be with your souls, which have been recalled by the voice of God to eternal life.

Amen.

MEMORIAL WINDOWS IN OUR CHURCH

LILLIAN BOWMAN
from
FRIENDS

BRENDA PARKER
from
MOTHER & FATHER

CHARLES HAJJ
from
BROTHER
WILLIAM M. BROWN
from
THE FAMILY

HARRY DODSON SR.
from
THE FAMILY

From
MRS. MURIEL MILLER
in memory of
Mother, MRS. KATIE MILLER
Father, MR. ERNEST SMITH
Son, MR. RICHARD R. GILLIAM

From
MRS. GERTRUDE BROWN
in memory of daughter
JUANITA HARRIS

MR. JOHN H. BYRANT
ACIE ROUNTREE JR.

Biography

Fondly remembering these servants of God, who in laboring sowed the seeds and reaped the harvest of souls, who kept the flame of Zion burning in the city of Danbury since May, 1885.

REV. JOHN A. EVANS - MAY, 1885
REV. M. MONZINGO
REV. J.H. LEACHIA
REV. CHANCY HATFIELD
REV. A.J. TOLBERT
REV. G.W. PAYNE
REV. R. HOPKINS
REV. W.H. PARKER
REV. J. WATKINS
REV. JOHN H. HALL

REV. J.H. YOUNG
REV. W. GREEN
REV. M.M. SMITH
REV. JOHN HOLMES
REV. K.H. HOLLOWAY
REV. E.B. MIMMS
REV. T.C. McDOUGAL
REV. J.H. BROCKETT
REV. L.J. MONTGOMERY
REV. L.G. LAWSON - 1956



Mt. Pleasant A.M.E. Zion Church



Former Building Erected 1908 - 1964

The Mt. Pleasant A.M.E. Zion Church organized 1889, when the Rev. Munzingo was sent by the New England Conference to do missionary work in the Danbury area. The Negro population being very small was quickly surveyed and a worship for Sunday evenings was organized. The first service was held in a home on Cherry Street. Other services were held from home to home until the congregation rented a place to worship on Liberty Street. This property was later purchased as a house of worship, but was lost because of lack of support and general interest. Worship Services were held after that in the loft of Barnum Grain Store on Main Street. While worshipping at this place, a piece of property was purchased on South Street. The congregation sought to build in this area but met with resistance. During this period, transaction was made with a Real Estate firm in Brookfield for the sight on Rowan Street in exchange for the South Street property. The men and women almost immediately began excavation for church building and succeeded to build a church on Rowan Street by the year of 1908. The record shows the church was dedicated in September 22, 1909. Rev. A.S. Tolbert being pastor, Bishop Walters being the Presiding Prelate of the New England Conference. Presiding Elder of the district being Rev. Ball. Some of the ministers who pastored were Rev. Shockley, Rev. George Biddle, Rev. Gibson, Rev. Munzing, Rev. M.M. Smith, Rev. J.W. Holmes, Rev. Mimms, Rev. Green, Rev. Gant, Rev. Brockett, Rev. McDougal, Rev. Holloway, Rev. Leroy Montgomery and Rev. Leslie G. Lawson. The old building was razed November, 1964, to make room for the new sanctuary. Bishop Stephen Gills Spottswood presided over the ground breaking services.



History Of The Church

The ground was broken for the new place of worship October 4, 1964. The work began on the church in earnest in March, 1966. It was completed in December, 1966. The congregation worshiped for the first time in the building December 26, 1966. The official opening date was May 8, 1966. The cornerstone laying was October 30, 1966.



GREETINGS FROM BISHOP SPOTTSWOOD

It is a great day for Mount Pleasant A.M.E. Zion Church. I am grateful for your superior leadership, your faithful congregation and the fact that you have been permitted by God to bring to Zion, in Danbury, the New Mount Pleasant Church.

With Best Wishes, I am,

Bishop Stephen Gills Spottswood

GREETINGS FROM ELDER J.C. BROWN

It always is for me a pleasure to be associated with the good people and the pastor of the Mount Pleasant A.M.E. Zion Church.

My sincere wishes for your continued success.

Dr. J.C. Brown,
Presiding Elder Hartford District



REV. LESLIE G. LAWSON
69 Rowan Street
Danbury, Connecticut

Home Office
748-4261 744-5653

Holy greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

It is most satisfying for me to have had the opportunity, to join with you the Officers and members of the Mount Pleasant A.M.E. Zion Church in this noble venture. The final results of our work together has been most rewarding.

May God bless and keep you in His care.

Leslie G. Lawson
Pastor



BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Board of Trustees of the Mount Pleasant A.M.E. Zion Church, annually and for one year duration. The work of the board is to maintain and keep in good repair a place of worship for the people and to see that order and decorum are kept. The following people are current members:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Mr. Alexander Williams, Chairman | Mrs. Hazel Cromwell |
| Mr. Melvin McCarley | Mrs. Glayce West |
| Mr. Sam Young | Mrs. Morilla Crowder |
| Mr. Willie Jones | Mrs. Muriel Miller |
| Mr. L.C. Jefferson | Mr. John Byrant, Trustee Emeritus |
| Mr. Arthur Perkins | Rev. L.G. Lawson, Ex. Officio President |



STEWARDESSES

Down through the years the Stewardesses of the Mount Pleasant A.M.E. Zion Church have assisted the Parson in the alleviation of the cost of Communion.

Previous presidents have helped the Stewardesses along. They all devoted their time and patience to the society in various ways; by instituting cake sales, luncheons, teas, and dinners. This has helped the church to raise money.

