**Beachum Chapel**

**CME Church**

**Church History**

**Updated May 25, 2015**

**Beachum Chapel CME Church History**

In 1916 the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church was 43 years old. It was still a very young church, but it grew fast during these early years. Through the efforts of traveling preachers, traveling evangelists, and circuit riders, the C.M.E. Church was steadily gaining members starting new churches.

One of the most effective ways of starting a new church and adding members was a tent revival. Here, a preacher would go into a town and set up a tent for a church among those who were converted. This kind of tent revival took place in the summer of the early 1900’s in Hernando, Mississippi down in Huggins’ Bottom under the evangelistic efforts of Rev. Clay Henry. Rev. Henry organized a Bush Harbor which was later taken charge by Rev. Jethro Covington. Rev. Covington appointed officers, and gave the Bush Harbor the name Clay’s Chapel.

Rev. Covington was followed by Rev. Jim Shannon. In 1905, under the faithful leadership of Rev. Shannon, the members purchased an acre of land from Eddie Beachum and build a church. The name was changed from Clay’s Chapel to Beachum Chapel.

The land for Beachum Chapel Church was purchased for the total amount of $105. This was done in June 1905 with a down payment of $25. The second payment of $50 was made on August 1, 1905. The third and final payment was made January 1, 1906 in the amount of $30. The trustees who signed for it were:

Mr. Alex Beachum Mr. B. J. Boyd Mr. Oscar McClain

Mr. B. Dunigan Mr. Ben Jenkins

Rev. Shannon served as pastor of Beachum until 1926 when Rev. R. L. Reed was appointed. Rev. Reed pastored for one year. In 1927 Rev. Jimison was assigned to Beachum. Rev. Jimison was followed by Rev. L. J. Brown and Rev. S. P. Ingram.

Beachum Chapel’s first officers at this time were:

**Board of Stewards**

Cornileous Hardimon Lee Porter Harris Joe Lee Jones, Sr.

Henry Martin Oscar Massie Johnny Miller

**Board of Trustees**

Cornileous Hardimon Henry Martin Johnny Miller

**Class Leaders**

Henry Martin Ella Massey Johnny Miller

**Sunday School Superintendent**

Cornileous Hardimon

From 1940 – 51, the preacher in charge of Beachum Chapel changed nine times beginning with Rev. Jackson.

Rev. J. W. Abram Rev. W. E. Edwards Rev. Sam Flowers

Rev. Lee porter Harris Rev. Moment Rev. Owens

Rev. Jim Shannon Rev. A. N. White

In 1951 Rev. J. C. Covington was appointed as pastor. Rev. Covington pastored for six years. In 1957, Rv. C. Buchanan was appointed preacher in charge. After Rev. Buchanan, Beachum was pastored by:

Rev. A. V. Burton Rev. Ingram Rev. Willie Smith

In 1963 the building of the new church was stated and completed in 1964, under the spiritual leadership of Rev. R, C, George. The old Beachum Chapel was rebuilt at a cost of $15,000.

The members and officers of the church at that time were:

**Board of Stewards**

Edd Chapman Jewel Edwards, Sr. Spencer Edwards

Johnny Miller Douglas Robertson, Sr. Douglas Robertson, Jr.

James Harris Joe Lee Jones, Sr. Ike Williams, Sr.

**Stewardesses**

Mary Jones Livie Ann Roberson Linnie Edwards

Mattie Roberson Jannie Fairley

**Board of Trustees**

Johnny Miller Joe Lee Jones, Sr. James Harris

Edd Chapman Spencer Edwards

**Sunday School Superintendent**

Frankie J. Roberson

**Sunday School Secretary**

Georgia B. Roberson

**Ushers**

Ida Gray Irean Tapp Dorothy Williams Livie Ann Roberson

**Church Secretary**

Livie Ann Roberson

**Assistant Church Secretary**

Rev. Sam Gordon

Rev. Chambers came in after Rev. R. George and was later until he was moved to another conference. Rev. L. P. Harris returned to serve Beachum and paid off the mortgage. Rev. Jones was Beachum’s next pastor, and he served until the spring of 1973. Rev. George W. Coleman, Jr. became preacher in charge. Rev. Coleman only pastored for four months; then Rev. Walter L. George Coleman was again appointed pastor in 1977 and served until 1980 until 1985. Rev. E. C. Bowen was appointed pastor and served Beachum until 1986. Re. Dempsey Chalmers served Beachum for two years.

The senior members of Beachum Chapel who are in their 80’s and 90’s are: Jannie Fairley, Edd Chapman, Lois Johnson, and Josephine Cottrell. Those in their 70’s are: Spencer Edwards, Fairbell Bridges, Douglas Robertson, Sr., Mary Jones, Linnie Edwards, Willie Mae Jones, and Graftie Randle.

