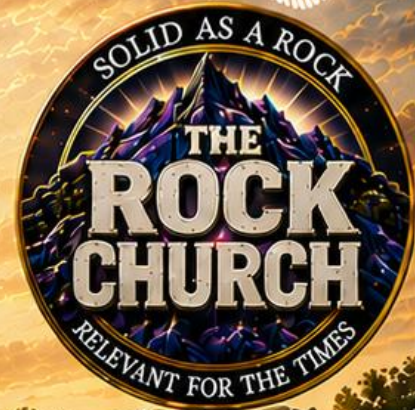


SECOND MT. ZION BAPTIST CHURCH



A LASTING *Heritage*

CELEBRATING 161 YEARS



"THE LORD
IS MY ROCK,
AND MY FORTRESS,
AND MY DELIVERER;
MY GOD, MY STRENGTH,
IN WHOM I WILL
TRUST..."
PSALM 18:2

HERITAGE *and Family & Friends Day*

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2026
10AM

1865 - 2026

OUR FOUNDATION
~ YESTERDAY ~



Honoring our past and
the faithful who laid
the groundwork.

OUR COMMITMENT
~ TODAY ~



Living our mission with
excellence and integrity.

OUR LEGACY
~ TOMORROW ~



Preparing the way and
impacting generations
to come.

2ND MT. ZION BAPTIST CHURCH

📍 1010 Old Pretoria Rd. | Albany, GA 31721

Dr. Theodus Drake, Jr.

SENIOR PASTOR

Same Mission. Same Message. Stronger Together.

ORDER OF SERVICE



Call to Worship

Selection.....Second Mt. Zion Choir

Prayer..... Pastoral Ministry

Welcome/ Hospitality..... Min. Evelyn Ross
Hospitality Ministry

Offering.....Second Mt. Zion Usher

Why We Celebrate.....Sis Gloria Gaines

Introduction of Speaker..... Pastor Theodus Drake

Selection.....Second Mt. Zion Choir

Message.....Bishop Jimmy Sneed

Invitation

Remarks..... Pastor Theodus Drake Jr.

Benediction..... Pastor Theodus Drake Jr.



Dinner will be served in the Theodus Drake Jr Family Center

A portrait of Bishop Jimmy Sneed, a Black man with glasses, wearing a blue plaid suit jacket, a white shirt, and an orange patterned tie. He is smiling and looking towards the camera. The background is a warm, textured gold color with floral patterns.

BISHOP JIMMY SNEED

REAL LIFE MINISTRY

— ALBANY, GEORGIA —

Bishop Jimmy Sneed is a humble and devoted servant of God whose life and ministry have impacted countless individuals throughout Albany, Georgia, across the United States, and internationally. For more than 50 years, he has faithfully served in pastoral and apostolic ministry, demonstrating an unwavering commitment to God, His people, and the advancement of the Kingdom.

A native of Albany, Georgia, Bishop Sneed was educated through the Dougherty County School System and later attended American Baptist College in Nashville, Tennessee. Throughout his distinguished ministry career, he has served as pastor of Mercy Grove Baptist Church, Mount Pilgrim Baptist Church, Greater Mount Pilgrim Baptist Church, and Rivers of Living Waters Church International in Albany, Georgia. He currently serves as Overseer of Rivers of Living Waters and Real Life Ministry.

In 1991, Bishop Sneed experienced a fresh and profound anointing from God that ushered him into a deeper and more intimate relationship with the Lord and brought significant transformation to his ministry. His years of service at Rivers of Living Waters became a defining expression of his apostolic calling and a testimony to his love for God and commitment to caring for His people.

In 2004, Bishop Sneed was led by God to relinquish the pastorate of Rivers of Living Waters to Dr. Dorothy K. Garner, allowing him to devote greater attention to the broader call of Kingdom building and ministry development. Through this assignment, he has dedicated himself to assisting pastors, ministers, and ministry leaders in preparing for ministry, establishing and strengthening ministries, and revising and organizing ministry structures.

Bishop Sneed's approach to ministry is deeply relational. He considers mentoring, encouragement, and spiritual guidance essential components of his calling. He serves as a mentor, encourager, and loving brother, with a special heart for those who have been broken, wounded, or faced adversity.

