

*Pleasant Hill Baptist Church*

*147<sup>th</sup>*

*Church Anniversary*

**21  
JULY**

**10:00AM**

2 Timothy 2:20-21 (NKJV)

20 But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay, some for honor and some for dishonor. 21 Therefore if anyone cleanses himself from the latter, he will be a vessel for honor, [a]sanctified and useful for the Master, prepared for every good work.





*Pleasant Hill  
Baptist Church*  
“Where the Spirit of God Dwells”

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*Rev. Dr. Ronald D. Dunnigan, Senior Pastor*



July 21, 2024

Greeting to Church Family and Friends:

As a church family, we rejoice over how God has blessed us for 147 years. As we gather, we reflect upon God’s goodness to PHBC. Considering the pandemic that we have been through we wanted to connect with our members old and new in a **“Throw-Back Homecoming Celebration.”** Those of us who grew up in the South will remember the Annual Homecoming Celebrations of days gone by. When a Sunday was designated to invite all members past and present to share in the worship service and a big dinner. We had reason to praise the Lord then and now, when we look to His goodness and mercy, and for what He has done with this church.

In the Scripture for this year church theme (**Second Timothy 2:21**), Paul writes to help the next generation become *“Vessels of Honor.”* This phrase beautifully compares Christians to a precious container that has been chosen by a great King for a noble purpose. Paul’s exhortations give us occasion to consider whether we are allowing ourselves to be used as vessels of honor who are useful to our Master and prepared for every good work.

For 147 years the PHBC family has stood in the Lawrenceville community as a symbol of hope to those who are lost. We have shouted for joy over our salvation for many years and in various circumstances. Today shouting is manifest in our, **“Throw-back Homecoming Celebration.”** Our voices are united as believers in celebration for our victories in God’s name.

Today, I am delighted to welcome back to PHBC two distinct but especially important groups of people. First, we salute those whose roots are deep in the history and life of PHBC. We acknowledge that without your fore parents we would not exist today. Secondly, we greet those who have come to PHBC in the last three decades an united with us for the season that God allowed and then moved on. Your time with us blessed us in so many ways.

I want to thank Pastor Marion Sailor for coming to share with us on today. Let me also thank the Celebration Committee for a job well done as you have worked to make this day a success. For fear that I forget any other person or ministry that shared in making this day a blessing, let me just say, “Thank You.”

In His Service,



Ronald D. Dunnigan, D. Min.  
Senior Pastor



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Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. God has truly been good to the Body of Christ here at Pleasant Hill Baptist Church. It is only because of His Divine faithfulness to Pleasant Hill that we are blessed to celebrate 147 years of committed service to shining the light of the Gospel throughout our community. Yes, as we celebrate our church's anniversary, we must first acknowledge that it was not by our own power, but by His great power that this body of believers is still working to build the kingdom of God, spreading the Good News of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Pleasant Hill was founded during the difficult days of Reconstruction, persevered through two world wars and the Great Depression, endured the oppression of Jim Crow, pressed on during the battle for civil rights and yet here we stand today. Yes, 147 years is a testament to the faithfulness of our God and His Son, Jesus the Christ. Jesus Christ Himself declared, “...upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it” (Mt 16:18). It is He who is the founder and the foundation of the church. It is He who is our provider and our protector. Therefore, as we celebrate this anniversary, let us solemnly remember that it is He who died to be our Savior and He who lives to be our Lord.

As we look back upon His faithfulness, let us also look forward to our goal, remembering the words of the Apostle Paul in **Philippians 3:14**, “I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus”. Let us keep our eyes on Jesus Christ and allow the Holy Spirit to transform us into His image so that we become faithful stewards. Let us then be renewed in our minds, reconnected in kindred spirits, and recommitted in Christian service so that we live out our 2024 church theme and become “**Vessels for Honor**”, prepared for every good work.

Each of us has an individual responsibility in the master's plan so that the church continues in its unified purpose. Remember, one plants, another waters, but God gives the increase, and He is faithful! May God continue to bless and strengthen you individually and the Pleasant Hill family collectively, as we all enjoy this wonderful time of celebration and fellowship. To God be the Glory! Amen!

Only by Grace,

Minister John Riley,  
Minister of Christian Education

THE LORD'S DAY

July 21, 2024 10:00 a.m.

## *Order of Divine Worship*

Call to Worship	Minister
Hymn	“A Charge to Keep I Have”
Invocation Prayer	Deacon James Parrish
** Responsive Reading	Minister John Riley
** Hymn of Praise	“A Glorious Church” Choir/ Congregation
Recognition of Visitors /Announcements	Pastor Dunnigan
Introduction of Speaker	Pastor Dunnigan
Welcome/Occasion	Sister Coni Brown
+*Selection	Anniversary Reunion Choir
**Altar Call and Meditation	Pastor Dunnigan
+*Selection	Anniversary Reunion Choir
The Word of God	Rev. Marion Sailor – Senior Pastor of Christ the King Church Dacula, Ga.
Invitation to Discipleship	Rev. Marion Sailor – Senior Pastor of Christ the King Church Dacula, Ga.
Benediction	
**Congregation Standing	+*Ushers May Seat Worshippers

## *Responsive Reading* *2 Timothy 2: 20-26 (KJV)*

**Leader:** But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and silver, but some to honour, and some to dishonour.

**Congregation:** If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified, and meet for the master's use and prepared unto every good work.

