

Eastern Baptist Missionary Baptist Church

100th

**Church Anniversary
Celebration**



***Pastor Vester Thompson
& Sis. Pamela***



Pastor Frank Harris Jr.

Sunday - October 20, 2024/11:00 a.m.

548 E. 15th Street @ Austin Ave Port Arthur, Texas 77640

(409) 982-2193| www.esbcpatx.org

Happy 100th Church Anniversary Eastern Star



Pastor Vester Thompson & Sis. Pamela

To give God the glory, give Him Praise and Worship, proclaiming that He is worthy of these things, He is to be glorified, and I understand for those who don't know why – they would wonder why we are supposed to worship and Praise God. It's when they come to realize Who God Is, experience His Presence, How Amazing His Presence is, they would automatically want to Praise Him, when to Praise Him, when you Praise and Worship God, there is this Joy and fulfillment too you feel, you feel more alive than ever. To know God and continually be in communion with Him is the best thing anyone could experience, in fact that is why we were created, To Love God and He in turn Loves us, in fact; He first Loved us when He created us. God is Love, no words can describe how amazing God is, it has to be an experience, and so we worship and Praise Him, it isn't in pride that God desires worship as some may think.....so anyway that is what it is.....to do all things for the glory of God, only then those things are given meaning and purpose...no person can find fulfillment in this world until they find God, whether they know it or not, they will always feel empty inside, only the Love of God can fill that void, we can say that with confidence because that is what we've found in life. We feel for those who haven't come to that realization yet and even more for those who never will because they have already rejected God from the very beginning. God is not an intruder; He comes to those who truly want to find Him. God looks at the heart, even when we Praise and Worship, our lips could be moving, you could have the best voice singing, but it's the heart that God sees, that's what matters.



Pastor Frank Harris Jr.

Frank J. Harris Jr., born in Memphis, Tn., to Pastor and Mrs. Frank Harris Sr. At an early age he sensed the calling of God upon his life to carry His word at the tender age of seven and accepted his mandate into the gospel ministry at age eleven. A graduate of Fairley High School and later majored in Business Administration at Crichton College in Memphis, TN. In 2012 he was awarded an Honorary Master of Theology Degree from Tennessee School of Religion in Memphis, TN. Currently a student at Ashland Theological Seminary in Detroit, MI. Because of his passion and willingness to do God's will He was called to pastor his first church at the age of nineteen Mt. Pisgah Baptist Church in Olive Branch, MS., where He served for 2 years. In 2010 sensing a new calling from God on his life Pastor Frank Harris accepted the pastorate at the New Jerusalem Baptist Church in Pine Bluff, Arkansas where he served as senior pastor from August 2010 to February 2016.

As a result of his dedication to the kingdom God favored him by allowing tremendous growth to the ministry substantially. During his tenure as pastor of New Jerusalem he orchestrated revitalization and modernization to the church facility, purchased numerous properties and a host of other things. In March of 2016, God shifted Pastor Harris, and he started his journey as Senior servant of Second Canaan Baptist Church in Detroit, MI. In such short period God has allowed an astronomical amount of people to connect with the ministry bringing revitalization and rejuvenation.

He wishes to help the people in the body of Christ to tear down barriers so that people may have an encounter with Jesus which is known at The Second as "Taking Ministry to the Rooftop."

This man of standards has an itinerant preaching ministry that extends across the country. He has been privileged to preach in the National Baptist Congress and the National Baptist Convention U.S.A, Inc., and the Hampton Ministers Conference to name a few. He serves as a Vice Moderator in the Fellowship District Association. Pastor Frank Harris has been featured by several newspapers and news stations in the U.S. to name one in particular "The Washington Post." His works have also been published in "The African American Pulpit Journal" in the 2007-2008 winter edition.

Pastor Harris is blessed to share life in matrimony with Sierra Pierce Harris and to this union they have two children Khloe Rena Harris and Aiden James Harris.

*Celebrating
Eastern Star Missionary Baptist Church
100th Year Anniversary*

October 20, 2024,11:00 a.m.

