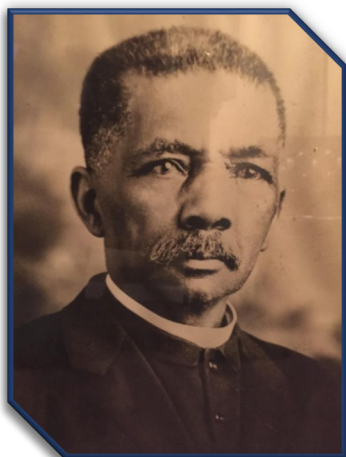


CHURCH HISTORY

HANNAWAY ST. ORIGINAL CHURCH OF GOD



Elder C. W. Gray, Founder

It was in the year 1900 that one C. W. Gray, who was born in Dobson, North Carolina, came to Maury County, Columbia, Tennessee and began preaching this great truth of the Bible. This seemed to be strange doctrine to some, but he continued to preach, *Be Ye Holy, Follow Peace with All Men, and Holiness without which No Man Shall See the Lord.* Hebrews 12:14 But as it was with John the Baptist preaching in the wilderness of Judea, there were some who believed among them. Among those who believed Elder Gray were Brother and Sister Webster who gave him a plot of land with a house on it for a place of worship located at 507 Hannaway Street; this became the first Original Church of God.

Some of the early pioneers who labored here as pastors were Elder Walter Harris, Elder Murphy Crawford and Elder Curly Church. Later a church was built, but through the years, it became unfit.

After being called to the ministry, Minister Corinne Smith was led to come to Columbia. She obtained a letter of authority from Elder F. D. Flippin, who sent her here to do whatever she

could to help the church. She had to rent a place to have service while struggling to erect a new building. After nine years of faithful and dedicated service, much opposition and with the help of Elder R. L. Secrest, Elder Raymond Booker, Sister Eddie Lee Patton, other members of the church and friends, a new sanctuary was erected. On Sunday, October 2, 1977, the first service and homecoming, which still continues, was held. It was Sister Smith's request to have Elder Dallas Green speak for the dedication service on Sunday, October 2, 1977. Elder Green continued to preach every first Sunday in October for Homecoming until October 2006.

Minister Smith was only able to worship in the new sanctuary until the 2nd Sunday in May 1978 because God called her from labor to reward in the summer of 1978. This building now stands as a memorial of her labor of love.



Minister Corinne Smith

Elder Irvin Booker served as Pastor after the passing of Minister Smith until his health failed. After the death of Elder Booker, the church elected Elder Glenn Beard III as pastor in 1988. Under Elder Beard's leadership, many joined the church; a fellowship hall was added, cushion pews, pulpit furniture, Pastor's study and many other features since the new sanctuary was constructed. A church van was purchased in 2010. On Thursday, February 13, 2011, three additional lots were purchased to allow for future expansion and modification to the church.

We will never forget our deceased members who served faithfully until their deaths and made many contributions to the church; they are Bro. Iulas Patton, Sis. Eddie Lee Patton, Sis. Cleo Cooper, Minister Elnora Kinzer, Bro. Eddie Johnson, Sis. Lillie B. Johnson, Sis. Annie Green, Dea. James Crawford (served as Chair of Deacon Board), Sis. Bennie Moore, Sis. Gladys Brooks, Sis. Beatrice Coleman, Bro. Charles Mosley, Sis. Susie Whittaker, Mother Louise Crawford, Sis. Daisy Tate, Bro. Murphy Crawford, Jr., Sis. Annie Louise Cooper, Sis. Mary Alice Green, Sis. Sherry Baxter, Bro. Rodney Bills, and Sis. Alice Bills,

It was placed in the hearts of the Saints to have service every Sunday. Prior to this time regular services were only held on the second and fourth Sundays of each month. After much prayer, the members begin to meet each Sunday for worship service. Those who preached on the first and third Sundays were Elder Henry Tate (deceased), Elder Charles Yokley (deceased), Evangelist Beverly Yokley, Elect Lady Sunday Dell Perkins, Elder Patrick Summers and Elect Lady Christi Armstrong. Hebrews 10:25 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.* Since we started having worship service every Sunday, our church has grown spiritually and many have become saved. It's been one of the wisest decisions we've ever made, and our church has truly been blessed. Because of an increase in youth membership, we were able to organize a Young Adult Choir (now Inspirational Choir) and Youth Choir. We thank God for all of our young people who have united with the church.

