

## **A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE GREATER TATE TEMPLE CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST Pastor, Superintendent LeRoy Williams**

In 1917, under the administration of President, Woodrow Wilson, the United States declared war against Germany, and thus entered into, World War I. Meanwhile, in 1917 an organized body of believers entered into war against the Devil. Thus, a church was founded and established under a Brush Arbor, by an organized body of believers. The First appointed Pastor was Elder Eugene Scott. In 1918, Elder Scott and the charter members were led by God to break ground and build an edifice for its growing congregation. In its formative years, the Tate Temple Church of God in Christ was initially named "The First Church of God in Christ". As it was "The First" Church of God in Christ to be Established in the City of Arkadelphia, Arkansas. Elder Scott served 9 years as pastor, from 1917 to 1926.

Following Elder Scott's tenure as pastor, Five other Elders served, an undocumented number of years as Pastor of the First Church of God in Christ, from 1926 to 1940. They were Elder Kendrick, Elder Kinlow, Elder Morris, Elder Wallace, and Elder Lindsey.

In 1940, Elder Andrew Tate was appointed the Pastor of The First Church of God in Christ. In 1947 Elder Tate was led to Break Ground, and build the edifice located at, 227 South Austin Street. The church was then re-named, "Tate Temple Church of God in Christ". Elder Tate is the 7th pastor in succession. He served 10 years as pastor, from 1940 to 1950.

In 1950, Superintendent O. N. Dennis was appointed the Pastor of Tate Temple Church of God in Christ. During Superintendent Dennis tenure as pastor, the Church was remodeled and beautified. Superintendent Dennis is the 8<sup>th</sup> pastor in succession. He served 47 years as pastor, from 1950 to 1997. Superintendent O. N. Dennis is the longest serving pastor of Tate Temple Church of God in Christ.

In 1997, Superintendent LeRoy Williams was appointed the Pastor of Tate Temple Church of God in Christ. Superintendent Williams and Lady Deloris Williams are presently serving, as the spiritual leaders of the Tate Temple Church of God in Christ. Superintendent LeRoy Williams is the 9<sup>th</sup> Pastor in succession. He has served 25 years to present. In 1998 Superintendent Williams had an awesome vision to build the Lord a new and glorious edifice. We are happy to announce that on June 13th, 2021, ground was broken for the construction of the "Greater Tate Temple Church of God in Christ". October 17, 2022, a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony was held on the campus of the "Greater Tate Temple Church of God in Christ" Located at 2005 Pine Street, Arkadelphia, AR. "Greater is Here". To God be the Glory for the things he has done and continue to do for the Greater Tate Temple Church of God in Christ Family. We pause now to remember those great patriarchs for whom God has called from labor to their heavenly reward. We will forever cherish their memory and their Godly examples.