

Narrator

Rev. John Carey was pastor for a brief period at the First Baptist Church (our Mother Church). Financial difficulties followed and in 1851 the church decided to sell its building to pay off its debts. The building was purchased by Benjamin Brown, a free Negro, and one of the officers within the First Church. The congregation was greatly disturbed and Rev. Carey resigned. With twenty-six members who were former members of the first congregation and with a similar number who were worshipping in a little mission within the vicinity of the Belair Market, Rev. Carey started a Sunday School on April 22, 1852 with a view towards organizing them into a church. The church was our own which was organized on May 10, 1852 with fifty-two members. Let us look into the scene of that organization.

DRAMATIZATION  
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Narrator

Rev. John Carey's tenure of services was short, and in a year or two he moved off to other fields of endeavor. History shows that he worked for the American Baptist Missionary Society and the last we heard of him, he was ministering at Yorktown, Virginia. He organized a Baptist Church there, and tradition has it, that he died and was buried there in the church yard. Even the church is unable to verify this rumor.

In April 1856 the church called as her pastor the Rev. Chauncey Leonard, who was said to be of high christian character. We hear now some of the happenings during his short stay at Union.

CHORAL            SPEAKING  
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Narrator

Rev. Leonard resigned in 1858 and Rev. Mr. Isaac Kendall was called the latter part of this year, but very promptly declined the call when he found that the church was too poor to pay a salary. From 1859 to 1860 the church had no pastor, but in a measure maintained regular worship. Strange to say the membership increased to sixty-five without a leader and so it was in 1861, at about the outbreak of the Civil War when the Church called to her aid the services of Rev. William Williams.

MUSIC - UNION'S CLIMBING  
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DRAMATIZATION

Narrator

In all, the Rev. Mr. Williams served Union for about eight years; anxious and long years during those turbulent days of the Civil War, years of toil and real sacrifice. Peace and harmony prevailed and a new viewpoint and hope had seized the Baptist heart. In the autumn after the death of Rev. Williams, the church ordained William P. Thompson and called him immediately to carry on the work he had manifested so much interest in and knew so much about. He was a native of Baltimore, a very young man and gave promise of a great future.

CHOIR \* "BATTLE HYMN"  
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Narrator

Alas! This usefulness was to be short lived for early in January 1872, death claimed Rev. William P. Thompson.



From February until October the church was again without a minister. Under the guidance of such faithful laymen as French Madden, William C. Lawson, Royston Blackwell and Henry P. Waters, Union continued her activities and the collecting of funds for the buying of the ground about her building. During this period and through the thoughtfulness of the late Dr. G. M. P. King, then president of Wayland Seminary, the pulpit was amply supplied by students and former graduates of this famous old institution. It was during an engagement of this sort that the church discovered in the young graduate, Harvey Johnson, the type of leadership it deserved and called him in late October 1872.

DRAMATIZATION

Narrator

Under the leadership of this courageous soul, Union grew in leaps and bounds. He was a forceful, convincing leader. During the first few years, the membership grew to nine hundred twenty. The new building was formally dedicated on January 23, 1876 at a cost of \$20,00 - an enormous sum in those days. By 1877 the church register showed one thousand three hundred sixty eight members. In September 1874, sixteen members had been granted letters to establish the Macedonia Baptist Church. In 1879, twenty seven members were set apart as the Perkins Square Baptist Church. Still Union grew. Her new home on North Street became inadequate. Hence a new building, a larger building, the building in which you sit tonight. This building was dedicated December 17, 1905. Its cost? - \$51,256. The ground was purchased in 1921 at a cost of \$6,500. In 1912 Union reached its peak with a membership of three thousand twenty-eight. In November 1922, the church celebrated Dr. Johnson's fiftieth anniversary. He died the following

January.

In November 1924, Rev. David E. Over, former pastor of Zion Baptist Church, Denver, Colorado, came to Union as its minister. He was elderly and of the older school of thought. Let us hear, now, some of the happenings during his short stay at Union.

C H O R A L

S P E A K I N G

Narrator

Upon Dr. Over's leaving, the church was again put in the hands of a Pulpit Committee which sought a leader for the congregation. In May 1929 the church called as its leader the Rev. J. Timothy Boddie. Though young for such responsibilities, Rev. Boddie guided Union through the early days of the depression with great skill. We hear now --

D I A L O G U E

Narrator

The peace that Rev. Boddie lead the charge into; the fine spiritual and friendly attitudes amount to more, perhaps, than material gains. Rev. Boddie resigned in October 1939 and in March 1940, the Rev. Baxter L. Matthews, former pastor of Union Baptist Church, Stamford, Conn. was called to our beloved Union. Need I tell you what he has done? Need I tell you what he is doing? Need I tell you what he will do? No -- you know it too well yourselves. With grace and Understanding, he has piloted Union to its present standing.

With the coming of Union's present pastor, Union took on newer life and inspiration. Rev. Matthews set out immediately to preach unity and love. He inspired his congregation and it has undertaken



a community center next door to the church. Two pieces of property have been purchased and we are working to his goal of erecting on this property a church house for the benefit of our children and future generations, and for the interest of the community.

Under Rev. Matthews' leadership the church has grown in membership and in activities. He has become a dynamic figure in the community. His influence is felt near and far. His greatest aim is to serve. Let us meet this outstanding person as he conducts a service in miniature.

