

Church History

Romulus Community Baptist

A meeting was held in a home at 35931 Vinewood in Wayne, Michigan where a few baptized believers in Christ assembled to organize a church. The group recommended and agreed to name this church Community Baptist.

In May of that same year, under the leadership of Reverend Otha Hughes, church services were held at the Community Center on Beverly Road. After approximately three weeks as pastor, Reverend Hughes returned to Mt. Olive Baptist Church (the Mother Church). Shortly after Reverend Hughes left Community Baptist Church, land was purchased on which to build a church. Reverend Clarence Darden was elected to pastor the church.

In September, 1947, the church membership purchased a small house on Fourth Street from an elderly woman. This establishment was the first owned church building. Walls were extended to make a suitable sanctuary. Many auxiliaries were then organized in the new church. Among them were the Quartet Singers, Choirs, Usher Boards, BYPU Training, Young Matrons, Red Circle Clubs, and Sunday School Picnics. There were many struggles, but the Church continued to grow through faith and prayer.

Reverend Darden faithfully served the Church for 13 years, but in 1960, he left the Church and was succeeded by Assistant Pastor, Reverend George E. Thomas. Under Reverend Thomas, the membership grew and needed improvements on the building were started.

On March 25, 1961, the Church called Reverend Robert J. Jones of Memphis, Tennessee to pastor. It was under Pastor Jones that the Nurses Guild was established. In 1962, Romulus was incorporated and was added to the original name, thus becoming what it is known as today, Romulus Community Baptist Church.

In September of 1964, Reverend Jones resigned as pastor and Reverend Thomas once again officiated until December 10, 1964 when the late Reverend Ned Copeland was called to serve as pastor of the Church with Reverend Robert Alexander serving as Assistant Pastor. Reverend Copeland served the Church faithfully for 25 years.

As with the previous pastors, Romulus Community Baptist Church continued to grow, both spiritually and in membership. Some of the many accomplishments under Pastor Copeland were the erection of the new church at 6200 Fourth Street on May 9th, 1976 (which remains to this day), the Youth Department, the Junior Deacons, the Youth Nurses, the Shining Stars, the Community News, and the Youth Dating and Courtesy Clerks, all which took place in 1976. Land was purchased adjacent to the Church. Buses, an organ and piano were purchased. The

parking lot was black topped and the building was extended to enlarge the seating capacity for the fast growing membership. In 1987, the mortgage was burned and the Church cornerstone was laid.

Reverend George Thomas assumed the position of pastor after the death of Reverend Copeland in 1989, and held the congregation together until January 27, 1990 when Reverend Bennie Oliphant was elected. During his tenure as pastor, many building improvements were made. The Scholarship Fund and the Special Achievement Awards were instituted and the Voice of Love (a teenage and young adult choir) was also created.

After the departure of Reverend Oliphant in 1993, Reverend George Thomas again guided the Church until a new pastor was found. In 1994, the Church elected its current pastor, Reverend Hiram McBurrows, Jr. to lead the flock. There have been many accomplishments under Pastor McBurrows. A beautiful new sanctuary was built in 2007 and the old sanctuary was converted to enhance: a new Pastor's Study, a Financial Office, a Fellowship Hall, a small meeting room, and a new Men's and Women's restrooms. Prior accomplishments under Pastor McBurrows have been the establishment of three Bible classes, a remodeled kitchen, a Christian Men's and Christian Women's Fellowships, All Night Prayer Fellowship, a Youth Nursery, a Bible Study, an 8:00A worship service, a Wednesday Congregational Prayer Fellowship, a Low Income Energy Program, and continued spiritual growth in understanding and applying God's Word.