

# ZONING CHANGE REVIEW SHEET

**CASE NUMBER:** C14H-2009-0019

**HLC DATE:**

June 22, 2009

**PC DATE:**

July 14, 2009

**APPLICANT:** Mt. Calvary Missionary Baptist Church and the City of Austin  
(sponsor)

**HISTORIC NAME:** Mount Cavalry Missionary Baptist Church

**WATERSHED:** Boggy Creek

**ADDRESS OF PROPOSED ZONING CHANGE:** 2111 S.L. Davis Avenue

**ZONING FROM:** CS-MU-CO-NP to CS-MU-CO-H-NP

**SUMMARY STAFF RECOMMENDATION:** Staff recommends the proposed zoning change from general commercial services, mixed use, conditional overlay, neighborhood plan (CS-MU-CO-NP) district to general commercial services, mixed use, conditional overlay – Historic Landmark – neighborhood plan (CS-MU-CO-H-NP) combining district zoning.

**HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION ACTION:** Recommended the property for designation as a historic landmark. Vote: 6-0.

**PLANNING COMMISSION ACTION:** Recommended the property for designation as a historic landmark. Vote: 7-0 (Hui and Castillo absent).

**DEPARTMENT COMMENTS:** The church is not listed in the city surveys.

**CITY COUNCIL DATE:** August 6, 2009

**ACTION:**

**ORDINANCE READINGS:** 1<sup>ST</sup> 2<sup>ND</sup> 3<sup>RD</sup>

**ORDINANCE NUMBER:**

**CASE MANAGER:** Steve Sadowsky

**PHONE:** 974-6454

**NEIGHBORHOOD ORGANIZATION:** Organization of Central East Austin  
Neighborhoods

**BASIS FOR RECOMMENDATION:**

## **Architecture:**

The original church building, ca. 1941, was a side-gabled, raised one-story wood frame church with an offset square wood steeple tower crowned with a pyramidal roof. The church faced east (Coletto Street) and had 1:1 wood-frame, wood-sash windows with fixed transoms. In 1950, the congregation completed a new brick church to the north of the original church, and applied a brick veneer to the wood-frame section to match the brick construction of the new addition. However, the

original wood steeple tower on the east elevation remains from the original appearance of the church. The principal façade now faces S.L. Davis Avenue (previously Washington Avenue), and consists of a raised two-story, rectangular plan, front-gabled red brick church building; the central wood steeple tower has a pyramidal roof. The steeple tower pierces an ornamental gable shading the ground level of the church; the principal entry is at the top of a staircase and has a front-gabled entry hood. Fenestration in this section of the church consists of metal-framed multi-light casement windows, some with fixed transoms. The current appearance of the church is the result of remodeling in 1967 and 1971. The original brick portion of the church (as shown in a 1967 photograph) had twin brick towers on the front and a curved parapet roof between the two square towers. The parapet and towers have been removed; the roof is now a front-facing gable with the central steeple tower. The fenestration pattern remains the same.

#### **Historical Associations:**

In October, 1939, the Mount Calvary Missionary Baptist Church was organized in the David Chapel Baptist Church parsonage by the Rev. Silas Leonard (S.L.) Davis, two other ministers, and 59 members of David Chapel. Mrs. William R. (Roberta) Marshall suggested the name Mount Calvary, and the members elected the Rev. Davis to be their first pastor. The new congregation held their first services in the frame cottage of William R. and Roberta Marshall at 2103 E. 12<sup>th</sup> Street. William Marshall, and his brother Ira, who later served as treasurer of the church, were both from the Webberville section of Travis County. Both had been born in Texas, and both had worked as farm laborers in the early 1900s. By 1930, William had moved to Austin and had his own barber shop at 316 E. 6<sup>th</sup> Street. His wife, Roberta, worked as a maid for a private family. They moved into their house on E. 12<sup>th</sup> Street around 1934. By 1935, Ira Marshall was living with them; the two men operated their own barber shop at 1197 ½ Chicon Street until the mid-1940s. After William Marshall passed away in May, 1946, Roberta continued to live at the E.12<sup>th</sup> Street house; she passed away in Austin in November, 1982.

Reverend S.L. Davis was born in Dale, Caldwell County, Texas in 1888, to Andrew and Laura Davis, who had been born into slavery. Andrew Davis had been born in Texas, but his parents had come from Virginia. Laura Davis had been born in Arkansas, but her parents had come from Alabama. Silas was their third son. Andrew Davis was listed as a farmer in the 1900 U.S. Census; the two older boys were listed as farm laborers, and 12-year old Silas was listed as being at school. By 1920, Silas had married; he and Willie lived at Lytton Springs in Caldwell County, where Silas farmed. Silas was ordained in 1925; the 1930 U.S. Census listed him as a Baptist preacher in Seguin, Texas. He and Willie had 6 children by that time. Davis came to Austin in 1937 as the pastor of David Chapel Missionary Baptist Church; he organized Mount Cavalry two years later, and served as its pastor until his death at the age of 100 in 1988. Reverend Davis was known as a highly principled man, and through his presence and ministry, he had enormous influence in the East Austin African-American community. He was succeeded in the ministry by his grandson, the Rev. L.K. Jones, who has continued Rev. Davis' work in East Austin. In 1998, the City of Austin renamed Washington Avenue in front of Mount Calvary in honor of Reverend S.L. Davis.

**PARCEL NO.: 02081114060000**

**LEGAL DESCRIPTION:** Lots 5-7, Block 3, Outlot 58, Division B, Foster Subdivision.

**ANNUAL TAX ABATEMENT:** \$0. The church is exempt from taxation.

**APPRAISED VALUE:** \$71,661 (land value only)

**PRESENT USE:** Church

**CONDITION:** Excellent

**PRESENT OWNER:**

Mount Calvary Missionary Baptist Church  
2111 S.L. Davis Avenue  
Austin, Texas 78702

