

A Hidden Figure of The Sanctuary

Minister Robert B. Hines

HIS-STORY

I grew up in Florence, South Carolina, during segregation. We had one junior high school and one senior high school—Wilson High. I remember having to walk past white schools just to get to ours and sometimes being called out of my name along the way. Those were not easy times. But what stands out most to me is that we had teachers who truly cared about us. They constantly reminded us that even in trying times, we could be whatever we set our minds to be.

Back then, your teacher or your pastor might have been your next-door neighbor. News traveled fast—even without a telephone (smile). You said “yes sir” and “yes ma’am,” and you never talked back to your elders. My mother made sure my sisters and I were always in church—Sunday School and regular worship service. Two men I looked up to were Mr. Spears and Mr. Robinson, deacons in our church who lived in the neighborhood. They gave me odd jobs around their homes, and I told myself that one day I wanted to be like them. My life was shaped by my family, my church, and a neighborhood full of people who cared enough to watch over me.

One of the proudest moments of my life was going to college more than ten years after finishing high school. I was part of the first graduating class of Federal City College in 1972, which is now the University of D.C. That institution came about in the aftermath of the assassination of Reverend Martin Luther King Jr. I graduated in three years. It wasn’t easy. I was married, working full-time, and attending school full-time. There were long nights and difficult days. I had strayed away from church during that time, but it was still God who kept me. Just like there are prayer partners, God gave me study partners. I held on to what my teachers and church family had always told me—you can be whatever you want to be.

There have been many people who played important roles in my life. First and foremost, my mother. Then there were also the deacons in my home church and the teachers in Florence who poured into me. They kept me grounded, even when I got off track. And yes, I got off track at times. I was not a perfect child, but I was obedient to my elders. In 1958, my family relocated to Washington, D.C., and for a while I did not have a church home. I became what you might call a “first and third Sunday” Christian. I strayed for a long time, but I never forgot what I was taught in South Carolina.

The turning point in my Christian journey came when I became a member of Glendale Baptist Church, now The Sanctuary. Two people truly changed my life: Deacon Claude Anderson, who chose me to become a deacon, and Bishop Anthony Maclin, who once stopped me from leaving church before the benediction. They nurtured and guided me throughout my Christian walk. They taught me how to be respectful, how to love, how to be obedient, and most of all, how to forgive—even when you know someone has wronged you.

The challenges I faced growing up centered around segregation—being called racial slurs and experiencing injustice simply because of the color of my skin. But my church and my family kept me grounded. I would not have made it without them. They reminded me of who I was and whose I was.



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Hidden Figures—continued

The lessons that have stayed with me the longest are the ones my parents and elders taught me: there are no shortcuts in life. Work hard. Respect others. Stay grounded. Believe that you can achieve your goals. And most importantly, keep God in the midst of everything—even when you don't realize He is there.

If I could pass on words of wisdom to the younger generation, they would be these: love, forgiveness, and perseverance. The Bible teaches us to love our neighbor as ourselves. It reminds us that nothing can separate us from the love of God. We conquer not in brilliant fashion, but by not

giving up. Perseverance is key. With ordinary talent and extraordinary perseverance, much can be accomplished.

Set goals. Challenge yourself to be the best you can be. Will it be hard? Yes. Will it be difficult at times? Absolutely. But if you stay the course, you will achieve what God has for you. Don't let anyone tell you that you cannot reach your goals. Have a prayer life. God answers prayers.

And if you hold on to love, forgiveness, and perseverance, you will make it through whatever comes your way.

“And most importantly, keep God in the midst of everything...”

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH SPOTLIGHT

by Carlette Y. Jameson

March is **Women's History Month**. It's a time to honor and recognize women who have impacted our lives or done amazing things for the advancement of our world. It is also a time when we can acknowledge the contributions that women have made to society, our culture, and community. There are some women who make us smile, laugh, cry, or draw us deeper into a place of worship. This month we shine a spotlight on a few of these phenomenal women from our church.

