

14th Pastoral Anniversary ~ 37th Church Anniversary ~ Founder's Day

## LITTLE BETHLEHEM APOSTOLIC FAITH CHURCH

1305 TARBORO ST., ROCKY MOUNT, NC 27801 / WWW.LBAFC.ORG Florence E. Wilkins, Pastor | Minnie L. Wilkins, Founder



## CHURCH HISTORY

(December 11, 1983—December 11, 2020)

In 1982, after years of missionary and evangelistic work, and being led of God, Pastor Minnie Wilkins began church in her home under the leadership of Pastor Marie D. Battle of Praise Temple Apostolic Faith Church, Inc., Raleigh, NC. In 1983, the church – The Jesus Name Mission – moved to 433 Raleigh Road in Rocky Mount, NC. On February 9, 1987, the church, now Little Bethlehem Apostolic Faith Church, Inc., became a member of the Pentecostal Churches of the Apostolic Faith, Association, Inc. (P.C.A.F.).

In 1996, being blessed of the Lord with more members, the church moved to 1020 Winstead Avenue in Rocky Mount, NC. Again in 2005 the church made a physical move to 721 Walnut Street, Rocky Mount, NC. On December 2, 2006, upon the pastor's recommendation, Evangelist Florence Wilkins was installed as 2nd pastor.

On November 28, 2007 our founder and pastor, Minnie Lee Wiggins Wilkins, after having served her Lord and Savior faithfully for over forty years, went home to be with the Lord. The Lord continued to bless the church to grow. In October 2012, the Lord blessed us to purchase a church building with a sanctuary, offices and other rooms, a fellowship hall, and a bathhouse! PRAISE THE LORD! God is always true to His word - He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him.

The year 2018 found us celebrating thirty-five (35) years of service to the Lord! What a blessing! The year 2020 ushered in the COVID-19 virus. Like many churches, we temporarily closed our physical building in obedience to governmental authority (Romans 13:1). We have continued to teach, fellowship, and worship in the "virtual" place. Be Still, and Know! (Ps 46:10-11) God is yet living and accomplishing His will. Where the Lord leads, we will follow.

We are forever grateful for our founder loving the Lord and being a faithful servant. The Lord is yet blessing!





## **OUR PASTOR**



(December 2, 2006 - PRESENT)

Pastor Wilkins was baptized in Jesus name in 1966, along with her mother and 5 other siblings on the same day! She was later filled with the Holy Ghost in October 1982. Pastor Wilkins received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Early Childhood Education from St. Augustine's College, Raleigh, North Carolina in May 1978 and was also commissioned a second lieutenant in the United States Army at the same time. She served honorably for ten years in the Adjutant General Corps (Personnel Administration and Management) of the United States Army. While serving in the military, she also earned her masters in Education Administration and Supervision in 1982 from Alabama A & M University in Normal, Alabama.

With the Lord having a call on her life for the ministry, she resigned her commission in 1988 and became more active in the church. Beginning in 1988, she taught in the Edgecombe County Public Schools for nine years and served as an administrator (principal and assistant principal) for thirteen years until retirement in June 2012.

Pastor Wilkins' spiritual growth continued during these same years under the leadership of Pastor Minnie Wilkins (mother and pastor). She received her local minister's license from the Pentecostal Churches of the Apostolic Faith, Inc. (P.C.A.F. Inc.) in 1991. She is a 1999 graduate of the Evangelical Teacher Training Course. She also received her ordination credentials from PCAF, Inc. in 1999. Following this she was appointed assistant pastor. On December 2, 2006, she was installed as Pastor of Little Bethlehem, upon recommendation of Pastor Minnie Wilkins.

She is the mother of one son, Patrick Dale Wilkins, born August 23, 1974, who was called home to be with the Lord on June 20, 2003. She has one grandson, Patrick Justin, and daughter-in-law, Nina, who reside in Milton, FL. She is the oldest daughter and fifth child of Cleo and Minnie Wilkins. She has 9 siblings Leon (d), Calvin (d), Cleo, Thomas (d), Minnie, Linda, Walter, Wilma, and Brenda.

Words from the Pastor: "Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, my strength, and my redeemer - Ps 19:14. I want to please Jesus."



## Honoring Our FOUNDER and first PASTOR MINNIE L. W. WILKINS

(SUNRISE: MAY 29, 1935 SUNSET: NOVEMBER 28, 2007)

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2020 @ 1:00 PM

DEVOTIONAL

WELCOME

PRAISE & WORSHIP

FOUNDER'S BIOGRAPHY

MUSICAL TRIBUTE — Founder's Favorites

OFFERING
MUSICAL SELECTION

INTRODUCTION OF SPEAKER

Speaker **ELDER MARQUINTIN WILKINS**Little Bethlehem Apostolic Faith Church

FINAL REMARKS & BENEDICTION



Pastor Wilkins was one of seven children born to Artney and Rebbie Wiggins in Halifax County, North Carolina. She married Cleo Wilkins on June 4, 1950. To this union was born ten children: Leon (d), Calvin (d), Cleo, Thomas (d), Florence, Minnie, Linda, Walter, Wilma, and Brenda.

Heeding the call of salvation, Pastor joined Christway Holiness Church, Whitakers, NC in 1966 under the leadership of Elder William Cherry. She was baptized in water in Jesus name and filled with the Holy Ghost that same year. She immediately began preaching the word of God. As a missionary, she ministered to many – family, friends, neighbors, and many more who came and went, taking their blessing with them.

In obedience to God, Pastor Wilkins started church in her home in 1982 under the leadership of Pastor Marie Battle, then pastor of Praise Temple Apostolic Faith Church, Inc., with the Eastern and Southern States Council (E.S.S.C.). In 1983, the church, The Jesus Name Mission, was moved to 433 Raleigh Road, in Rocky Mount, NC. On February 9, 1987, the church, now Little Bethlehem Apostolic Faith Church, Inc., became a member of the Pentecostal Churches of the Apostolic Faith, Inc., (P.C.A.F.).

The Lord continued to add Holy Ghost filled members as she served faithfully, teaching and preaching the word of God. Pastor Wilkins was ordained in 1993 with PCAF, Inc, which she supported faithfully down through the years. Pastor Wilkins' labor of love continued over forty years until she was called home to be with the Lord. She left behind a rich legacy.