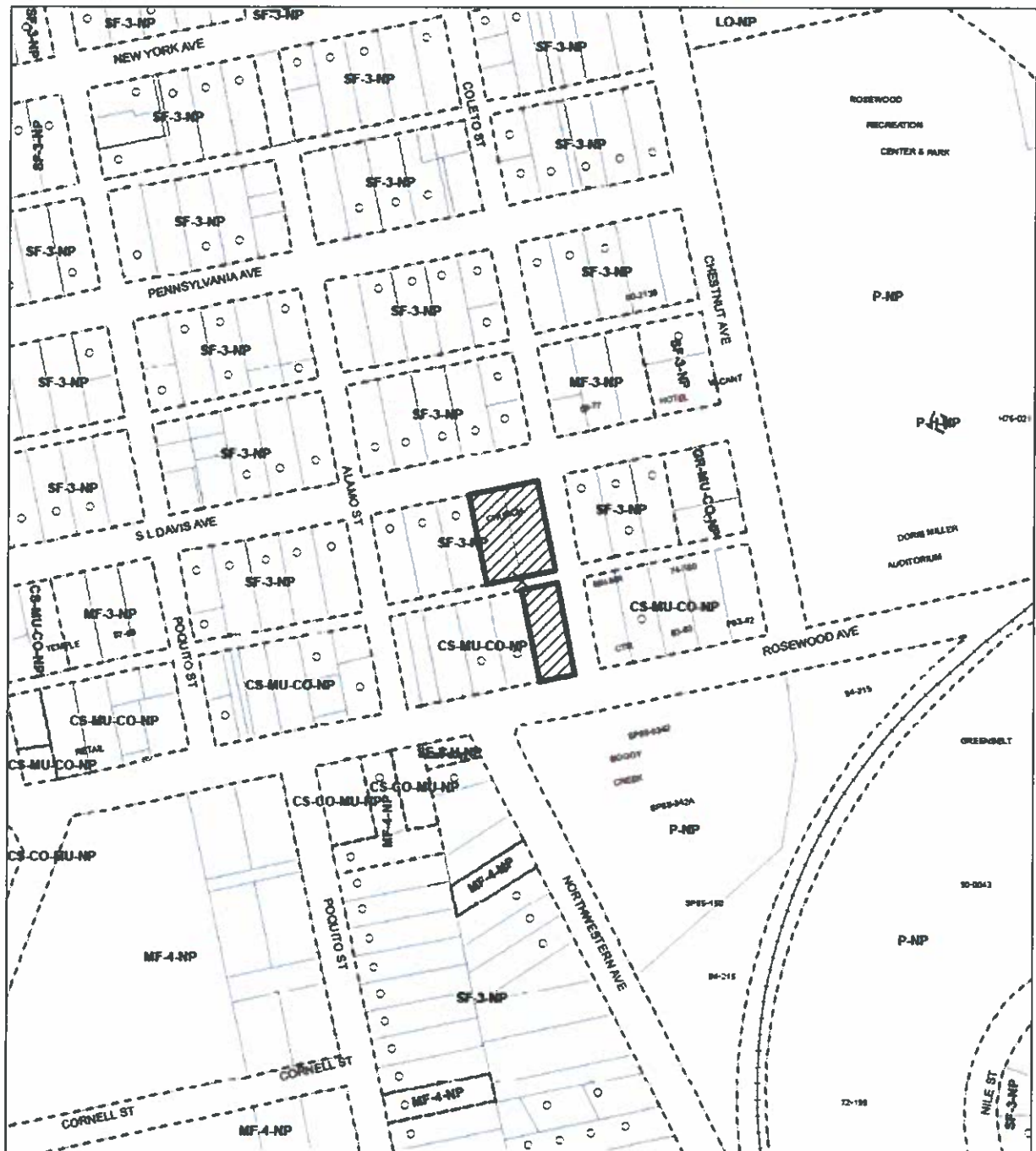
**DATE BUILT:** ca. 1941

**ALTERATIONS/ADDITIONS:** The north half of the building consists of a sanctuary addition which was constructed in 1950; at that time, the original wood-frame section of the church was covered with a brick veneer. In 1971, the church was remodeled and the current central steeple tower was added to the front façade, replacing a parapeted roof with twin brick towers at each end of the façade.

**ORIGINAL OWNER(S):** Mount Calvary Missionary Baptist Church (1940).

**OTHER HISTORICAL DESIGNATIONS:** None.

# LOCATION MAP



1" = 200'

SUBJECT TRACT

ZONING BOUNDARY

PENDING CASE

OPERATOR: S. MEEKS

## HISTORIC ZONING

ZONING CASE#: C14H-2009-0019

ADDRESS: S L DAVIS AVE

SUBJECT AREA: 0.000 ACRES

GRID: K22

MANAGER: S. SADOWSKY

This map has been produced by G.I.S. Services for the sole purpose of geographic reference. No warranty is made by the City of Austin regarding specific accuracy or completeness.



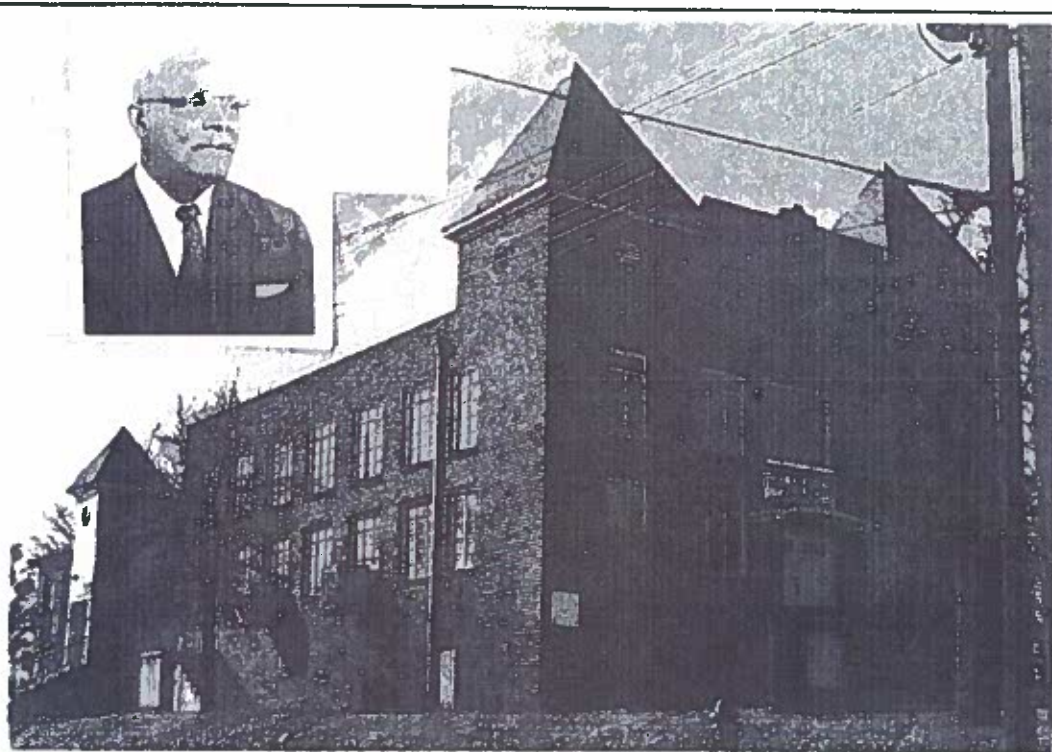


Mount Calvary Missionary Baptist Church  
2111 S.L. Davis Avenue



Coleto Street (east) elevation of the church showing the original entry to the church and wood steeple tower.





### *Congratulations*

## **Mt. Calvary Missionary Baptist Church**

2111 Washington Avenue

Austin, Texas

Phone GR 2-2844

**REV. S. L. DAVIS, Pastor**

**Sister Olivia Harris Woodfork, Clerk**



Mt. Calvary Missionary Baptist Church, organized October 23, 1939 at 2301 E. 12th St., Austin, Texas. The first worship was held in the home of Bro. and Sis. Willie Marshall, 2103 E. 12th St. The first house of worship was the Community Center, 1192 Angelina St. The modern edifice at 2111 Washington Avenue bespeaks the ability of a stalwart leader to strive toward perfection.

### **REV. AND MRS. S. L. DAVIS**

Rev. and Mrs. S. L. Davis celebrated their Fiftieth Wedding Anniversary, January 11, 1966. Rev. Davis boasts of being equal to Jacob where offsprings are concerned. Another favorite expression of Rev. Davis: "Thank God I have a 'Spotted Calf's interest in St. John'."

*Austin History Center*

From St. John Regular Missionary Baptist Association  
One Hundredth Annual Session, July 17-30, 1967

This ca. 1967 photograph shows the original configuration of the front of the church with twin brick towers; the towers were removed and the current central steeple tower was constructed in 1971.



The home of Willie and Roberta Marshall, 2103 E. 12<sup>th</sup> Street, where Mount Calvary Missionary Baptist Church had its first service (1939)  
Mrs. Marshall suggested the name "Mount Calvary" for the new congregation.



# Mount Calvary minister dies at 100

By Tara Parker Pope  
American-Statesman Staff

The Rev. Silas Leonard Davis, who friends said preached the scripture for nearly 70 years with an unwavering commitment to the Gospel, died Wednesday, 11 days after his 100th birthday.

Scottie Ivory, Davis' daughter, said

reaching the 100-year mark was an important milestone for Davis, who never lost faith that he would celebrate a century of living.

"When he got to be 98 years old, he said 'I'm 98, and I'm glad to be here, but I'm not going to ask the Lord to be 100, I'm just going to trust that he'll let me get 100 years old, and I'll be satisfied,'" Ivory said.

The son of two former Texas slaves, Davis helped to organize Mount Calvary Baptist Church, 2111 Washington Ave., in 1939, and preached there until November when his health forced him to slow down.

Family members said Davis had memorized many scriptures. In the middle of the night and while in the  
See Davis, B6



The Rev. Silas Leonard Davis never lost faith he would celebrate a century of living.

## Davis From B1

hospital, he was often called by other preachers searching for a Biblical reference for their sermons.

Friends said Davis was a dynamic and eloquent speaker who stood apart from many other preachers because of his commitment to teaching his congregation as well as preaching to them.