PreludeMass Choir

**ProcessionalPastor Thompson & Wife
Associate Ministers & Wives
Deacons & Deaconess
Auxiliary Leader**

DevotionDeacon

Remarks/Acknowledgement/Visitors

Celebration of PraiseMass Choir

Welcome Pamela Thompson

Memorial.....Pastor Vester Thompson Jr.

Praise Dance

Celebration in GivingDeacons/Visiting Deacons

(Benevolent, Tithes, Public Offering, Taxation)

Introduction of SpeakerPastor Vester Thompson Jr.

Proclamation of the WordPastor Frank Harris Jr.

Call to Discipleship

Benediction

Pastor & First Lady



Pastor Vester & Sis. Pamela Thompson Jr.



Minister Shelvin & Sis. Ada Jackson



Rev. Randy Martin



**Pastor Emeritus & First Lady Emeritus
Lloyd and Hope Scott**

Deacons & Trustees



Deacons



Deaconess Ministry



Trustees



Secretary



*Sunday School
Superintendent*



*Program
Chairperson*



*Orientation
Ministry*



*Media
Ministry*



Greeter's Ministry



Health Ministry



General Mission President



Greeter's President



Deaconess President



Sanctuary Choir President



Usher's President



Youth Director



Singles Ministry



Decoration Ministry



Directress



Women of the Star



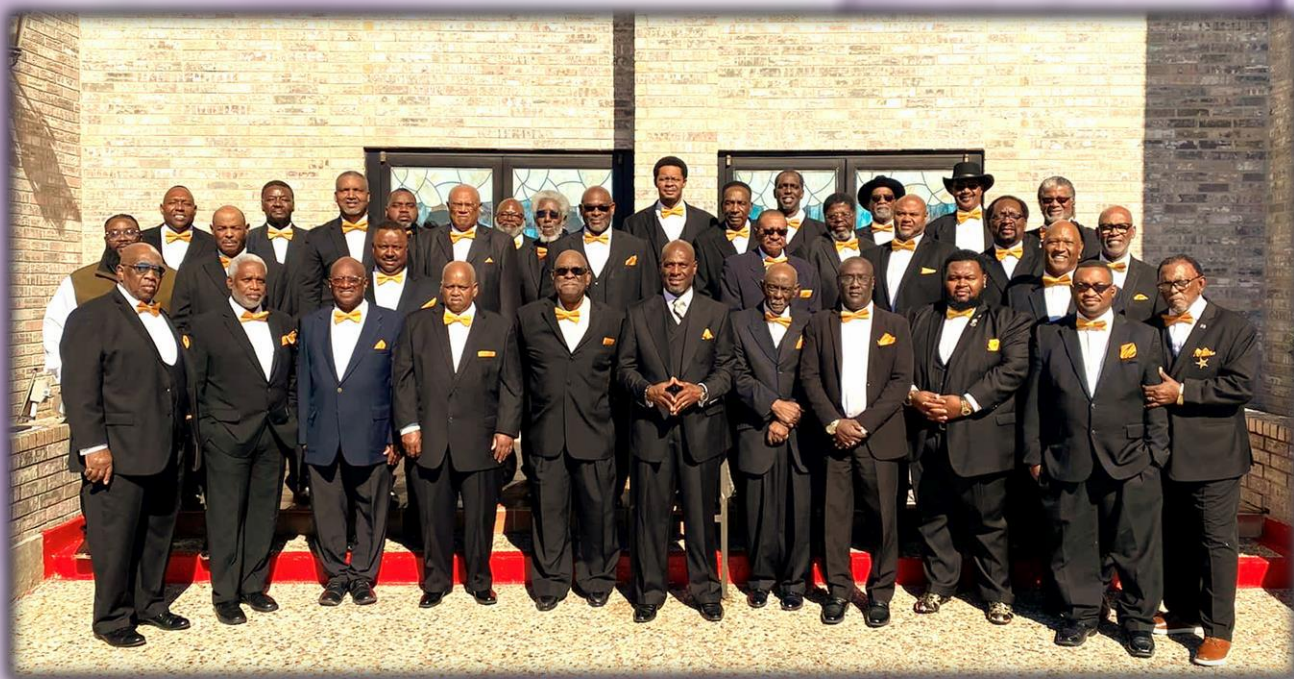
Sanctuary Choir



Male Chorus



Men of The Star



Ushers



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Ushers



Parking Lot Ministry



Music Ministry





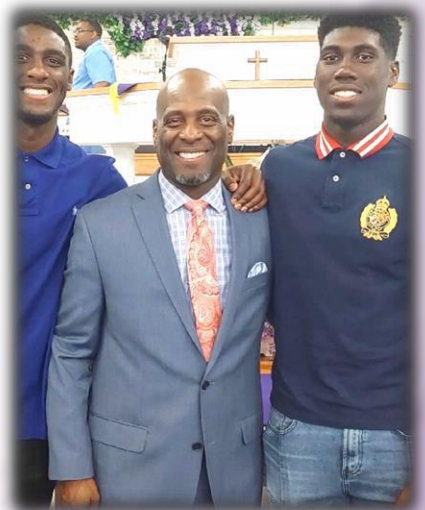
Youth Family



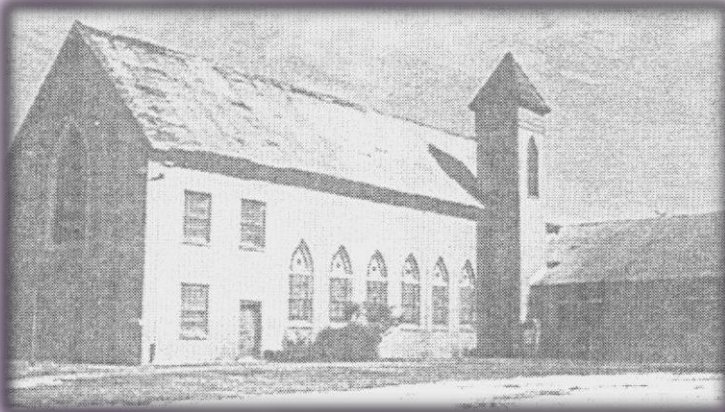
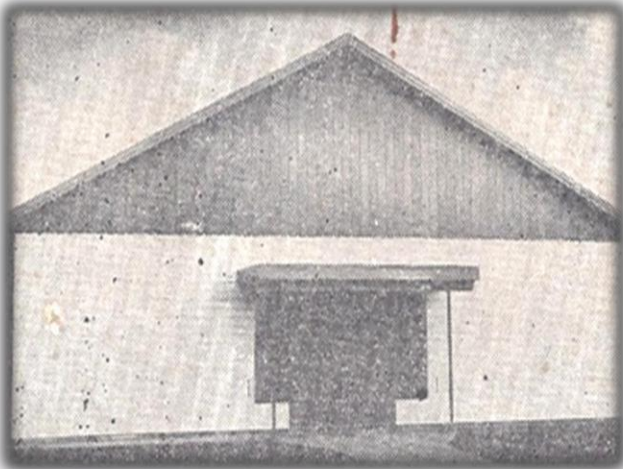
Brotherhood



We are One



HISTORY OF THE CHURCH



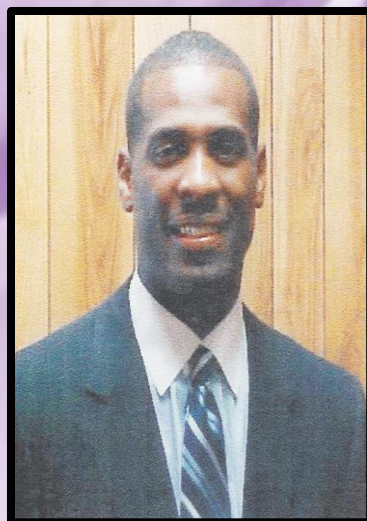
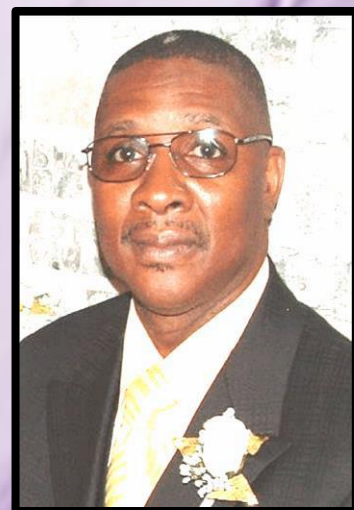
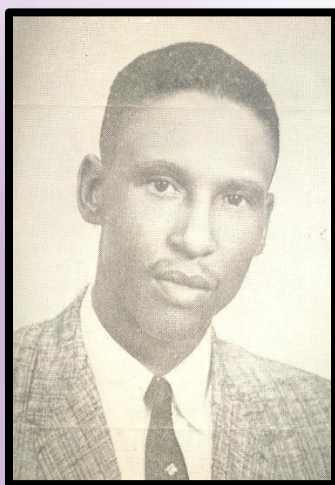
HISTORY OF THE CHURCH