B R I E F

S E R V I C E

Narrator

This is the man with thought of the children of today. This is the man with foresight for the children tomorrow. A preacher, a gentleman, a counselor, a friend -- Our Rev. Matthews.

An that my friends, is the story of Union.

E N D

SEAFOAM CO

Rev. John Carey

Characters

Rev. John Carey	Brother Jones
Brother Ashton	Brother Madden
Brother Reams	Brother Smith
Brother Brown	Brother Hackett

Others

Carey: They are coming now. I hope that all of you fully understand. I hope those from the mission will come along and join us, I was over and invited them.

Ashton: Brother Carey, I feel sure everything will come along all right. It was nice o' you Brother Brown to let us meet here in this building. Maybe, you'll let us buy this building from you for our church.

Reams: Our church? Well, we ain't even got a church yet, and you already talking o' buying.

Carey: That's faith, my brothers, that's faith! If the others feel as you do, we'll get away to a flying start.

(The singing comes nearer and nearer)

Brown: Well, Brethren, 'pears to me that we gotta organize something or other. From what they're saying about some o' us over at the First Church, we ain't gonna be wanted around there very long. Sure, I'll yuh have the building and for what I paid for it too.

(The singers (members) come slowly in shaking hands cheerfully and taking seats, etc.)

Carey: (after a pause) Well my children, you have done much better than I thought. I counted you as you came in and there's exactly 52. That's a fine start.

Carey: Well, you all know what we are here for to see if we really want to organize a church of our own. This is the first time in Maryland a Colored Baptist Church was ever organized by Colored people themselves. The other two were organized by our white friends you know. What do you say about forming a new church?

Several: "Dat's what we come here for." "Sho, Brother Carey, we's with you, tooth and toe-nail." "We's all in favor; and the sooner the better, etc., etc."

Carey: Well, to make things legal like and regular, we'll have to organize this meeting. We need a moderator and a clerk.

Reams: I move that Brother Carey be our moderator.

Jones: What de use o' dat motion? Tain't nobody else to be de moderator. But I second de motion, right on.

Carey: (puts the motion) Now what about a clerk?

Madden: I move that Brother Samuel Hackett be our first clerk.



Carey: (Puts the motion and declares it carried.)

Continuing: Now, a few of us have been thinking. We want this whole thing to be regular and in order. We want a name. So next we will have to move to organize ourselves into a church.

Madden: Brother Moderator, I move you that we organize ourselves into a new church.

Several: (In chorus): Second the motion. Women yell out "Amen", "praise de Lord", etc.

Carey: (Puts the motion and tells the clerk to record it just exactly as made.)

Now, we are getting along just fine. The next thing that strikes me is that we ought to name our new baby. What shall we name our baby? (he smiles) The members are hilarious in their approval.

Madden: Since we going to stay right here on Lewis Street, I think it would be nice to call ourselves The Lewis Street Baptist Church.

Reams: I second dat motion too, Bro. Carey.

Carey: Not so fast. Let's hear other suggestions and maybe we may like some-one's suggestion better than our own.

Smith: Brother Carey, I am from the mission and since we are all here and forming a new church and since we are joining up with you all, I believe a fine name for all of us would be, "The Union Baptist Church".

All: "Good! "Dat's Fine!" "Cain' be beat!" "Hallelujah!" etc., etc.

Carey: Well, that is a fine suggestion. Maybe the Lord inspired Brother Smith to bring us that name. I feel that is the best name for us. Can we have a motion?

Madden: I move that we organize ourselves into the Union Baptist Church of Baltimore.

Several: Second the motion! Second the motion!

Carey: (Puts the motion which is carried unanimously.)

Carey: Sisters and brethren, we have just made history. We are the first people of Maryland to organize a Colored Baptist Church. I pray that we always have Union and the love of God in our hearts for everybody. Years to come, yes, a hundred years from now, may the same spirit of unity and fellowship be among us as we now manifest.

Now, we must always have a constitution and laws to run things by and so I have had some of our friends to help draw up a Constitution and By-Laws for us. I'm going to ask Brother Hackett to read this. Later when we have ~~elect~~ elected some deacons and trustees, we'll have them to sign these and put it on record.

Ashton: Brother Carey, why not let us elect the trustees first and then let them sign it?

Carey: There's certainly no harm in that. We'll need five and I'll have to sign too; that is, if I am elected pastor.

(They all laugh and call out to Carey that he's already the pastor, etc.)

Reams: I move that we elect Rev. John Carey pastor o' this church.

All: Second dat motion. (Hackett puts the motion and it's carried unanimously.)

Carey: That you and I accept the call. (They all laugh again.)

Carey: Now whom shall we have as trustees.

They: (Differant ones move that Thomas Reams, John Ashton, John Madden, Benajmin Brown and Thomas Jones, be the trustees. They vote on these and they are declared elected)

Carey: Now Bro. Hackett, read the constitution.

Hackett: Reads. Carey, now after the meeting, the trustees will be ready to sign this.

Carey: Now let us thank God for everything that our eyes have seen and our ears have heard. Let us give him the glory. Let us kneel and pray. They all kneel and Carey prays.

They get up off their nees and begin singing. "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow", and there are hand shakes as the curtain falls. The singing may be heard for several seconds after the curtain fall and then gradually dies away.



