

*Celebrating Our Church's*

*150th*

*Anniversary*



*Bald Rock Baptist Church*

Sr. Pastor Christopher Shipp

November 13, 2011

11:00 am & 3:00 pm

2284 Old Covington Road

Conyers, GA 30013

770-929-3421



# Greetings



BRBC

Today, as we celebrate **Bald Rock's 150th Church Anniversary**, we all share a great enthusiasm for the rich heritage. In 1861 there were a people of one mind willing to step out in faith and start this church under a brush harbor. Considering the times of 1861, they represented a people that knew the value of coming together to worship God. Being the first African American Church in the county is a testament to the strength of the people. We can never thank God enough for our founding members that started it all, among those that we know by name are: Rev. Charlie Tuggle, Sally Carr, Ella Canada Becky, Oscar and Jim Sims, Rhine Young, Lewis Anderson, Clarence Glenn, Dock Wallace and Richard Floyd.

We can never thank God enough for the preachers that came along and worked to better the people by teaching and encouraging them. The records show that the following preachers had the longest tenure at Bald Rock: Rev. Gilbert J. Clark 54 years; Rev. G. L. Shaw 11 years; and Rev. E.D. Harris 22 years. Bald Rock is all the better for the leadership that they provided as well as others that may not have had lengthy tenures; Rev. Maultsby 3 years; Rev. Mapp 3 years.

As I look over the congregation throughout this year of celebration, I remember some of the people that were here when I arrived and now they are home in glory. They provided much support to Bald Rock to ensure that the legacy lives on: Dea. Robert Rome, Dea. Frank Swift, Dea. John Henry Mitchell, Dea. Junior Robinson, Bro. L. B. Baker, Minister Catherine Dorsey, Mother Dorothy Rome, Mother Ulidayer Levette, Mother Lillie Mae Lee, Mother Pearl Swift, Mother Annie Swift, Mother Claudie Lee Baker, Mother Sarah Easley Strong, Mother Clydie Andrews and Mother Annie Ruth Shaw. Each of them gave of their time, talent, and finances to ensure that Bald Rock continues growing in grace.

As I look over the congregation, I see a congregation that want to learn and live the word of God in their everyday life. I see a congregation that is a church family always coming to the aide of the members and the community. I see a congregation that continues the traditions of Bald Rock. Understanding that it takes a unified effort to grow the ministry and draw others to Christ.

I am very humbled that God has placed me in Bald Rock these last 14 years. Every day it is my constant prayer that I hear the voice of God directing me in the ways He would have me lead Bald Rock. Let us continue striving to be the "One Church and One Family" supporting and loving one another. As we celebrate these 150 years let us realize our obligation to further the work. Let us build upon the legacy so that future generations will look back in wonder at what God did for Bald Rock.

I personally thank everyone that supported this special anniversary. I thank my wife, Min. Valerie Shipp and son, Christian for their constant support to me and the ministry. I thank Min. Ethel Gibson and Sis. Gloria Green, the Church Anniversary chairpersons. I thank Sis. Charlotta Kennedy and Sis. Audrey Powell for the printed anniversary program. I thank everyone for the letters of congratulations, proclamations, and prayers. I thank everyone for supporting the 150th Church Anniversary History Book project that we are in the process of finalizing to commemorate this special historical event in the life of Bald Rock. **May God Bless and Keep Us All! Happy 150th Anniversary Bald Rock.**

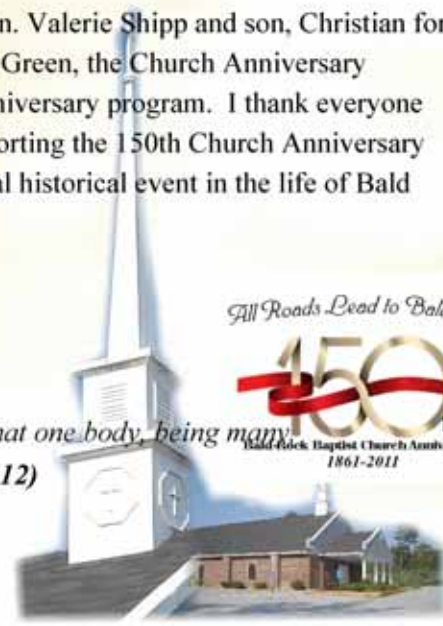
Love you,

**Sr. Pastor Christopher Shipp**

*For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ. (I Corinthians: 12:12)*