Since the middle of 1962 the organization has been headed by Willie Mae McCarley. She has continued the work of Mrs. Greene.

The organization has flourished since it's institution. By their good work and money raising affairs they have assisted the Parson in supporting the church.

The officers and members are as follows:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Mrs. Willie Mae McCarley, President | Mrs. Laura Brimage, Treasurer |
| Mrs. Burnell McCarley | Mrs. Gertrude Brown, Secretary |
| Mrs. Katarine Miller | Mrs. Lina Peck |
| Mrs. Lucy Saxton | Mrs. Louise Dodson |
| Mrs. Elizabeth Cole | Mrs. Cora Dunn |



HISTORY OF "THE WOMEN HOME AND FOREIGN MISSIONARY SOCIETY"

The Women Home and Foreign Missionary Society of Mount Pleasant A.M.E. Zion Church dates back to the erection of the church in Danbury, Conn., because this society is under the jurisdiction of the New England Conference.

All accurate records prior to 1938 have long since been misplaced, therefore, this History can date back only to the former President of the Society, Mrs. Gertrude Cruse.

Under the Pastorship of Rev. Marshall Smith, Mrs. Gertrude Cruse, kept the Missionary Society together through hard work and faithfulness. It was under her Presidency that a complete new hardwood flooring and Pulpit Set was installed in the Church. The first set of Silver for the dining room was purchased. During the time of her Leadership there were "Eleven Life Members". The Society could also boast at that time of having one male member, faithful and hard working in the person of Mr. William McKinley Brown. With their Vice President Mrs. Hazel Cromwell, Mr. Brown, Society Members and friends, they were able to burn the mortgage to the Parsonage in 1945.

Most of those faithful members have now deceased. The late Mrs. Sarah Green, Mrs. Clara Taylor, Mrs. Betty Wakeman, Mrs. Marshall Smith wife of the Pastor, Mrs. Primrose Wakeman and Mrs. William McKinley Brown. Those living today, Mrs. Esther Davis, Mrs. Jannie Forrest and Mrs. Hazel Cromwell.

With Mrs. Cruse's diligent and faithful service of 15 years through the pastorship of Rev. Marshall Smith, Rev. Holmes, Rev. Holloway and Rev. Mimms, had surely earned a much needed rest, and the Society in turn elected as President, Mrs. Hazel Cromwell. She too has proven through the last 17 years to be a true, hard working President, serving under Rev. Mimms, Rev. McDougal, Rev. Brockett, Rev. Montgomery, and the past ten years under our present minister, Rev. Leslie G. Lawson.

Under Mrs. Hazel Cromwell's leadership the first dining room tables were provided for the church. She and the members have worked hard and met the Conference Assessments, also contributed to our sick and shut-ins of the Community. Contributions have been sent to Africa. The Missionary Society is the Parent Body of the Y's organization of which Mrs. Lillian Lawson is Chairman, and Mrs. Blanch Cherry is chairman of the Buds.

There are at this time five living "Life Members", they are Mrs. Hazel Cromwell, Mrs. Elneada McCarley, Mrs. Lillian Lawson, Mrs. Juanita McCarley, Mrs. Gertrude Cruse.

Serving with the Missionary Society, some in active at this time are the following officers and members.

Pres., Mrs. Hazel Cromwell
 Vice Pres. Mrs. Elneada McCarley
 Sec. Mrs. Helen Fooks Watson
 Treas. Mrs. Juanita McCarley

Chaplain, Mrs. Lucy Sexton
 Former Sick Comm. Chairman, Mrs. Dora B. Hines
 Present Sick Comm. Chairman, Mrs. Ruby McCarley

MEMBERS

Mrs. M. McCarley, Mrs. B. Cherry, Mrs. O. Starks, Mrs. L. Lawson, Mrs. Ann Jones, Mrs. O. Allen, Mrs. C. Knight, Mrs. G. Brown, Mrs. L. Dodson, Mrs. E. James, Mrs. G. Gibbs, Mrs. W.M. McCarley, Mrs. B. McCarley.



HOME MISSION HISTORY

This Home Mission body is the outgrowth of an organization over which Mrs. Ester Davis was president for seventeen years, After Mrs. Davis began failing in health, she asked Rev. Lawson to release her.

Mrs. Juanita McCarley graciously accepted the invitation from the pastor to become the president and she was appointed by Bishop W.J. Walls at the Annual Conference held in Hartford, Connecticut in 1961. She has served in that capacity since.

Mrs. McCarley has gathered together a wonderful working body of ladies to serve with her. The members are as follows:

Mrs. Juanita McCarley, President
 Mrs. Burnel McCarley
 Mrs. Lillian Lawson
 Mrs. Oshia Starks, Chaplain
 Mrs. JoAnn Parker, Secretary

Mrs. Annie Jones
 Mrs. Mattie McCarley
 Mrs. Elizabeth Jefferson
 Mrs. Willie Mae McCarley
 Mrs. Dorothy Maye, Treasurer



CLASS LEADERS

Mrs. Delita Webb, Chairman
 Mrs. Hazel Cromwell
 Mrs. Doris Williams
 Mrs. Burnell McCarley
 Mrs. Juanita McCarley
 Mrs. E. McCarley

Mrs. Sherry Young
 Mrs. Barbara Moffett
 Mrs. Verna Steward
 Mrs. Morella Crowder
 Mrs. Maybell Brown
 Mrs. Willie Mae McCarley



BUILDING COMMITTEE

The Building Committee having been reactivated in June 1963 was empowered by the church to make investigations concerning the possibility to build a new church. At that time the membership set a goal of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000.00) for the new edifice.