"He was one of the greatest doctrinal teachers of his day. He had the charisma, but his forte was that he was one of the few preachers who was rooted and grounded in the doctrine of the faith," said the Rev. Raphael Smith, of the Mount Olive Baptist Church in Austin. "You have a lot of present-day ministers who are trying to swoon and sway you with platitudes, but he stayed strictly as a Biblical teacher."

Dr. Floyd A. Davis, Davis' son, described his father as an inspira-

tional man whose words were not soon forgotten by his congregation. He said his father, who had 11 children during his 72 years of marriage, has trained at least 17 ministers.

"He's a preacher, and he's a teacher. He felt it was just as important to make sure people understood the word as it was to preach the word," Davis said. "He was one who taught about Jesus, but nobody escaped knowing what sin was when he got through preaching."

Services for Davis will be held at 1 p.m. Saturday at St. John's Tabernacle, with burial in the Evergreen Cemetery.

Call 445-4040 for home delivery.

Austin American-Statesman

Austin American-Statesman  
March 31, 1988





**Reverend Silas Leonard Davis**

Reverend S.L. Davis, 100 years and 10 days old, died Tuesday morning, March 29, 1988.

He was the proud organizer and pastor of Mount Calvary Missionary Baptist Church, Austin, Texas. Mount Calvary had its beginning October 23, 1939. He served as active pastor until his death.

Other positions held during his ministerial career include: moderator of LaGrange Western Landmark Association; member of the Board of Trustees of Mary Allen College, Crockett, Texas; bible instructor for Ushers Convention of the National Baptist Convention of America; Saint John District Association; pastoral instructor for Saint John School of Religion; president of the BYPU (BTU) Department of State Congress of Christian Workers (42 years). Because of his rich background of knowledge and experience with the Congress, he was led to compile and publish *Four Decades*, a book treating each Sunday school and BYPU session. The book contains documentary and worthwhile bits of information.

He was a member of Beacon Light Masonic Lodge #338 and Rose of Sharon Chapter 277 Order of Eastern Star.

Reverend Davis was nominated and selected as a recipient of the prestigious Black Heritage Award in recognition of his service to the Austin-Travis County community for so many years, by the Black Heritage Committee, Austin Independent School District.

His belief in God sustained him. His request to the Lord was to let him live to see his 100th birthday - REQUEST GRANTED

Reverend Davis was the son of the late Andrew and Laura A. Davis; born in Saint John Colony, Dale, Texas, March 19, 1888; received his public school education in his native community; perfected an educational career at Guadalupe College and Samuel Houston College; and served as trustee of the public school in his district.

He was married in 1916, to Willie C. Thompson of Dale, Texas. To this union 11 children were born. One daughter, Valena A. Simmons; and one son, James Davis, preceded him in death.

He is survived by his wife of 72 years, Mrs. Willie C. Davis; three sons, Reverend O.D. Davis, Mr. Willie R.

Davis, and Dr. Floyd A. Davis of Austin; six daughters, Calasca Murphy, San Antonio, Texas, Ogarede Bowman, Denver, Colorado, Vessie Tutt, Scottie Ivory, Teresia Lewis, and Barbara Dotson, all of Austin; many grandchildren, great-grandchildren; and great-great-grandchildren; and numerous relatives and friends.

A victory celebration for his homegoing will be Saturday, April 2, 1988, in the Saint John Tabernacle in Austin, Texas, under the auspices of Mount Calvary Baptist Church, at 1:00 PM. Reverend Irs Lewis officiating. Interment at Evergreen Cemetery.

Arrangements by Fuller-Sheffield Funeral Service.

Obituary of Rev. Silas L. Davis  
Austin American-Statesman, April 1, 1988

Roll #

10281096

OK to go

SS 58-09

# A. APPLICATION FOR HISTORIC ZONING

Wanie filing +  
noted fees -  
city sponsored.

## PROJECT INFORMATION:

DEPARTMENTAL USE ONLY	
APPLICATION DATE: _____	FILE NUMBER(S): _____
TENTATIVE HLC DATE: _____	
TENTATIVE PC or ZAP DATE: _____	
TENTATIVE CC DATE: _____	CITY INITIATED: YES / NO
CASE MANAGER: _____	ROLLBACK: YES/NO
APPLICATION ACCEPTED BY: _____	

## BASIC PROJECT DATA:

1. OWNER'S NAME: <u>Mount Calvary Missionary Baptist Church</u>
2. PROJECT NAME: <u>Mount Calvary Missionary Baptist Church</u>
3. PROJECT STREET ADDRESS (or Range): <u>2111 S. J. Davis Ave</u>
ZIP <u>78702</u> COUNTY: <u>Travis</u>
IF PROJECT ADDRESS CANNOT BE DEFINED ABOVE:
LOCATED _____ FRONTAGE FEET ALONG THE N. S. E. W. (CIRCLE ONE) SIDE OF
APPROXIMATELY _____ (ROAD NAME PROPERTY FRONTS ONTO), WHICH IS
INTERSECTION WITH <u>Coleta Street and Rosewood</u> DISTANCE FROM ITS CROSS STREET.

Wetland Boggy

## AREA TO BE REZONED:

NP-Rosewood

4. ACRES <u>0.5484</u>	(OR)	SQ. FT. _____
5. ZONING AND LAND USE INFORMATION:		
EXISTING ZONING	EXISTING USE	TRACT# (IF MORE THAN 1)
_____	<u>Church</u>	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
ACRES / SQ. FT.	PROPOSED USE	PROPOSED ZONING
_____	<u>Church</u>	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

## RELATED CURRENT CASES:

6. ACTIVE ZONING CASE? (YES / <u>NO</u> )	FILE NUMBER: _____
7. RESTRICTIVE COVENANT? (YES / <u>NO</u> )	FILE NUMBER: _____
8. SUBDIVISION? (YES / <u>NO</u> )	FILE NUMBER: _____
9. SITE PLAN? (YES / <u>NO</u> )	FILE NUMBER: _____

PROPERTY DESCRIPTION (SUBDIVISION REFERENCE OR METES AND BOUNDS):

10a. SUBDIVISION REFERENCE: Name: Division B Foster Subdivision  
Block(s) 3 Lot(s) 5-7 Outlot(s) 58  
Plat Book: \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_  
Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
10b. METES AND BOUNDS (Attach two copies of certified field notes if subdivision reference is not available or zoning includes partial lots)

DEED REFERENCE CONVEYING PROPERTY TO PRESENT OWNER AND TAX PARCEL I.D.:

11. VOLUME: 03473 PAGE: 00921 TAX PARCEL I.D. NO. 0208114060000

OTHER PROVISIONS:

12. IS PROPERTY IN A ZONING COMBINING DISTRICT / OVERLAY ZONE? NO  
TYPE OF COMBINING DIST/OVERLAY ZONE (NCCD, NP, etc): Residential Design Standard overlay  
13. LOCATED IN A LOCAL OR NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT? YES NO  
14. IS A TIA REQUIRED? YES NO (NOT REQUIRED IF BASE ZONING IS NOT CHANGING)  
TRIPS PER DAY: \_\_\_\_\_  
TRAFFIC SERIAL ZONE(S): \_\_\_\_\_

OWNERSHIP TYPE:

15. SOLE COMMUNITY PROPERTY PARTNERSHIP ☒ CORPORATION TRUST  
If ownership is other than sole or community property, list individuals/partners/principals below or attach separate sheet.

OWNER INFORMATION:

16. OWNER CONTACT INFORMATION  
SIGNATURE: [Signature] NAME: Ron Leonard & Jones  
FIRM NAME: Met Callesan Missionary Baptist ch TELEPHONE NUMBER: CH 472-2844 / 472-0510  
STREET ADDRESS: 2411 S. H. Davis Ave  
CITY: Austin STATE: TEX ZIP CODE: 78702  
EMAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

AGENT INFORMATION (IF APPLICABLE):

17. AGENT CONTACT INFORMATION  
SIGNATURE: [Signature] NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
FIRM NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ TELEPHONE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_  
STREET ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE: \_\_\_\_\_  
CONTACT PERSON: \_\_\_\_\_ TELEPHONE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_  
EMAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

DEPARTMENTAL USE ONLY: \_\_\_\_\_



## D. SUBMITTAL VERIFICATION AND INSPECTION AUTHORIZATION

### SUBMITTAL VERIFICATION

My signature attests to the fact that the attached application package is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I understand that proper City staff review of this application is dependent upon the accuracy of the information provided and that any inaccurate or inadequate information provided by me/my firm/etc., may delay the proper review of this application.

