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Anniversary, 57th, 1970

Friendship Missionary Baptist Church

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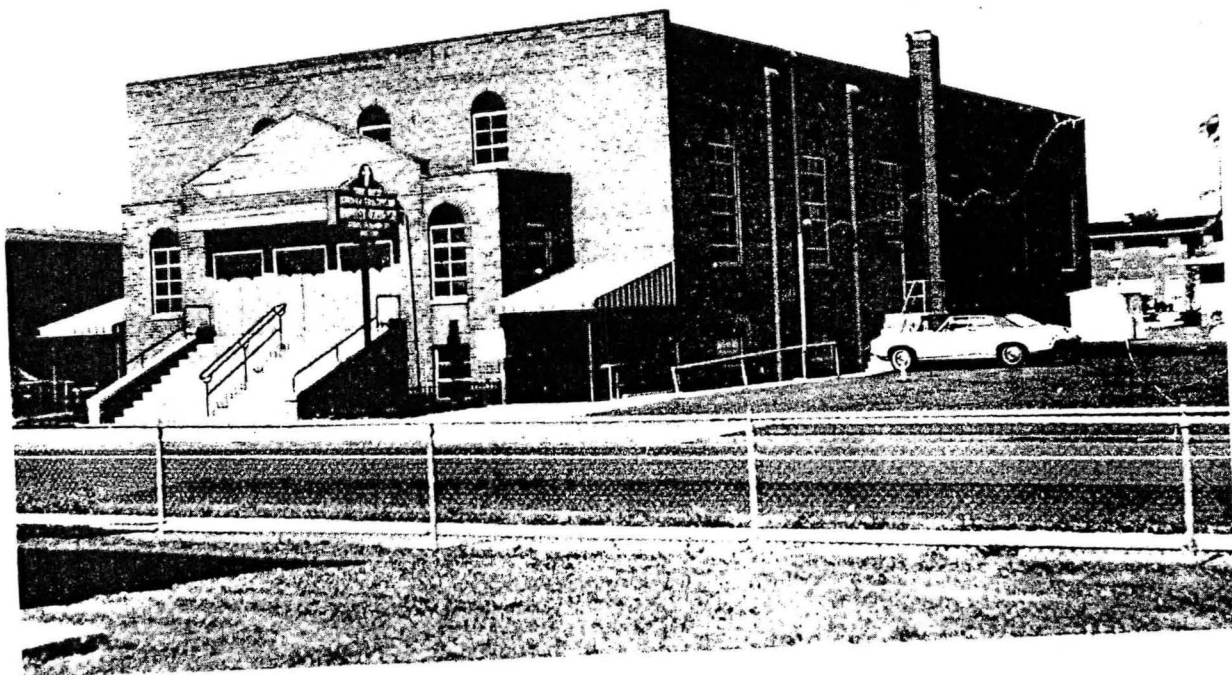
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THE GREATER FRIENDSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH

402 CLINTON ST.

BUFFALO, N. Y.



FIFTY-SEVENTH CHURCH ANNIVERSARY

1970

REV. E. D. McNEELY, *Pastor*

57
43



REV. E. D. McNEELY, *Pastor*

My Stewardship

In June, 1948, I was called to the Pastorate of the Friendship Baptist Church. After much prayer and Counsel I accepted the call. I offered a Program and it was readily accepted. After being here a short while I could see the need of a larger building to accommodate our growing Church. We launched a program to pay the indebtedness of the Church and began a Building Fund Program.

I knew in order for the Church to continue to grow, and serve well—its generation, a New Building must be constructed. First, I presented my plans to the Deacons, then to the Church. They accepted the plans. We purchased two houses at a cost of \$7,000.00 to be used for building purposes at a later date. We met in several discussions hoping to find a way by which we might secure a loan. Each time we presented our plans to a bank, we were turned away. We made several attempts to get a loan, but failed.

