

NEMBC HIGHLIGHTS

Wright family: A living legacy

As New Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church celebrates its 74th anniversary this year, the church also honors its lone charter member Mother Annie Mae Wright.



Wright, who will be 93 in March, along with her husband Deacon C. L. Wright, who will be 94 in April, have served a combined total of more than 100 years together at New Ebenezer in a variety of positions over the years.

Mother Wright remembers sitting through several organizing meetings in 1948. Ebenezer Baptist Church became a reality on April 25, 1948, with the first worship service held at the Katherine House in East Chicago.

“We started with about 25 members,” Wright said. She worked under numerous ministers starting with the first, the Rev. Dr. W.H. Robinson.

Mother Wright smiles as she sits in her home with her husband talking about her work with the usher board, serving as its president for more than 50 years. Similarly, Deacon Wright served in various capacities including trustee, Deacon Board chairman and choir president. Deacon Wright said he was finance committee chairman when the church received a blessing of \$1 million from longtime members, the Gilbert family.

In 2010, Deacon Wright said the church bought a new building in Merrillville under the pastorate of current Pastor T. Brian Hill as it continued to expand its fellowship. In 1983, the ministry paid tribute to Mother Wright for her years of service on the usher board with a program that was highlighted in the local newspaper.

Pastor Hill said he admires the Wrights who have served the Lord with “all of their passion and effort.”

In addition to their love and devotion to New Ebenezer, the Wrights raised seven children, two of whom are now dead. The couple has 10 grandchildren, seven great grands and three great great grands.

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Business Spotlight

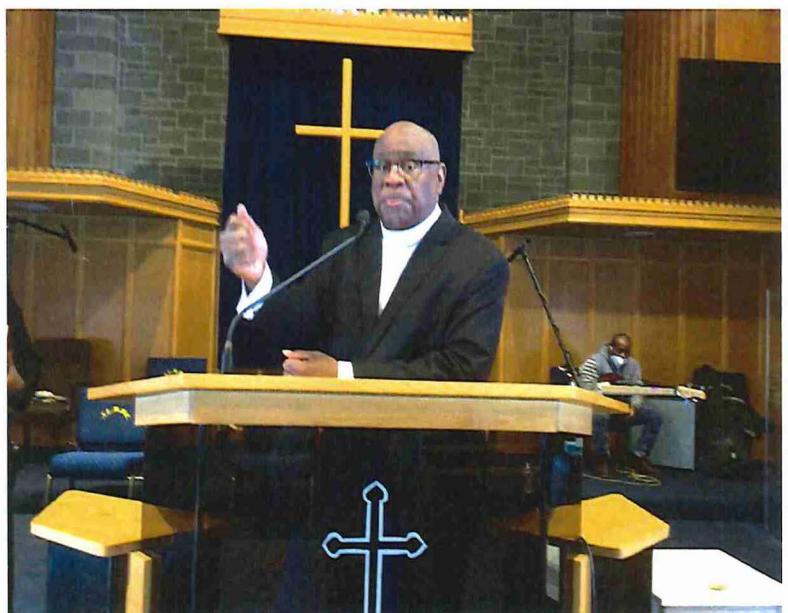
I am Valencia LaDonna, a hairstylist who has a passion for healthy hair. My goal as a hairstylist is taking care of the hair and creating a unique look for each client’s individual personality.



Hairstyling is an absolute art but making sure my client’s hair is healthy and growing is love. God gifted me, Valencia LaDonna’s, hands at age 15, and I earned my cosmetology license three years later. I have continued to walk in my gift for more than 20 years. Styling, growing and keeping my clients’ hair healthy is my passion. Come and experience the beauty of healthy hair with Valencia LaDonna. You can book appointments with Valencia online at <https://valencialadonna.glossgenius.com/>.

Hope to see you soon.

Preach Pastor!



Pastor T. Brian Hill stresses Hebrew 10:25 which says, “*Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.*”

March 2022—The NEMBC Daycare is open from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday—Friday
 First Sunday —Black and white attire
 Fireside Word—5:30 p.m. every Tuesday
 Friday, March 5—10 a.m.—Food Pantry

April 2022—The NEMBC Daycare is open from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday—Friday
 First Sunday —Black and white attire
 Fireside Word—5:30 p.m. every Tuesday April 2 —10 a.m. —Food Pantry
 April 10— Palm Sunday
 April 15— Good Friday
 April 17—Resurrection Day
 April 24— 74th Church Anniversary

Psalm 46:10: Be still and know that I am God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth.

Trustee's Corner

Trustee Shirley Ward, Chairperson, speaks



Trustees are responsible for the maintenance of the church building and all the property owned by the church. When anything needs to be repaired or replaced, contractors and/or vendors are contacted for proposals and prices. Trustees oversee all projects and repairs to ensure quality workmanship. Trustees execute all contracts authorized by the church. Trustees should be honest and responsible. They must be active, tithing members of the church who are committed in their relationship with Christ. Trustees must use wisdom and be led by Christ when making decisions on behalf of the church.

Longtime NEMBC member Clotee Moore named a Mother of the church in February.



Moore, 82, of East Chicago, said being a Mother of the church means encouraging young people to come to God. She said she is looking forward to her responsibilities.



NEMBC musicians Quintin Stewart on the guitar, Terry Jenkins on the organ and Duryea Patterson on the drums provide a rousing performance with Gospel-filled music every Sunday.

First Lady Juanita Hill thanks church for their ongoing loving support

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Lord for keeping me. I will be forever grateful for your loving support as First Lady.

To our predecessors who laid the foundation "74" years ago, thank you. Our ministry has been able to witness God's grace and mercy. We have used obstacles as stepping stones and not stumbling blocks. This Christian journey is not easy but then the Lord never said it would be easy.

My soul is delighted to see us moving forward in love, works and humility. Please, be encouraged in these perilous times of COVID, hatred and faithlessness. Know our Lord has not forsaken nor left us without hope. It reads in Romans 15:4, "For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope."



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