At the heart of Bishop Sneed's ministry is his desire to serve those who have experienced brokenness, disappointment, adversity, and spiritual weariness. He considers it a privilege to minister to the weary, wounded, hungry, and thirsty. His passion is to help others encounter the presence of God, discover their purpose, become equipped for their assignments, and develop a genuine and intimate relationship with the Lord.

For Bishop Sneed, the greatest legacy he can leave is not measured by material accomplishments, but by a deep and abiding faith in God. He treasures the opportunity to impart that faith to his beloved wife, **Dr. Lillian Rambeau Sneed**, his four children, his six grandchildren, and the many individuals and ministries entrusted to his spiritual oversight.

Bishop Jimmy Sneed remains passionately committed to knowing God, being continually transformed into His image, and inspiring others to pursue a passionate, intimate, and daily walk with the Lord. **His life is a testimony of faithful service, spiritual endurance, and an enduring commitment to the Kingdom of God.**

THE HISTORY OF SECOND MT. ZION BAPTIST CHURCH

In 1865, shortly after Emancipation, a small group of ex-slaves gathered under what was then known as a Brush Arbor and organized what would become 2nd Mt. Zion Baptist Church. Pastor John Moore and Deacons William Glover, Andrew McClain, Emanuel Toson, Brooks Toson, Kench Williams and Hamp Stevenson constituted the church leadership. These faithful and dedicated charter members & founders along with their families became a community church that would guide non-believers to Christ, sustain, reconcile and provide avenues to be healed, nurtured and developed in Christ. Through the hard work and persistence of the church leadership and members, a small wooden church was later constructed on land donated by A.D. Golt. The rocks were later added to the exterior from limestone hauled from nearby farms and often hand carried in buckets to the church.



*Old Second Mt. Zion Sanctuary
Presently serve as Fellowship Hall*

Succeeding pastors were Ike Reed, George Washington, Bill Hudson, D. A. Mosley, H. R. Cofield and J. W. Whitaker. Deacons who were ordained and served during these years were: Willie Dowell, M.B.G. Robinson, Ike Manrice, John Pollin, Eugene Glover, Charlie Stevenson, Ed Christian, Monroe Gaines, Leroy Toson, Will Toson, Leon Glover, Ben Cooper and Albert Cutts.



PAST DEACONS OF SECOND MT ZION

LtoR: Wilson Thomas, Charles Gaines, Jim Crombley, Jessie Crawford, Richard Williams, Corbert Christian, Adolph Christian, James Christian

In 1933 the church called Rev. B.W. Washington as pastor. Deacons ordained under Pastor Washington were: Corbett Christian, James Williams, Wilson Thomas, Ozell Givins, Jordan Woodrow Gaines, James Christian, Robert Green, Bennie Christian, Charles J. Gaines, Calvin Lowe and Ozell Ransome. Pastor W.M. Harris succeeded Pastor Washington following his retirement.

Baptism during this period was held at Horse Pond, south of the church on Old Pretoria Road on what is now known as Shamrock Farm. Revival was also held for a period at the Hartwell School which still stands as a residence at end of Lily Pond Road at Old Pretoria Road. Also, it was the practice to hold two-week revival service in the weeks leading up to the first Sunday Anniversary celebration in September. The first week was prayer service where those who were not baptized sat on what was called the 'mourners' bench' in front of the church so that the church could pray for them. The next week was re-



Rev. Z. H. Bailey
1936 - 1982

served for sermonizing, generally with guest ministers. Those who came to Christ during this period were baptized the morning of the anniversary celebration.

Pastor Z.H. Bailey was elected to lead the church in 1956. Pastor Bailey organized a number of auxiliaries and clubs and many members were added to the church roster. The church building was extended by 14 feet and modern windows, gas heaters, an electric water pump and restrooms were also added. Pastor Bailey served for 26 years.

It was under Pastor Baily in 1958 that an outside concrete pool was installed for baptism. The deacons filled the pool on Saturday with a hose ran from inside the church made possible at that time because an electric pump had been installed to provide for indoor toilets and water.

After the death of Pastor Bailey in 1982, Associate Pastor Jeff Wright served as interim pastor until Pastor J.H. Reynolds was called. Deacons ordained during his tenure as pastor were: Carter H. Christian, Roosevelt Gaines, Richard Williams, Adolph Christian and Willie F. Jones.