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT NAME BELOW SIGNATURE AND  
INDICATE FIRM REPRESENTED, IF APPLICABLE.

Rev. L. H. Jones 5-8-09  
Signature Date

Rev. Leonard H. Jones  
Name (Typed or Printed)

Ant Calvary Missionary Baptist Church  
Firm (If applicable)

### INSPECTION AUTHORIZATION

As owner or authorized agent, my signature authorizes staff to visit and inspect the property for which this application is being submitted.

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT NAME BELOW SIGNATURE AND  
INDICATE FIRM REPRESENTED, IF APPLICABLE.

Rev. L. H. Jones 5-8-09  
Signature Date

Rev. Leonard H. Jones  
Name (Typed or Printed)

Ant Calvary Missionary Baptist Church  
Firm (If applicable)

## E. ACKNOWLEDGMENT FORM

concerning  
Subdivision Plat Notes, Deed Restrictions,  
Restrictive Covenants  
and / or  
Zoning Conditional Overlays

I, Rev L.K. Jones have checked for subdivision plat notes, deed restrictions,  
(Print name of applicant)

restrictive covenants and/or zoning conditional overlays prohibiting certain uses and/or requiring certain development restrictions i.e. height, access, screening etc. on this property, located at

Lot 5-7 Blk 30LT 58 Div B Foster Subd  
(Address or Legal Description)

If a conflict should result with the request I am submitting to the City of Austin due to subdivision plat notes, deed restrictions, restrictive covenants and/or zoning conditional overlays it will be my responsibility to resolve it. I also acknowledge that I understand the implications of use and/or development restrictions that are a result of a subdivision plat notes, deed restrictions, restrictive covenants and/or zoning conditional overlays.

I understand that if requested, I must provide copies of any and all subdivision plat notes, deed restrictions, restrictive covenants and/or zoning conditional overlay information which may apply to this property.

Rev L.K. Jones  
(Applicant's signature)

5-8-09  
(Date)

**TAX CERTIFICATE**  
**Nelda Wells Spears**  
**Travis County Tax Assessor-Collector**  
**P.O. Box 1748**  
**Austin, Texas 78767**  
**(512) 854-9473**

**NO 6697**

**ACCOUNT NUMBER: 02-0811-1406-0000**

**PROPERTY OWNER:**  
**MOUNT CALVARY MISSIONARY**  
**BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**2111 SL DAVIS AVE**  
**AUSTIN, TX 78702**

**PROPERTY DESCRIPTION:**  
**LOT 5-7 BLK 3 OLT 58 DIV B FOSTER SUBD**

**SITUS INFORMATION: 2111 S L DAVIS AVE TX 78702**

This is to certify that after a careful check of tax records of this office, the following taxes, delinquent taxes, penalties and interest are due on the described property of the following tax unit(s):

<b>YEAR</b>	<b>ENTITY</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
2008	AUSTIN ISD	* EXEMPT *
	CITY OF AUSTIN (TRAVIS)	* EXEMPT *
	TRAVIS COUNTY	* EXEMPT *
	TRAVIS COUNTY HEALTHCARE DISTRICT	* EXEMPT *
	AUSTIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE	* EXEMPT *

<b>TOTAL TAX:</b>	* EXEMPT *
<b>UNPAID FEES:</b>	* NONE *
<b>INTEREST ON FEES:</b>	* NONE *
<b>COMMISSION:</b>	* NONE *
<b>TOTAL DUE == &gt;</b>	* NONE *

**ALL TAXES ABOVE ARE EXEMPT FOR TAX YEAR 2008.**

The above-described property may be subject to special valuation based on its use, and additional rollback taxes may become due. (Section 23.55, State Property Tax Code).  
Pursuant to Section 31.08 of the State Property Tax Code, there is a fee of \$10.00 for all Tax Certificates.

**GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF OFFICE ON THIS DATE OF MAY 5, 2009.**

**Fee Paid: \$10.00**

**Nelda Wells-Spears**  
**Tax Assessor-Collector**

By: Andrea Copeland



*Upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.*

The most significant and deep-rooted foundations in East Austin is the organization of Mount Calvary Missionary Baptist Church, 2111 S. L Davis Ave.

Mount Calvary was organized October 23, 1939 in a church parsonage, 2301 East 12<sup>th</sup> street, Austin, Texas, occupied the ousted Pastor, accompanied by two other ministers and fifty- nine members.

The name Mount Calvary was submitted by Sister Roberta Marshall.

While absent from the room, the organizer, Reverend S.L Davis was chosen pastor. He was escorted by Reverend A.C Clark back into the room and informed of his election as pastor of Mount Calvary Missionary Baptist church.

The first worship service was held one week after the organization of Mount Calvary, at 2103 East 12<sup>th</sup> the home of Mr. and Mrs. W.R Marshall. The Community Center located at 1142 Angellina, was the next shelter for Mount Calvary until February 16, 1941. The members would enter the edifice facing Coletto Street, clear of debt and Mount Calvary was only three years, three months and 28 days of age.

A decision was later made to enlarge the church and with faith, prayer and determination the church as it now stands was completed in 1950. Mount Calvary would be the first brick built church among black churches in East Austin.

Note burning ceremonies was held in 1977, the church was free and clear of financial debt.

A root out of dry ground, today a monument, asset and pride and joy to the community, city, state and nation under the leadership of one master minded, man of God, called by God to lead God's people to higher heights, the man the late Reverend S.L Davis.

Reverend S.L Davis was a dynamic preacher and teacher. As quoted by T. Lewis "to name all the honors that have been bestowed upon Rev. S. L. Davis it would require a book." Reverend S.L. Davis served as pastor of Mount Calvary Missionary Baptist church until the Lord called him to rest, May 29, 1988 at the age of 100.

The church later began a search for the next pastor. The pastoral call was extended to Reverend L.K Jones on July 26, 1988. He accepted the call and became the second pastor in the history of the Mount Calvary church. Pastor Jones is a faithful minister devoted to winning the souls to Christ and determined to do the will of God.

The church became a participant in foreign Mission on April 24, 1994; Pastor L.K Jones journeyed to Belize, South America.

February 1998, as the results of two years of persistent and untiring efforts of Reverend L.K Jones, Washington Avenue was renamed S.L. Davis Ave.

Through the grace of God, this year Mount Calvary Missionary Baptist church will celebrate 70 years of existence in the community. Mount Calvary has provided a place of worship and fellowship for past, present and future generations to come, leading and strengthening their faith in Jesus Christ. Mount Calvary has been a deep root of the community. Members of Mount Calvary under the leadership of Reverend S. L. Davis still remain today.

Family descendants of Reverend S.L Davis and past members still remain sharing precious memories to carry over to the next generations. Mount Calvary is a true landmark within the community, city, state and nation.

The late Reverend S.L Davis had a vision to lead God's people to higher heights and today under the leadership of L.K Jones the essences of that vision remain.

### **Contractor and Craftsmen**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Contractors and Craftsmen</b>	<b>Source</b>
January 31, 1941	Reverend S.L Davis, Willie Ray Davis and O.D Davis	Church Cornerstone
Completion 1950	WR Davis & OD Davis Brothers Contractors James Bedford Masonry Mr. Synogue Painter	Church Cornerstone  Memoirs Scotti Ivory

Mount Calvary was the first Brick Church, among the Black churches in East Austin.