Rev. Chauncey Leonard

They needed a man who could lead them on,  
Those stalwart souls of yore;  
They had struggled along for a year without one,  
To preserve their church and more.  
"With forty-three members and no pastor yet?"  
We hear them sadly ask.  
Then to find the right man for this Union of theirs -  
Each man made it his task.  
So they looked here and there to find this right man  
A man with character rare  
Who would lead them along in the name of the Lord;  
With them their burdens share  
'Twas the month of April in fifty six  
Reverend Chauncey Leonard was called  
"We'll stem the flood", they shout in praise,  
The members were enthralled  
The membership grew and peace prevailed  
During his two year stay  
These souls were more determined now  
To go on in the Master's way.  
When their pastor left them in fifty eight  
He continued to do his best,  
To the Second Baptist Church in Washington,  
He went with pride and zest.  
In sixty eight he organized Mt. Hope,  
Bladensburg was another.  
In seventy a missionary he became  
To help his less fortunate brother.  
Yet Union grew on as a sturdy twig  
Rejoicing in her growing  
Just what she would be a century away  
They had no way of knowing.  
So we thank God for these men of old  
Who knew what they were doing  
Who paved the way with their toils and prayers  
For our beloved Union.

Rev. William Williams

A business meeting at the end of 1868

Characters

Rev. Williams

Brother Madden

Brother Blackwell

Brother Weaver

Brother Thompson

Deacon West

Sister Smith

Sister Thompson

Sister Jones

Other members of Union



Rev. Williams (Entering)

Well, It's good to see that some of you are early tonight.

Sister Smith

Yes, Rev. Williams, my fire was sort of low and I thought I'd be warmer over here.

Sister Thompson

My fire was doing all right but I jest was so anxious to hear de reports tonight.

Rev. Williams

I hope the others will be along soon. Why here is Deacon West and Brother Madden now.

Brother Madden

Howdy Brother Pastor. How are you tonight? (Shake hands. All exchange greetings)

Deacon West

I just saw Brother Weaver a spell back and he says he'll be here sure. He's got his report 'n' all.

Sister Jones

Were you at the service last Sunday, Sister Smith?

Sister Smith

Yes, I was Sis Jones and mighty glad I was to be present. It done ma soul good jest to hear dat sermon. Chile, I been happy all the week.

Sister Thompson

Lord, I specks everybody's happy 'bout dis church and de pastor. Dat's why I'se here and on time.

(Enter - Brothers Blackwell, Weaver, Thompson and other members.)

Sister Jones

Here's the others now. Maybe we can start.

(Greetings and hand shakes by all)

Rev. Williams

Well, I guess we have enough here to start.

Sister Thompson

Let's git under way cause I sho wanna hear what we done for dis year.

Rev. Williams

Sisters and brothers, we going to open this meeting with one verse of "Onward Christian Soldiers" and we going to follow that with the Lord's Prayer.

(Song and Prayer)

Rev. Williams

Now the purpose of this meeting is to quaint you with some of the things we've done since I've had the pleasure of working with you. I came to you in 1861 and I am now in my eighth year. I can't honestly say that its all been easy (comments from members) but I've been mighty happy to be with you. The Lord has seen fit to lead us on. By His help alone have we come this far. (Amens - Hallelujia) He led us safely through the days of the Civil War. Sometimes the old boat was rocking but she seems to be pretty steady now. (Expressions) Didn't He put it in the hearts of our good friends from Saratoga Street to join up with us when they disbanded? Why there's Deacon West, Brother Weaver, Brother Blackwell, Brother Thompson and there are others. (Point out) Why Brother Weaver was superintendent of their Sunday School and he's done a mighty fine job as superintendent of our Sunday School here at Union. We have watched its growth and I think Brother Weaver should be commended. (applause from members) Now, it is a cold night out and I know you didn't come out to hear a lot of talk from me, but you came to learn about the progress we've made over the years so I am now going to turn this meeting over to Brother Thompson who's going to tell you in a few words what the church has done.

Brother Thompson

Brother Pastor, Officers and members, it becomes my pleasant duty to briefly report to you tonight the progress we have made. You will recall that we had no pastor in 1859 and 1860. Yet the Lord saw fit that we grow from fifty seven to sixty five members. Now didn't that say that He wanted us to keep on? Then we got our pastor, Rev. William Williams in 1861 and we've been steady climbing



every since. During the war we had our trials, but wasn't that true with all of the churches? At the close of the war, our membership had grown to one hundred twenty-four.

Sister Thompson

'Tis the truf indeed, I remembers it well.

Brother Thompson

Now in 1866, Union was strengthened by the disbanded members of Saratoga Baptist Church joining up with us. They have been good helpers and done much to further our cause. In fact, we outgrew our quarters on Lewis Street and had to look for a larger place. In 1867 with the help of The Extension Society of Maryland Union Association and some of our good white friends we were able to buy this Old Disciples' Meeting House which, as you know, stands on North Street. Of course we had our troubles, even a lawsuit but having the Lord on our side we moved into this church the early part of this year of 1868. We have had a good year's work and we thank the Almighty that we have a fine meeting house to worship in and we have a membership of two hundred ten members.

(Amen - Hallelujia - I knew we could do it - Praise the Lord, etc.)

Didn't know it was that many, etc.

Rev. Williams

A fine and heartening report Brother Thompson. I'll now entertain a motion to accept this report.

(Motion is made and carried.)

Now Brother Benjamin Weaver is going to tell you about the work of the Sunday School.