With the dawning of a New Day, in January 2015, the members of Hannaway Street Original Church of God decided to "MOVE FORWARD" in their efforts to have a full-time pastor. First, the office of full-time pastor was offered to Elder Glenn Beard, III; he did not accept therefore the members voted to release him.

February 4, 2015, a called Church business meeting was held and at the end of the meeting a nomination was made and second for Pastor Christi Armstrong to serve as Interim Pastor of the Church until an official pastor could be elected. On Wednesday, May 5, 2015 the members at the Hannaway Street Original Church of God had an official 2015 business meeting with the majority of the membership in attendance. Deacon Ollie Sewell, Chairman of the Deacon Board, was in charge of the meeting and at this business meeting Elect Lady Christi Armstrong was elected as Pastor of the church. Elect Lady Armstrong accepted the position and was installed by Bishop George W. Price, Jr. on the 3rd Sunday, July 19, 2015 at 3:00 p.m.

Pastor Christi Armstrong along with her husband Deacon John Armstrong is a great source of help and encouragement to the established Church family. Under the leadership of Pastor Armstrong, the church is already making great strides for the Kingdom of God. Pastor Armstrong, Deacon John Armstrong, their son, Bro. John Christopher Armstrong, our Church pianist; our Associate Ministers, Minister Cordero Hudspeth, licensed December 6, 2015 and Minister Tony (Kerria China) Yarber, licensed June 3, 2018. Mother Nancy Johnson was consecrated on December 6, 2015 and Mother Iona Ricks was consecrated September 2, 2018; Deacon Keith Crawford was appointed Chairman of the Deacon Board, June 2017.



Pastor Christi Armstrong

Hannaway Street Original Church of God is a tremendous blessing to the Columbia Community! Host Praise in the Park yearly; we recently became a supporter of the People's Table, the Family Center, No Child Hungry, Warm Coats for Warm Hearts and Pink Sunday-Breast Cancer Awareness; recipient of Columbia State Community College Black History Attendance Award. In October 2015 at the Tennessee State Meeting of the Original Church of God held on County Hospital Road, Nashville, Tennessee, Pastor Armstrong was elected Assistant Tennessee State Overseer and also received the NAACP 2016 "Virtuous Woman Award". The Youth Department received 1st place in 2015 and 2017 in the Columbia Mainstream Christmas Parade for best of parade Church float entry.

Under the leadership of Pastor Armstrong, additional auxiliaries are in place and are fully functioning; namely, the Missionary Department (Nursing Home Ministry-Benevolent), HYPUs, Pastor's Aide, Building Fund, Youth Wednesday Night Bible Class, Tuesday Intercessory Prayer, the Corrine Smith Memorial Scholarship Fund, Brotherhood (Boys to Men), Van Ministry and Sunday Morning Breakfast Fellowship. Pastor Armstrong assigned each auxiliary and department within the church their own unique colors and symbols. We've seen a substantial increase in funds in each auxiliary since July 2015. The pastor's study is remodeled and new fellowship hall floors and doors are installed. In 2018, we replaced our pews with padded chairs.

On September 24, 2018, we purchased a house on 509 Hannaway Street which we named the Christian Educational Building. A dedication ceremony for that building was held on Sunday, October 7 at 10:00 AM. The Christian Educational Building will be used for Youth Sunday School classes, Youth Activity as well as house our Pastor's Study. We thank God for her vision and the best is yet to come!

On Saturday, March 16, Pastor Christi Armstrong resigned from pastoring Hannaway Street Original Church of God.

Our goal at Hannaway Street - Original Church of God is still... To work and grow together for the building "UP" of God's Kingdom! In the words of the Apostle Paul - Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. Philippians 3:13-14