Pastor Leonard Favonte followed Pastor Reynolds and ordained the following deacons: Samuel Jordan and Bennie Toye.

Pastor Joseph Howard, III led the church from 1987 to 1994. Deacons ordained under his stewardship were: Carlton Arnold, Lewis Howzine, Johnny Jones, Bobby Johnson, Alexander Jordan, Anthony Jordan, Winfred Knight, Bernard Gibson, Curtis Howard, Adolph Christian, Jr., Charles Tharpe, Michael Robertson, Jesse Jefferson, Prince Reid III and Milton Griffin. During this time, the Gertrude Christian Fellowship Hall was added and the sanctuary was renovated.

Historically, 2nd Mt. Zion has been blessed with many outstanding women who have contributed so much to spreading the gospel and advancing the work of the church. These women have served in a number of capacities including, the Deaconess Board, the Usher Board and the choir. To name a few: Gertrude Christian, Delores Gaines, Rovilla Wilson, Willie Goscer, Emogene Williams, Janie Lowe, Margaret Toye, Percy Jackson, and Charlie Will Roberts all have contributed in their own special and unique way.



Rev. J.H. Reynolds -
Former Pastor
standing with *Mother*
Percy Jackson

In 1994 Pastor Theodus Drake, Jr. was called to serve as Senior Pastor. Pastor Drake Set the Vision Course to expand Ministries form a rural Ministry to include both urban and suburban ministries. With this vision the church membership grew exponentially. New additions to the campus were added, including additional class rooms administrative offices, a new sanctuary in 2003, and space for fellowship, baptism . Several new ministries were added including youth and women ministries. Renovations were also made to the old sanctuary and fellowship hall. Children and youth ministries were expanded to include a nursery, Children Church, Praise Dance, Youth Choir and Youth Ministries. Under Pastor Drake's Leadership Nurses Ministry was added for those who may fall ill during Worship. A Media Ministry was added to broadcast events and Bible Study and Worship Services via streaming, Facebook and YouTube Social Media. Under Pastor Drake the first Virtual Members became a part of the church family.

In addition, the Zion Outreach Ministry a 501-3c non profit ministry was incorporated to address community needs such a food and clothing deficits and low-income uninsured Medical needs. 2nd Mt. Zion joined forces with Mt. Zion Baptist Church to open a free clinic, "the Samaritan Clinic".

In September 2015, Pastor Drake, along with the leadership of Second Mt. Zion, broke ground for a new Family Life Center on the church campus. Just a year later, in October 2016, the vision became a reality with the opening of the Theodus Drake Jr. Family Life Center. The facility was designed to meet physical, spiritual and community needs, featuring a basketball court (multipurpose room), weight room, sound room, and office space. Operated by two directors, it has become a hub of activity for church members and the surrounding community. Individuals use the weight room and court for exercise, while the center also hosts a variety of events — including weekly volleyball games and other gatherings that bring people together in fellowship.



Ground Breaking for the Theodus Drake Jr. Family Life Center
Amya Green, Jarvis Sank, Rovilla Wilson, Prince Reid III, Pastor Theodus Drake, Annie Walker, Bobby Johnson



Dr. Theodus Drake Jr.
1994 - Present

Pastor Theodus Drake holds a special place in the history of Second Mt. Zion Baptist Church as the longest-serving pastor in its 160 year legacy. This year marks an extraordinary milestone as he celebrates 32 years of faithful service to God and to the church family. Throughout his ministry, Pastor Drake has led with vision, compassion, and unwavering commitment, guiding the congregation spiritually while also strengthening its presence in the community. His leadership has not only nurtured the growth of Second Mt. Zion but has also inspired countless lives through his preaching, teaching, and example of servant leadership. Today, we honor and celebrate Pastor Drake for his steadfast dedication and for the lasting impact he continues to make in the life of our church.

