

STATE OF THE CHURCH ADDRESS 2023

Rev. Dr. Edward Mulraine

2023 THE YEAR OF INCREASE

"I planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase." 1 Corinthians 3:6

We thank God for getting us through another year. Although 2022 was quite challenging, it proved that there is nothing too hard for God and nothing we can't get through. We put our full faith in God by opening the doors of the church, allowing people to come in, and gathering in the name of Jesus. Although we were few in numbers at times, the Holy Spirit resonated in the sanctuary and virtual community, allowing us to have a blessed, anointed, full service.

Our goal throughout the year was to ensure that God's flock was consistently fed. "Jesus said, Feed my sheep." Every Sunday morning through our virtual community Sunday School was up and running at 9 am. Thanks to our Superintendent, Deaconess Patricia Bassett, and the Sunday School teachers. Great job!

We continued to preach the Word of God every Sunday in the sanctuary reaching the virtual community. We were able to open the church's doors for grieving families, funerals, counselling, and baby dedications. We also continued bible study, completing the books of Acts and Romans and special guest topics on health and wholeness, Women's history, and Black history.

We continued our annual revival, morning prayer, and fasting. A church family that prays and fasts together, stays together. Thanks to all the prayer warriors led by Deacon Joy Watson.

MINISTRY IN ACTION

Our ministries continued to show the might and strength of God to stay active and relevant.

Many of our ministries operated in the church, giving their time and talent to encourage members to get involved. **The Unity Youth Ministry**, under Deaconess Patricia Bassett's and Latisha Randall's leadership, gathered with our young people for different events to keep them connected to the church and growing in the Lord. **The Unity Clothing Ministry**, under the leadership of Donna Medley-Houston, continued to be a force in the community and a blessing to those in need by distributing gently used and new clothes, shoes, and bags to homeless shelters and community residents. Thanks to all those who contributed items to the ministry and those who work diligently for the church.

The Unity Tabernacle Choir, under the direction of our Minister of Music, Saint Christopher Wilkerson, continues to sing to the glory of God. Their anointing can be heard and felt from the sanctuary to the virtual community, inspiring lives for Jesus Christ. **The Unity**

Thanksgiving/Christmas dinner was a great success. Thank you, Sister Ramsey and family, for your hard work feeding the community. **The Unity Nurses Ministry**, under the leadership of Carrie Dendy-Livingston, is doing an excellent job serving as health doorkeepers to ensure temperatures are taken, and masks are worn when people enter the sanctuary. They have also served as the church's ushers in the absence of ushers. Thank God for the **Unity Missionary and Evangelism Ministry**, under the leadership of Deaconess Shirley Maurice, the **Unity Floral Ministry**, under the leadership of Mattie Little, and all the ministries that are doing their best from home.

Unity Technology and Recording Ministry, under Deacon Glen Bassett's leadership, is a necessary, vital component of our church and community. The tech allows us to reach people through social media so members and non-members can get the full worship experience. Every Sunday, we work hard to ensure the tech is up and running for the virtual community. We continue to invest time, talent, and money to ensure that those who are not yet ready to come into the sanctuary and those who are watching from afar receive all the church has to offer. Our website is also available for up-to-date information, membership, and giving.

Unity Deacons, Deaconess, and Trustee Ministries continue to represent the church in the best light for our members.

DEACON MINISTRY – 2022 YEAR END REPORT

The quality of service provided by our Diaconate Ministry continues to be outstanding. Our Diaconate Ministry continues to reach out to each member individually; each member has been assigned a Deacon for their spiritual, personal and church growth in Christ.

“Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in Heaven.” Matthew 6:16.

In the year 2022 we continued to be deeply affected by the Corona Virus and have made adjustments in our processes in order to adhere to recommended CDC guidelines.

Deacons have been involved in maintaining Virtual Worship Services, to help maintain the same worship experience as conducted in the Sanctuary. Deacon Glen Bassett has been working with the Virtual Services Technical Team to help enhance this experience. Deacon Henry Garvin has been coordinating each virtual Service to ensure Scripture, Prayer and all visiting speakers are included seamlessly.

Deacon Jacqueline Holliday is overseeing the Benevolent Funds for the Church. The Deacons Ministry consistently communicates with those who are Shut-in at home and not comfortable coming out. We do this to help maintain spiritual relationship with all members and friends.

The Deacons assisted the Pastor in Home going services that were held this year. The Deacons assisted Sis. Barbara Ramsey in distributing food to the community. The Deacons are always committed to providing support to the church financially. Deacon Jacqueline Holliday has been supporting the Clothing Drive that is headed by Sis. Donna Medley-Houston. We rejoice in contributing to this blessing.