Brother Weaver

Brother pastor, officers, members; I'll be hasty in my report because I understand that some of the ladies have planned to serve a little something at the close of this meeting. As you recall during the period of the war we had our ups and downs, too, but with the Lord's leading hand, at the end of that period, we were able to report a total of three teachers and twenty scholars. We thought this very good for the times. Our collection for the year was four dollars and fifteen cents and we had fifty books in our library.

Deacon West

When did you say this was Brother Weaver?

Brother Weaver

Back in 1864 Deacon West. With all our trials, the Sunday School grew. Through the years it has shown new life in many ways. It gives me great pleasure to report to you that today Union's Sunday School has nine officers, sixty seven members, two hundred thirty volumes in our library and was able to raise thirty eight dollars and thirty two cents for the year.

(Expressions)

(Motion to accept report)

Rev. Williams

Praise the Lord! I know you feel as happy as I tonight in the progress we have made. But let us not forget to thank the Almighty who has been the guiding light. We want to thank the brothers for these reports.

They were indeed inspiring. May they create in all of us a desire to push onward and upward for a stronger and larger Union. I think Brother Weaver said the ladies had prepared something for us. Let us now go into the next room and finish up there - not forgetting the many blessings of the Master.



Rev. William P. Thompson

Tune - Battle Hymn of Republic

William P. Thompson was ordained by Union in '69  
A better man to carry on the job dear Union could not find  
He'd shown such interest in the work; to ministry was inclined  
Dear Union marches on.

Union's ever growing stronger (repeat)  
It will through all the years.

Rev. Thompson raised the membership, he fought for Union's cause  
Struggled on to build a better church, no let up or a pause  
Gaining confidence and wisdom in his labors just because  
Dear Union marches on.

Chorus

Sums were raised and all indebtedness was paid while he took charge  
Two hundred sixty seven members and a church that was quite large  
In '72 death claimed him and he went to his reward  
Yet Union marched right on.

Rev. Harvey Johnson

Characters

Brother Harvey Johnson - - - - - Pastor  
Brother Lewis Miner - - - - - Church Clerk  
Brother Thacher Washington - - - - - Sexton

Members and Deacons

Margaret Camel	William G. Lawson
Sister Clark	Robert Hunter
Nellie Ford	Bettie Thornton
Benjamin Weaver	Lucy Walker
Louisa Plummer	William Alexander
Robert Mattel	Henry Jones
James Tomlin	Mary Lane
Pendleton Patterson	James Robinson

Other members and deacons of Union

- - - - -

A regular church meeting - - - - - February 26, 1874



Rev. Harvey Johnson

Sexton is dusting and arranging chairs. Members enter. General greetings and conversation. As Rev. Johnson and clerk enters, all hustle to seats and become quiet. Pastor takes chair and clerk sits at table to take notes. Pastor searches among papers. Selects one, stands, calls meeting to order.

Rev. Johnson

Good evening sisters and brothers. I now call this regular church meeting to order. We're gonno open with a hymn. Sister Clark, will you lead us in the singing?

Sister Clark

Sings - "Every Time I Feel The Spirit"  
Others join in.

Rev. Johnson

Brother Hunter will lead us in a word of prayer.

Robert Hunter

Let us pray. Dear Lord, our Heavenly Father, we come to you tonight wif<sup>o</sup> bowed heads and humble hearts askin<sup>o</sup> thy divine blessins en us. We know dat without your han<sup>o</sup> to lead us, we'd be nowhere. We pray dat you will continue to guide and strengthen us. We ask Your Blessins for dis li<sup>o</sup>l group gathered here tonight to carry en Your work. See dat we do de<sup>o</sup> right thing. Bless Bro<sup>o</sup> Smif, who been flat on his back so long. Bless all de sick and needy. Bless dem dat don't knew right from wrong. Guide dem<sup>o</sup> in the right paf. Your humble servant begs dat You the Your lovin<sup>o</sup> arms of protection round us and receive all our weary souls when we meets you en that bright mornin<sup>o</sup>, Amen.

Rev. Johnson

Brother Weaver, will you read a portion of the scripture.

Brother Weaver

I will read seven verses of the 104th Psalm. (Reads haltingly)

Rev. Johnson

Brother Miner will now read the minutes of the last meeting.

(Reads minutes from book. Vol. I - P. 4)

Motion is made and carried that the minutes be adepcted.

(glancing at paper)

Now first in our order of business for tonight, is to select five delegates to send to the Maryland Baptist Association.

Lucy Walker

Bro' Pastor, don't you think we ought to 'xamine the candidates first 'fo' we go into the business? Spose dey's not 'cepted? De'll know all what goes on!

Rev. Johnson

A good point Sister Walker. Brother Alexander, do we have any who wish admission?

William Alexander

Yes, Rev. Johnson, we got three.

Rev. Johnson

Then I'll ask you to take the three into the next room and let them have their say before the deacons there. Return when you have finished.

(They leave with three deacons).

Hereafter, I think the candidates for admission by baptism, letter, and watch care should be examined on a special night set aside for that purpose.

Sister Clark

How 'bout Wednesday? Dat ought to be a good time.

Rev. Johnson

I think we should leave that up to the deacons since they'll be the ones to do the work. Let them select the night that's convenient. May I hear a motion on this?

Brother Weaver

I moves dat we set aside a special night, convenient to the deacons to 'xamine the candidates for admission.