Several ministers have been licensed under Pastor Drake's leadership: Aaron S. Edmondson, Jr., Judith Thompson, Rufus Davis, Greg Daniels, B.A. Windrow, Annette Haywood, Jimmie Grant, Anthony Jordan and Kenneth Cutts. Other ministers who joined 2nd Mt. Zion and serve under Pastor Drake are: Daniel Simmons, McKinley Drake, Alexander Jordan, Kelvin Drake, Herbert Tomlin, Kelvin Grafton, Albert Bobb,

Clarence Drake, Victor Wyatt, Carrie Johnson, Steven Tuck, Barbara Tuck, Sidney Curley, Mary Edwards, Evelyn Ross, George Livingston, Darryl Morris, Henry Mathis, Dianne Perry, Javon Morris, Jamison Hadley and Rosa Rocker.

Deacons appointed by Pastor Drake are: Henry 'Hank' Young, Harris Williams, John Culbreath, Christopher Railey, Butler Wallace, IV, Kenneth Florence, Perotta Malone, Robert Young, Arthur Dyer, Carl Parker Sr., James Bonner, Carlton Christian, Ricardo Hawkins, Lynwood 'Woody' Givens, Brian Woodward, Alexander Jordan Jr., Charles L. Tharpe, Carl Parker Jr., Michael Chappell, Terry Cooper, Montego Cason, Walter McClendon, Willie Mitchell, Derwin Canty, Gil Jones, Reginald Christian, Patrick Ealey, Deontae Richardson, Jacques Ware, Lawrence Gaines, and Stacy Boyd.



Reflections

DR. THEODUS DRAKE, JR.
SENIOR PASTOR



The first Sunday in September not only marks the anniversary of our beloved congregation, but it also marks the anniversary of my pastoral ministry at The Rock Church. **This year marks anniversary #32.**

The year was 1994—the year of the great flood that overwhelmed South Georgia. Carrie and I cannot begin to express our deep appreciation to God and to the people who have made our journey so fruitful, rewarding, and pleasant. Our integration into the many families of our church has left us with many indelible memories, both happy and sad.

I am reminded of the occasion in the book of Ezra when the older priests, Levites, and family heads wept aloud as the foundation of the second temple was laid because they remembered the glory of former days. The emotions were mixed. While the older generation wept over what had been lost, the younger crowd shouted and cheered for joy over the great blessings and advancements—celebrating what God had done and how far He had brought them.

The shouting of joy and the weeping of sorrow blended so loudly together that the noise could be heard far away, making it impossible to distinguish one sound from the other.

There lives in my memory today the spirit of the younger preacher who came to Zion 32 years ago, alongside the memories of this senior preacher who remembers those who were here in '94 but have now gone home to be with the Lord. **One is weeping; the other is shouting with joy.**

The spirit of the young preacher is rejoicing and giving thanks as he sees what the Lord has done. For me, this senior preacher, the memories of the many saints who have gone home to be with the Lord are front and center in my thoughts. I miss them with sadness.

Yet, believe me, **“we are surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses.”**
— Hebrews 12:1

The beautiful thing is that these past and present emotions are so blended that the sounds emanating from them cannot be distinguished. There is a dual celebration going on within me today.

➤ **I AM CELEBRATING IT ALL!** ➤

*Yesterday and Today.
The Past and The Present.
The Present and The Future.*

— Dr. Theodus Drake, Jr.
SENIOR PASTOR



LET US RUN WITH
PERSEVERANCE THE RACE
MARKED OUT FOR US,
FIXING OUR EYES ON JESUS,
THE PIONEER AND PERFECTER
OF FAITH.

— HEBREWS 12:1-2



Reflections

Sylvia Watson

A Priceless Inheritance

The events leading up to our Church Anniversary on the first Sunday in September hold some of the fondest memories of my childhood. During the week before the anniversary, Revival was held Monday through Friday nights. Those who were unsaved and desired to join the church sat on the front pew, known as the “mourner’s bench.” After the sermon each evening, they were invited to stand and share the sign the Lord had given them as confirmation that they had been converted.

At the age of 12, my grandmother, Gertrude “Roxie” Christian, instructed me to go to a nearby grove of trees where I could pray without distraction. There, I repeatedly prayed, “Lord, have mercy on my soul.” I prayed fervently because we had been taught that we should be saved at the age of 12, remembering that Jesus was 12 years old when Joseph and Mary found Him in the temple. I took those teachings very seriously—I certainly did not want to go to Hell!