During our investigations and planning we found it necessary to inform the membership that in conferring with our architect and contractor that we must in order to obtain a suitable edifice raise our goal to seventy thousand dollars (\$70,000.00)

We have instituted a once a year rally of dedicating our weeks pay to God to help our building fund progress.

Members of the Building Committee are as follows:

Rev. Leslie G. Lawson
 Mrs. Muriel Miller, General Chairman
 Mrs. Juanita McCarley, Secretary
 Mr. Melvin McCarley, Chairman of Finance and Financial Secretary
 Mr. William Webb, Treasurer
 Mrs. Hazel Cromwell, Co-worker
 Mr. Marvin Cherry, Co-worker
 Mrs. Morella Crowder, Co-worker
 (who due to ill health has resigned)

Mr. Amos Crowder, Co-worker
 Mr. Sam Young, Co-worker
 Mrs. Doris Williams, Co-worker
 Mrs. Lillian Lawson, Co-worker
 Mr. Melvin McCarley, Survey
 Mrs. Gladys West, Co-worker
 Mrs. Wilhelmina Henderson, Co-worker
 Mr. Clyde Smith, Public Relation
 Mr. Lonnie Moffett, Public Relation
 Mrs. Gladys West, Audit and Communication



SENIOR USHER BOARD

On February 8, 1953 the Senior Usher Board of Mount Pleasant A. M. E. Zion Church was organized under the direction of Rev. T.C. McDougal pastor at that time. Also at that time there were three members, Mr. Clyde Smith, President, Mrs. Verna Steward, Secretary and Alexander Williams, Temporary member. Later five new members were added. The usher board participated in the church Bazaar. In 1954 we had six new members. Mrs. McCarley, Vice President, She did an excellent job, with the help of the other members.

During the year of 1956 the usher board donated the following items, Church Bulletin, Offering Plates, and Guess Cards.

In 1963 Mrs. Dorothy Maye was elected Vice President. We worked together as a co-operative group in the Spirit of the Lord.

In 1964 Mrs. Dorothy Maye was elected President. We had four new members to join the group, Miss Louise Stepherson, Mrs. Margaret Calland, Mrs. Ruthie Payton, Mr. Columbus Spruell. They are very nice to work with. We have twenty members at the present time. Fourteen are active. They are as follows:

Mrs. Dorothy Maye, President
 Mr. Charles Moffett, Vice President
 Miss Mary Stepherson, Asst. Secretary
 Miss JoAnn Parker, Secretary
 Mr. Melvin McCarley (Rev.), Treasurer
 Mr. Marvin Cherry, Financial Treasurer
 Mrs. Burnell McCarley, Sick Comm.
 Miss Louise Stepherson, Corr. Sec.
 Mrs. Juanita McCarley, Chaplain
 Mrs. Burnell McCarley, Captain

Mrs. Sherry Young
 Mr. Willie Mae McCarley
 Mrs. Verna Steward
 Mr. Clyde Smith
 Mr. Lonnie Moffett
 Mrs. William Webb
 Mrs. Lillian Lawson
 Mrs. Ruthie Payton
 Mrs. Peggy Callands
 Mr. Columbus Spruell



JUNIOR USHER BOARD

May 2, 1964, the Junior Usher Board of Mount Pleasant A.M.E. Zion Church was reorganized, under the direction of Rev. Leslie G. Lawson, five members were present.

Since then we have grown stronger through the help of the Lord. Today we are re-united with ten faithful workers, we work very co-opertive to make this usher unit a success, in the name of the Lord. This year we have added on to our group a new member, we are looking forward to many more in the future. The members are as follows:

Mrs. Dorothy Maye, Supt.
 Miss Mary Sterpherson, Asst. Supt.
 Miss Beverly McCloud, President
 Miss Cynthia Lawson, Vice President
 Miss Pattie Lawson, Secretary
 Miss Ruby Carolina, Asst. Secretary

Miss Barbara McCloud, Treasurer
 Miss Ruby Caroline, Correspondence Sec.
 Miss Rita Caroline, Esquire
 Miss Joan Jefferson, Financial Treasurer
 Miss Caroline Blackwell



GATEWAY GOSPEL CHORUS

In 1948 a group was formed to render vocal selections each Sunday morning at the church services since there was no church choir at the time.

In 1949, through the inspiring efforts of Mrs. Doris Williams of Danbury, and Madame Marie Wiggins of Bridgeport, Conn. this present group was formed. The Rev. Mimms was the pastor. Madame Wiggins then gave us our name "The Gateway Gospel Chorus", of Danbury. She stated that this name would be meaningful as a gate being opened in this city so that others like ourselves may enter also into this needed work.

Mrs. Williams was most instrumental in making our group more successful and for many years she was a former and faithful member with us. Mrs. Naomi Mimms, the pastor's wife was very encouraging toward us also.

Our chorus was deeply saddened by the loss of a true and reliable member and friend in the person of Mr. McKinley Brown.