The beautiful structure of Mount Calvary stands a memorial to the dedicated, hard working members of the church from years past, for the building truly manifest the devotion and love for the cause of Christ

### **Historical Documentation – Occupancy History**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Occupant Name and Reference</b>	<b>Source</b>
1941-Present	Mount Calvary Missionary Baptist Church Deacons, Trustee and Their Successors,  2111 S. L Davis Ave	Church Cornerstone

## Historical Documentation

### Transaction

### Vol. /Page

Matthew D. Edwards, Jr. and wife Helen Edwards,  
To Mount Calvary Baptist Church Deacons, Trustees and  
Their Successors  
Lot 5, Block 3, Foster Subdivision  
April 12, 1968  
\$10.00

Vol. 1, pp. 34



MOUNT CALVARY MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH  
ODD FACTS CURIOSITIES

Organized October 23, 1939 in a Church parsonage, 2301 E. 12th Street Austin, Texas, occupied by the ousted Pastor of the Church, accompanied by two other ministers and fifty-nine members.

The name "Mt. Calvary" was submitted by Sis. Roberta Marshall who later was elected as president of Ushers.

The organizer, Rev. S. L. Davis was chosen Pastor while absent from the room. He was ushered into the room and informed by Rev. A. C. Clerk of his election as Pastor for the above named church. Rev. Clerk was given the Chair by Rev. P. E. Davis, Chairman pro tem to carry out the voting procedure. Sis. Olivia Richardson (nee Harris Woodfork) was made Secretary pro tem.

The following persons voted and formed the organization: Rev. P. E. Davis 2. Sis. Cora Plummer\*, 3. Bro. Allie Wright\*, 4. Bro. Geo. Clerk\*, 5. Bro. Worth Hardin, Bro. Ross Westbrook, 7. Sis. Cora Brown, 8. Sis. Susie Edwards\*, 9. Sis. Dora Atchison\*, 10. Sis. Sarah Wilson\*, 11. Sis. Olyvia Clerk\*, 12. Sis. Lillian Lee, 13. Bro. Charles Lee, 14. Sis. Etta M. Lee\* (Moore), 15. Sis. Gladys Lee\*, 16. Sis. Katie Allen\*, Sis. Ogerade Davis, Sis. Ida Carter, 19. Sis. Novella Sneed, 20. Sis. Ruth Reader, 21. Sis. Susie Galloway, 22. Sis. Ruby Collins\*, 23. Sis. Roberta Marshall, 24. Sis. Laura Mae Clark, 25. Sis. Mary Westbrook, 26. Sis. Daisy Lowe, 27. Sis. Etta Mae Plummer, 28. Sis. S. L. Davis\*, 29. Sis. Willie Rivers, 30. Sis. Viola Suel Hill\*, 31. Sis. Jean Hill\* (Freeman), 32. Sis. Vessie Davis, 33. Sis. Pearl Porter\*, 34. Sis. Lillie Marie Jones, 35. Sis. Lillie M. Wright, 36. Sis. Virginia Clark, 37. Sis. Velene Davis, 38. Sis. Helen Davis (Ussery), 39. Sis. Scottie Davis\* (Ivory) 40. Bro. Willis Ray Davis\*, 41. Sis. Mary Moore\*, 42. Sis. Olyvia H. Richardson\*, 43. Sis. Eula Clayborne, 44. Bro. Henry Clayborne, 45. Sis. Marie Novall Walker, 46. Sis. M. H. Lee\*, 47. Sis. Willie Mae Lee\*, 48. Sis. Fannie Moore\*, 49. Sis. Tennessee Gilbert\* (by proxy), 50. Sis. Emma McMillen (by proxy) 51. Sis. Helen Hardin, 52. Bro. Charles J. Clerk\*, 53. Bro. Thomas Clerk\*, 54. Bro. Geo. Marion Clerk, 55. Bro. Lawrence Clerk, 56. Sis. Mary Suel\*, 57. Sis. Birdie Alexander + 58. Bro. Willie Gibbs, 59. Sis. Mollie Keys\*.

The first worship service was held on Wednesday night, one week after organization in the home of Bro. and Sis. W. R. Marshall, 2103 E. 12th Street at which time the following persons united: Bro. Seth Richardson\*, Sis. E. L. McMillen, Sis. Tennessee Gilbert\*, Sis. Mollie Keys\*, Sis. Marie Marshall\*, Bro. W. R. Marshall\*. The Community Center, 1142 Angelina Street, was our next shelter and remained there until February 16, 1941, when we entered the edifice facing Coleto St. which was cleared of debt and Mt. Calvary was only 3 yrs. 3 months and 28 days of age.

Odd Facts:

First baptism held at Olivet Baptist Church; First candidate, Henry Sutton; First pianist, Jean Hill Freeman, age \_\_\_; first Junior Dea, Earl White Sr.; First Junior Usher President, Douglas Gibbs; first Junior, Willie Ray Davis; first baby, Ryona Dymon; first marriage, Ogerade Davis; first death, Charles Clark; first disagreement: Jan. 15, 1940. Question? Pastors salary 15.00 per wk. (too much) pianist 2.50 per wk. (too much) Saxton, 1.00 per wk. (too much) No, no, we refuse recommendation. First and only treasurer Ira M. Marshall (34 yrs.)

A Root out of Dry Ground. Today, A Monument, an asset and pride of joy to the community, city, state and nation under the leader of one Master-Mind, a man of God sent by God, to lead God's people to higher heights, the man Rev. S. L. Davis.

Deceased\* Present Members:

MEMORIES OF YESTER YEARS

-1940.



*Mount Calvert Junior Choir, Gene E. Hill pianist*

Rev. S.L. Davis

1940

Laura Mae Clark

Virginia Clark

Kitty Freeman

Eddie Freeman

John Freeman

Dora Wright

Lula Mae Wright

Scottie Davis

Vessie Davis

Valena Davis

Gene Hill Pianist

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

MOUNT CALVARY MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH  
2111 WASHINGTON AVENUE  
AUSTIN , TEXAS

REV. S. L. DAVIS

PASTOR

**MEMBERS IN ORGANIZATION, YET HERE**

REV. AND MRS. S. L. DAVIS

RUBY COLLINS

VESSIE TUTT

SCOTTIE IVORY

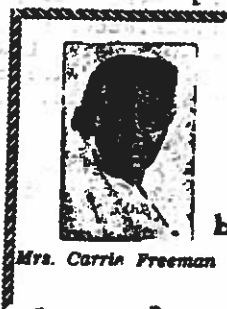
WILLIE RAY DAVIS

OLIVIA HARRIS WOODFORK

**NOT IN ORGANIZATION:**

MARIE MARSHALL(ONE WEEK AFTER)

CARRIE FREEMAN (THREE WEEKS  
( THREE WEEKS AFTER)



**NEXT GROUP:**

OLA LEE SNEED

E. C. ALLEN

MILTON ALLEN

VERONIA MACKAY

**NEXT:**

CARRIE MANOR

JENNIE HOLMAN

RODNEY HOLMAN

**MT CALTARY'S PRODUCTIVITY:**

**MINISTERS:**

**REVERENDS**

C. R. REED

J. N. BLAKE

TOMMIE L. RIVERS

L. M. RIVERS

O. D. DAVIS

CLIFTON MANOR

JAMES MCCracken

JAMES WASHINGTON

IRA LEWIS

**DEACONS**

**DEACONS:**

JAMES BEDFORD

IRA MARSHALL

C. WILLIAMS

JIM CARR

RODNEY HOLMAN

RONNIE DAVIS

EZELL TUTT

AUDRY FREEMAN

ARTHUR MANOR(HONORARY)



# **Farewell Message: "DEFENSELESS AGED AND HELPLESS BABIES"**



**REV. S. L. DAVIS**

Live from the State Congress of Christian Workers  
Greater Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church  
Dallas, Texas



**FAMILY LOYALTY, EFFERENT AND DEVOTION**

From the Bible we find many settings where an Abraham, Jacob or a Job gave strong and loving family leadership but instilled virtue and kinship pride in the lives of all members, setting them apart and inspiring respect and confidence in the minds of their neighbors and friends.

Pictured here we see a fine family example of equal loyalty, esteem and devotion to an earthly father, pastor, civic and church leader . . . the family of Rev. S. L. Davis, father, nephew and in-laws striving to emulate the unselfish and holy example of a parent who has spared nothing to put the church and Holy Bible FIRST in every crisis of life.

