

*1st Lady
Rev. Brenda
Lupton*

*Pastor
Clement M.
Lupton, III*



1996

2021

25th
ANNIVERSARY

**Celebrating 25 Years
Of Pastoring**

Beloved St. John Evangelistic Church
4541 N. Broad Street
Philadelphia, PA 19140



SPECIAL EDITION—May 2021 **THE REDEEMER NEWSLETTER** **HONORING** **PASTOR CLEMENT M. LUPTON, III AND** **FIRST LADY, REV. BRENDA LUPTON'S** **25TH PASTORAL ANNIVERSARY**

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Dear Beloved St. John Evangelistic Church Family,

It has indeed been a pleasure to serve as your Senior Pastor over the last 25 years. It is very hard for me to come to terms with the fact it has been 25 years... Where has the time gone?

In my mind, it didn't seem long ago, I returned home from leading worship at Deliverance Evangelistic Church. Our First Lady, Rev. Brenda and I had just finished dinner, when I received a call

from one of the officials from Beloved St. John Evangelistic Church. I was standing in my kitchen gazing out at the back driveway when the question was asked, "Would I accept the pastorate at Beloved St. John?" I remember looking at my wife almost whimsically wondering how I should reply. I had preached an entire month at Beloved St. John, but I realized there were several candidates for the pastorate. I was fairly comfortable with my close relationship with my Pastor, the late Rev. Benjamin Smith, Sr., and I knew I had other options for ministry. But there was something intriguing to me about Beloved St. John.

Beloved St. John held a very special place in my heart. When I was a very young lad, before college, before high school, I was invited to preach at Beloved St. John Church. I was fourteen years old when the late Pastor Matt Yancy, Jr. asked me to preach for the youth of Beloved St. John. I had no idea at that time the Hand of God was orchestrating a relationship that would last and continue to grow until this day!

When First Lady and I came to Beloved St. John, we were young people saying "yes" to Jesus. Yes, to Your will and yes, to Your way. Our only desire was to do God's will and to do God's work. And God's work we did see! The Lord blessed us with our son, Clement IV, in our early days at the church. That was growth in our family. We saw growth in the church that was simply explosive. The church grew and grew and eventually, we outgrew our 26th and Lehigh Avenue location and moved to our present location.

As I reflect over these 25 years, I am so thankful and so grateful for what the Lord has done at Beloved St. John. I feel extremely humbled that the Lord chose me to serve you in this capacity. The Lord has blessed us above measure and beyond consent. We have witnessed souls saved and lives changed. We have witnessed miracles of healing and deliverance. We have seen families changed, marriages changed and souls completely turned around by the gospel of Jesus Christ! What a blessing!

Finally, I would like to thank the many wonderful saints that joined in with First Lady and I in the ministry at Beloved St. John. Many have gone home to Jesus, but their work and sacrifice here with us will never be forgotten. I thank God for all who are with us today to celebrate this 25th Anniversary.

I want you to know, I love you and your family, and it has been my joy to be your Pastor. May God continue to bless you and may God continue to bless us with many more years together!

To God Be The Glory!

Pastor Clement M. Lupton, III

Inside this issue:

From the Pastor's Desk	2
A Letter from the Editor	3
Church History	4
Pastor and First Lady's Family	5-10
Pastor and First Lady's Beloved St. John Family	11-12
Stay Tuned	13

CHIEF EDITOR

Rev. Clement M. Lupton, III
Senior Pastor

EDITORS

Rev. Shree Hughes

GRAPHICS/DESIGN

Rev. Michele Hudson

GRATITUDE THANKFULNESS APPRECIATION

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Pastor and First Lady Lupton— CONGRATULATIONS on your Silver Anniversary!

The Bible says in 1 Thes. 5:12-13, “But we beseech you, brethren, to know them that labor among you, and are over you in the Lord, and admonish you; and to esteem them exceeding highly in love for their work’s sake...,” so we highly esteem you in love for your service!

Your Beloved Family unites to celebrate with you 25 years of dedicated service at the Beloved St. John Evangelistic Church! As 1 Thes. 5:12 tells us, “Know them that labor among you.” I’ve learned that this verse really means to - recognize, to be aware of, and do not take for granted those whom God has placed over us— so we recognize you not only today or this year, but every day and every year. We are aware that God has appointed and anointed you, as well as the work He has given you to do at Beloved St. John and we do not take it for granted!