With God's blessings we have been an active chorus in the church and the community for nearly sixteen years. The officers and members are as follows:

Mr. William Webb, Vice President
 Mrs. Blanche Cherry, Secretary
 Miss Erma Perkins, Assistant Secretary
 Mrs. Amanda James, Treasurer
 Mrs. Elizabeth McCloud, Asst. Treasurer
 Mrs. Helen Watson, Dues Treasurer
 Mrs. Eliza James, Sick Comm. Chairman
 Mrs. Willa Mae Moffett, Corr. Secretary
 Mrs. Elizabeth Chaney, Chaplain

Mrs. Lucy Carolina
 Mrs. Ellen Clayton
 Mrs. Morella Crowder
 Mrs. Ella Roundtree
 Mr. Amos Crowder
 Mr. L.C. Jefferson
 Mr. Cleveland Moffett
 Mrs. Delita Webb
 Mrs. Christobel Holton, President



COMMUNITY GOSPEL CHORUS

The Community Chorus was organized in the year 1952 under the direction of Madame Marie Wiggins and Mrs. Doris Williams at the time Rev. Leroy Montgomery was the pastor. The Community Chorus has served the church and the community spiritually and financially. The group have sponsored programs and the most successful was the 1963 Revival, in which many souls were saved. The members are as follows:

Mrs. Verna Steward, President
 Mr. Theadore Callands, Vice President
 Mrs. Johnnie M. Purvis, Secretary
 Mrs. Morella Crowder, Asst. Secretary
 Miss JoAnn Parker, Finance Secretary
 Mr. Arthur Purvis, Dues Treasurer
 Mr. Alex Williams, Treasurer
 Mrs. Barbara Moffett, Singing Fund
 Mrs. Doris Williams, Directress

Miss Lorraine Williams, Pianist
 Miss Maurice Williams
 Mrs. Joyce Brown
 Miss Rosa Newton
 Miss Mae E. Peele
 Mrs. Elizabeth Jefferson
 Mrs. Julia Dixon
 Mrs. Burnell McCarley
 Mrs. Stella Barnhill



ZIONETTES GOSPEL CHORUS HISTORY

The Zionettes Gospel Chorus was organized in July of 1959 by Mrs. Mary Harris, Mrs. Elizar James and Mrs. Muriel Miller. The group was to have been just a trio but because of others being interested has grown to the now present size of fourteen members.

The Zionetts have rendered service in several area churches and neighboring cities in Connecticut, New York and Massachusetts. We also serve in our own church every fourth and fifth Sunday of the month.

Members and Officers are as follows:

Mrs. Muriel E. Miller, Director
 Mrs. Maude Alkinson, President
 Mrs. Wilhelmina Henderson, Secretary
 Mrs. Elnedia McCarley, Treasurer
 Mrs. Juanita McCarley, Asst. Secretary
 Mrs. Elizabeth Chaney, Chaplain
 Mrs. Louise Elliott

Mrs. Nancy Young
 Mrs. Oshia Starks
 Mrs. Mary Harris
 Mrs. Lillian Lawson
 Mrs. Margaret Rucker
 Mrs. Freddie M. Perkins

Bells Gospel Singers

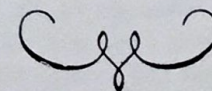
The Bells Gospel Singers were brought into view eight years ago. It was started with a few girls ages ranging from 10 - 18 years. During that time we have had many members come and leave.

At the present we are using the Motto, spoken so many times by our present director, Mrs. Doris Williams, "as long as there is one Bell it will ring". Now we have five Bells, singing to the honor and the glory of our Savior.

Present Members are:

Miss Lorraine Williams, Pianist
 Miss Maurice Williams
 Mrs. Joyce Brown

Miss Rosa Brown
 Master Alexander Williams Jr.
 Mrs. Doris Williams, Director





WILLIAMS ENSEMBLES

Miss Lorraine Williams, Pianist, Mr. John Cherry, President, Miss Mary Moore, Miss Dorothy Moore, Mr. Alexander Williams Jr., Mr. Willie Moore, Miss Mae Farmer, Miss Rita Carolina.

Not Shown are: Miss Betty McCarley, Miss Cherlyn McCarley, Miss Gladys McCarley, Mr. James Miller, Mr. Johnnie Brown, Mr. Donnie Brown, and Mr. Andre Parker



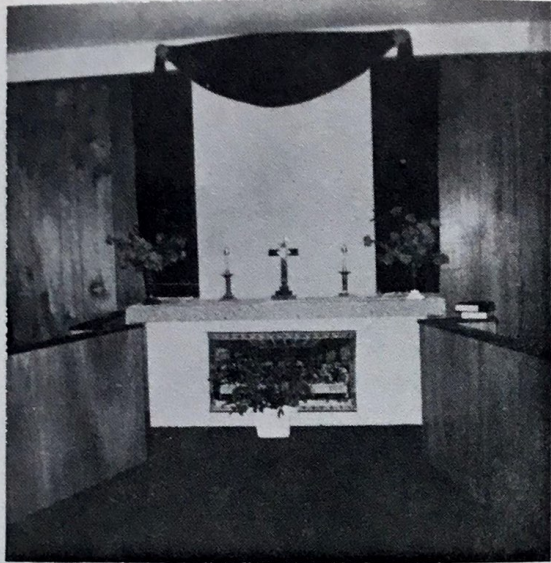
THE MT. PLEASANT A.M.E. ZION COMMUNITY MENS CLUB

The Mt. Pleasant A.M.E. Zion Community Men's Club, was organized in June of 1956. It began with a group of eleven members, it began holding meetings in the church, later meetings were held in the homes of members to permit greater fellowship. The club has experienced a growth in membership, since its organizations, and has served the church in all of its vital life. Some of the hi-lights of achievements are: The Annual Labor Day Bar-b-que, The Annual Community Communion Breakfast, The Annual Summer Picnic, The Men's Club has paid the fees making the Mt. Pleasant A.M.E. Zion Church a life member church in the NAACP. This organization has also kept the church dues up for membership in the Council of Churches.