This family relationship in the broadest sense also visualizes the many sons and daughters in the church on the local, state and national levels that recognize and proclaim Rev. Davis as their spiritual father, imagine him. If you will, picture many times the size of this one, with beaming faces, his SPIRITUAL family. And imagine the faces of this entire and associates of Rev. Davis listed on this album . . . they all saw more of the Lord through the help of Rev. Davis!

And, someday we know he will lay down his earthly cares and cheerfully assumed responsibilities, and take up a crown of glory, to crown with those who sent him there on heaven's golden shores. Won't THAT be a wonderful family? Here Christ reigns supreme, surely everyone of us will want to make it in to sit at His feet and be blessed.

- - - a Friend

**KNOWN SONS  
IN THE MINISTRY  
OF S. L. DAVIS**

- Rev. J. N. Blake
- Rev. G. V. Clark
- Rev. O. D. Davis
- Rev. P. E. Davis
- Rev. C. H. Loftin
- Rev. James McCracken
- Rev. C. E. Reed
- Rev. L. M. Rivers
- Rev. T. L. Rivers
- Rev. John Rouse
- Rev. Robert Williams
- Rev. A. Dewitty

\*Deceased

**REVEREND S. L. DAVIS**

Great American Negroes have made many accomplishments in commerce, art and in their own lives. But the religious world of this country has not yet seen a Negro who has served his people as well as Rev. S. L. Davis. He was a pioneer and a leader. Rev. Davis has a long record of service to his people, and he has been a great blessing to the church and the community. He was a man of great faith and courage, and he was a man who was always ready to stand for what he believed in.

He was the son of the late Mr. J. and Mrs. A. Davis, born in St. Louis, Mo. He was educated in the public schools of St. Louis, and he was a member of the St. Louis Baptist Church. He was a man of great faith and courage, and he was a man who was always ready to stand for what he believed in.

He was a man of great faith and courage, and he was a man who was always ready to stand for what he believed in. He was a man of great faith and courage, and he was a man who was always ready to stand for what he believed in. He was a man of great faith and courage, and he was a man who was always ready to stand for what he believed in.

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**"DEFENSELESS AGED AND HELPLESS BABIES"**  
**Rev. S. L. Davis-Farewell Message/Aug. 16, 1973**  
**Recorded at the State Congress of Christian Workers**  
**Greater Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church-Rev. Alvin White, Pastor**

Rev. L.K. Jones (Leonard Kirk Jones) was born September 3, 1954 in Travis Co., Austin, Texas at Brackenridge Hospital to Barbara Davis Dotson and Victor Jones. In which they named him after his grandfather "Leonard" (Rev. S.L. Davis). He attended L.L. Campbell Elementary School from the First to the fourth grade. In 1964 on April 3 his mother remarried Mr. Richard Dotson. In January 1966 at the age of ten (10) years old he went to Brackenridge Germany with his stepfather and mother along with his siblings Victor, Vickie (twins) and Gerald. He attended Hildebrand Germany American Elementary School. Until June 1968, when his father were transferred to Ft. Hancock N.J. at Sandy Hook. His family lived in Belford N.J. and he attended Thorn Jr. High School and then later attended Keansburg Jr. High School, after the family moved to Keansburg. He was the first black student to attend this new building Jr. High School in Keansburg N.J. were they gave him an award for most likely to succeed and best personality. In 1969, they later moved to Fort Hancock Army Base in 1970 which then he attended Bayshore Jr. High. When his father received orders to go back to Germany they departed from Fort Hancock to Wertheim Germany where he attended Wurzburg American High School, in Wurzburg Germany. He also received best personality in his freshmen year alone with Liz Torres. He played Varsity Football for four (4) years and also lettered each year on Varsity Basketball (4 years and lettered each year, Varsity Track and Field 4 years and lettered each year a total of 12 (twelve) letter in one High School which was the first to letter 12 (twelve) times.

In 1971 there was high tension of race problems in the U.S. Army, to keep it out of our High School. He organized a Race Relation Class to bring the Students together which he called, "We can live together." With this program he received permission from the Principle to show the movie Watermelon Man. At the theater at the Layton Barracks Home of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Infirmary Division, Wurzburg Germany. He had the chance of training many students while he was in Germany. He graduated from Wurzburg 1974. Each year doing his stay in the summer months, he would work for the Post Engineers. He was to drive a large International Tractor to cut the Air field, ball fields and other parts of the Base that needed maintenance. The summer of 1972 Munich Olympic Games, he did alter the games and he did remember the terrorists attack. And was rushed to the campus to University of Maryland Munich Germany. His dad Richard Dotson received orders to Fort Bliss Texas / El Paso, Texas at which time he was thinking of College or Army. He then went to become a Tank Commander (during the Vietnam Area) after leaving Fort Knox, KY from Basic Training. He asked to be stationed at Ft. Bliss, El Paso, Texas where he served with the 3<sup>rd</sup> ARM (armor Calvary Regiment). During this assignment he had the chance to go to Hiwi Figi Islands AND Australia. Then in 1977 he was called to duty in Korea at Camp Gary Owens near the DMZ under the 2<sup>nd</sup> Infirmary Division. He then was promoted to Sergeant and Tank Commander. He has always had an interest in medical. His Commander made him NCOIC of V.D. (Venereal Disease) Control which was very high there at the time.

He later received orders to Ft. Hood but he then had the orders changed to Ft. Bliss where he was again with the 3<sup>rd</sup> ACR (Armor Calvary Regiment). In 1978 his Unit was to test the XM-1 main Battle Tank which later became the M-1 Abram. That summer of 1978, July he had a bad fall (injury) from one of the tanks and was med vet (air lifted) TO William Beaumont Army Medical Center. At that time he had sprang his back but did return to his Unit with his crew. At the time he was the Tank Commander. One day

when he was getting ready to put his tank in a parade, he told his crew to go ahead to lunch and he continued working. That is when he received his calling to preach the Gospel. He did not answer right away. He later told his Pastor Rev. M.V. Lee and his grandfather, Rev. S.L. Davis. He then preached his first sermon at Mt. Zion on October 23, 1978 "Let Your Light Shine", Matthew 5:16. In 1979 he was reclassified to the Medical Field as a 91-C equivalent to a PA after the training. He had gone to Ft. Sam Houston in San Antonio, Texas for Medical School. Then after graduating from school he then went to Ft. Campbell KY with THE 101<sup>ST</sup> airborne Division. During this tour he went to Coro W. Egypt to serve in the Exercise Bright Star 81. During this TDY an Air Force C141 crashed and he was the first one on the scene. There were eleven (11) crew aboard the plane and all eleven (11) passed away. One individual on the crew was a lady and he held her until she died. Another male was cut in half that were reaching for him but to no avail he died. Unfortunately, they in a mine field that had caused so many different explosions. At the time he did not they were in a mine field. After the bodies were shipped off and accompanied by the Chaplain and before he left he asked if I would hold service for the troops in the Desert (Sinai) and he did (which was one of his high points of his ministry). After leaving the 101<sup>st</sup> ADV in 1982, he was stationed at Burt back Germany at 733 Medical Detachment where he served as the well babies, OBGYN, Trauma and ER NCOIC. In 1984 after two years he was reassigned to Ft. Bliss, Texas until April 1985. Then when he was no longer able to carry out his duties he had to retire. And this was after ten (10) years and four (4) months.

He then started attending to (taking care of) his grandfather, Rev. S.L. Davis as his male nurse. He had to assist him by bathing, personal needs, showering and basically his provider in health care. He even drove him, Rev. S.L. Davis to funerals at the Church. Rev. Davis would use a wheelchair to get around and at times he would set in his wheelchair to preach. He took care of him at his home until he went to the hospital. Then when he could not make Church Services like a cold or something he would carry him to services as well.

In 1988 the Rev. S. L. Davis passed at the age of 100 years. Then Mt. Calvary Missionary Baptist Church on July 26 called Rev. L. K. Jones to be the next Pastor of that Church until present.



# Washington Ave. renamed for ex-pastor

By SCOTT S. GEMZEWISER  
American-Statesman Staff

Even at a time when neighbors, not patrol cars, policed the neighborhoods of East Austin, the Rev. Silas Leonard Davis stood out.