Your Beloved Family realizes that your ministry can be very demanding, difficult, and tireless at times (which has been proven throughout the pandemic), yet your love for Christ propels you to intently care for and stay closely connected to the flock! As Paul says in Romans 8:31, “What shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?” We give God ALL the glory because in spite of, He has *definitely* been *for us* throughout this difficult and painful year! We thank and praise Him even more, Pastor and First Lady, for the shepherd’s heart that He has given you in these difficult times!

We want you to know that your Beloved St. John Church Family loves you and are forever grateful for such devoted service to God and to the people of God! God bless you!

Rejoicing in the Lord,
Rev. Shree Hughes and The Beloved St. John Church Family



BELOVED ST JOHN EVANGELISTIC CHURCH HISTORY

Beloved St. John Evangelistic Church was founded in 1963 by Reverend James O. Taylor. Originally named St. John Baptist Church, our worship services were held in a home on the 2900 block of Thomas Street in Philadelphia. It was under the leadership of Reverend Matt Yancy that we located to 2601 Lehigh Avenue and changed our name to Beloved St. John Baptist Church.

In November 1996 the Lord brought about rapid change at BSJEC, beginning with the installation of Reverend Clement M. Lupton, III. Within the first five years of Pastor Lupton's leadership, we changed denominations from Baptist to Evangelistic. In 1997, we were formally incorporated with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania under our new and current name, Beloved St. John Evangelistic Church, receiving tax-exempt status. Other highlights during this time include the establishment of nearly forty ministries, the creation of the church's first non-profit corporation, the Beloved St. John Community Development Corporation, the founding of the Beloved St. John Evangelistic Bible Institute, the inception of our first Radio Ministry, and the launch of BSJEC's Television Ministry with Time of Decision.

In the years that followed God continued to bless BSJEC. On December 5, 2004 we celebrated our first worship service in our current location at 4541 North Broad Street in Philadelphia. Only six years later, we held a Mortgage Burning Service to commemorate our paid off mortgage. New ministries, such as the HIV/AIDS Care Ministry and the Single Mother's Ministry were also added. In 2002, 2004 and 2014 we were recognized as the "Church of the Week" by the Philadelphia Tribune. Time of Decision, which can currently be seen locally on WMCN and nationally on The WORD Network, was expanded to five days a week, while the Radio Ministry added additional broadcasts. In 2009, Pastor Lupton was honored by the Philadelphia Council of Clergy with the "Measure of a Man" award. Our church building has also gone through major renovations and upgrades, including the addition of a brand new elevator in 2007, the installation of two large screens and projectors in 2012, new steps in 2014, a brand new heating system in 2015 and an upgrade to the cooling system in 2016.

With God's favor we have been able to establish strong relationships and minister to our members and also the community. We have developed various community partnerships, including those with the Mayor's Office of Philadelphia, the School District of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania State Senator Sharif Street, Pennsylvania State Representative Stephen Kinsey, Philadelphia City Councilwoman Cindy Bass, Albert Einstein Healthcare Network, and the Urban League of Philadelphia. We have also opened our doors to the community for numerous conferences, fairs, workshops, and seminars.

As we look toward the future, we are excited about the Lord's plans for us. In 2012, we purchased the properties at 4600 and 4602 Old York Road. These properties have since been razed in order to make way for The Beloved House, a neighborhood community center. In Spring 2019 we purchased 4536 Old York Road. It also marked the opening of the Michael J. Beauford Annex, located at 4538 Old York Road.

Today, BSJEC is a vibrant and active church. Since our inception almost sixty years ago, we truly have had a faith that will not quit. God has blessed tremendously! Many souls have come to Christ, many families have come together, and many lives have been changed. To God be the glory!