*All Roads Lead to Bald Rock*

**150<sup>th</sup>**  
Bald Rock Baptist Church Anniversary  
1861-2011





Celebrating Our Church's

150th



Old Bald Rock Rededication July 31 2011





# Bald Rock Baptist Church Anniversary

## History



The Bald Rock Baptist Church was founded approximately in 1861. It is Rockdale County's first African American Congregation. The worship services were held in a Brush Harbor, under the leadership of Rev. Charles Tuggle. This temporary structure served its purpose and was located on property not owned by Bald Rock church members. During this era, slaves could not own land. It is believed that the plantation in which Bald Rock Church was located served as a place of worship for those slaves that shared the same last name as their masters. As early as 1883 Bald Rock was one of the area churches to hold church school. The original Bald Rock Church structure is located on Costley Mill Road at the Georgia International Horse Park and is now a historic site.

The Bald Rock Baptist Church has been at its current location since 1994. The present Bald Rock structure was mainly built by the men of Bald Rock led by Rev. Jack Maultsby-Pastor, Deacons Robert Rome-Chairman, Frank Swift-Vice Chairman, Albert Banks, Willie Banks, Rufus Bigby, John Cox, V. Giles, Rufus Henderson, John H. Penn, Freddie Ross, Junior Robinson, Rufus Roseberry, A. R. Shaw, E. J. Shaw, and S. Strung.

Former pastors were: Rev. Charlie Tuggle Baker, Young, Hayes, Webb, Allen, Henderson, Sims, Rev. G. J. Clark (54 years), Rev G. L. Shaw (11 years), Rev. E.D. Harris (22 years), Rev. Sandy Allen (1 year), Rev. C. L. Mapp (3 years), Rev Jack Maultsby (3 years) and Rev. Jessie Henry Jr. (6 months).

The church is fortunate to still have descendants from early years still worshipping and working at Bald Rock: Andrews, Baker, Banks, Bigby, Easley, Henderson, Ross, Mitchell, Penn, Rome, Roseberry, Robinson, Shaw, and Swifts.

To date our church has celebrated 150 years. We are thankful for the many blessings God has provided us under our current pastor, Sr. Pastor Christopher Shipp, leading Bald Rock for overfourteen years. Bald Rock is experiencing a growth in membership and more importantly spiritual growth. His vision for Bald Rock is outlined in Matthew 28:19. Through the aid of the Holy Spirit, we will continue to **Learn the Word to Light the World.**

We thank God for every year, every pastor, every ministry, every member, every soul saved and our future for the best is yet to come!





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*150th*



## Church Litany

### **Psalm 124**

**Leader:** If it had not been the LORD who was on our side, now may Israel say;

**Congregation:** If it had not been the LORD who was on our side, when men rose up against us:

**Leader:** Then they had swallowed us up quick, when their wrath was kindled against us:

**Congregation:** Then the waters had overwhelmed us, the stream had gone over our soul:

**Leader:** Then the proud waters had gone over our soul.

**Congregation:** Blessed be the LORD, who hath not given us as a prey to their teeth.

**Leader:** Our soul is escaped as a bird out of the snare of the fowlers: the snare is broken, and we are escaped.

**ALL:** Our help is in the name of the LORD, who made heaven and earth.





# Bald Rock Baptist Church

## Celebrating Our Church's

150th

### Bald Rock Baptist Church 150th Anniversary Pastor & First Lady:

**Rev. Shipp** has led the church as senior pastor for 14 years, and **Mrs. Shipp** works by his side as associate minister. They are the parents of Christian Shipp. Rev. Shipp joined Macedonia Baptist Church at the age of 9, growing in his Christian faith and becoming a Sunday school teacher and youth leader. He was also ordained as a deacon in his home church.

He was called into the ministry 30 years ago under the leadership of Pastor George Frank Gude at his home church. Shipp was called as an assistant pastor at Early Hope Baptist and was then called to pastor Raymond Hill Baptist Church in Snellville. In 1997, he was called to pastor **Bald Rock Baptist Church**.