In the tight-knit East Austin of the 1930s, everybody knew everybody and parents looked out for their neighbors' children as well as their own. Yet Davis' moral stature was such that state District Judge Ralph Yarborough would try misdemeanor cases in Davis' East 13th Street home, often designating the reverend as an unofficial parole officer.

"He knew he could hold those people morally responsible for their conduct," son Floyd Davis said of the relationship between Yarborough, later a legendary U.S. senator, and his father.

Ten years after Davis died at the age of 100, the City Council on Thursday acted to preserve his memory by renaming Washington Avenue, the site of his church, as "S.L. Davis Avenue."

Davis, a son of former slaves, was born in 1888 in Dale, about 25 miles southeast of Austin.

He was ordained in 1925, and pastored in Spring Hill, Fayetteville, Gay Hill, Ottine and San Antonio before coming to Austin in 1937 to head David Chapel

See Washington, B6



Relatives of the Rev. Silas Leonard Davis gather at Davis' former church on Washington Avenue, which is being renamed for Davis.

From left are Teresita Lewis, Floyd Davis, Vessie Tutt, Willie Ray Davis, Scottie Ivory, Leonard Jones and Barbara Dotson.

## Washington Ave. renamed in honor of ex-pastor Davis

Continued from B1

Missionary Baptist Church.

In 1889, Davis organized Mount Calvary Missionary Baptist Church, and in 1950 he supervised the construction of the church's current red-brick building. His grandson, the Rev. Leonard Jones, succeeded him as pastor in 1988.

Davis was strict, both in his interpretation of the Bible and his philosophy for raising children, according to son Willie Ray.

"My dad spanked. He knew how to spank. He came up knowing the spanking," Willie Ray said.

Davis was more than a preacher.

love philosophy according to son Floyd. He lobbied the City Council for better city services for the black community, urged his parishioners to fight for civil rights and advised "the great and small" of Austin, including longtime mayor Tom Miller.

Floyd Davis said the younger generation could learn a lot from his father.

"My dad went through a period in American history when you had to fight for every inch, and the generations now take it all for granted," Floyd said. "They need in the reminder that we served





# Memoirs

I remember growing up in East Austin and the community was like an extended family, the church was a very integral part of the black family. We attended Sunday school, morning worship every week, junior church and vacation bible school during the summer. I was baptized when I was eleven. All of my children and grandchildren were also baptized at Mount Calvary. Pastor S.L. Davis was a very intelligent man and taught well. At the time I remember the Deacons were Deacon Bus Clark, Deacon Milton Allen, Deacon Leslie Mallet, Deacon Sharp, Deacon Marshall and Deacon E.C Allen. The church clerk was Mrs. Olivia Harris (Woodfork). The president of the usher board was Sister Katie Allen, others were; sister veronia Mackey, Sister Essie Allen, Sister Ola Sneed (my mother) and I think Sister Olivia Clark. Daughter Theresia Lewis was the choir director. I remember we had contests to raise money for the Junior Mission and I won (Miss Junior Mission) around the age of 14-16. We also had Miss Mount Calvary. So many families have gone through Mount Calvary Missionary Baptist Church. Pastor Davis use to tell us we had to iron ribs and steel backbone to be a Christian, and he was right..... Ms. Beverly Felder

**WHAT I REMEMBER ABOUT MT. CALVARY:**

I remember Daddy was Pastoring David's Chapel, and after leaving we were going to build Mt. Calvary Baptist Church. While Mt. Calvary was being built, we would have service at an activity center on St. Bernard Street. I remember that my brothers were all carpenters and they built Mt. Calvary. It was the 1<sup>st</sup> black Baptist Church in Austin, Texas being built with a balcony and we were So Excited!!! Mt. Calvary was started with about 35 members which including all of daddy's children.

**MEMORABLE MOMENTS:**

- Excited about having a brick church with a balcony
- Baptizing under the pulpit

**WHAT I WAS INVOLVED IN:**

- BTU, Choir (Alto), Taught Sunday School, Prayer/Teacher Meetings

**MY ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN LIFE:**

- I went to Madam C J Walker beauty Academy in Austin, Texas (Pinky Moore Owner), moved to Dallas, Texas and opened up Oggie's Beauty Salon and became a popular beautician styling hair for entertainers that came to Dallas such as Chuck Berry, Ray Charles & the Rayette singers, Tina Turner just to name a few.
- Edwards School of Theology, Dallas, TX
- Married Dr. A.L. Bowman and relocated to the Union Baptist Church, Denver Co
- I went back to college to CCD College in Denver, CO and earned my degree in Directorship License/Childcare Development graduating summa Cum Laude
- Director & Founder of the Union Baptist Early Learning Academy in Religious Education, Denver, Co
- President of Women's Dept. at the Union Baptist Church, Denver Co
- Director of Young Matrons at the Union Baptist Church (over 103 women present each week)
- Opened & Operated Oggie's II Boutique Denver, Co
- Received 1<sup>st</sup> Black Woman's Award, Denver, Co
- Inducted in the Black Women's Hall of Fame, Denver, Co
- Inducted as Women of Achievement, Denver, Co

**SPEAKING GOD'S WORD/SINGING GOD'S SONGS:**

- Keynote speaker at the National Ushers Convention
- Keynote speaker at National #2 Women's Convention
- Spoke of Rev. O.B. Williams Church, Portland Organ
- Keynote Speaker TKA Annual Luncheon, Freedom Baptist Church, Dallas, Tx
- Keynote Speaker Annual Women's Day, Freedom Baptist Church, Dallas, Tx
- Song for James Cleveland's opening acts

**WHAT I'M DOING NOW:**

- Reside in Dallas, Texas
- Have 2 children – Dr. Mack T. Flemmings, Sr., Pastor of the Freedom Baptist Church (where I attend), and Judy F. King – Owner/Operator of Oggie's Beauty Boutique, 9 grandchildren, 16 great-grandchildren, 3 great great-children (which all reside in Dallas, Tx area)

## **MOUNT CALVARY MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH BROCHURE**

To: Myra Felder      From: Teresia Davis Lewis

Thanks be to God for his unspeakable "Gift" -- That "Gift" is Christ Jesus.

My connection with Mount Calvary was in its inception and organization. On October 23, 1939, in our soon to vacated home, David Chapel's Church parsonage, located at 2301 E. 12<sup>th</sup> Street, Mount Calvary was born. Sister Roberta Marshall submitted the name, Mount Calvary. The first worship service was held at Brother and Sister W. R. Marshall's home, 2103 E. 12<sup>th</sup> Street. The second physical worshipping place was the Community Center, located at 1142 Angelina Street.

However, it was not until the age of seven (7) that I accepted that most precious "Gift," Jesus. That same morning, my brother, Dr Floyd A. Davis, (age 6) gave his life to Christ at the Community Center. Both Floyd and I were baptized in the Colorado River (Montopolis Bridge area). We served as junior ushers and sang in the youth choir with Jean (Hill) Freeman, Mount Calvary's first pianist. I vaguely remember a song she taught us: "Don't Talk If You Have Nothing To Say."

The third worshipping place was the newly built white, wood-framed edifice facing Coletto Street, that was entered in on February 16, 1941. That building remains in tact as a subset of the present red brick edifice. Three years, three months, and 28 days later, Mount Calvary was cleared of debt. "The people had a mind to work," Nehemiah 4:6c. These accomplishments were all under the leadership of Pastor S. L. Davis, the organizer of Mount Calvary Missionary Baptist Church. At this location, I continued working as a choir member, usher, Sunday School student, youth participant, and pianist. Of course children had no choice but to attend prayer meetings.

Later, my husband, the late Reverend Ira Lewis, formerly a member of Saint James Baptist church, united with Mount Calvary. We were married by Pastor S. L. Davis. Ira was a dedicated Sunday School teacher/superintendent, deacon, church clerk, Brotherhood president, an associate minister, and a true confidant of Pastor Davis.

When the day of entry into the present brick edifice approached, I was unable to attend. I had so rigorously prepared the choir for this auspicious occasion. However, my first born son, the now Reverend Ira L. Lewis, decided that it was time for him to be born. Therefore, I was in the hospital on that day. While at Mount Calvary, my girls, Lisa Karen (deceased) and Susan Belinda were born to the Lewis Family.

