



Back Down Memory Lane



In the late spring of 1971 at his home located at 2413 Madison Street, Wilmington, Delaware, Apostle Dr. John T. Graham was divinely inspired to do pastoral work for God. He had been working for several years as a social worker for the State of Delaware and saw the need for those he served to have a spiritual leader. Apostle Dr. Graham consulted with his coworker, Elder Samuel Jones and after much prayer and divine guidance, the two set out to do pastoral work for the Lord.

In a small storefront located at 9th and Adams Streets, Apostle Dr. Graham proceeded to build an altar. While Apostle Dr. Graham was preparing the altar, Elder Jones heard of a vacancy at a church located on 7th and Spruce Streets, and the second floor was secured. The following Sunday, the Temple United Pentecostal Church held its first service with Apostle Dr. Graham as the Pastor. The small congregation consisted of Apostle Dr. Graham, his wife, the late Evangelist Harriet Graham, Elder Samuel Jones, the late Deacon Albert Clary, Missionary Ellen Chase, the late Deacon William Turner and the late Mother Lola Turner. They continued to labor in the vineyard and many souls were saved, baptized with the Holy Ghost and added to the Temple United Pentecostal Church. In 1972, the church became officially incorporated as a religious non-profit organization and corporation, and changed its name to Temple United Church, Inc. In 1976, when the auditorium at 7th and Spruce Streets were no longer available to them, the congregation began to hold services at a storefront located on "B" and Townsend Streets. It was very apparent that the congregation was outgrowing this location. Within a few months a down payment was made and the church moved to its current location, 602 Washington Street, Wilmington, Delaware on July 4, 1976.

The Temple United Church, Inc. continues to flourish under the leadership of Apostle Dr. Graham. In 2001, he established the Temple United Learning Center, a non-profit organization that continues to provide aid to the community through various outlets.

The founding of this church was through the inspiration of the Holy Ghost and the interpretation that Christian Unity is the basic belief and doctrine taught by Christ, through the love of God, by hearing and doing His Word through the anointing of the Holy Ghost as a guide (Psalm 133, Galatians 3:28 and Acts 2:1-4). Temple United Church, Inc. became and continues to be a "United Church for a United People" through the love of God.