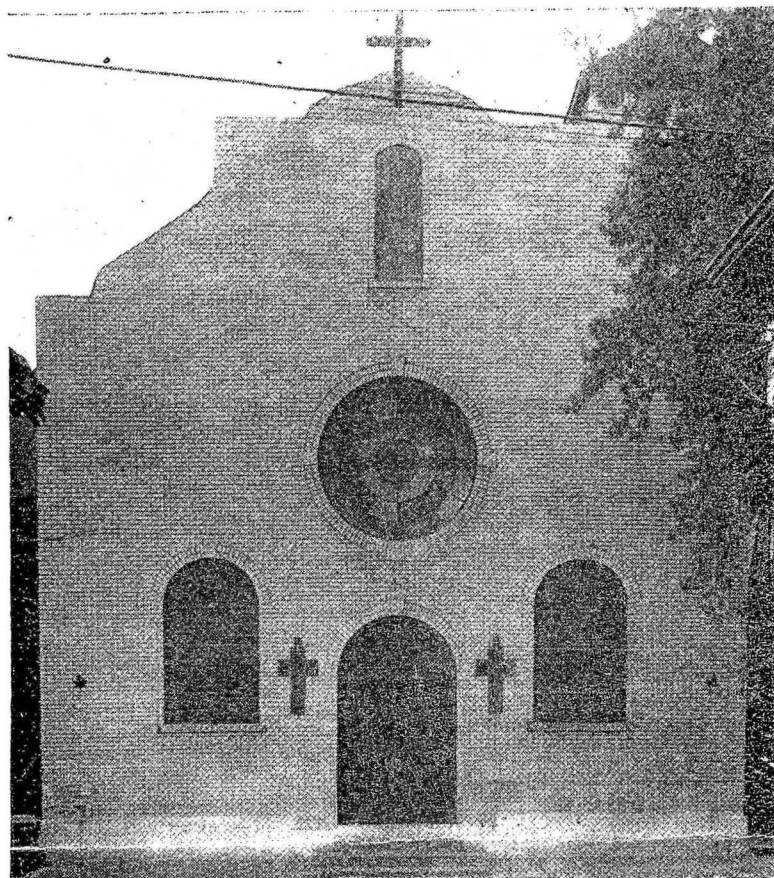
It was through my good friend, and Brother Rev. McDonald of St. Louis, Mo., that I met our Contractor, Mr. Harold Coleman. I made an appointment to meet Mr. Coleman at the Ritz Hotel in Chicago, in October 1952. He agreed to come and look into our situation. After much consultation, he agreed to accept the job and made us a Loan of \$100,000.00, all of which we can never thank him enough for.

On June 7, 1953, the ground was broken for the New Church Building. Today our Dream has become a reality at a cost of \$237,562.00. The going hasn't been pleasant at all times, but THANKS BE TO GOD WHO ALONE HAS GIVEN US THE VICTORY.

The Friendship Baptist Church

(The Old Landmark)

146-48 Hickory Street



The Friendship Baptist Church was organized in 1915 by the late Rev. R. B. Robinson at the corner of Pratt and Clinton Streets. Under the Leadership of this courageous Minister, the congregation grew rapidly. Our present Senior Choir No. 1 and Usher Board No. 1 was organized under Rev. Robinson, also The Prayer Band. Friendship Church was noted for its Old Time Revivals and Hymnal singing. Rev. Robinson, his loving wife and family were Faithful workers in the Church. Rev. Robinson labored earnestly for the Saving of Souls until the Lord called him from labor to reward in 1929. His deeds live on and on in our history.

In April 1929, Rev. Twilus Davis was called to the Pastorate of Friendship Church. He too was an ardent worker for the Lord. He organized additional groups, The Captain System of Finance, and brought to the Church the plan for building this Church. The Lord guided him, the members were faithful and in 1930 we laid the Cornerstone. It was the latter part of 1931 that we marched in our new edifice, and held the Dedicatorial Services early in 1932. We are grateful for the work of this Pastor, who left us in 1938 and is now Pastor of The Promised Land Baptist Church.