The Deacons are currently teaching Sunday school virtually each Sunday on a rotating basis, coordinated by Deacon-in-training Patricia Bassett. Deacon Joy Watson and Deacon-in-training Coleen Campbell have been leading the Daily 6am prayer sessions.

We respectfully request that the Deacons Ministry be contacted and informed about any member who may be sick or shut-in. This will enable us to better serve those members.

We hope and pray that our work is truly being a blessing to others. We continue to seek prayer and support from all members while we are about our Father's work.

Respectfully submitted,

Deacon Henry Garvin, Chairman, Deacons Ministry

Deaconess Report – 2022 Year End Report

That you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing him, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God. Colossians 1:10

Over the past 3 years we were unable to operate in the sanctuary as a group with our various activities. However, we continue to work in whatever capacity God allows us. We remain committed to serve our members whenever and wherever needed. We reached out to members in sickness, bereavement or just praying with them.

We continue to administer our duties on communion Sunday and assist the deacons as needed.

We thank our Pastor, Rev. Mulraine, The Deacons and Trustees for working with us as a team.

We ask your prayers and support.

Respectfully submitted,
Deaconess Colleen Campbell

Trustee Report – 2022 Year End Report

Commit your works to the Lord, and your thoughts will be established. Proverbs 16:3

The trustee ministry has been working wholeheartedly to keep that which God has trusted us with in the best possible standard. We have much to do but with the grace of God, working with our pastor, deacons and other ministries and most of all the generosity of tithing, offering and gifts to the church, we will achieve.

By the grace of God and faithful giving by members, the Trustee Ministry was able to complete over \$20,000 in projects on the church and parsonage in 2022.

Projects complete in 2022

The Church

- 1) Repair and replace window covers in the steeple
- 2) Roof repair over the gym
- 3) Roof repair over the church
- 4) Painting done on office side of the building
- 5) Repair and Painting in trustee room due to water leak
- 6) New chair purchase for the church office.

Parsonage

- 1) Repair and paint –rotten wood on the house
- 2) Replace porch roof.
- 3) Repair and painting basement door/shutter
- 4) Replace garage roof and paint garage
- 5) Replace the stove in parsonage

Projects to be done

- 1) Repairs in the gym
- 2) Repair floors in dining room/kitchen
- 3) Paint lecture hall
- 4) Windows in the parsonage to be replaced

Thank you for your support, we are working together for kingdom building. Continue to keep us in prayers.

Respectfully submitted,
Oscar Hanks- Chair person

Officers

Oscar Hanks – Chair
Ernest Sims – Treasurer
Ervin Jeffers – Vice Chair
Colleen Campbell – Secretary

Carol Livingston
Alice Anderson
Jackie Holiday
Mattie Little

James Houston

Unity Baptist Tabernacle
Statement of Activities
For the year ending December 31, 2022

(with summarized totals for the year ending December 31, 2021 and proposed budget for 2023)