Robert Hunter

Second de motion.

Rev. Johnson

(Carries the motion).

Now we'll discuss the business of our delegates to the Maryland Baptist Association.



Henry Jones

Bro' pastor, hit jes' wouldn't seem right if we didn' sen' you as a delegate. You c'n always talk up to people and knows just what to say. Den too, you don' let nobody pull de wool over your eyes.

James Tomlin

You'se right Bro' Jones. Sho' our pastor ought to represent us.  
(Head shakes and assents from all.)

Rev. Johnson

I intend to be there but not as a delegate. Now what five members would you suggest?

Mary Iane

We ought' a send Bro' Pendleton Patterson. He knows what to do all right.

Lucy Walker

How 'bout Bro' Hunter. Seems to me he'd be a good 'un.

Henry Jones

I'se for Bro' Benjamin Weaver. He'll represent us real good I know.

Robert Hunter

Bro' Alexander 'd be my choice. 'Course he's out now 'xaminin' de candidates but I'se sure he'll 'cept.

Sister Clark

I'd like to name Bro' Robert Mattel as a delegate.

Rev. Johnson

I believe that's five. Brother Miner, please read those names so we can vote on them altogether.

Lewis Miner

Pendleton Patterson, Robert Hunter, Benjamin Weaver, William Alexander, and Robert Mattel.

Rev. Johnson

I'll now entertain a motion.

(Made and carried.)

As we usually send a statement to the Association, Brother Miner will now read the letter we drew up to send with the delegates to the meeting.

Lewis Miner

(Reads letter from Vol. I, pp. 17, 18, 19.)

(Expressions: Good! That's fine, etc. Johnson calls for order.)

Rev. Johnson

Evidently you are pleased with the letter. Are there any changes you would like made?

Benjamin Weaver

Naw! Leave it jest like it is. Dat's a good one.

Rev. Johnson

We are also sending them \$25.00 for different objects of the Association)

(Expressions)

Next, I feel we ought to talk about our sexton's salary. Brother Washington keeps this place nize and clean and he is entitled to a raise.

Thacher Washington

Dat's all right Bro' Pastor. I'se satisfied as it is. 'Course we has to do a bit of pinching at times, but den, the church needs too.

James Tomlin

Bro' pastor, I moves that we raise Bro' Washington's salary to \$12.00 a month.

Henry Jones

I second's dat motion.

Rev. Johnson

(Carries motion. Head shaking at Thacher Washington)

Brother William C. Lawson has a request to make.

William C. Lawson

As you all know, the Macedonia Mission of the Union Baptist Church of Vincent Street has been struggling hard since she moved away from us. A group of us here would like to have letters of dismissal so that we can tie up with the mission, make it stronger and help it grow. We have been faithful here with you and we promise to be just as faithful and work just as hard for the mission. After all, it is a part of Union.



Rev. Johnson

Brother Lawson, do you have the names of those who wish letters of dismissal?

William Lawson

Yes, Rev. Johnson, I'll read them.

James Lane, George Jones, Samuel Jackson, Robert Price, Mary Powell, Leander Jones, Samuel Washington, Frances Price, Hannah Ware, Margaret Jackson, Annie Gross, Kate Canida, Amanda Lence, Ellen Johnson, Mary Johnson, Delia Parker, Nancy James, Lucinda Evens, Martha Jackson, Henry Jenkins, Mary Price, Effa Jackson and myself. (General mumbling )

Sister Clark (aside to Lucy Walker)

Can't dat boy talk!

Lucy Walker

Dey sho learn him something at dat school.

Robert Hunter

Bro' Pastor, I b'lieves dey gonna do all right by our Macedonia Missien.

I moves dat we give dem de letters of dismission.

James Tomlin

I seconds dat motion.

Rev. Johnson

(Carries motion. William Alexander, deacons, and three candidates enter while motion is being carried. Deacons sit while Alexander and candidates remain in front.)

Now that they have finished in the next room, we'll hear from Brother Alexander.

William Alexander

Rev. Johnson we have two, Clara Toliver and Ezekeil Pitts who wants to come in by watch care and one, Catherine Conway who wants to join us by letter.

Rev. Johnson

What do you deacons recommend?

Deacon

We recommends bro' pastor, dat all three be taken in.

Benjamin Weaver

I moves dat we admit deez folks and dat dey be given de right hand of fellowship.

Deacon

Second de motion

Rev. Johnson

(Carries motion) Now we are going to take a few minutes and talk about our building program. As you know, we've outgrown our lodging here. May we have some discussion on this matter?

Pendleton Patterson

Bro' pastor, this idea is not new to us. We've realized that we needed a bigger place for a long time. So I think its time to start giving it some thought. I gues the other members feels 'bout like I do.

(Robert Mattel stands)

Rev. Johnson

Yes, brother Mattel?

Robert Mattel

Brother Pendleton Patterson's right. If we don't git started folks won't be able to git in here. Its an overflow every Sunday as it is.

Sister Clark

Sho! Dey wants to hear dis pastor preach. An he sho kin!

(Pendleton Patterson stands)

Rev. Johnson

Yes brother Patterson.

Pendleton Patterson

Bro' pastor, I so moves that we set us a committee of thirteen brethren to inquire into the matter of plans and specifications of rebuilding this church and procuring the funds to build it. This committee will report the progress from time to time to the general body.

William Alexander

I second de motion.



