



Pastor, We Appreciate You

By Jan and Nathaniel Fuller



It is with much honor and gratitude that we express our deep appreciation for our wonderful Pastor, Dr. Haywood A. Robinson, III. It was 14 years ago that Pastor Robinson came into our lives and into our hearts, and into the life of The People's Community Baptist Church.

Pastor Robinson brought his experience, energy, and enthusiasm to invest his godly gifts of ministry and forever changed this body of Believers. Transitions are always challenging times, but Pastor Robinson was undaunted, bravely stepping forward with his vision for the church's future. Led by God, and with love and determination, Pastor Robinson has consistently brought Spirit-filled and anointed preaching and teaching to our church. As a result, we observed an exciting change in the members of our church. There was spiritual growth in every area: in teaching, in prayer, and in outreach. It is not lost on us that not all churches receive this sound Biblical teaching every Sunday! We have also seen the effect of Pastor's timely messages in our own lives, as we have grown and been challenged in our daily walk with Christ. Additionally, Pastor Robinson's unique musical gifts and teachings on worship and praise have transformed *People's* into a more joyful fellowship.

Not only is our Pastor's leadership evident among us in our local church, but he is also deeply concerned with the Body of Christ internationally. Pastor Robinson's focus on world Missions has caused *People's* to expand its concern regarding other Christians around the globe. While our church always had a focus on world missions, Pastor Robinson has greatly increased the depth and scope of *People's* involvement in this area of ministry. Because of the Pastor's urging and motivation, our family was moved to become personally involved in short-term missions trips. Because of his personal example, we realized that we, too, could also be actively involved in Jesus' Great Commission (Matt 28:19-20).

Pastor Robinson has many ministry gifts, but the one that we most appreciate and admire is his ministry of care and comfort during times of illness and bereavement. Whether we were dealing with sudden, devastating loss and grief—or hospital stays and ongoing illness and recovery—we have personally been on the receiving end of his sincere care, earnest concern, and prayers of comfort. It means the world to us, and we certainly don't take it for granted. There are no words to describe his ministry in the different seasons of our lives, and not just for our family alone. Pastor Robinson is indefatigable, and countless other members of *People's* and their families have felt his kindness and care during times of crisis.

Pastor Robinson is certainly an example of God's love and grace in his demeanor and speech. A gentleman in the truest sense, his kindness is evident to all. We know that his encouraging words, listening ear, and wise counsel have had a wide-reaching impact. His words have had an uplifting effect on the entire church membership, from the youth and young adults all the way up to our seniors. His wisdom and guidance are also greatly sought after in the community and around the world.

No appreciation of the Pastor would be complete without at least a few words about our First Lady. Lady Renee's presence is always keenly felt at the church. However, we can only imagine the tremendous sacrifices that Lady Renee and her family have made, so that her husband would be available to minister to all the members of the church in the way that he does. Lady Renee's work with New Members Ministry is so significant and important, and it is one of the reasons that the church continues to thrive and grow. Lady Renee is truly the Proverbs 31 woman, glorifying God in all that she does. Her warm and loving spirit, sage advice and sense of humor are always such a delight and a blessing.

God truly knows and understands our every need, and we are so grateful that the Lord gave our congregation Pastor Robinson. He genuinely embodies the passage of Scripture, which says: "And I will give you shepherds after my own heart, who will guide you with knowledge and understanding" (Jeremiah 3:15). Our family will continue to keep Pastor, Lady Renee and their family in prayer, as they undertake this great mission of service to God's people. We will specifically ask the Lord to give our Pastor guidance, direction, and wisdom as he continues to lead *People's* in response to the great call the Lord has placed upon his life. We also pray that the Lord will continue to expand, multiply, and increase Dr. Robinson's ministry. We are so appreciative of this Man of God, and our lives have been changed for the better because of him.