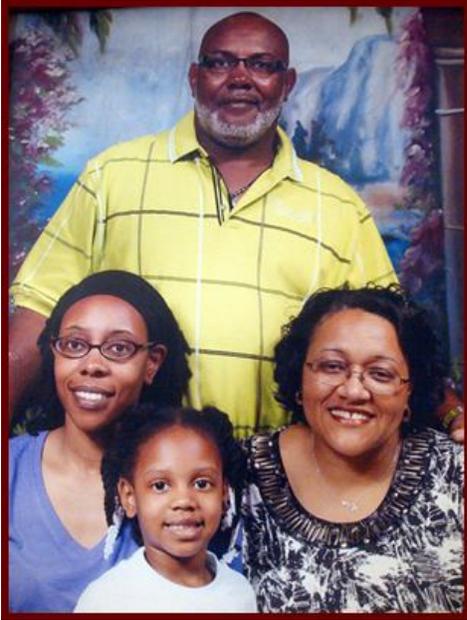


The Bi-Vocational Pastor



Raymond Franklin was born 1958 to the late Preston and Marie Franklin of Ansley, Alabama a rural area in Pike County the fourth of eight brothers and sisters. He was educated in the Pike County School System, graduating from Goshen High School in 1976. Raymond was married to Sarah Stringer in 1977 and to this union Paula was born. Served in the United States Army National Guard from 1976 and retiring in 2000 in Transportation with a Honorable Discharge. Raymond also retired from Appleton Wire in Montgomery, Alabama as an industrial electrician graduating from Trenholm Technical College earning an associate degree in Residential and Industrial wiring. Raymond answered his call to the ministry in 1997 under the late Reverend H. L. Price and began pastoring in 1999 to present at Rock Elvy Missionary Baptist Church in Shady Grove, Alabama.

While pastoring a full Sunday Church, Reverend Raymond Franklin also works a full time job at Sikorsky Aircraft Manufacturer as a Senior Aircraft Processor in Troy, Alabama. In addition to pastoring, working a full time job at Sikorsky, He attended Selma University after work and on weekends, earning an Associate of Arts in Bible and Theology and in May of 2012 earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Bible and Pastoral Ministry from fully accredited Selma University School of Seminary.

Reverend Franklin and the church where he serves as pastor are Active in The Alabama State Missionary Baptist Convention and The Southeast District Baptist State Convention. In January 2012 Reverend Franklin was Nominated and Elected Moderator of the Helicon Baptist District Association in which ten churches are in this district located in Pike and Crenshaw counties.

Thirty Five years later Reverend Franklin is still happily married to Sarah Franklin with one daughter, Paula age 34 and one granddaughter Ashlyn age 6 in which they resides in Chicago, Illinois. In fall 2012 Reverend Franklin will be returning to seminary enrolling in the Master's Program of Divinity. In addition to fulfilling his duties as husband, father, grandfather, employee and Pastor he enjoys Atlanta Braves baseball, Alabama football, reading, walking and family outings.

As a Bi-Vocational Pastor and student Reverend Franklin is devoted to his calling in the Ministry, his family, Church, Job and the class room. Reverend Franklin has a heart for people, he enjoys teaching bible study every Wednesday night and preaching God's Word on Sunday Mornings. Teaching his congregation to "Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth" (2 Timothy 2:15).