The members are; Mr. John Bryant, Mr. Alex Williams, Mr. William Webb, Mr. Melvin McCarley, Mr. Blake McCarley, Mr. Willie Jones, Mr. Amos Crowder, Mr. Charles Moffett, Mr. H. Marvin Cherry, Mr. Sam Young, Mr. Lonnie Young, Mr. Ceasar Moffett, Mr. Stanford Smith, Mr. Arthur Perkins, Mr. L.C. Jefferson, Mr. Lonnie Moffett, Mr. Clyde Smith, Rev. Leslie G. Lawson, Mr. Robert Nelson, Mr. Edward Clay.

Some of our former members were: Mr. Harry Dodson, Mr. Kenneth Dodson, Mr. Acie Roundtree, one deceased active member, Mr. William McKinley Brown. The former president, Mr. William Webb, present president, Mr. Sam Young, Mr. John Bryant from the beginning treasurer of this organization, Mr. Blake McCarley has been the only Secretary.

New Church Altar



The Women's Club

The WOMEN'S CLUB was organized by Rev. Leroy Montgomery at Mt. Pleasant A.M.E. Zion Church, 69 Rowan Street, Danbury, Conn., year of 1955, month of July. Rev. L. Montgomery appointed Mrs. Morilla Roak Crowder as President and ten women to form an organization. Members were: Mrs. Lucille Luckett, Vice President, Miss Lillian Washington, Secretary, Mrs. Leatha Toren, Treasurer, Mrs. Thelma Rasado, Chaplain, Mrs. Lula Mae Rogers, Mrs. Susie Farmer, Mrs. Oshia Starks, Mrs. Rosetta Baucom, Mrs. Grace Gibbs, Five are still active. We struggled for a couple of years. Then when Rev. L.G. Lawson was pastor, he re-organized the "Women's Club", June 25, 1958. Added to the group was Mrs. Helen Parker, Mrs. Gertrude Brown, so seven members continued.

We had our monthly meetings and raised money on various projects. Our largest project was the "Baby Contest", which was successful most of the time. Through trials and tribulations we managed to stay together.



THE PASTOR'S AIDES

The Pastor's aid serves the needs of the minister and his clerical guests. It has given much time to the care of the present Pastor's needs. The members are:

Mrs. Nancy Young, President
Mrs. Annie Jones, Treasurer
Mrs. Fannie Smith, Secretary

Mrs. Laura Brimage
Mrs. Carrie B. Moffett
Mrs. Willie Mae McCarley



SUNDAY SCHOOL

Mount Pleasant A.M.E. Zion Sunday School has shown considerable growth. There are sixty-two Sunday school members on our Sunday School Roll, however, all of these are not active members. The attendance is somewhat poor during the summer months.

Our literature is published quarterly by the A.M.E. Zion publishing house. Each month we get a booklet from Know Your Bible Program. These booklets are intended to strengthen the knowledge and encourage spiritual growth of the teachers as well as the students. The Sunday School has purchased other important and many useful materials. Among these, a complete library visual aids. Included are twenty-five flannelgraph story sets, five flannelgraph backgrounds, a metal easel, and a flannelgraph folding board. The Bibliograph is the ideal way to present Bible stories to children. It adds interest, color, and action to the story. It holds the attention of the group. Bible stories told this way increase the child's enjoyment and understanding of the story, for he sees as well as hears the characters in action.

Several programs are given by the Sunday School each year. A stay at home tea was sponsored to raise money for the building fund. Calendar towels were also sold for this purpose. The members of the Sunday School look forward each year to the Annual picnic. It is one of the hi-lights of the year.

Sunday School Teachers are Mrs. Glen Cherry, Superintendent, Mrs. Elnead McCarley, Asst. Superintendent, Miss Edith Ballard, Mrs. Burnell McCarley, Mrs. Margaret Rucker, Mrs. Mary Payton, Mr. William Webb.

Past Superintendents are Mrs. Hazel Cromwell and Mrs. Doris Williams.

Active Members of the Sunday School are:

Evelyn Akinson	Venaldon Henderson	James McCarley	Robert Rucker
Caroline Blackwell	Joan Jefferson	Margie McCarley	Roberta Rucker
Willie Buchanan	Julia Jefferson	Allen McCloud	Ronald Rucker
Ruby Carolina	Curtis Jones	Barbara McCloud	Anna Thompson
Clarence Cherry	Pattie Lawson	Beverly McCloud	Nancy Webb
Deirdre G. Cherry	Cynthia Lawson	Debra McCoullough	William Webb Jr.
Gregory Cherry	Ray Rucker	Jessie McCoullough	Lorraine Williams
Keith Cherry	Larry Webb	Damaris Miller	Benjamin Payton
Victor Cherry	Blake McCarley Jr.	James Miller	Alex Williams Jr.
Debra Henderson	Hayward McCarley	Ray Rucker	William Payton

The Lawson Family



Rev. & Mrs. Leslie Lawson

Leslie Jr.



Pattie, Sylvia, Cynthia

THE MOFFETT FAMILY

Cleveland, Willie Mae, Debbie and Cleveland Jr.



There is so much bad in the best of us
And so much good in the worst of us
That it hardly behooves any of us
To talk about the rest of us

DEDICATED TO THE MOFFETT CHILDREN

Children, obey your parents in the Lord; for this right, Honor thy father and thy mother; which is the first Commandment with promise; that it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the Earth. (Ephesian 6: 1-3)

Congratulations Mt. Pleasant A.M.E. Zion Church.

DEDICATED TO MARCUS FROM ELLA ROUNDTREE



MARCUS JAMES ROUNDTREE

Congratulations to the Pastor, members and friends of The Mt. Pleasant A.M.E. Zion Church for a dream come true.

Continued success in the coming years.