Finally, on the third day of praying, the Lord gave me a sign that assured me I had been saved. On Wednesday night, I stood before the church, shared my sign, and it was accepted. Even today, whenever I feel hopeless or distressed, I think about my “sign” and am reminded that our loving Father hears us and answers our prayers.

I joined the church on August 28, 1957, and was baptized the following Sunday by Pastor Z. H. Bailey in the outdoor block pool. In those days, baptism was held only once a year—on the first Sunday in September.

Following baptism, we attended the first worship service, which lasted about two hours. Then everyone gathered outside to enjoy delicious food served from the trunks of cars. We went from car to car, enjoying wonderful food and fellowship—and probably eating enough for three people! Afterward, we returned inside for a second worship service that lasted at least another two hours. You might think we would have fallen asleep after eating so much, but the spirited singing and the rhythmic tapping of feet on the wooden floor kept everyone wide awake.

Although these traditions are no longer practiced in the same way, I deeply cherish the memories of those unforgettable days. They helped shape my character, strengthen my faith, and teach me the lasting values of love, fellowship, faith, and commitment.

Such an inheritance is priceless.



A Lasting HERITAGE

FAITH
FAMILY
FELLOWSHIP
GENERATIONS

*Honoring Our Past
Celebrating Our Present
Building Our Future*





Reflections

Judy Gaines

HOLY BIBLE

A FAITH THAT STILL LIVES

When I was a child, the church wasn't just a building — it was the heartbeat of our community. It was the backbone of our community. It was where we learned to pray, to sing, to serve, and to stand together when the world outside felt heavy. From my earliest days, I was taught that faith without works is dead. Service wasn't optional; it was the natural outpouring of a heart touched by God.

My earliest memories are of Saturday evenings sitting on the floor between my Mama's legs getting my hair done for Church and of Sunday mornings filled with the smell of my mama's biscuits, the sound of the choir, and my Daddy on his knees praying for his 11 children.

Growing up in 2nd My Zion meant faith was woven into every part of life. We didn't just "go to church" — we lived church. Revival nights stretched long into the evening, with fans waving in the heat and voices rising in harmony. Testimonies were raw and real, and the altar was a place where burdens were laid down and souls were lifted up. I remember the entire Church family praying for our salvation on those hot summer evenings and when we professed Christ as our savior, the entire Church rejoiced for a soul saved.

My Christian journey hasn't been without valleys. I've walked through seasons of loss, disappointment, and doubt. But the same God who met me at the altar as a little girl has carried me through every storm. I've learned that faith isn't about never questioning — it's about holding on even when the answers don't come right away.

Over the years, I've seen the church change. We've gone from hymnals to screens, from wooden to cushioned pews, from Sunday best to come-as-you-are. But the heart of it — the preaching of the Word, the fellowship of believers, and the call to love God and love people — remains the same.

Now, at 68, I find myself in the role of an elder in the faith. I mentor young women, reminding them that the church is not perfect, but it is God's chosen place for His people to grow together. I tell them that the same Spirit that moved in the old Rock sanctuary still moves today — if we make room for Him.

The same God. Yesterday, Today and Forever.