LOOKING BACK OVER THE YEARS—OUR PASTOR, FIRST LADY AND FAMILY



OUR PASTOR, FIRST LADY AND FAMILY



OUR PASTOR, FIRST LADY AND FAMILY



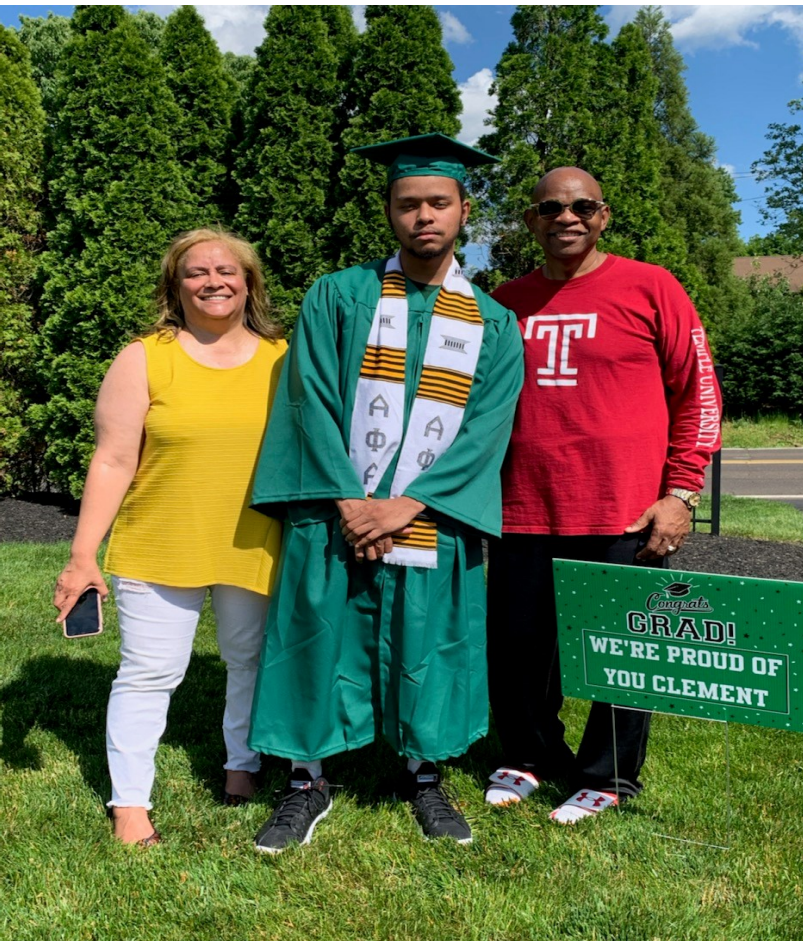
OUR PASTOR, FIRST LADY AND FAMILY



OUR PASTOR, FIRST LADY AND FAMILY



OUR PASTOR, FIRST LADY AND FAMILY



PASTOR AND FIRST LADY'S BELOVED FAMILY



1Cor. 15:58, "Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain." **Happy 25th Anniversary!**
~Dan & Esther Sawyer



Happy 25th Anniversary Pastor & First Lady!
May God continue to bless you!
~Elder Dorothy Watkins



Happy Anniversary Pastor & First Lady
~Sis. Linda Farrell



Happy Anniversary Pastor & First Lady!
~Sis Vivian Brooks



Happy 25th Anniversary Pastor & First Lady!~Jasmine Townsend & Doreen Harley



Happy Anniversary Pastor and First Lady! We wish you many, many more!
~Zach and Sharon.



Happy Anniversary Pastor & First Lady!
Thanks for all of your hard work and devotion! ~The Martins



Happy 25th Anniversary Pastor Lupton & First Lady Brenda!
~Natalie Melton & Family



Happy Anniversary Pastor & First Lady! We love you and thank you for all you have done & continue to do for us!
~ Deacon and Deaconess Hill

PASTOR AND FIRST LADY'S BELOVED FAMILY



Happy 25h Anniversary Pastor and First Lady! We love and appreciate you!

~Your Sister, Linda Lupton, Mother Faison and Bro. Kenyatta Cooper



Happy Anniversary Pastor & First Lady. It is a pleasure to serve with you! May God bless you with 25 + more years!

~Sis Charlotte Murphy



Happy Anniversary Pastor and Rev. Brenda Lupton We love you!

~Jennifer, Kenneth and Kennedy Smith



Happy 25th Anniversary Pastor & First Lady! We love and appreciate you!

~Benson, Charmain and Malachi



**CELEBRATORY EVENTS
PLANNED THROUGHOUT 2021**

IN HONOR OF

**OUR PASTOR AND FIRST LADY'S
25TH ANNIVERSARY**