*In thee, O Lord, do I put my trust; Let me never be put to confusion .
(71 Psalm verse 1)*

*For thou art my hope, O Lord, God: thou art my trust from my youth .
(71 Psalm verse 5)*

MARGIE'S BEAUTYRAMA

"Beauty Culture is our Business-We aim to please"

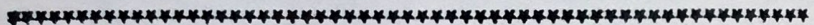
Specializing in Wig Styling

87 East Liberty Street

Danbury, Connecticut

Tel: 744-0644

Eldner & Margie Smith, Prop Inter-Racial



TOWNE CLEANERS

349 Main Street

Danbury, Connecticut

Tel: 748-4898

JOHN A. DeFINE & CO., INC.

Real Estate and Mortgages

258 Main Street

Opposite Post Office

Danbury, Connecticut

Tel: 748-2687



CARMEN'S SERVICE STATION

120 North Street

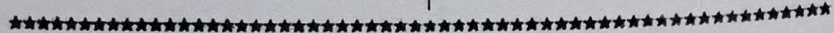
Danbury, Connecticut

Tel: 748-9721

PARKER LOAN CO., INC.

282 Main Street

Danbury, Connecticut



TOMILSON HOME STEAD

336 Main Street

Danbury, Connecticut



Over a Centruy of Funeral Services

Sponsors

Mrs. Inez Garr and Family

Mrs. Dorothy Maye and Family

Congratulation to the Mt. Pleasant A.M.E. Zion Church for a job well done.

Mr. & Mrs. Jackson McCarley and Family

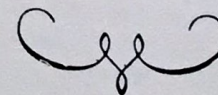
Congratulations from the Saxton, Rucker, Brown, Worthington and Hale Families

Mr. & Mrs. Charles Moffett and Family

Mr. & Mrs. L. C. Jefferson and Family

Mr. & Mrs. Mathew Williams

Mr. & Mrs. James Jackson of Atlanta, Georgia



Ritual

ORDER OF WORSHIP

1. Organ Prelude
2. Processional
3. Call to Worship
4. Invocation and Chorus Response
5. Hymns
6. Responsive Reading
7. Scripture Lesson
8. Prayer
9. Choral Selection
10. Apostle's Creed
11. Notices
12. Hymn
13. Silent Prayer
14. The Sermon
15. Invitation
16. Offertory
17. Choral Selection
18. Recessional
19. Benediction

Dedication Of A Church

(The Congregation being assembled in the Church, the Minister shall say.)

Dearly Beloved: The Scriptures teach us that God is well pleased with those who build temples to his name. We have heard how he filled the temple of Solomon with his glory, and how in the second temple he manifested himself still more gloriously. And the Gospel approves and commands the centurion who built a synagogue for the people. Let us not doubt that he will favorably approve our purpose of dedicating this place in solemn manner for the performance of the several offices of religious worship; and let us now devoutly join in praise of his name, that this godly undertaking hath been so far completed; and in prayer for his further blessing upon all who shall hereafter worship his name in this place.

(Let one of the Hymns 620, 621, 625 be sung and extemporary Prayer be offered, the Congregation all kneeling.)

(Then shall the Minister or some one appointed by him read)

The First Lesson. II Chron. 6, 1, 2, 18 - 21, 40 - 42, 7, (Chap) 1 - 4

Then said Solomon, The Lord hath said that he would dwell in the thick darkness. But I have built a house of habitation for thee, and a place for thy dwelling forever.

But will God in every deed dwell with men on the earth. Behold, heaven and the heavens cannot contain thee; how much less this house which I have built! Have respect therefore to the prayer of thy servant, and to his supplication, O Lord my God, to hearken unto the cry and the prayer which thy servant prayeth before thee: that thine eyes may be open upon this house day and night, upon the place whereof thou hast said that thou wouldst put thy name there; to hearken unto the prayer which thy servant prayeth toward this place. Hearken therefore unto the supplications of thy servant, and of thy people Israel, which they shall make toward this place: hear thou from thy dwelling place, even from heaven; and when thou hearest, forgive.

Now my Lord, let I beseech thee, thine eyes be open, and let thine ears be attentive unto the prayer that is made in this place. Now therefore arise, O Lord God, into thy resting place, thou, and the ark of thy strength: let thy priests, O Lord God, be clothed with salvation, and let thy saints rejoice in goodness. O Lord God, turn not away the face of thine anointed: remember the mercies of David thy servant.

Now when Solomon had made an end of praying, the fire came down from heaven, and consumed the burnt-offering and the sacrifices; and the glory of the Lord filled the house, And the priests could not enter into the house of the Lord because the glory of the Lord had filled the Lord's house. And when all the children of Israel saw how the fire came down, and the glory of the Lord upon the house, they bowed themselves with their faces to the ground upon the pavement, and worshiped and praised the Lord, saying, For he is good; for his mercy endureth forever. Then the king and all the people offered sacrifices before the Lord.

The Second Lesson. Heb. 10, 19 - 26

Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh; and having a high priest over the house of God; let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering, for he is faithful that promised; and let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: not forsaking the assembling of our selves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another; and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching. For if we sin willfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sin.

(Then shall one of the Hymn 619 or 623 be sung, after which the minister shall deliver a Sermon suitable to the occasion, after which Contributions of the People shall be received.)

(Then shall the Minister read the following Psalm, or the Minister and Congregation may read it alternately, the parts in italics to be read by the Congregation)

PSALM 122

I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord.

P. *Our feet shall stand within thy gate, O Jerusalem.*

Jersalem is builded as a city that is compact together:

P. *Whither the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord.*

Unto the testimony of Israel, to give thanks unto the name of the Lord.