The Rev. Major J. Jenkins of Memphis, Tenn., was the Progressive and efficient Pastor of Friendship Church from 1939 until June 23, 1943, when he departed this life. The accomplishments under Rev. Jenkins were many. He paid off the \$48,000.00 Mortgage of the Church, equipped the Church with its present pews, completed the Church basement, organized The Jenkins Choral Singers, who are active in our Church Choir at present. He also purchased the Friendship Community Market. Rev. Jenkins will not only live in the memory of our Church, but as we look about us we see his good works.

Rev. C. L. Franklin, now Pastoring The New Bethel Baptist Church in Detroit, Michigan, Pastored from 1943 to 1946. Among his outstanding achievements in the History of Friendship was the purchasing of the Church Parsonage, additional Property on Clinton Street, and the organizing of additional groups for the Youth. He was active in the Sunday School and B.T.U. The late Barbara Franklin, wife of Rev. Franklin shall live in the History of Friendship, she was Pianist and enjoyed singing with the Choirs. We are grateful for the success of the Church under Rev. Franklin.

After Rev. Franklin moved to Detroit, for a short time, Rev. Richard H. Dixon, who is Pastoring Second Temple Baptist Church, was our Minister. He was successful in raising \$5,000.00 in his first Drive for the Church. Under his Leadership we remodeled The Baptizing Pool, Organized the Benevolent Aid Society of our Church, and it is active today. His wife, Mrs. E. Lett Dixon lent her musical talent to the Choirs, the Sunday School, the B.T.U. and anywhere she was needed. His good deeds shall live.

Six years ago, just six years ago, Friendship Baptist Church called its present Pastor, The Rev. E. D. McNeely, former Pastor of Pilgrim Rest Baptist Church, Memphis, Tenn. We thank God for his Leadership, for he has toiled in the Vineyard daily to bring us to this Glorious Day. His accomplishments are innumerable. Our Membership has doubled along with all our finances. Organized many new groups including the Men's Fellowship Club and the McNeely Male Chorus, remodeled the Church, purchased two lots on Clinton Street, equipped the Church office, remodeled the Church Parsonage. Of him we can say he is a Doer. Recently he began an Annual Appreciation Day Service for our Deacons, Trustees and Mothers, at which time they are showered with gifts, he combined Senior Choir No. 1 and The J.C.S. and Senior Choir No. 2 and The Friendship Chorus in order to promote better Song Service. He organized The Junior Missionary Circle in our Church. Rev. Leroy Jones, James Perry, James Lee, Robert Lewis and Rev. Joe Brown are among the Ministers ordained under his Leadership. It is fitting that we Rejoice today for the Lord has wrought great wonders for us under the Leadership of Rev. McNeely. It is he with The Lord's hand to guide him that has brought us to this new Greater Friendship Baptist Church, the Community, and our City pause to say Lead on, continue to break down the barriers of sin and help to advance the Kingdom of our Master. "Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on Thee, because he trusteth in Thee"—(Isaiah 26:3).



THE MASS CHOIR – O come let us sing unto the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the Rock of our salvation. *Psa. 95:1.*

FRIENDSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH MASS CHOIR – Mrs. L. M. Craig, President; Mr. Hutson, Vice President; Mrs. M. J. Gaston, Finance Secretary; Mrs. A. B. Watkin, Secretary; Mr. Percy Jefferson, Treasurer; Rev. E. D. McNeely, Pastor.



THE YOUNG ADULT CHOIR – O sing unto the Lord a new song; sing unto the Lord all the earth. *Psa. 96:1*
 YOUNG ADULT CHOIR – Mrs. J. Marchell, President; Rev. E. D. McNeely, Pastor.