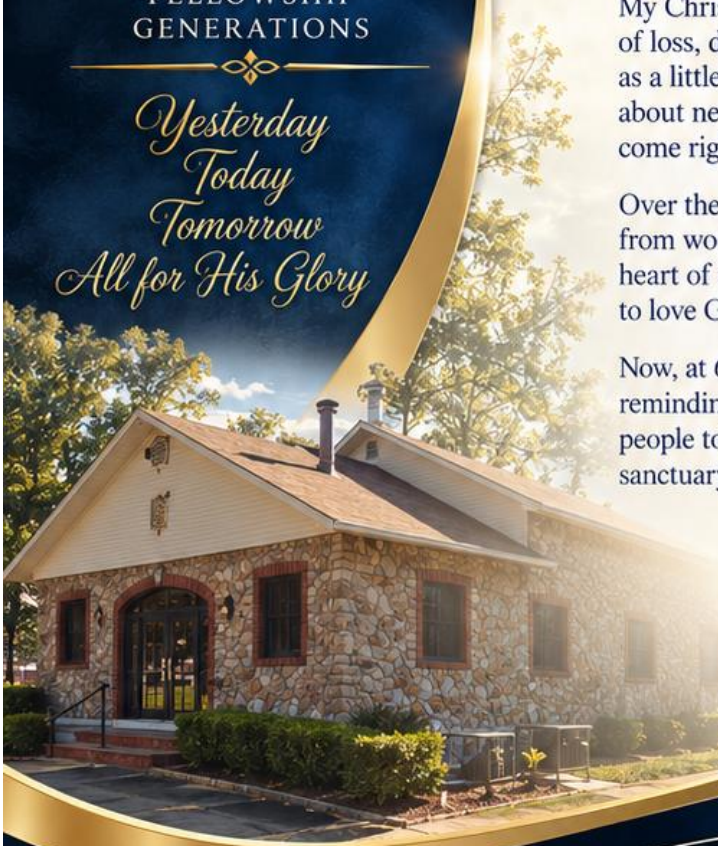
HEBREWS 13:8

SECOND MOUNT ZION BAPTIST CHURCH

A
Lasting
HERITAGE

FAITH
FAMILY
FELLOWSHIP
GENERATIONS

*Yesterday
Today
Tomorrow
All for His Glory*





Reflections

DEACON STACY BERNARD BOYD

FAITH • FAMILY • LEGACY • A LASTING HERITAGE

Today, we celebrate the 161st anniversary of the Lord's church, Second Mount Zion Baptist Church, and I am truly blessed to be a part of such a rich and lasting heritage.

I am the great-great-grandson of Sister Percy Jackson, the first secretary of our church and the organizer of the first Women's Day program. Her legacy, along with the legacy of those who came before me, is a blessing that I do not take for granted.

I have now been a member of Second Mount Zion for 34 years, since 1992. That same year, I accepted Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior, and I was baptized. This church has been instrumental in my spiritual walk with God. I learned about Him here, I accepted Him here, and I am forever grateful.

As a fifth-generation member of this great church, if I could go back to 1865, when the first generation of believers organized this church and dedicated it to God, I would simply say, "Thank you for answering and obeying the call of God."

Because you answered that call, generations have been blessed. Thousands have heard the Gospel, lives have been changed, and people have accepted Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. I am thankful to be one of those people whose life has been touched by this great church.

To the pastor of this great church and his beautiful wife, I want to sincerely say thank you for your leadership, your love, and your faithful pastoral service. If God should ever call me to serve as a pastor, I want you to know that you have been a powerful example and a role model of what a pastor should be—serving God, loving His people, and leading with faithfulness.

To my brothers and sisters and to our entire church family, I celebrate with you today for what was, what is, and what is yet to come. I speak blessings and favor over this house, praying that God will continue to use Second Mount Zion Baptist Church for His glory and that generations to come will continue to know and serve Him.

Long live our church! May God continue to bless Second Mount Zion Baptist Church and everyone who calls it home.

With love and gratitude,

Deacon Stacy Bernard Boyd

CELEBRATING

161 Years

1865 - 2026

A
LASTING
HERITAGE

*"I will build
my church;
and the gates
of Hades shall
not prevail
against it."*

Matthew 16:18



Thank You

Grace and peace to you in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

On behalf of the entire 2nd Mt. Zion family, we extend our deepest gratitude for joining us in celebrating our **161st Church Heritage**. Your presence at this milestone occasion is a true blessing, and it brings joy to our hearts to share this historic moment with you.

This year's theme, *"A Lasting Heritage,"* reminds us that the legacy we celebrate is not only a reflection of the past but also a living testimony for the future. It is built upon the faith of our founders, the prayers of generations, and the unwavering commitment to serve God and our community. A lasting heritage is more than history—it is the ongoing story of God's grace at work in His people, passed from heart to heart and generation to generation.

For over a century and a half, our church has stood as a beacon of faith, hope, and love—rooted in the prayers, sacrifices, and steadfast devotion of those who came before us. From humble beginnings to the vibrant ministry we know today, our story is one of God's unfailing grace and the faithful service of generations who answered His call.