P. *For there are set thrones of judgment, the thrones of the house of David.*

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem:

P. *They shall prosper that love thee.*

Peace be within thy walls:

P. *And prosperity within thy palaces.*

For my brethren and companions' sakes, I will now say, Peace be within thee.

P. *Because of the house of the Lord our God I will see thy good.*

(Then let the Trustees stand up before the Altar, and one of them, or some in their behalf, say unto the Minister.)

We present unto you this Building to be dedicated as a Church for the service and worship of Almighty God.

(Then shall the Minister request the Congregation to stand while he repeats the following.)

DECLARATION

DEARLY BELOVED: It is meet and right, as we learn from the Holy Scriptures, that houses erected for the public for worship of God should be specially set apart and dedicated to religious uses. For such a dedication we are now assembled. With gratitude, therefore, to Almighty God, who has signally blessed his servants in their holy enterprise of erecting this Church, we dedicate it to his service for the reading of the Holy Scriptures, the Preaching of the word of God, the administration of the holy Sacraments, and all other exercises of religious worship and service, according to the Discipline and Usages of the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church. And, as the dedication of the temple is vain without the solemn consecration of the worshipers also, I now call upon you all to dedicate yourselves anew to the service of God. To him let our souls be dedicated, that they may be renewed after the image of Christ. To him let our bodies be dedicated, that they may fit temples for the indwelling of the Holy Ghost. To him may our labors and business be dedicated, that their fruit may tend to the glory of his great name and to the advancement of his kingdom. And that he may graciously accept this our solemn act, let us pray.

(The Congregation kneeling, the Minister shall offer the following Prayer)

O Most Glorious Lord, we acknowledge that we are not worthy to offer unto thee anything belonging unto us. Yet we beseech thee, in thy great goodness, graciously to accept the dedication of this place to thy service and to prosper this our undertaking. Receive the prayer and intercessions of all those thy servants who shall call upon thee in this house; and give them grace to prepare their hearts to serve thee with reverence and godly fear. Affect them with an awful apprehension of thy divine majesty and a deep sense of their own unworthiness; that so approaching thy sanctuary with lowliness and devotion undefiled and minds sanctified, they may always perform a service acceptable to thee, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

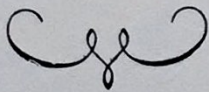
Regard, O Lord, the supplications of thy servants, and grant that whosoever shall be dedicated to thee in this house by Baptism may ever remain in the number of thy faithful children. Amen.

Grant, O Lord, that whosoever shall receive in this place the blessed Sacrament of the Body and Blood of Christ may come to the holy Ordinance with faith, charity, and true repentance, and, being filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction, may, to their great and endless comfort, obtain remission of their sins and all other benefits of his death. Amen.

Grant, O Lord, that by thy holy word which shall be read and preached in this place, and by the Holy Spirit grafting in inwardly in the heart, the hearers thereof may both perceive and know what things they ought to do and may have power and strength to perform the same. Amen.

Now, therefore, arise, O Lord, and come unto this place of thy rest, thou and the ark of thy strength. Let thine eye be open toward this house day and night, and let thine ear be ready toward the prayers of thy children which they shall make unto thee in this place: and whensoever thy servants shall make to thee their petitions here, do thou hear them from heaven, thy dwelling place, the throne of the glory of thy kingdom; and when thou hearest forgive. And grant, O Lord, we beseech thee, that here and elsewhere thy Ministers may be clothed with righteousness and thy saints rejoice in thy salvation. And may we all, with thy people everywhere, grow up into a holy temple in the Lord and be at last received into thy glorious temple above, the house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. And to the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Ghost be glory and praise, world without end. Amen.

The Services to conclude with Doxology and Benediction.



Laying The Cornerstone Of A Church

Dearly Beloved: We are taught in the work of God that, although the heavens cannot contain the Eternal One, much less the walls of temples made with hands, yet his delight is ever with the sons of men, and that, wherever two or three are gathered in his name, there he is in the midst of them. And in all ages his servants have separated certain places for his worship: as Jacob erected a stone in Bethel for God's house; as Moses made a tabernacle in the desert; as Solomon built a temple for the Lord, which he filled with the glory of his presence before all the people. We are now assembled to lay the Cornerstone of a new house for the worship of the God of our Fathers. Let us not doubt that he will favorably approve our godly purpose, and let us now devoutly unite in singing his praise and in prayer for his blessing on this our undertaking.

(Let one of the hymns 617 or 622 be sung)

Then shall the Minister say

Let us Pray

Most glorious God, the heaven is thy throne and the earth is thy footstool; what house, then, can be built for thee, or where is the place of thy rest? Yet blessed be thy name, O Lord God, that it hath pleased thee to have thy habitation among the sons of men, and to dwell in the midst of the assembly of the saints upon the earth. And now, especially, we render thanks unto thy holy name that it hath pleased thee to put it into the hearts of thy servants to erect in this place a house for thy worship. We thank thee for thy grace which has included them to contribute of their substance for the glory of thy name; and we pray thee to continue thy blessing upon their pious undertaking. Amen.

May many unite with them in their holy work until this habitation of thy house shall be completed and ready for dedication to thy service, free from all debt or claim of men. Amen.

May peace and harmony prevail in the counsels of thy servants, and many no selfish or divided aims find place among them. May the work of this building be completed without hurt or accident to any person. And when thou shalt have prospered the work of their hands upon them, and this house shall be prepared and finished for thy service, grant that all who shall enjoy the benefit of this pious work may show forth their thankfulness by making a right use of it, to the glory of thy blessed name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Grant that all who shall hereafter worship thee in the temple here to be built may so serve and please thee in all holy exercises of godliness, that in the end they may come to that temple on high, even to the holy place, made without hands, whose builder and maker is God. Amen.