1970

SUNDAY EVENING – AUGUST 16, 1970

Devotion led by Deacons and Dr. Watts Chorus 7:00 p.m.
Opening Hymn Choir 7:30 p.m.
Scripture
Prayer
Inspirational Singing Choirs
Soloist of Evening Mrs. Zenobia Rhyne ✓
Sermon Rev. M. Scott
Invitation
Remarks Rev. E. D. McNeely

MONDAY EVENING – AUGUST 17, 1970

Devotion led by Deacons and Dr. Watts Chorus 7:00 p.m.
Opening Hymn Choir 7:45 p.m.
Scripture
Prayer
Inspirational Singing Choirs
Soloist of Evening Mrs. Lessie Clark ✓
Sermon Rev. M. Scott
Invitation
Remarks Rev. E. D. McNeely

TUESDAY EVENING – AUGUST 18, 1970

Devotion led by Deacons and Dr. Watts Chorus 7:00 p.m.
Opening Hymn Choir 7:45 p.m.
Scripture
Prayer
Inspirational Singing Choirs
Soloist of Evening Mr. John Hudson
Sermon Rev. M. Scott
Invitation
Remarks Rev. E. D. McNeely

WEDNESDAY EVENING – AUGUST 19, 1970

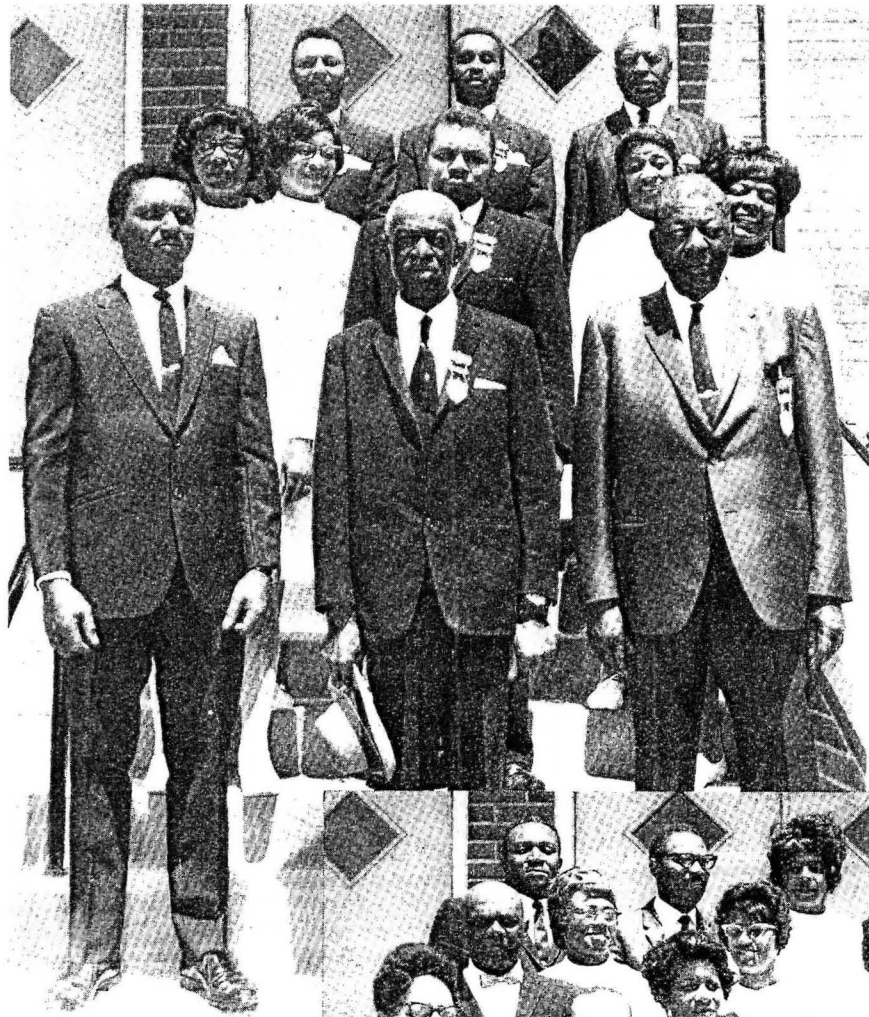
Devotion led by Deacons and Dr. Watts Chorus 7:00 p.m.
Opening Hymn Choir 7:45 p.m.
Scripture
Prayer
Inspirational Singing Choirs
Soloist of Evening Mrs. Lessie M. Craig ✓
Sermon Rev. M. Scott
Invitation
Remarks Rev. E. D. McNeely