Rev. Johnson

(Carries motion. Aside to Miner)

Take these names as I call them. These brethren will make up the Building Committee:

Benjamin Weaver, Pendleton Patterson, Robert Mattel, Robert Hunter, Frederick Allen, William Alexander, Henry P. Waters, Reyston Blackwell, Thomas Nelson, John W. Roane, W. W. Madden, W. T. James. And of course, I'll work along with you.

(Benjamin Weaver stands)

Rev. Johnson

The chair recognizes Brother Weaver.

Benjamin Weaver

Bro' pastor, we gonna need lots a' money for dis new building. We wants it to be a good strong one. I 'pose dat we put on a lil drive to raise some funds. Why not have some 'scription books printed. Den de members could go out and git de 'scriptions. 'Course I vis dat each and everyone holdin' a book will 'port to de treasurer as soon as eny money is 'lected.

(Expressions from group)

Rev. Johnson

Brother Weaver, will you put that as a motion? I think it a great idea. Yes, we'll need funds and plenty of them.

(Motion is made, seconded, and carried. James Robinson stands.)

Chair recognizes Brother James Robinson.

James Robinson

I been listnin' to all de talk and I think if we makes it a li'l insting, de members will sho bring in mo funds. Bro' pastor I moves dat we give a thirty dollar silver watch to de person bringing in de biggest 'mount of money in one year from de date of giving out de books.

(Motion seconded and carried.)

Robert Mattel stands).

Rev. Johnson

Yes Brother Mattel.

Robert Mattel

Bro' pastor, I jest been thinking 'bout our young uns in the Sabbath School. Dey is gonna reap de benefits of our labor and I know fa she dat dey'll want to help. I moves that we giv a twelve dollar watch to de chil' bringing in de highest 'mount in one year.

(Motion seconded and carried.)

Rev. Johnson

These plans are good. They should bring in quite a good sum. Brother Hunter, will you take charge of the printing of the subscription books? (Hunter nods assent) Now Brother Tomlin being right down town, would it be possible for you to check on the watches for us?

James Tomlin

Be happy to, Bro' pastor. Won't be no trouble atall.

Rev. Johnson

I think we've covered a lot to night, Brother Miner, are there any exclusions for tonight?

Lewis Miner

Just a few Rev. Johnson.

(Searches through papers.)

Mary Lane

Dis is the part I been waiting for chile!

Lucy Walker

Dey tell me Betty Thornton's case is comin' up. Margaret Camel's too. I sho gotta hear dis!

Mary Lane

If you don't keep quiet, dey's liable to put dofe of us out too.

Lewis Miner

The first cases tonight are Zebedee Jobbs and Annie Thomas.

Rev. Johnson

What is the charge Brother Miner?

Lewis Miner

Absenting themselves from the church.



Sister Clark (Stands and looks around)

Bro' pastor, I don't see 'em here tonight, but I see bofe of 'em la s' night on de avenue.

Lucy Walker (To Mary Lane)

Huh! Wonder what she was doin' over there!

Mary Lane

sh!

Benjamin Weaver

Bro' pastor - I moves dat they be put out - date de names be struck from list!

Pendleton Patterson

Second the motion

Rev. Johnson

(Carries motion) What's the next case?

Lewis Miner

That of Brother Spencer Neal. The committee has waited on him several times but fail to find him home.

Mary Lane

Huh! He gone and de money gone.

Rev. Johnson

What shall we do with this case?

Robert Hunter

Bro' pastor, since our acting treasurer has 'fused to 'bey de orders of de church I moves dat we dismiss him. We should still try to git our \$49.94 dat's missin'.

(Motion is seconded and carried.)

Lewis Miner

Next is the case of Margaret Camel. I think she's here.

Margaret Camel (Coming forward in a surly manner.)

Yes, I'se here!

Lewis Miner

Margaret Camel - charged with having two living husbands.

Rev. Johnson

Have you anything to say Sister Camel?

Margaret Camel

Bro' pastor, I jes' down right fell out of lub wit my fuss husband.

Robert Mattel (Jumping up)

I makes dis motion -- dat Sister Camel be put out dis church 'til one of dem husbands be declared ded!

William Alexander

I seconds dat motion!

Rev. Johnson

(Carries the motion.) Next Brother Miner.

Lewis Miner

Next case is that of Sisters Bell Young, Charlotta Dixon and Henrietta Gray -- charged with committing adultery. (General mumbling)

Rev. Johnson

Are these sisters present?

(All look around)

Lucy Walker (to Mary Lane)

Knowed de won' gonna sho up. Dey out to be chased out a' town!

Benjamin Weaver (rising quickly)

Don' need no scussion on dat! I moves, Bro' pastor, dat all three be dismissed!

Robert Mattel

Second de motion!

Rev. Johnson

(Carries motion) Next Brother Miner.

Lewis Miner

Next is the case of Nellie Ford, charged with taking things that did not belong to her.

(General mumbling)

Mary Lane

She bet not take nuffin from me!



Lucy Walker

Sh!

Rev. Johnson

Is Sister Ford here tonight?

Nellie Ford

I'se here all right. (Rises and goes forward.)

Rev. Johnson

The charge Brother Miner?

Lewis Miner

Sister Ford is charged with taking things that don't belong to her.

Rev. Johnson

Anything to say sister Ford?