### 150th Anniversary Guest Speaker , Morning Service:

**Pastor J. Phillip Baker** is the son of the late Deacon James C. Baker and Mother Florine Baker. Pastor Baker started his preaching ministry at the tender age of 16 years old, at the Peek's Chapel Baptist Church, Conyers, GA, under the leadership of Pastor J.H. Battle. He was ordained and started pastoring his first church, Rocky Mount Bethel Baptist Church in Luthersville, GA, at the age of 17 years old. Pastor Baker has since then pastored several churches, including Ebenezer Baptist Newnan GA and New Piney Grove Baptist Church in Decatur, GA. Currently, he is the organizer and Pastor of the **Trinity Missionary Bible Church** in Covington GA

### 150th Anniversary Guest Speaker, Evening Service:

**Reverend Micheal Benton**, a native of Lithonia, Georgia, is the pastor of **Fairfield Baptist Church** located in Lithonia, Georgia. Fairfield Baptist Church was established in 1885, and he was ordained as the fifth pastor in June, 1977. Born to the late JP and Jessie Mae Benton, Pastor Benton received his call to the ministry in 1976. At the age of 26, he was ordained and licensed as a minister of the gospel from Big Miller Grove Baptist Church under the leadership of the late Archbishop Jimmie L. Smith.

### 150th Anniversary Chairpersons:

**Minister Ethel Gibson** is Chairperson of the Trustee Board and serves on the Finance Committee. She is the President of Christian Education/Children Church. She helps with the Youth Ministry and is the special driver on their outings. In addition, she teaches Sunday School and Bible Study. Minister Gibson serves on the Women's Ministry and sings in the Gospel Choir. Finally, she is the **Chair for the 150th Church Anniversary Committee**.

**Sister Gloria Green** is the Courtesy Ministry President: Greet visitors. I send thank you notes to visitors that visit our church. I send out birthday cards, get well greetings and make personal phone calls to our sick and shut in. Pastoral Care, Secretary: Setup programs for the Pastoral Care Ministry and assist in other programs, Senior's Ministry Secretary and in addition to **Co-Chair for 150th Church Anniversary**.



# Order of Service

150th Church Anniversary Program

November 13, 2011

11:00 am

Worship Leader Minister Valerie Shipp  
Praise and Worship BRBC Deacons and Guest Deacons  
Welcome and Occasion Sister Audrey Powell

## Recognition of Dignitaries/Proclamation Reading

### Church Anniversary Reflections:

New Member - Bro. Frank Coleman  
Senior Member - Mo. Mary Banks  
Youth Member - Bro. Cameron James

Church Litany Psalm 124 Deacon Rufus Roseberry  
Psalm 124  
Song of Praise BRBC Gospel Choir

Financial Appeal / Offertory Prayer  
BRBC Trustee Ministry  
*Worship In Giving - Ushers/Officers*

### Communion

Introduction of Guest Speaker Sr. Pastor Christopher Shipp  
Song of Praise Guest Choir

### Sermon

Pastor J. Phillip Baker  
Trinity Bible Church

Invitation to Christ Pastor J. Phillip Baker

Remarks / Benediction Sr. Pastor Christopher Ship  
Words of Thanks 150th Anniversary Chairperson Mother Gloria Green

Bald Rock Baptist Church Anniversary

All Roads Lead to Bald Rock





# Order of Service

150th Church Anniversary Program

November 15, 2011

5:00 pm

Worship Leader

Minister Ethel Gibson

Praise and Worship

BRBC Deacons & Guest Deacons

Welcome and Occasion

Mother Frances Easley

## Church Anniversary Reflections:

New Member: Sister Deborah Hilliard

Senior Member: Deacon Rufus Bigby

Youth Member: Tykeisha Dew

Memorial Tribute

Sister Teresa Cobb

## Recognition of Dignitaries/Proclamation Reading

Song of Praise

BRBC Gospel Choir

Financial Appeal / Offertory Prayer

BRBC Trustee Ministry

Worship In Giving - Ushers/Officers

Song of Praise

Fairfield Baptist Church Choir

Introduction of Guest Speaker

Sr. Pastor Christopher Shipp

Song of Praise

Fairfield Baptist Church Choir

## Sermon

Pastor Michael Benton

Fairfield Baptist Church

Invitation to Christ

Pastor Michael Benton

Words of Thanks 150th Anniversary Chairperson Minister Ethel Gibson

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*Thank You*

*BRBC*

## Words of Thanks

Words cannot adequately express our gratitude to all of you who have helped to make this 150th church anniversary a success.