Hear us, O Lord, for thou art our God in whom we trust. And when we shall cease to pray unto thee on earth may we, with all those who in like manner have erected such places to thy name, and with all thy saints and redeemed ones, eternally praise thee for all thy goodness vouchsafed unto us here on earth and laid up for us there in heaven. Amen.

Accept these our prayers, we beseech thee, for the sake of thy dear Son, and to thee, the only true and living God, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, be honor, praise and glory forever and ever. Amen.

(Then shall the Minister read the following Psalm, or the Minister and People may read in alternate verses, the parts in italics to be read by the People)

PSALM 132

Lord, remember David, and all his afflictions:

P: *How he swore unto the Lord, and vowed unto the mighty God of Jacob,*

Surely I will not come into the tabernacle of my house, nor go up into my bed;

P: *I will not give sleep to mine eyes, or slumber to my eyelids.*

Until I find out a place for the Lord:

P: *A habitation for the mighty God of Jacob.*

Lo, we heard of it at Ephratah: we found it in the fields of the wood.

P: *We will go into his tabernacle, we will worship at his footstool.*

Arise, O Lord, into thy rest; thou, and the ark of thy strength.

P: *Let thy priests be clothed with righteousness;*

And let thy saints shout for Joy.

P: *For thy servant David's sake turn not away the face of thine anointed.*

The Lord hath sworn in truth unto David; he will not turn from it;

P: *Of the fruit of thy body will I set upon thy throne.*

If thy children will keep my covenant and my testimony that I will teach them, their children shall also sit upon thy throne for evermore.

P: *For the Lord hath chosen Zion; he hath desired it for his habitation.*

This is my rest forever: here will I dwell; for I have desired it.

P: *I will abundantly bless her provision.*

I will satisfy her poor with bread.

P: *I will also clothe her priests with salvation.*

And her saints shall shout aloud for joy.

P: *There will I make the horn of David to bud.*

I have ordained a lamp for mine anointed.

P: *His enemies will I clothe with shame.*

But upon himself shall his crown flourish.

THE LESSON 1 Cor. 3, 9 - 23

For we are laborers together with God: ye are God's husbandry, ye are God's building. According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise master-builder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon. For other foundation can no man lay

than that is laid which is Jesus Christ. Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble; every man's work shall be made manifest; for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is. If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire. Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are. Let no man deceive himself. If any man among you seemeth to be wise in this world, let him become a fool, that he may be wise. For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God: for it is written, He taketh the wise in their own craftiness. And again, The Lord knoweth the thoughts of the wise, that they are vain. Therefore let no man glory in men: for all things are yours, whether Paul, or Appollos, or Cephas, or the world, or life, or death, or things present, or things to come; all are yours; and ye are Christ's; and Christ is God's.

(Then shall follow the Sermon, or an Address suitable to the occasion, after which the Contributions of the People shall be received.)

(Then shall the minister, standing by the Stone, exhibit to the Congregation a box to be placed in an excavation of the Stone. It may contain a copy of the Bible, a Hymn Book, the Discipline, the Church Almanac for the year, Church periodicals to recent date, the names of the Pastor, Trustee, and Building Committee of the Church, with such other documents as may be desired. A list of these may be read, after which the Minister may deposit the box in the Stone and cover it; and the Stone shall be laid and adjusted by the Minister, assisted by the builder.)

Then shall the Minister say

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, we lay this Cornerstone for the foundation of a house to be builded and consecrated to the service of Almighty God, according to the Order and Usages of the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church. Amen.

(The service may conclude with extemporary Prayer, the Lord's Prayer, and the Benediction.)

Corner Stone Laying Contributions

Rev. Stephen Gills Spottswood	\$ 10.00
Mrs. Blake McCarley	10.00
Rev. George Stewart	10.00
Rev. C.C. Tyson	10.00
Rev. Harold Rice	10.00
Mr. Alex Williams	10.00
Mr. Frank Stone	10.00
Elder J.C. Brown	10.00
Brother Kelley	5.00
Sis. Harold Rice	5.00
Sis. Juanita McCarley	5.00
Rev. Scott	5.00
Sis Sheila McCarley	5.00
Sis. Tyson	5.00
Sis. Hazel Cromwell	5.00
Sis. Muriell Miller	5.00
Sis. Annie Jones	5.00
Sis. Lucy Saxton	5.00
Sis. Ophelia Allen	5.00
Sis. Rosa Newton	5.00
Sis Ward	5.00
Brother Marvin Cherry	5.00
Sis. Burnell McCarley	5.00
Miss Joann Spencer	5.00
Miss Louise Stepherson	5.00
Mrs. Mary Moss	5.00
Sis. Eliza Kourse	5.00
Sis. Cunningham	5.00
Rev. Kennedy	10.00
Masonic Men's Group	10.00

Souvenir Book Committee



Mrs. Ella Roundtree, Chairman

Mr. Charles Moffett

Miss Maurice Williams

Miss Rosa Newton

Mrs. Verna Steward

Mrs. Mary Payton

Climax

There can be no end in sight for the building of the Church. For as long as people continue to migrate, the church must provide space for religious worship. Generations yet unborn will seek to find God and express devotion to his service in this sanctuary for years to come.

Our children and children's children must be given equal opportunities to see God in work, play and creative building. Hence has this generation begun the task of building upon the foundations left by the fore-fathers who laid the first stone in May of 1885.

Rev. L. G. Lawson, Pastor