The Elders who have presided over Beachum Chapel are: Mose Johnson, Liddell Davis, Toliver Atkins, Jr., W. Abram, R. C. George, and J. B. Washington. Elder Hugh W. Jones was the Presiding Elder in 1992-93.

The members of the official board were:

**Stewards**

Edd Chapman Spencer Edwards Douglas Robertson James Harris

Derrick Roberson Billy Joe Gray Jewell Edwards, Jr. Thomas Wallace

Rickey Wallace Johnny Jones Michael Smith

**Stewardesses**

Ann Warren Jannie Fairley Josephine Cottrell Mary Jones

Linnie Edwards Mattie Robertson Bertha White Lillie Buchanan

Livie A. Roberson Helen H. Love Fairbell Bridges Dorothy Williams

**Treasurer**

Douglas Robertson, Sr.

**Trustees**

Spencer Douglas Edd Chapman Douglas Robertson, Sr. James Harris

**Church Secretary**

Same Gordon Ella Jones Mattie Powers

**President of Christian Youth Fellowship**

Ella Jones Carolyn White Tony B. Howell Helen B. Love

**Director of Board of Christian Education and Building Fund Secretary**

Helen B. Love

**Sunday School superintendent**

James Harris Rickey Wallace Tony Howell

**Assistant Sunday School Superintendent**

Thomas Wallace Rickey Wallace Derrick Roberson

**Sunday School Secretary**

Carolyn White Tony Howell Steve Howell

**Sunday School Teachers**

Josephine Cottrell Spencer Edwards Derrick Roberson Livie A. Roberson

**Women’s Missionary Society**

Linnie Edwards

**Class Leaders**

James Harris Livie A. Roberson Linda Jones Jewell Edwards, Jr.

Calandra Jones Derrick Roberson Lois Certion

Rev. William McIntrye Served as pastor in charge until his retirement in July 1998. From July 1998-July 2000, Rev. George Bowen was Pastor. From July 2000-July 2002, Rev. John Sandridge was pastor. From July 2002-July 2004, Rev. Mary Whitley was pastor. In addition, during this period, Evangelist Georgia Sims served as Assistant to the pastor.

Mary Cole was appointed pastor in July 2004 and is currently serving her second conference year.

The officers of 2004 include the following:

**Stewards** **Recording Steward**

Jewell Edwards, Jr. Derrick Roberson Carlos Williams Jewell Edwards, Jr.

**Stewardesses**

Lois Certion Helen Love Mattie Powers

**Trustees**

Jewell Edwards, Jr. Lois Certion Helen Love

**Missionary President** **Christian Youth Fellowship Director**

Helen Love Taquita Butler

**Young Adult Director** **Sunday School Superintendent**

Tonya Williams Derrick Roberson

**Usher Board President** **Lay Ministry**

Ella Williams Carlos Williams

**Director of Christian Education** **Choir President & Dance Ministry Director**

Helen Love Calandra Jones

The pastors that have been recently serving are the following:

Rev. Mary D. Cole (July 2004 – July 2009)

Rev. Hugh W. Jones (July 2009 – July 2012)

Rev. Mary D. Cole (July 2012 – July 2013)

As of the year 2012, the current officers include the following:

**Stewards**

Jewell Edwards, Jr. Derrick Roberson Carlos Williams

**Recording Steward**

Jewell Edwards, Jr.

**Stewardesses**

Matte Powers Edna Mae Jones

**Trustees**

Jewell Edwards, Jr. Calandra Jones-Howard Carlos Williams

**Missionary President Christian Youth Fellowship Director**

Ella Williams Calandra Jones-Howard

**Young Adult Director** **Sunday School Superintendent**

N/A Carlos Williams

**Sunday School Secretary Usher Board President**

Ella Williams Ella Williams

**Lay Minister** **Choir President**

Carlos Williams N/A

As of 2015, the pastors that have been recently serving are the following:

Rev. Wesley Massey (July 2013 – July 2014)

Rev. Zella Bobo (July 2014 – Present)

As of the year 2015, the current officers include the following:

**Local Preacher**

Minister Joe Jones

**Exhorter**

Derrick Roberson

**Stewards**

Jewell Edwards, Jr. Derrick Roberson Carlos Williams

**Recording Steward**

Derrick Roberson

**Stewardesses**

Matte Powers Edna Mae Jones

**Trustees**

Jewell Edwards, Jr. Calandra Jones-Howard Carlos Williams

**Missionary President Christian Youth Fellowship Director**

Ella Williams Calandra Jones-Howard

**Young Adult Director** **Sunday School Superintendent**

Taquita Butler Joe Jones

**Sunday School Secretary Usher Board President**

Ella Williams Ella Williams

**Lay Minister** **Choir President**

Carlos Williams TBA