1924-Present

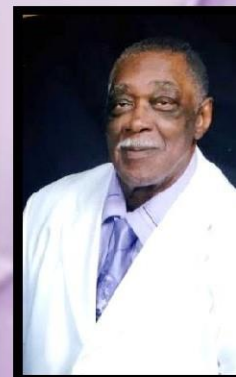
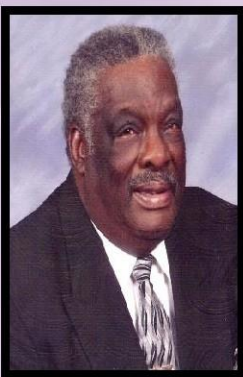
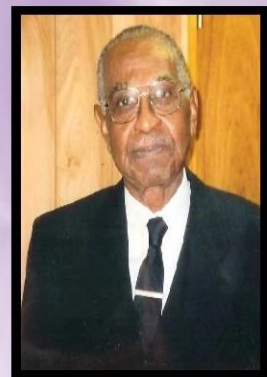
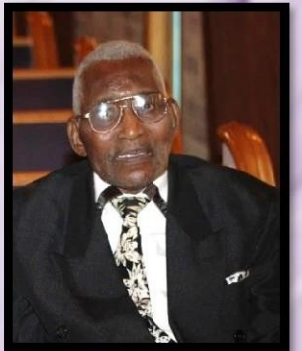
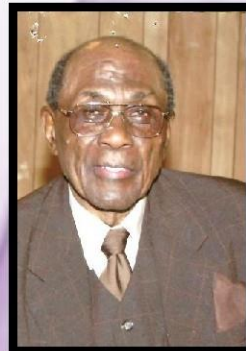
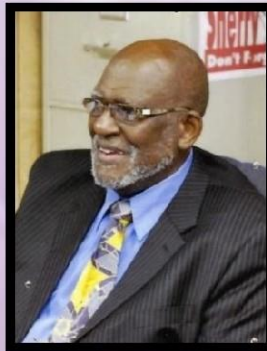
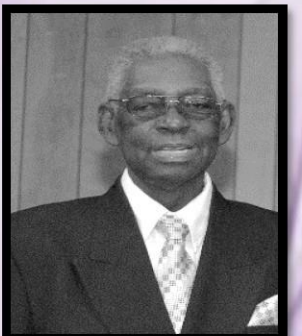
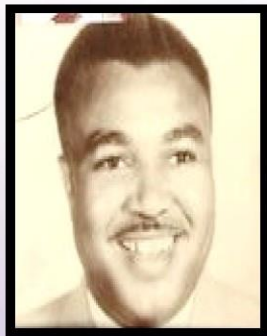
***Pastors were Rev. Gilliams, Rev. Roach,
Rev. Franklin, Rev. Rufus Collins, Rev.
Luther B. Wade, Rev. Lloyd W. Scott Sr
and Rev. Vester Thompson Jr.***

The First Mother of Eastern Star was Mother Ross until called home.

The Second was Mother Melissa Robinson – joined 1938 under leadership of Rev. S.L. Franklin; Rev. Rufus Collins; Rev. Luther B. Wade and Rev. Lloyd W. Scott Sr. She was called home 1998.