**Leader:** Flee also youthful lusts: but follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart.

**Congregation:** But foolish and unlearned questions avoid, knowing that they do gender strifes.

**Leader:** And the servant of the Lord must not strive; but be gentle unto all men, apt to teach, patient,

**Congregation:** In meekness instructing those oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth;

**All:** And that they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will.

# Church History

In 1877, a group of people in the Lawrenceville community felt the need to have their own place of worship and a small wooden frame structure was erected. The church was established and located on the initial site in the vicinity of the McDonald's at 149 South Clayton Street in Lawrenceville. Among the founding members were Mr. Mack Haygood, Isaac and Mamie Baker, Mrs. Laura Gholston, The Hosch Family, The Bell Family, The Broughton Family and The Taylor Family. Many of these founding members have descendants who continue to faithfully serve at Pleasant Hill Baptist Church today.

From 1877-1900, records reflect that the pastoral leadership of Pleasant Hill has included 15 ministers, with the most details accompanying the last three ministers. As a body of believers, there has always been progression and movement forward. Around 1907, Pleasant Hill Baptist Church relocated from its original site on South Clayton Street to 176 Church Street under Reverend L. L. Harris, a gallant soldier, steward, an untiring servant of God who served as pastor for 19 years. Reverend Harris was called from labor to reward. Upon Reverend Harris' transition, the Lord sent Reverend J. J. Grogan from Atlanta to lead the flock at Pleasant Hill.

Reverend Grogan was a tall, gentle giant who led Pleasant Hill for almost 5 decades. During his tenure, Pleasant Hill grew by leaps and bounds, becoming one of the most respected Black churches in this region and in the Hopewell Baptist Association. Deacon boards, choirs and other ministries and organizations were established and flourished under his leadership. Pleasant Hill also served during the segregation era as a satellite location for educating Black children and assisting the renown Hooper-Renwick School. In early 1987, at 75 years of age, a tiring Reverend Grogan acknowledged his own ailments, and he called a young minister, namely Ronald Dunnigan, to come and assist with pastoral duties. In December 1987, with the endorsement of the membership, Reverend Grogan gave his blessings and passed the mantle of pastorship on to the present shepherd of Pleasant Hill, Dr. Ronald Daniel Dunnigan. The retired Reverend Grogan was honored as Pastor Emeritus of Pleasant Hill until he made his final transition in January of 1997.

During the year of 1987, the operations of PHBC slowly transitioned and shifted from the modules and practices of the tenure of Pastor Grogan to those that began to be implemented by Pastor Dunnigan. Due to diverse societal changes that took place in demographics, etc., PHBC continued to grow and advance, initially going from worshipping two Sundays a month to worshipping every Sunday of the month.

On November 14, 1999, the church congregation was blessed to march into the present location at 797 Moon Road. This occurred after much prayer by the Pastor and congregation. The move to our current location was preceded by much work and participation by the Land-search Committee and the Pleasant Hill family. With this move, the church membership grew from roughly 350 members to approximately 1700 members.

In 2007, the Kingdom Builders worked to secure financing for the new sanctuary, contracted the design and building firm and project manager for the new building. On Sunday, March 28, 2010, the church broke ground for the construction of the new sanctuary.

On a blistering cold, Sunday morning of January 9, 2011, the faithful believers of Pleasant Hill Baptist Church cut the ribbon on the new sanctuary. Even in the midst of social unrest and the pandemic, we continued to persevere. We continue to be a blessed church. As we look back and see how far God has brought us, we see that God is the same yesterday, today and forevermore. God has not failed us because He is faithful and just.

# Biographical Sketch

## Rev. Marion Sailor



Is a native of New Haven, Connecticut and a graduate of the University of Connecticut.

She has called Atlanta home since the early 1990s, and licensed to preach in 2000 and ordained in 2005. I was blessed to serve alongside the late Bishop W. Ron Sailor, Sr. as Co-Pastor of Christ the King Baptist Church from 2009 until February 2013 when I was installed as Senior Pastor.

I will declare myself to forever be a student of God's word, receiving Masters in Divinity from Luther Rice University and very soon to begin my studies for a Doctorate.

She is seen by millions in the Greater Atlanta area on her weekly TV broadcast "Living the Way with Marion Sailor."

I'm blessed by God's grace to have the opportunity to preach and teach His word, touch the lives of many for His glory, to serve others in hopes that they may know the love of God and walk triumphantly in the finished work of Jesus Christ at Calvary.

I will be forever grateful to God to have been blessed to nurture my beautiful adult biological children, Khaleah and Chanz as well as be a "second mother" to five other special sons and daughter.

Now, you know a little about me. I hope to meet you one day to hear your story of God's grace in your life. Until then, may the joy of the Lord continue to strengthen you.



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Office Hours:  
Monday through Friday  
9:00 a.m. until 3:30 p.m.

**Weekly Services:**

***Sunday***

Sunday School 8:30 a.m.

Morning Worship Service 10:00 a.m.

Youth Church 10:00 a.m. 2nd & 4th Sunday

Children’s Church 10:00 a.m. 2nd & 4th Sunday

***Wednesday***

Morning Bible Study 11:00 a.m.

Evening Bible Study 7:30 p.m. (For all ages)

***Transportation available by calling the church office no later than 3:30 p.m. on  
Wednesdays to schedule pick-up***