



CHURCH OF GOD BY FAITH, INC
Bronson, Florida

Elder Jackie Reynolds, Sr.
PASTOR

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Administrative Officers

Dec. Frank Edmondson
Advisory Board Chairman

Dec. Jerry Mongo
Assistant Chairman

Dec. Harold Evans
Finance Secretary

Dec. Jimmy Mongo
Advisory Board Secretary

Dec. James Mongo
Board Member

Dec. Theodore White
Board Member

Sis. Beatrice Mongo
Recording Secretary

Sis. MaryJo Edmondson
Home Mission President

Sis. Beatrice Mongo
Youth Director

Sis. Ethel Brinson
WWC President

Sis. Doris Strong
Usher Board President

February 18, 2001

Greetings in the Name of Jesus:

TO THE BRONSON CHURCH OF GOD BY FAITH FAMILY
CONGRATULATIONS ON CELEBRATING ANOTHER CHURCH ANNIVERSARY

We give thanks to God for His many blessings. Reflecting back on our Ancestors and the Old Landmark are precious memories. I can think of no better way to celebrate Black History Month than by looking back on our church history. Truly Bronson can say; "Look where He brought you from."

Be proud of your roots; be proud of your heritage.
Never let it die. It's worth preserving,
from this time forth, and even forevermore.

The theme says, "OCCUPY TIL I COME." Let us therefore be busy about our Father's business for the up building of His Kingdom. And let us pray that God will keep us day by day in a pure and perfect way. For then and only then, will we one day live in a building not made by hands.

GROW IN GRACE AND IN THE KNOWLEDGE OF CHRIST JESUS

Yours in Christ,

Elder Jackie Reynolds, Sr.
Pastor

Letter dated February 18, 2001 showing church officers at that time.

*History By: Mother Mozell Mack Mongo
Updated 02/10/2001 - Sis. Carolyn V. Reynolds
Updated 2011 - Sis. Beatrice Mongo
Updated 2025 - Sis. Johnette Mongo Ross*

BRONSON CHURCH OF GOD BY FAITH "HISTORY"

IN THE BEGINNING

The first Church of God by Faith in Bronson was located on Pine Street on the land behind the current Post Office. It was a small wooden building with no electricity. It was lit by oil lamps and warmed by wood heaters. As far back as can be recalled, Elder Mose Mack was one of the first pastors of Bronson COGBF. Elder Mack, his wife Irene, and his family moved from Hawthorne to Newberry, Florida in 1935. In 1938, they were assigned to pastor the church in Bronson. Some of the first saints were Deacon and Mother Mack Dixon. On cold mornings Deacon Dixon arrived early and fired up the wood heaters so the church would be warm by 10:30 a.m. Sunday School service. After Sunday School, there was Bible Study, Dinner, WWC, and then Night Service. The saints stayed around the church all day, worshipping God, fellowshiping with each other, laughing, talking and just enjoying each other's company. Other saints at that time were Sis. Fannie Mae Brown, Sis. Patterson and many others.

THE JOURNEY

Elder Mack had to hire a driver to bring him, his wife, and their two daughters, Ola Pearl and Mozell to church on Sundays from Newberry. Mr. Richard Hughes was their main driver. He was also the father of Mother Guinna Woods, who is a member of Newberry COGBF. Mr. Hughes would sometimes stay in Bronson all day for all four services. When he could not stay, he would return to Bronson after night service to take the Mack family back to Newberry. One Sunday, when Mr. Hughes could not drive for Elder Mack, the other expected driver did not show up. There were no phones at that time and no way of contacting the saints or anyone else. Elder Mack waited all morning but a "no show" driver didn't stop Elder Mack from going to church. He and his two daughters left the house at 12 noon on their two feet. As Mother Mozell recalls (*who was 13 years old at that time*), "It was a lon-n-n-g, hot and dusty walk! Bronson seemed to be nowhere in sight. Mom could not make the trip because she was taking care of our newborn baby brother, James." Finally, they arrived in Bronson at 6:00p.m., just in time for night service.

RENOVATIONS, RELOCATION, MAJOR RENOVATIONS & LANDSCAPING

Over the past 60-plus years, many great leaders have served in Bronson. Renovations were made to the old wooden church under many leaders including Elder E.T. Taylor. Dec. Frank Edmondson Sr., and his wife Lillie, were members under Elder Taylor. During the Pastorship of Elder Joseph Camps, the saints began raising money to build a new church. The very first pledge was \$25, made by Mother Mozell Mongo. After Elder Camps was reassigned, the saints continued to work towards the new church under Elder Roosevelt Jones. The new church at 360 Glover Street was dedicated during the Pastorship of Elder Phillip Sams. In 1977, Elder Willie McKnight, Sr. was assigned to Pastor at Bronson. Elder McKnight, his wife Dora, and their family served in Bronson for 23 years. Under their leadership many souls were added to the church. In addition, a major renovation was made to the sanctuary. The annex included a dining room, church office/finance room, classroom and pastor's study. In 1999, Elder Jackie

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Reynolds, Sr., was assigned to Pastor at Bronson. God had given him a drive to beautify the grounds. We have been blessed to pave a portion of the parking area. Further landscaping of the grounds is planned in the not-so-distant future.