Nellie Ford

Not much Bro' pastor. Ol' Sis Jane ought 'a known I won gonna keep huh old scissors. I jes dropped in dere for a spell an while she have to go to de do - I jes' see de scissors layin' dere and I 'membered dat dress I'se gonna cut out so I jes' put dem in my pocket. I 'tendid to tell her 'bout em but it jes slipped my thinkin'.

James Tomlin

I moves dat de sister's names be dropped from de books at once!

Fendleton Patterson

Seconded!

Rev. Johnson

(Carries motion) Next

Lewis Miner

Betty Thornton and Louisa Plummer. (They rise and come forward.)

Charged with disorderly conduct.

Rev. Johnson

Well?

Louisa Plummer

Now Rev. Johnson it's like dis. I works hard all day and likes myself a li'l pleasure when I gits off. Yes, I plays my little cards and I seen

Deacon Smith peepin' in my window de other night when I was dancin' round a li'l bit but I can't see no harm in a li'l thing like that. What's abedy 'sposed to do eny way?

Rev. Johnson

Sister Thornton?

Betty Thornton

I's charged wit walkin' disorderly. Now I 'aint never know de time when I didn' walk lak a lady. Why I walks a chalk line everywhere I goes.

Lucy Walker

Dat won't no chalk line she's walking de time I seed huh. She was going from side to side.

Betty Thornton

Dat must'a been dat time when I had dat dizzy spell, Sis Walker. Honestly, my head do giv' me so much trouble some times. I gits real giddy.

Mary Lane

Huh, 'twan't no dizzy spell I smelled on huh. Dat was sperits I smelled. Whole lots of sperits. You'd speck to be dizzy carrying dat load.

Rev. Johnson

What's your pleasure brethren?

Robert Mattel

I moves that dey be put out at once!

(Two or three deacons rise to second the motion. Motion is carried. General mumbling and commotion. Pastor raps for order - looks to Miner for next case.)

Lewis Miner

That takes care of the exclusions for tonight.

Rev. Johnson

It should behoove you brothers and sisters to live and conduct yourselves properly. This church will not tolerate any misdemeanor. If you can't walk the straight and narrow path then you cannot be a member of this



fellowship. (Looks at paper.) I believe that we have covered the business for this evening.

Sister Clark

Rev. Johnson you forgot all 'bout Sis Jane Taylor. She was up for heresy las' time. We was 'sposed to settle dat tonight.

Robert Hunter

Bro' pastor, since we ain't heared nothin' from de sister, I moves dat she be suspended from dis church 'till she bring foth fruits for repentence.

Henry Jones

Second dat motion.

Rev. Johnson

(Carries motion) Now is there anything else that we have overlooked?

Mary Lane

Yes Bro' pastor. Dey wanted a 'port from de Poor Relief Association. I hope dey don' think I'd mess wif de funds.

Rev. Johnson

Do you have the report tonight, Sister Lane?

Mary Lane

I sho does. I'se happy to 'port dat de Poor Relief Association of Union Baptist Church paid out in de las' nine mont's \$125.96. Dat leaves a balance of \$33.33. Here 'tis (goes to table with report) all in black and white how 'twas paid out.

Rev. Johnson

Thank you Sister Lane. Is there anything else? (Pause) Then I believe we have everything done. I am expecting all of you out early Sunday as there will be much to do. Sister Walker will you lead our closing hymn?

(Mary Lane leads hymn. All stand. Mizpah benediction. Members leave in usual manner.)

Curtain

Rev. David E. Over

He came to us from Denver  
It was nineteen twenty four  
Filling Johnson's shoes was risky  
But he tackled it and more.  
The program had changed quite a bit  
Since Dr. Johnson's time  
Much youth had left for other fields  
Interesting things to find .  
Now this was most alarming to the elders, So the search  
For young folks to work with them.  
Were they not the future Church?  
Reverend Over had his problems  
Other Churches had them too  
Effects of war we still were feeling  
And an urge for something new.  
Our new pastor had come to us  
As a noted pulpiteer  
Just to hear him in his discourse  
People came from far and near  
As the crowds grew large and larger  
Offerings were much increased  
New life added; youth returning;  
Everyone was justly pleased.  
Then a parsonage was purchased,  
Furnished in the best of style  
Enthusiasm was increasing  
All the members wore a smile.  
Dr. Johnson was not forgotten  
By this band of christian friends  
He was ever there before them  
Leading on to newer trends.  
Rev. Over saw the progress,  
"We must get a larger place".  
Said the people, "Leave our Union?  
Never! 'Twould be a disgrace!"  
So he left with one hundred eighty seven member on their own  
From this group of ardent people  
Their dear Provident was born.  
But our Union rallied greatly  
Shook her head and spread her wings  
Kept on growing, kept on climbing,  
Doing better, greater things.



Rev. Timothy Boddie

Characters

Mother

Child ( 8 to 10 years old)

Scene

Living room - an evening in 1947

Child

Mother, are you going to read me a story tonight?

Mother

Of course dear, what would you like to hear?

Child

We heard a wonderful story in Sunday School last week about Christ loving little children. Could you read me another one like that?

Mother

Of course dear. Now - let's see what I can find. (Turns pages in book)

Child

Mother I heard Mr. Roger say something about a Rev. Boddie last Sunday. Who was he mother?

Mother

(Laughs) Who was he? Who is he dear. Why Rev. Boddie is one of our outstanding ministers. He is pastor of Shiloh Baptist Church. You know where that is don't you? (Child nods yes) Well at one time, he was pastor of Union.