THURSDAY EVENING – AUGUST 20, 1970

Devotion led by Deacons and Dr. Watts Chorus 7:00 p.m.
Opening Hymn Choir 7:45 p.m.
Scripture
Prayer
Inspirational Singing Choirs
Soloist of Evening Mr. Timothy Billups ✓
Sermon Rev. M. Scott
Invitation
Remarks Rev. E. D. McNeely

FRIDAY EVENING – AUGUST 21, 1970

Devotion led by Deacons and Dr. Watts Chorus 7:00 p.m.
Opening Hymn Choir 7:45 p.m.
Scripture
Prayer
Inspirational Singing Choirs
Soloist of Evening Mrs. Lela Mae Richardson ✓
Sermon Rev. M. Scott
Invitation
Remarks Rev. E. D. McNeely
Closing Hymn
Benediction by Evangelist Rev. Manuel Scott of Los Angeles, California



USHER BOARD No. 1 – I had rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God, than to dwell in the tents of wickedness. *Psa. 84:10.*

USHER BOARD –
Mr. David Walke, President



USHER BOARD No. 2 – O give thanks unto the Lord: call upon His name: make known His deeds among the people. *Psa. 105:1.*

USHER BOARD –
Mr. Riley McKenney,
President



MOTHER BOARD – PASTOR’S AID – DR. WATT – The Pastor Aid Club was formed in the year of nineteen hundred and fifty by Rev. E. D. McNeely. The Staff of this club has proudly served the Greater Friend Baptist Church for twenty lovely years.

PASTOR AID CLUB – Miss Ginnie Shanks, President; Mrs. E. Chapole, Secretary; Mrs. M. Tealmon, Treasurer.



THE DEACON AND TRUSTEE BOARD – Behold how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity. *Psa. 133:1.*

OFFICIAL STAFF – Philip Roundtree, President; R. E. Durham, Secretary; James Redmond, Treasurer.



GENERAL MISSIONARY SOCIETY – The Missionary Department is happy to be a part of the Church's 57th Anniversary, with wishes that there be a brighter future. With the thought that we are helpers in a great soul winning and reclaiming campaign, our Society took on a new ambition under the presidency of the late beloved Sister Betty Moss. Advances were made in the field of Christian Education and Evangelism when Pastor and Sister McNeely came to work in this vineyard.

On September 21, 1963 Pastor McNeely called the Missionary Society together and appointed Sister Marie Jackson to the presidency and the now later Sister L. Morgan secretary, Sister Annie L. Moore vice president and Mother Dora Truheart treasurer.

Since that time several new circles were organized and many successful projects completed with God's help. At the top of the list are people who have accepted Christ and added to the church.

MISSIONARY OFFICERS

Sister Mamie McNeely – Educational Director
 Sister Marie Jackson – President
 Sister Delphia Parmer – Vice President

Sister Annie L. Moore – 2nd Vice President
 Sister Lillie Whitaker – Recording Secretary
 Sister Virlee Townsel – Financial Secretary

Sister Augusta Matthews – Treasurer
 Sister Odell Riley – Worship Leader
 Sister Gertrude Atwood – Ways & Means Chairman

CHAIRMAN

Sister Delphia Parmer
 Sister Rose Williams
 Sister Essie Billups
 Deacon Joseph Hicks