FORMER SHEPHERDS & CURRENT

The following have served as Pastors of Bronson Church of God by Faith. This list is still being updated.

Pastor	Wife	Favorite Song(s)
Elder Timmons, 1931-1932		
Elder Mose Mack, 1937	Irene	I'm Going to be Like the Lord Someday
Elder Donaldson Henry		
Elder Eddie Clay & wife		The Sun Will Never Go Down
Elder ET Taylor & wife, 1946		
Elder John Reid & wife	Mildred	One Day Jesus Saved Me
Elder Mack Dixon	Janie	1. Everything Going Down 2. There is a Crown of Life
Elder Joseph Camps	Sarah	There is a Fountain Filled with Blood
Elder Roosevelt Jones	Lillian	Standing in the Safety Zone
Elder Phillip Sams	Glovia	
Elder Earnest Williams	Mamie	I Hope It Won't Be Like This Always
Elder Willie McKnight, 1977-1998	Dora	Precious Memories
Elder Jackie Reynolds, 1999-2003	Carolyn	1. When I've Gone My Last Mile 2. Jesus I'll Never Forget
Elder Carl Carnegie, 2003-May 2005	Janie	Heaven, Heaven
Elder Nazarine Robert, Jr., 2005–2011	Marneshia	1. I Came to Jesus as I Was 2. Thank You Lord (Sis. Burney)
Elder Alvin Robinson, Sr., 2012-present	JoAnn	

At one time, we had four Sunday services (Sunday School, Sunday Worship, Willing Workers Club, and Evening Worship) and two weekday services (Tuesdays prayer service and Thursdays Bible Study). Time has brought about a change.

The photograph shown below was taken in early Fall 1946 which depicts some saints and children at the Old Landmark on Pine Street.

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Back Row (from left to right): Sis. Lee Patterson, Sis. Mary Davis, Sis. Harriett Dixon, Sis. Lillian Jones, Deacon Roosevelt Jones, Deacon Frank Edmondson, Elder E.T. Taylor, Deacon Mack Dixon, and Sis. Janie Dixon.

Front Row (from left to right): Charles Taylor (holding Lillie Pearl Edmondson), Margarie Crump, Jeanette Dixon, Frank Edmondson, Jr., Charles Patterson, Bertha Crump, Juanita Dixon, (standing in front of Elder Taylor and Mother Taylor).

It is said that in the mid-1950's, Elder Lambert ran a revival for 52 days and that it was well attended every night.

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*NEW LANDMARK – 360 Glover Street
February 2001*



Our church history would not be complete without the mention of some people who helped make this church what it is today. Below is only a partial list of those in recent memory but many preceded them.

- Deacon Frank & Ola Pearl Edmondson
- Deacon William Johnson
- Mother Mozell Mongo passed away April 29, 2001. Mother Mongo was one that if she needed answers, she would go as far as calling the Bishop, who is the head of our organization. That's like calling the President because we want to know something that we can't get answers for. Mother Mongo was very instrumental in funding our latest church addition. She gave the money to build it and said that if we could pay back the principal (without interest) that was fine, and if we couldn't, that was fine also.

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- Deacon James Mongo passed away May 25, 2007. He was a sweet, gentle soul who would help anyone he met whether monetary, cleaning your yard, or just driving you to an appointment. For many years, he maintained the church's inside and grounds for free, even purchasing the parts he needed without reimbursement. But most of all, he loved the Lord and lived a life that made you want to do better.
- Last, but not least, our dear Mother Alberta Jones. Mother Jones passed away on December 4, 2008. We never heard her say anything negative about anyone. She would take something bad and make you see the good in it. She always had encouraging words and would call just to check up on you. Whatever trials and tribulations you were going through, her wisdom and prayer would make it easier. Mother Jones was what one would think of when using the phrase, "Christ-like". She was not a woman of disorder, but one of peace. When you were afraid, she would talk to you until you felt better. When you were disappointed, she had a way to show hope in Christ, where we could cast our care on her and the Lord. When we were discouraged, she reminded us that His goodness, mercy, and love will follow us all the days of our lives. Whenever we were doubtful, guilt-ridden, hurt, heartbroken, lonely, lost, overwhelmed, resentful, trapped, vulnerable, weary, or worried, Mother Jones always had a way of making us feel better, just as Jesus does now. Mother Jones is truly missed.

Our church's history is being updated as information becomes available.

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