Child

(Surprised) You mean he was pastor of our Union Baptist? Oh, tell me about it mother! When was this?

Mother

Why you weren't even born when Rev. Boddie came to us. I believe it was around May in 1929. He was quite a young man himself. Many people thought that he was too young, but he was able to guide the church through difficulties with tact and skill.

Child

Did he like little children, mother?

Mother

Did he like them? He loved the children, darling! He taught them things about the bible and he took much interest in their little programs and other activities in the church.

Child

Why they must have enjoyed coming to church just as we do now.

Mother

Rev. Boddie was kind to every one. I remember b well the time after the war when times were very hard and many people were hungry. He saw that thousands of people were fed until the government could plan some way to take care of them. (Tableau ) optional  
(Pantomime)

Child

That makes me think about the story of the five loaves and the three fishes.

Mother

Yes, it does bring that story to mind.

Child

Tell me some more about Rev. Boddie, mother.

Mother

Let's see. Rev. Boddie encouraged the members to redecorate the church. The windows were repaired and all the inside was painted. This made it very beautiful. Do you know where the pipes of our organ are now?

Child

You mean up over the pulpit?

Mother

Yes. Well that is where the choir sat.

Child

They sat up there and sang?

Mother

Yes. The choir was small then. Rev. Boddie had a choir stand built on the pulpit's level, so that made it much nicer for all.

Child

I'm glad he thought of that. Suppose the choir we have now had to sit way up there! I guess they would be falling all over the sides. (Both laugh)



Mother

Speaking about the choir makes me remember how proud Rev. Boddie was of his choirs. He loved to take the senior choir with him whenever he went. (Pause) I am trying to remember his favorite anthem - he liked all the spiritual songs - oh yes! It was "I Have Set Watchman Upon Thy Wall". I can hear him now, "Professor Jackson, I want the choir to sing my favorite anthem".

(Choir sings anthem)

Child

How beautiful! He must have liked that song because I think it's pretty too. Mother why isn't Rev. Boddie our pastor now?

Mother

He felt that his services were needed more in another place so he resigned in October 1939. My goodness! Look at the time! And I was to read you a story.

Child

Oh never mind, mother, I enjoyed the story of Rev. Boddie just as much as I would have enjoyed a story from my book. I'll go on to bed now. You can read me a story tomorrow night.

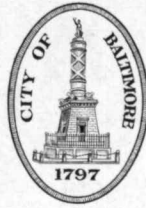
WE THANK THEE FOR EVERYTHING.

Lift your voices strong, unto Christ in song;  
Let your thanks ascend above.  
Let hosannas ring, unto Christ your king,  
For His watchful guiding love.

Ref: We thank Thee God for everything!  
Yes, thank Thee for Union.  
Our lifted voices now we ~~may~~ bring  
In a hymn grateful hymn of praise.  
O'er a hundred years; through our joys and tears,  
Thou didst lead us all our days.  
We thank Thee God for everything;  
Thy name we praise!  
Through the founder's tears; through our leaders' fears,  
Thou didst lead with Thy strong arm.  
In expansion time, with a love sublime,  
Thou didst keep us from all harm.

Such a fellowship! Such a partnership!  
Keep it ever thus we pray.  
Keep our vision clear, keep out strife and fear;  
Teach our hearts to ever ~~praise~~ say.





THOMAS D'ALESSANDRO, JR.  
MAYOR

April 16, 1952

Mr. A. B. Koger, General Chairman  
Centennial Committee  
Union Baptist Church  
340 Dolphin Street  
Baltimore 17, Maryland

Dear Mr. Koger:

I have before me and thank you for your letter of April 7th in which you, on behalf of the Union Baptist Church, cordially invite me to extend greetings and attend the service to be held on June 1st, 1952, 3 o'clock p.m., at the Union Baptist Church, 1219-27 Druid Hill Avenue, in conjunction with the Centennial Jubilee Celebration being observed from May 18th to June 8th, 1952.

Your thinking of me is, indeed, appreciated. However, my calendar is scheduled with invitations previously received, but I shall make every effort to be present on that occasion.

In accordance with your request, it is a pleasure for me to send you, herewith, my message to your Pastor, Doctor Baxter L. Matthews, which is to be included in the program that is to be published in connection with the celebration.

With kindest regards and best wishes to everyone participating in the 100th Anniversary of the Union Baptist Church, I am

Sincerely yours,

*Thomas D'Alessandro*  
Mayor

meg  
enc.



THEODORE R. MCKELDIN  
GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND

April 9, 1952

Mr. A. B. Koger  
1219 Druid Hill Avenue  
Baltimore-17, Maryland

Dear Mr. Koger:

This will acknowledge your letter of April 7th, addressed to Governor McKeldin, which has been received in his absence on an official visit to Israel.

I note in your letter that you would like to have him present at the Open Fellowship Meeting which you are arranging for Sunday, June 1st. His calendar, unfortunately, calls for his being in Salt Lake City, Utah on that date, and therefore, I am sure that he will not be available.

I shall be glad to comply with your request concerning the greeting, and shall see that it is sent to you within the next ten days.

In any event, I shall call your letter to the Governor's attention immediately upon his return.

With kindest regards.

Sincerely yours,

*Mildred K. Monberger*  
Secretary

MKM/o'c