To Trinity Bible Church and Fairfield Baptist Church, thank you for sacrificing your time and talents to come and share in this momentous occasion with us. We have been uplifted and encouraged by both your presence and your words of wisdom.

To the city, county, and state officials, we say, "God bless you." Truly, we realize how busy your schedules must be. Yet, you drafted proclamations and letters of congratulations for our commemorative book. In addition to that, you showed up or sent a representative on our anniversary day. Words are insufficient to express how these efforts on your part have highlighted our celebration. Thank you.

To the neighboring churches, we love you and will continue in the bonds of fellowship and friendship with you. Thank you for coming, sending letters of congratulations, allowing us to interview you, and praying for us. We are indebted to you.

To Dr. Norma Shipp, you are our hero. Even though you are not here physically, your heart is still with us. You demonstrate where your heart is in so many ways. The idea to produce a commemorative book, the forethought in the organization of it, the work of putting it together and having it published cannot be overly valued. Please accept our love and our sincere gratitude.

To the Bald Rock Baptist Church Family, we have enjoyed serving as your chairpersons for this grand occasion. We only hope that we did it justice. Thank you, too, for your cooperation in the interviews, the videotaping, the ads, the financial contributions, the family recognitions, clean-up day, etc. We are proud to be a part of such an awesome gathering of God's saints. We love you.

The 150th Anniversary Chairs,

Minister Ethel Gibson & Sister Gloria Green





# *BRBC 2011 Church Ministries*

Our mission is to teach, preach, and live the word of God so that we can be stronger and prosperous Christians according to God's statutes. Then we can be effective witnesses in our homes, communities, jobs and anywhere we go in order to draw more people to God and His righteousness and prepare them for an eternal life with JESUS CHRIST.

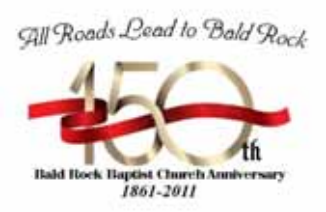
***We are Learning the Word to Light the World!***

Minister's Ministry - Sr. Pastor Christopher Shipp  
Trustee & Finance Ministry - Min. Ethel Gibson  
Administrative Secretary - Sis. Charlotta Kennedy  
Program Coordinator - Sis. Patricia Davis  
Deacon's Ministry - Dea. Freddie Ross  
Mother's Ministry - Mother Mary Banks  
Women's Ministry - Min. Valerie Shipp  
Men's Ministry - Dea. Calvin Green  
Youth Ministry - Min. Valerie Shipp  
Teen's Ministry - Min. Ethel Gibson  
Senior's Ministry - Dea. Calvin Green  
Usher's Ministry - Min. Carletta Farley  
Pastoral Care Ministry - Sis. Emma Ross  
Praise Team Ministry - Sis. Regina Flanagan  
Gospel Choir Ministry - Sis. Charlotta Kennedy  
Male Chorus Ministry - Dea. Horacious Penn  
Youth Choir Ministry - Sis. Regina Flanagan  
Young Adult Choir - Min. Satedra Penn  
Dance Ministry - Min. Satedra Penn  
Christian Education Ministry - Min. Ethel Gibson  
Sunday School Ministry - Dea. Horacious Penn  
Children's Church Ministry - Min. Ethel Gibson  
Intercessory Prayer - Min. Sharon Jones  
Hospitality Ministry - Sis. Diane Baker-Penn  
Courtesy Ministry - Sis. Gloria Green  
Janitorial - Dea. Freddie Ross  
Sound Ministry - Bro. Charles Wingate  
Bible Study Ministry - Sr. Pastor Christopher Shipp

***Come And Join In The Work for the Lord!***



# Notes





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