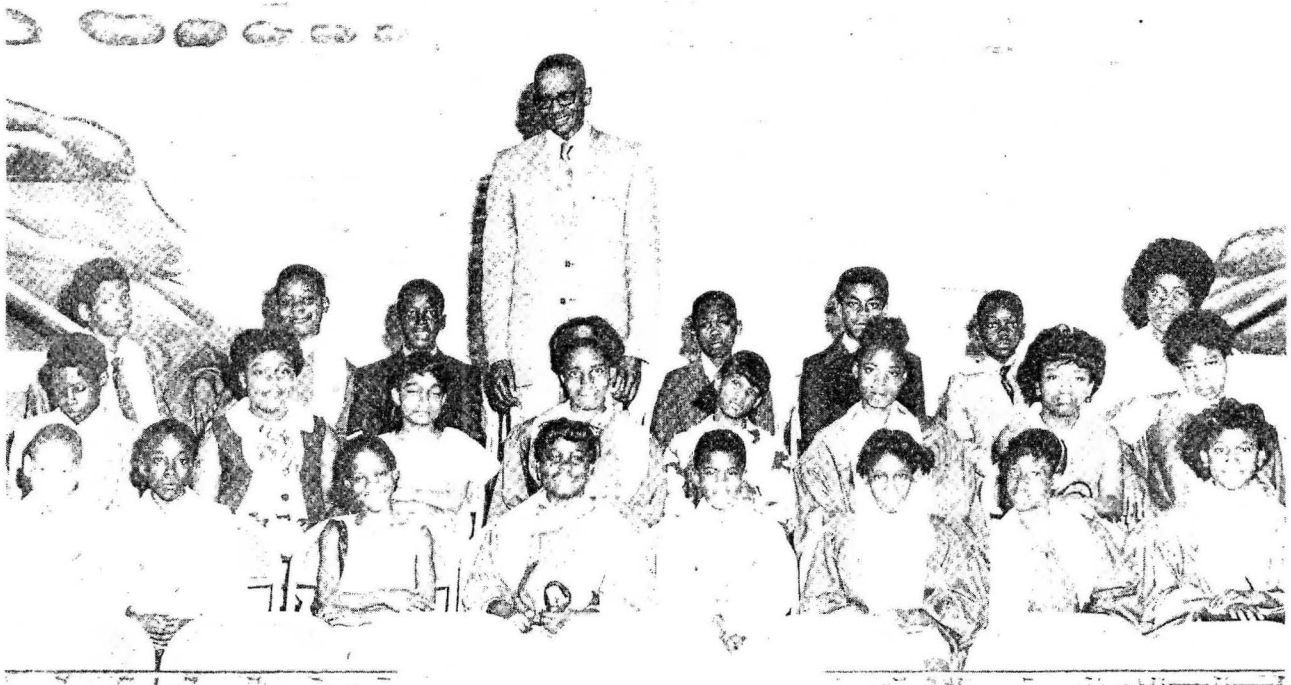
CIRCLES

Betty Moss
 M. J. Jenkins
 Mary E. Taylor
 Cold Spring

YOUNG PEOPLE'S DEPARTMENT

Sister Evelyn Donaldson – President
 Sister Josephine Daniels – Y.W.A. President

Sister Barbara Billups – Supervisor of Jr. & Sr. Red Circles & Sunshine Bands
 Sister L. M. Craig, Regional Director and District President