Spotlight on Women's History Month

First Lady Peggy Maclin, a Woman of Influence

Our **First Lady, Peggy Maclin**, is a perfect example of how God moves in our lives when we come to Him obedient and trusting, open and unveiled, a willing vessel wanting above all else, to be filled with His word and to carry out His will.

Lady Maclin had a strong God-fearing Mother in her life that taught her all about God, including how to pray. She taught her about the things of life and how to be a woman, a wife, and mother. She even guided her to the man she would marry. Well, I say thank God for Momma because we are all witnesses and beneficiaries that that union is responsible for mentoring future Pastors and Ministers, for bringing many to a life with Christ and so much more.

The First Lady worked for the Federal Government, mostly in Human Resources, doing accounting, budget and recruitment at EPA. She says she had to “fight for her promotions,” (some of us are familiar with that groan), but she says by the time she retired in 2024 she had risen to a GS 14/5. After that, she went home and started working for the church as Minister of Retention as well as her duties as First Lady.

Looking back, she says, “my role as a mother and a



"LEAVE WHO YOU WERE IN THE PAST, BECOME WHO GOD CALLED YOU TO BE AND KEEP JESUS IN THE FRONT OF YOUR LIFE."



wife are my greatest accomplishments. Raising my children, teaching them about God, praying with them and at the same time allowing them all the experiences of simply being a child. The field trips, the sleep overs, everything that kids like to do.” Of course, we all know what an awesome job she did with her faith as strong as ever and following God’s guidance. Both of her children are powerhouse ministers, and her husband has risen to a Bishop. “My mother and a woman named Miss Gladys had great influence over my life. My mother taught me about God and how to pray. She taught me how to be a wife, and she even picked the man I was going to marry. She

told me not to date this other guy, she said “no, go with him (Bishop) he will take you somewhere.” The rest we know is a beautiful story of what faith and love can do. “Miss Gladys was a seasoned saint, and I could talk to her about life’s problems and get advice and reassurance.”

“My greatest challenge was working for the Federal government, always having to fight to get promoted. Also, my first year of marriage was tough. Becoming a Pastor’s wife was challenging because I had to learn what to do and how to be.”

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When asked what lessons guided her decisions, the First Lady quotes scripture- “And Mary said, my soul doth magnify the Lord. And my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.” LUKE 1:46-47 KJV

The First Lady’s words of wisdom are, “*Leave who you were in the past, become*

who God called you to be and keep JESUS in the front of your life.”

Did you know that our First Lady has a Bachelor’s of Science (B.S.) degree in Biblical Studies from Washington Bible College and a Masters in Mental Health from Loyola University. In 2025, she opened her own business,

Dot’s Therapeutic Counseling Services, LLC. It is located in Largo, MD.

First Lady Peggy is inspired by First Lady Michelle Obama in her support of young women. She says, “*we must continue to find ways to teach them about God and the Gospel of Jesus Christ and bring them into the church.”*

Spotlight on Women’s History Month

Minister Fentress Jones

Mrs. Fentress D. Jones is a devoted wife, mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother whose life has been shaped by faith, family, and service. For the past fifty years, she has been married to Trustee Emeritus Charles E. Jones, Sr., building a legacy grounded in love and commitment. Originally from Timmonsville, South Carolina, she has been a faithful member of TSAKS for forty years.

The teachings of her parents and grandparents laid the foundation for the woman she is today. They instilled in her the importance of being honest, friendly, and always willing to help others. She was taught to respect everyone—especially the elderly—and to never



consider herself too important to speak, smile, or show kindness.

Among her proudest accomplishments are successfully completing her studies as a Christian Counselor, Deacon, and Minister. In March 2026, she will launch #FEARLESSFAITH, a ministry of love dedicated to

sharing words of encouragement through prayer and scripture to women facing breast cancer.

Throughout her life, she has drawn strength from those who poured into her spiritually. Her parents and grandparents

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