	2022	2021	Difference	Proposed 2023
Revenue				
Tithes and Offerings	\$ 251,074	\$ 276,860	\$ (25,786)	\$ 290,000
Benevolence	\$ 5,243	\$ 10,242	\$ (5,000)	\$ 10,000
2020 Vision	\$ 7,906	\$ 8,925	\$ (1,019)	\$ 9,000
Ministry	\$ 6,516	\$ 3,680	\$ 2,836	\$ 7,000
Grants	\$ 20,000		\$ 20,000	\$ -
Interest	\$ 2	\$ 5	\$ (3)	\$ -
Total Revenue	\$ 290,740	\$ 299,712	\$ (8,972)	\$ 316,000
Expenses				
Program Expenses				
Salaries, Stipends, and Benefits	\$ 160,065	\$ 133,962	\$ 26,103	\$ 160,000
Ministries	\$ 5,984	\$ 2,014	\$ 3,970	\$ 6,000
Musician Services	\$ 29,050	\$ 15,283	\$ 13,767	\$ 29,000
Guest Preachers/Add'l Services	\$ 8,550	\$ 8,450	\$ 100	\$ 9,000
Benevolence Expense	\$ 6,326	\$ 5,684	\$ 642	\$ 6,000
Conferences and Conventions	\$ -	\$ 1,000	\$ (1,000)	\$ -
Media & Broadcasting	\$ 2,592	\$ 190	\$ 2,402	\$ 3,000
Total Program Expenses	\$ 212,567	\$ 166,583	\$ 45,984	\$ 213,000
General Administration				
Utilities	\$ 42,227	\$ 37,616	\$ 4,611	\$ 42,000
Repairs, Maintenance & Landscaping	\$ 14,216	\$ 20,946	\$ (6,730)	\$ 14,000
Equipment and Technology	\$ 2,590	\$ 22,629	\$ (20,039)	\$ 3,000
Property Insurance	\$ 23,029	\$ 21,199	\$ 1,830	\$ 23,000
Supplies and Materials	\$ 496	\$ 10,048	\$ (9,552)	\$ -
Telephone/Fax/Internet	\$ 10,898	\$ 7,858	\$ 3,040	\$ 11,000
Service Fees	\$ 5,807	\$ 5,784	\$ 23	\$ 6,000
Professional Fees	\$ 2,000	\$ 3,080	\$ (1,080)	\$ -
Property Taxes and County Fees	\$ 4,272	\$ 1,414	\$ 2,858	\$ 4,000
Meals & Entertainment	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Unrealized loss on investments	\$ 1,833	\$ -	\$ 1,833	\$ -
Other Operating Expenses	\$ 503	\$ 540	\$ (37)	\$ -
Total General Administration Expense	\$ 107,872	\$ 131,114	\$ (23,242)	\$ 103,000
Total Expense	\$ 320,439	\$ 297,697	\$ 22,742	\$ 316,000
Change in Net Assets	\$ (29,699)	\$ 2,015	\$ (31,714)	\$ -
Net Assets				
Beginning of Year	\$ 302,575	\$ 300,560		\$ 272,876
End of Year	\$ 272,876	\$ 302,575		\$ 272,876

A compilation of Unity finances was given by an accountant indicating the following for the 2023 report:

Please accept the attached report as a summary of the financial performance for Unity Baptist Tabernacle in 2022.

1. The revenue remained consistent from 2021 to 2022—\$299,712 to \$290,740—allowing the church to remain steadfast with its mission, programs, and administration.
2. The church was able to lower its administrative expenses by \$23,242 from 2021 to 2022, allowing it to meet its expenses more diligently.
3. You can see from the reports attached that the church ran an overall deficit of \$29,699 for the year, however there are a few mitigating factors to consider:
 - **The church secured a grant in prior years to fund operations in 2022.** The deficit in 2022 reflects the church's planned spending of those funds, totaling over \$24,000. While this appears as a deficit in 2022, it is funded by the grant. The "deficit" is the difference in timing between when the church received the grant and when it spent down the grant funds.
 - **Administrative expenses declined significantly,** as the church did not need to purchase equipment and technology to support broadcasting of the services as it did previously. The two biggest increases are in musician services and stipends for the administration and cleaning of the church, since the church met in person more frequently, and utilities given the increasing cost of oil.

Respectfully submitted,

Bianca Roberson

Vote on Budget

UNITY BAPTIST TABERNACLE

101 South 2nd Avenue
Mt. Vernon, NY 10550
Reverend Edward Mulraine, Pastor

BENEVOLENCE FUND REPORT

Opening balance Bank for year 2022	\$1,139.18
Total Income (2022)	\$5,243.00
Expenditures for Year 2022	\$6,268.20
Bank fees	
Christian Education	
Church Women United	
Conference and Convention	\$1,990.00
Florist	
Journal and Convention	\$575.00
Gift to Church	
NAACP Mt Vernon/Bronx	
Outreach Community	\$3,210.00
Outreach to Members in Need	\$200.00
Personal Loans	
Pulpit supplies	\$293.20
Reimbursement	
Repass for Deceased Members	
Sick & Shut-in Members	
Dinners Thanksgiving/Other	
United Negro College Fund	
National Action Network	
United Black Clergy	
Bank fees and omissions	
Total Expenditures (2022)	\$6,268.20
	13781.78
Closing Balance (Bank) for year 2022	\$113.98

2023 YEAR OF INCREASE

This year we will continue to plant and water and allow God to give the increase. We have the utmost faith in God that our work will produce a great harvest. We look forward to God increasing our church growth, church attendance, church finances, church servants and church fellowship.

We've already begun to plant the seed of prayer and fasting and will continue to do so to see God's increase in our prayer life and in answering prayers.

This year we're planning a church trip in order to increase our fellowship and hope that everyone will join us in South Carolina. Please see Deaconess Bassett for more information.

We're also planning to get our ministries more involved by having an All Ministries Day. All ministries should be prepared to come and tell of their service and give to God.

If anyone has ideas to advance the life of the church please do not hesitate to contact Pastor or the Deacons and share your vision.

God bless you,

Pastor Mulraine