



# Unity Fellowship Church Movement HOUSE OF BISHOPS' BULLETIN

April 2021

“God Is Love and Love Is For Everyone!”

## BULLETIN ARTICLES

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## **FROM GREAT TO EPIC**

By Sr. Bishop Zachary Jones

For the last two years, we have focused our attention on developing the Unity Fellowship Church Movement (UCFM) into a great non-profit organization based on standard rating information. According to the standard non-profit rating, when an organization is considered “great,” it is fulfilling its mission at the highest level possible. It also has capable and dedicated leaders, is financially stable, and models management processes, programs, and activities that other organizations want to emulate.

As we have been working on the UFCM’s rating status, this year we added a category of our own, which we call “epic.” Epic means “something that is impressively great.” Our goal over the upcoming years will be to move from great to epic. This word will also have a double meaning as an acronym, EPIC, that stands for “each person in collaboration.”

This has been a challenging year for us all. Our economy dwindles daily, and an age-old issue has crept up from the heart of America’s history: racism. The world is confronted with a disease called COVID-19, about which we know very little, as scientists, governments, and other officials, attempt to figure it out as they go.

However, the UFCM has been called to exist in these perilous times. Although we may be experiencing disheartening events, there is still a great deal of beauty, as well as other exciting developments, for each of us. God is available and shows His/Her strength every day of our lives. Throughout Jesus’ ministry, He faced a number of plagues and diseases. However, those plagues and diseases never deterred Him from His mission. Jesus remained optimistic, hopeful, and faithful until the end of His time on Earth.

You might be wondering how we can remain optimistic, hopeful, and faithful when things seem to be at their worst. It may make you wonder whether God is angry with the human race, or you may ask if the world is finally coming to an end. People are assigning many metaphors to these challenging times. I don’t know whether God is angry with the human race, but I do know that God has sustained our lives, and we must be grateful each day. Even if the world were ending, the Lord said to us in scripture, “Happy are those servants whom the master finds fulfilling their responsibilities when he comes.” [Matt 24:46, CEB] This means we should be working on our divine purpose in life. We may contemplate all that is going on in the world; however, we are challenged to stay faithful and carry out our assignments as opportunity permits. Staying focused will help us support those who are in need of love, security, and comfort.

## **INSPIRATION**

By Bishop Jacquelyn Holland

Peace and marvelous blessings, UFCM family! I wish you a bountifully blessed and prosperous year. The theme that Spirit gave me for 2021 is “I have already won in 2021.” The message is that each challenge or battle we encounter in 2021 should be faced with an attitude of victory. We can step up to the fight with courage and confidence, knowing we have already won.

Last year, was an extremely difficult time for so many reasons. We experienced financial hardships, job losses, the loss of family members and friends, and too many deaths due to a pandemic that continues to reign this year. However, our testimony is that we made it! We survived 2020. Thank God that you are alive and able to bear witness, to share your personal testimony of how God carried you.

Remember the God who sustained us, the God who brought us through last year, and who will also bring us through this year. Regardless of what we face, know that God—the great healer, the great provider, our mother, our father, our everything—is with us in the midst of it all.

## **NEWS FROM THE HOUSE**

By Bishop Harris Thomas

The Unity Fellowship Church Movement would like to honor the work of our Pastors, who continue to provide liberating messages of hope to all of God’s children. As workers advocating for the rights and protection of all people, you are a light, a beacon shining on the hillside showing our family the way home.

To the members of our 15 churches (UFC), and fellowships (UF) that help the movement, move from GREAT to EPIC, working together, you provided a home for those seeking a place of love, freedom, and truth. You welcomed and befriended all that walk into the House of the Lord where they now have a place to call home.

Below is a list of our Pastors, churches, and fellowships with their anniversary and opening date. Please share your love, support, and appreciation for their work.

### **UFC Baltimore**

**Elder Dr. Jamie Washington**

Church anniversary: The second Sunday of November (Opened in 2000)

Pastoral anniversary: The fourth Sunday of June 2020

### **UF Buffalo**

**Elder Gerard Williams**

Fellowship anniversary: The second Sunday of August (Opened in 2008)

Pastoral anniversary: The first Sunday of September 2008

### **UF Charleston**

**Rev. Robert Arrington**

Fellowship anniversary: The third Sunday of May (Opened in 2010)

Pastoral anniversary: The third Sunday of February 2010

### **UFC Columbia**

**Elder Dorothy Parrish Harris**

Church anniversary: The first Sunday of November (Opened in 2010)

Pastoral anniversary: The third Sunday of March 2010

### **UFC Greater Atlanta**

**Rev. Maressa Pendermon**

Church anniversary: The first Sunday of June (Opened in 1997)

Pastoral anniversary: The second Sunday of December 2014

### **UF Jamaica**

**Rev. Nevin Powell**

Fellowship anniversary: The fourth Sunday November (Opened in 2014)

Pastor anniversary: The fourth Sunday of May 2014

### **UF Las Vegas**

**Minister Li Arnee**

Fellowship anniversary: The first Sunday of November (Opened in 2017)  
Pastor anniversary: The first Sunday of November 2017

**UFC Los Angeles**

**Elder Russell Thornhill and Elder Leslie Burke**

Church anniversary: The third Sunday of August (Opened in 1982)  
Co-pastor anniversary: The third Sunday of September 2012

**UFC NewArk**

**Elder Kevin Taylor**

Church anniversary: The first Sunday of December (Opened in 2012)  
UFCM pastor anniversary: The last Sunday of January 2001

**UFC New York City**

**Sr. Bishop Zachary G. Jones**

Church anniversary: The second Sunday of May (Opened in 1992)  
Pastor anniversary: The second Sunday of May 1992

**UFC Charlotte**

**Rev. Vincent Johnson**

Church anniversary: The third Sunday of January (Opened in 2001)  
Pastor anniversary: The third Sunday of May 2020

**UFC Philadelphia**

**Rev. B. J. Tillman**

Church anniversary: The second Sunday of February (Opened in 2006)  
Pastor anniversary: The first Sunday of November 2020

**UFC Riverside**

**Elder Benita Ramsey**

Church anniversary: The first Sunday of December (Opened in 1999 as Divine Truth)  
Pastor anniversary: The last Sunday of October 2008

**UFC San Diego**

**Rev. Romie Wilford and Rev Dr. Cecelia Caldwell Grant**

Church anniversary: The first Sunday of November (Opened in 2000)  
Co-pastor anniversary: The first Sunday of November 2015

**UFC Washington, DC**

**Elder Akousa McCray**

Church anniversary: The third Sunday of May (Opened in 2002)  
Pastor anniversary: The third Sunday of April 2002

