

First Baptist Church of Keystone at Citrus Park

The church was first organized in September 1932 as 1st Missionary Baptist Church of Keystone in the “Little Red Schoolhouse for Colored People” in Hillsborough County. The AME Methodist Church worshipped on the first and third Sundays and the Baptist worshipped on the second and fourth Sundays.

The first structure was built in 1938 and destroyed by fire the same year. In 1941 the new church was completed. In 1984 Re. Barron Madison was called as Pastor of the church. In 1997 a building fund was created to renovate the church, new roofs were put on, new floors, carpets and chairs replaced the old pews. The work was completed in 2001. The church was also home to the Peterson Road Community Association, Inc. led by church member Mary Livingston (deceased). This was an after-school program which focused on mentoring and tutoring.

In 2014 the church reorganized to become 1st Baptist Church of Keystone at Citrus Park. In December 2014, we began work on our non-profit “The Livingston Nix Foundation” which is our ministry that includes a wraparound program for families that fall through the cracks. On January 25th 2015, we officially became members of the American Baptist Churches of the Rochester/Genesee Region. In 2015, we began our outreach ministries founded by Reverend Barron Madison.

On the first Saturday of each month we hold a worship service at Excel Rehabilitation and Nursing Center. Our second outreach ministry is at the Good Samaritan Shelter. This is a hotel where you pay what you can afford and no one is turned away. Every few months we hold worship services and cook hot meals for the residences and provide hygiene items.

On June 10th, our beloved pastor of 32 years transitioned to rest with our heavenly Father. In his memory, we continue our outreach with every loving commitment. On January 15th of 2017 our own Brother Brandall Branch was ordained in the local ministry. Reverend Alan Newton came from Rochester and conducted the service.

Our mission where all are welcome is as found in Matthew 28:19-20 New King James Version (NKJV) “19 *Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.*” Amen.