Deceased Deacons, Trustees and Ushers



Some of our Deceased Women of the Star



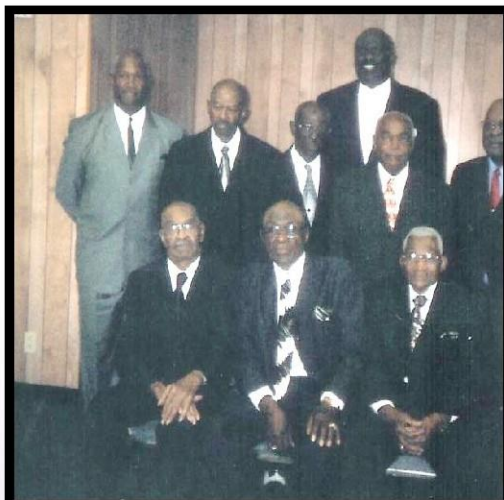
Some of our Deceased Men of the Star

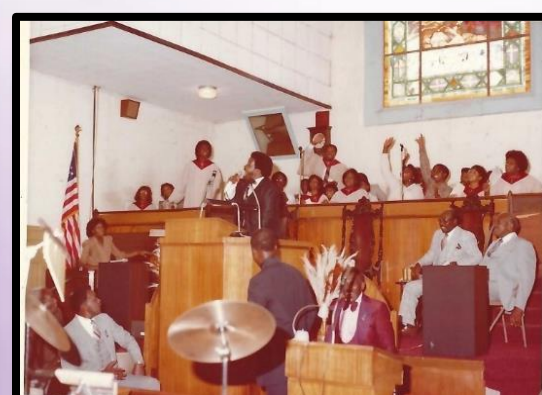


HISTORY OF THE CHURCH



HISTORY OF THE CHURCH





HISTORY OF THE CHURCH

Willing Workers



Carolyn Reason Circle



Queen Esther



Sunday School Teachers



Beautification Committee



Freewill Circle



Junior Ushers



Junior Ushers



Youth Choir



Marriage Ministry



Greeters



HISTORY OF THE CHURCH



HISTORY OF THE CHURCH

Eastern Star from the Beginning

Eastern Star Baptist Church was organized under the leadership of the late Rev. Gilliams. The Church was located at 800 Houston Ave., then known as the "Red Quarters". The church later moved to Short Texas Ave., then to 15th St. After a terrible windstorm, the church relocated to Marion Anderson Ave.

1926

Rev. Roach was called Pastor and remained until 1928.

1928

Rev. S. M. Franklin was called to Pastor. Due to circumstances beyond his control, he resigned. Rev. Broxton served as acting Pastor until Rev. Franklin returned later in the year.

1955

Rev. Collins was called to Pastor. Under his leadership the church was sold, and a new sanctuary was built at 300 W. 13th St. Rev. Collins served as Pastor until February 26, 1959.

1959

The Associate Minister, Rev. Elijah Williams served as Acting Pastor from February 26th, until Rev. Luther B. Wade was elected as Pastor on June 7th.

1964

Under the leadership of Rev. Wade, a sanctuary was purchased at 548 E. 15th St. On July 26th, the congregation moved into their new building.

1979

Under the leadership of Rev. Wade, the vision to build a new Sanctuary was given to the congregation.

1988

After 31 years of faithful service, due to failing health, Rev. Wade retired on October 30th. The Associate Ministers: the late Rev. A.P. Thomas, Rev. Joseph Crook, Sr., the late Rev. Jessie Jones, and Rev. David Godley served faithfully!

1989

In June, Rev. Lloyd Wayne Scott, Sr., was called to Pastor. On Sunday, September 17th formal installation services were held.

1990

The vision that began under the leadership of Rev. Wade became a reality. On Sunday, November 18th a formal groundbreaking ceremony was held.

1991

On Sunday, September 29th, under the leadership of Pastor Scott, services were held in our new Sanctuary. Praise God it was debt free!!! A formal "Victory Celebration was observed during the week of October 20-27.

1992

In August, the old Sanctuary, which was located behind our present Sanctuary was demolished. Thus preparing the ground for Phase 2, the Educational Wing and Fellowship Hall. An informal groundbreaking ceremony was held on Sunday, November 1, following our morning service. Construction began during that week.

1994

Phase 2 was completed. On November 20 (Homecoming/Dollar-A-Day Building Fund Program), Sunday School was held in the new Educational Wing. Dinner was served for the first time in the Fellowship Hall. Once, debt free!! PRAISE GOD!