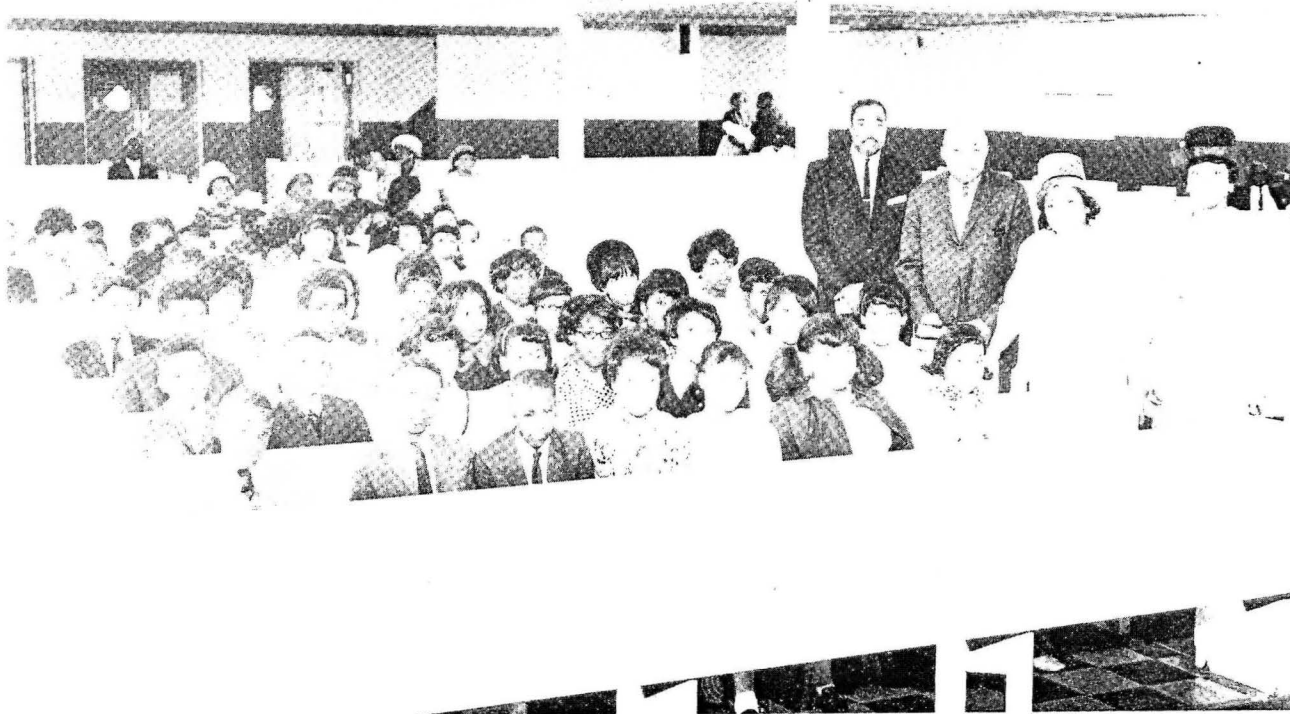


THE CHILDREN'S CHOIR with Pastor McNeely – Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it. *Prov. 22:6.*



THE NURSES GUILD – And whosoever shall give to drink unto one of these little ones a cup of cold water only in the name of a disciple verily I say unto you he shall in no wise lose his reward. *Matt. 10:42.*

Mrs. T. Wiley, President: Rev. E. D. McNeely, Pastor



SUNDAY SCHOOL — YOUNG PEOPLE DIVISION — Division Superintendent Mrs. Lillie Whitaker, Departmental Superintendent Deacon Robert Durham, Deacon Jake Davis; General Superintendent Deacon Edward Billups. Remember now thy creator in the days of thy youth. *Eccl. 12:1.*



CHILDREN'S DIVISION — Divisional Superintendent, Mrs. Odell Riley; Divisional Secretary, Miss Deborah Shelton; Departmental Superintendents — Mrs. Delphia Parmer, Mr. John Parent, Mrs. Sadie Johnson.



