

## Our History

Christian Fellowship Church grew out of a tent meeting conducted by Rev. J.T. Parish, assisted by Rev. Carroll Parish and Rev. Gene Myers in September, 1969. After the organization of the church Rev. Carroll Parish became the pastor and continued the church until he was called to another field of service in 1970. For several months the church was without a pastor until Rev. J.T. Parish returned in March, 1971. He served as the pastor until January, 1995 when the church called Rev. David Parish to become the Senior Pastor. Earlier this year Dr. David Parish answered God's call into full time missions service. Dr. J.T. Parish is serving again as Senior Pastor.

The church has gone through several building programs since it was organized. The first building (an A-frame structure with a full basement) was begun in the spring of 1971. The first service was held in the basement of this building on July 4, 1971. In May, 1972, the upstairs auditorium was completed. In 1975 a 40' addition was added to the A-frame building and it served as the church auditorium until the construction of the present auditorium in 1980.

The church purchased a parsonage on property adjacent to the church in 1973 and remodeled and added to it in 1979. This house is still used in the ministry of the church as the meeting place for the Overcomers Ministry and our Food Pantry.

In 1979, the church purchased the adjacent 10+ acres. In 1980, the present auditorium with seating capacity for 500 was built. In 1984, the classrooms were added behind the church auditorium. In 1986, the gymnasium was built. In the 90's six mobile classrooms & housing facilities were added. Also, classrooms that presently house the high school were added to the gymnasium. Since that time 26 additional acres have been purchased.

In 2004, an excellent baseball diamond was built for the use of Christian Fellowship School. Near the baseball diamond is the Gary Hazelton Youth Building, which was built in 2007, where our 24/7 Youth Church meets every Sunday night.

Christian Fellowship School was organized and started in 1984. CFS is a K4-12 school known for its *Academic Excellence in a Christian Environment*. The school consistently, year after year, leads all schools in the region, public and private, in ACT scores.

The School of Ministry was launched in 1997 and offers Bible school training to adults. Several SOM graduates are serving as pastors and leaders throughout the world. World Missions and Evangelism was organized in 1988 and incorporated separately from the church. WME has successfully planted over 200 churches among previously unevangelized people.

The first forty years of Christian Fellowship has been a testimony to the Faithfulness of God. We firmly believe that He will be no less faithful to provide, protect, lead, and bless as we go forward into the future and when the Lord returns for His Church we will still be singing "Great Is Thy Faithfulness."

## Christian Fellowship Church 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Honoring the Past -- Celebrating the Present -- Anticipating the Future

September 13, 2009

Welcome.....Dr. David Parish

Congregational Greeting.....Dale Adams

Special Guest/Charter Members.....Dr. David Parish

Offertory/Musical Selection

\*Noretta Parish/Felix Almeida

Church History.....Dr. J.T. Parish

Great is Thy Faithfulness (special music)

\*Dale Adams, Worship Team, Imogene Varini, CFC Choir

Special Presentation & Introductions.....Mark Garland

\*Leonard McLaughlin, Wayne Johnson, Jimmy Lewis

\*Millard (Doc) Allison, Eddie Garland, Felix Almeida, Bill Smith

Musical Tribute.....Janna McCracken

Introduction of Guest Speaker.....Dr. David Parish

Anniversary Sermon.....Dr. Carroll Parish

Closing Remarks.....Dr. David Parish

Blessing of Food & Benediction.....Dr. David Parish

\*Please join us in the Gym Building for Lunch & Fellowship!

**No Church Services or 24/7 Youth Services Tonight**