1995

The Parking Lot was completed in April. To quote Pastor Scott, "the women of the Church were especially glad, finally no more scuffed heels." The Church marquee was erected on September 21. Praise God, Debt Free!

1998

Two new Ford vans were purchased. A tape Ministry and The Men in Action were organized.

2000

During the summer, one lot adjacent to the Church was purchased. The property will be used to build a Family Life Center. Rev. Donald Tatmon was hired as The Youth Pastor. The first Boy Scout Troop and A Singles Ministry were organized.

2001

Two more lots adjacent to the Church were purchased. A Family Support Ministry was organized.

2002

More property adjacent to the Church was purchased.

2003

The Steadfast Teens Actively Raising the Standard (S.T.A.R.S), a Street Ministry, and Marriage Ministry were organized.

2004

More property adjacent to the Church was purchased. A Youth Mime Group were organized.

2005

This year found us still in the process of believing God for manifestation of finances for the FLC. But praise Him for His faithfulness! Hurricane Rita hit Port Arthur on September 24th. Due to an evacuation, we did not have service for three weeks. Upon arrival back at home, we found only a few missing shingles, toppled steeple and minor damages. Praise God for how he protected our Church family!!

2006

This year found us still in the process of believing God for manifestation of finances for the FLC. Due to fact that our sister Church was destroyed during Hurricane Rita; Pastor Scott opened our doors for them to have service at 8 a.m. However, they preferred to worship with us during our regular 11 a.m. service. Little did we know what God had in store for the two churches. On Sunday, May 28th, Pastor Scott announced to the Eastern Star Family that under the leadership of Rev. Vester Thompson, the True Faith Family would consolidate with us. On Sunday, June 11th a formal consolidation was held. They are truly a blessing to The Eastern Star Family! As Pastor Scott, stated, “they did not come broke.”

2007

Praise God for His faithfulness. We're getting closer to the manifestation of our FLC. Rev. Donald Tatmon resigned as Youth Pastor.

2008

Rev. Vester Thompson was hired as Youth Pastor. We had two mandatory evacuations this year; (Hurricane Ike and Gustav threatened Port Arthur) We didn't have service for three weeks. God protected our Church family. The church had a few minor damages.

2009

This year found us still in the process of believing God for manifestation of finances for the FLC.

2010

More property was purchased adjacent to the church. Thank God, we now own all of the property from Waco Ave to Austin Ave. The last lot was really a faith fight! But thank God, for his faithfulness!

2011

3-S Men Ministry (Parking Lot Attendants) was organized

2012

ESBC Greeters were organized

2013

Health Ministry organized by Sis. LaQuanta Gray.

2017

Hope after Harvey: ESBC housed a Laundromat, showers, and offered meals through the Red Cross to help the community after Hurricane Harvey devastated Port Arthur on August 28, 2017. The city continues rebuilding efforts post Harvey. Pastor Scott took a sabbatical for personal reasons.

2022

Pastor Lloyd W. Scott, Sr. retired as Senior Pastor of Eastern Star Baptist Church on June 12, 2022, after 33 years of leadership. The pulpit was declared vacant; the pulpit committee gave its recommendations.

Rev. Vester Thomson, Jr. was announced as Pastor Elect of Eastern Star at 548 pm on Sunday, June 12, 2022. Installation service for Pastor Thompson was July 17,

2024

Pastor Thompson's first year anniversary. This year ESBC invested in an electronic marquee so that no one has to climb a ladder to change the old marquee. Also, new ministries include the Seasoned Saints ministry for 65 and older members and friends and Singles with a Testimony which is geared toward those who are single, no matter the age. The Health Ministry which began in 2023 was also reorganized. Three new deacons began their training journey.

2024

Ordination of Deacons Herbert Calcote, Charles George, and Dennis Johnson by Pastor Thompson with Pastor Kurt Washington.

Health Ministry re-established by Sis. Doris Viltz

Thank You

It's through people like you that Jesus show His love for us, you are God's greatest blessing. We thank Pastor Frank Harris Jr. for participating in this special day where we are celebrating 100 years of service to God. To our visitors and our church family, thank you for praising and worshipping. "To God be the Glory, for great things he has done."