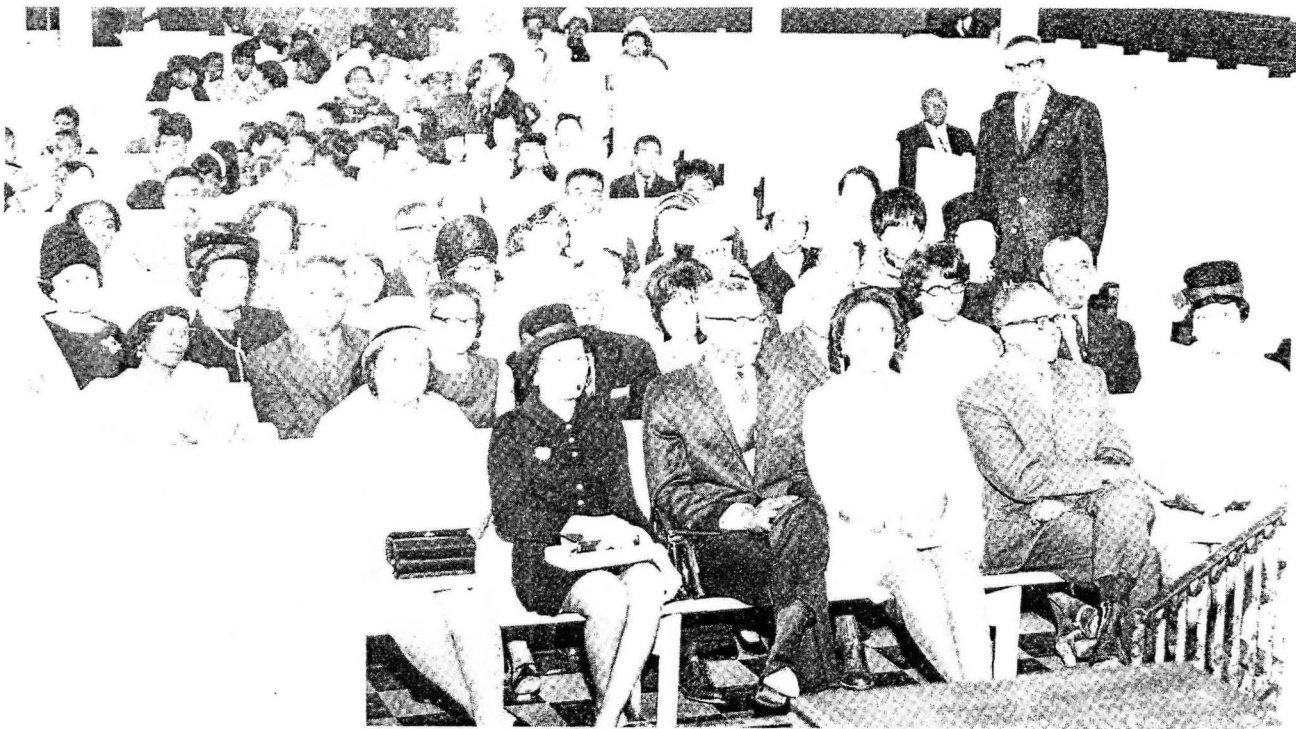
ADULT DIVISION — Divisional Superintendent, Mr. John Shelton; Divisional Secretary, Miss Delores Davis; Departmental Superintendents — Mrs. Mable Brown, Mr. James Hammond, Mrs. Willie Washington.



GENERAL SCHOOL — General Superintendent, Mr. Edward Billups; Assistant Superintendent, Mr. C. J. Buckley; General Secretary, Mrs. Mary Hill; Assistant Secretary, Miss Ernestine Billups; Treasurer, Mrs. Eva Cohen.



THE MALE CHORUS — I will sing of mercy and judgment: unto Thee, O Lord, will I sing. *Psa. 101:1.*
Mr. Frank Davis, President; Rev. E. D. McNeely, Pastor.



TEACHING STAFF — FRIENDSHIP CHURCH SCHOOL — M. McNeely, Teacher; E. L. Billups, Superintendent.



FRIENDSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH CLUBS PRESIDENTS — Praise ye the Lord. O give thanks unto the Lord: for He is good: for His mercy endureth forever. *Psa. 106:1.*



Mr. F. D. Hawkins, Chairman of TRUSTEE BOARD; Mrs. M. J. Gaston, CHURCH HISTORIAN



MR. PHILIP ROUNDTREE and MRS. MARY J. GASTON FAMILY



REV. AND MRS. E. D. MC NEELY – 22nd ANNIVERSARY BANQUET – Mrs. Lessie Mae Craig, Chairman.

ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE

Program Chairman DEC. F. D. HAWKINS
Co-Chairman MRS. M. J. GASTON

MRS. L. M. CRAIG	MRS. M. JACKSON	MR. ROBERT S. VARNER
MRS. ALICE SNOW	MRS. T. WILEY	MRS. V. TOWNSEL
DEC. P. ROUNDTREE	MRS. RACHEL CLARK	MRS. MARY WILLIAMS
DEC. J. H. DAVIS	MOTHER DORA TRUHEART	MRS. G. KELLY, Secretary
DEC. EDWARD BILLUPS	DEC. WILLIE BILLUPS	