We also wish to express our heartfelt thanks to all who contributed to this year's Heritage Celebration—through your time, talents, prayers, and generous support. Whether you served behind the scenes, shared your musical gifts, prepared food, decorated, or helped in countless unseen ways, your efforts made this celebration truly special and memorable.

Your participation and contributions not only honored our past but also strengthened the foundation for the years ahead. Together, we are living proof that our heritage is not static—it grows richer each time we gather, worship, and serve in Christ's name.

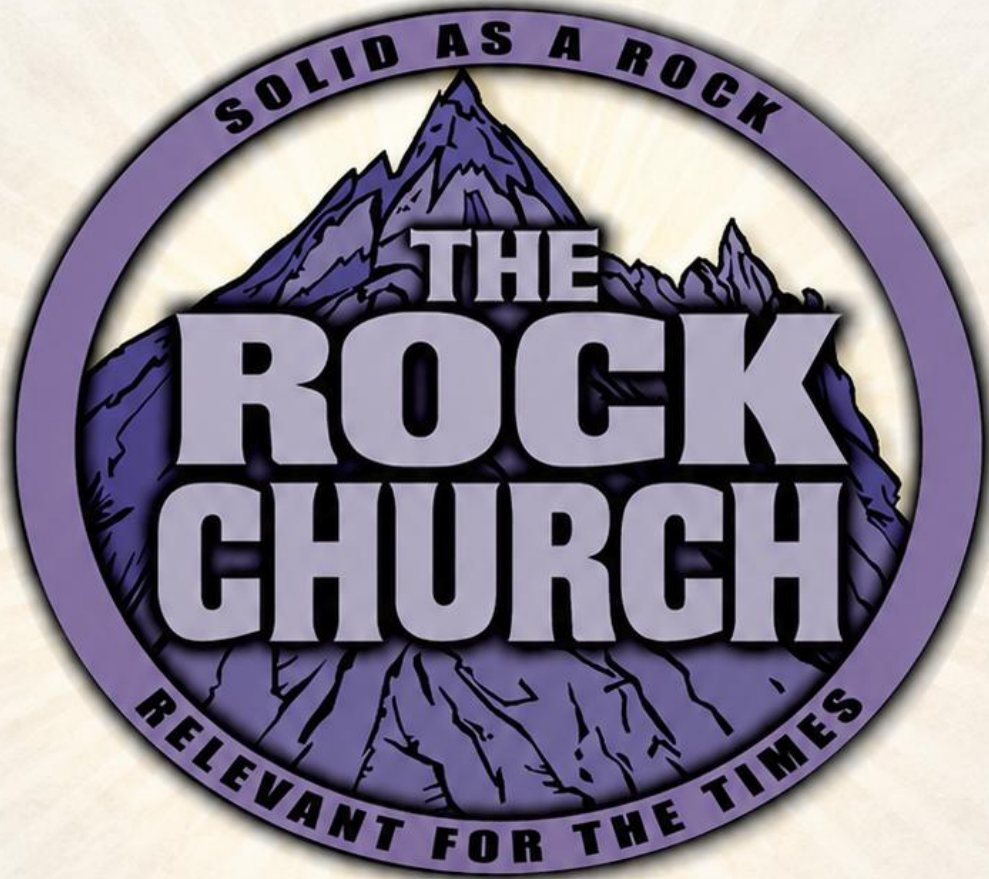
Thank you for being part of this special day and for helping us honor the legacy that continues to inspire our mission. May God richly bless you, and may we continue to walk together in faith and fellowship, carrying forward *"A Lasting Heritage"* for generations yet to come.

With heartfelt appreciation,


Gloria Gaines
2026 Heritage Committee Chairperson

2026 HERITAGE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Min. Cornelius Mullins | Sis. Hijuana Florence | Dea. Stacy Boyd | Sis. Pamela Florence | Sis. Eva Graham
Sis. Kenosha Coleman | Sis. Andrea Byrd | Sis. Sylvia Watson | Sis. Cheryl Jones | Dea. Alexander Jordan



— ♦ —
SECOND MT. ZION
— BAPTIST CHURCH —
♦ —

📍 1010 OLD PRETORIA RD.
ALBANY, GA 31721

☎ 229.439.0334

🌐 2MTZION.COM

DR. THEODUS DRAKE, JR.

♦ SENIOR PASTOR ♦