During my time at Mount Calvary, there had always been inspirational choirs with melodious voices, along with consecrated musicians who had unique ways of directing. To name a few: Sisters Jean Hill-Freeman, Madeline Smith, Veryl Reed; Brothers; Moses Mackey, Joe Henderson, and Craig Fowler. Now when I began, there was no musician. Sister Davis had bought a piano for the home. I learned to bang out the hymn "There Is a Fountain" with two fingers – treble and bass. One Sunday, Pastor Davis told me to get on the piano and play "There Is a Fountain." We sang all five verses – before the sermon and all five verses after the sermon.

After learning to use more fingers, Mount Calvary gradually became a "Show Choir." Pastor Davis impressed upon us that we do not sing the Gospel; we simply build the fire in preparation for the Gospel to be preached. We built the fire When we had Choir Annuals, musicians from all around came to hear us. Such directors who came were Virgie Carrington DeWitty, Ruth Sauls, Ruth Reeder Davis Jimmie Hunter, Harriett Hardin Claudia Williams, others.... I am still banging, "In the Name of Jesus."

I continued my Spiritual journey at Mount Calvary. As Youth Director, with Ceresa Nunn as Co-Sponsor, I recall our most cherished Youth accomplishments: . Some activities were:

- (1) the yearly Youth Revivals
- (2) the yearly Summer Vacation Bible School Sessions and Recreational Outings
- (3) the weekly Youth Bible Study Sessions with Pastor Davis
- (4) the Note Burning Project - Not only did the project pay off the Church Note, it also paid all of Pastor Davis' outstanding bills.
- 5) the "Pioneer Day" - Pastor Davis said that he wanted to sit back and recall noted happenings, events, and activities that had taken place throughout his life. We brought this to fruition by focusing on his life; a man who had led in doing many worthwhile acts and deeds in the lives of others. The Youth Department carried out his desire by planning, designing, and executing this project May 29, 1977.

Although my religious activities were time consuming, the Lord gave me stamina to return to school to earn an Undergraduate degree at Huston Tillotson College, a Graduate degree at the University of Texas @ Austin, and Post-Graduate work at Texas State University @ San Marcos. The skills acquired helped me serve the community as a teacher, principal, and College Dean – These same learned skills enhanced my performance with religious tasks.

My final effort with Mount Calvary was May 29, 1977–Pioneer Day." On May 8, 1977, my husband, Reverend Ira Lewis was called to pastor Mount Ararat Missionary Baptist Church, Bartlett, Texas. As a result of the unrelenting teaching and leadership demonstrated by my Dad, Pastor S. L. Davis and the phenomenal role model of a pastor's wife exhibited by my mother, Mrs. Willia Cora Davis, I can resoundingly admit that Mount Calvary well equipped both Ira and me to meet the challenge of our new assignment.

May God bless your endeavor.

Teresia Lewis 2



## Memories are made of this

The birth of the Calvary did not come about the Cause some one said let us organize another Church. No I came into existence the Cause like Jesus was carried before Pilate to be tried - Rev. A. L. Davis was taken before the Judge in the Circuit Courts to release them of his Pastoral leadership - He was a leader who wanted his members not to know only local Christian work, but to gain knowledge from others elsewhere.

He took members by train and bus loads to other states. David Chapin Baptist Church was well recognized. It was the men of the Church who were unable to resist their wives going away from <sup>home</sup> that was still in Union. This was over 16 years since we were freed from slavery. Some women clean the houses, Cook, hair, etc. We do not want now to know more than we do now know.

The Judge said He did not want to deal with all this. Take it back to Church.

The time for voting the Pastor out brought a full house of people, people who were kind but not members of David Chapin Baptist Church.

so many people that they had to sit  
on the window ledges or seats all in  
the Church yard. I can't see them  
now. Some I am sure did not know Rev S L  
Davis. But they voted him out of the  
Church on a Sunday morn. They did  
not give him severance pay - He had  
to go home to eight children and a wife  
to feed.

The Bible says Babel is the road  
that lead to destruction many go  
therein. Harrow is road that lead to heaven  
Every hour and there's travelers

On that Wednesday morn when  
people began to gather came through  
the Chestnut side door. I was thinking  
maybe they were coming to tell Dad  
to come back. I was wrong.

When Rev A C Clark (Rev W L Clark, St  
John Association's moderator) had said  
Rev Penn Harris (Davis) and my curiosity  
went into overdrive. - Many others came  
- We read a scripture and sang  
and prayed. I was made know  
that they had gathered to excommunicate  
a Church. Rev S L Davis (Dad) saw  
name it Mt Calvary.

Your history Mt Calvary was  
recorded by Sw Church Harris Wood Jan

from a personal view going to school  
after all that went on at Howard Chase.  
That Sunday etc. I was greeted  
with a lot of snide remarks from  
his school. But I can remember  
friends like Budie Alexander, Melvin  
Porter, Douglas Gibbs, George and  
Clarence White gathering around  
me tell those around to stop it.  
Thank God for friend who will  
stand with, when your world  
seems to be falling apart.

I can remember much more.  
It is all stamped in my mind.

Let me leave you with this  
Have you ever washed sneakers in  
the washing machine? Put at the  
merry button put on top a quilt and  
4 towels and you have clean sneakers  
turn it over and when all done  
have yourself take the top (the  
top - what do you call it?)  
The Squat.

He was trampled down - But  
around the top - I saw libraries  
on my way out - Remember  
years ago I saw figures of  
the Bible in the air - as the  
Prophet's teacher - and teacher  
Teacher.

I thank my mother for being the  
kind of Christian woman she was.  
Through all the sad years (I mother)  
only had say "S. The Children  
and I are here for always as  
she made him the strong that  
he was.

Take from my memories what you  
need. There is much more but  
I remembered that it was to be that  
you needed

Des Lewis C. Davis Tuttle  
2/15/09

### **Barbara Jean Davis Dotson- Memoir**

My name is Barbara Jean Davis Dotson and I am the youngest of eleven children. I was two years old when my father became the pastor of the Mt. Calvary Missionary Baptist Church. My memories are most vivid as a child. My most cherished memory is when I was baptized at the age of seven. I can remember how I always felt that Sunday School was special time, which at the time I was in the beginner and primary class, where my teacher was Sis. Arvella Bonnera. There was also a woman by the name of Sis. Olivia Harris, who kept us all straight when it came to the church ethics, she later wrote a book on church ethics. I can also remember when we had the Star Light Band. The children would blow little horns, kazoos, and other little instruments as we marched along the sanctuary walls, three to four times, and that was our little band. I also remember being a junior usher and singing in the junior choir. From time to time we would have two preachers that would run our revivals. I will never forget them the Rev. T.E. Marshall and H.L. Price. The grandest day was when the note burning took place because we had paid off the church; Rev. Punch of Houston came and conducted that service. At that time we didn't have much money but to pay for the church some members would give a whole weeks salary to help pay that note, they sacrificed so much, this is still instilled in me today and I love doing anything for my church. I can remember our church was the first African American church to charter a bus to go out of town, where Pastor Davis would render service. In 1966 I remember leaving Austin but I held on to all the teaching and training I received from Mt. Calvary, I later returned in 1981. I began playing the piano for the church under my father, Rev. S.L. Davis. Sadly, we lost our pastor, my dad, in 1988. He was a hundred years and nine days old. Then on July 26, 1988 the church call Rev. L.K. Jones, my son, to pastor the church. These are only a few of the memories from the Mt. Calvary Missionary Baptist Church, but there are many more.

Thank You,

Barbara Jean Davis Dotson

The baby daughter of late Rev. and Mrs. S.L. Davis



I Scottie Ivory was born in 1930, in Seguin, Texas to Silas Leonard Davis and Willia Cora Thompson Davis. We moved to San Antonio when I was three months old. My dad Rev. S.L. Davis was called to David Chapel Baptist church and attended Samuel Huston College.

When I was seven years old we moved to Austin, Texas. I united the church David Chapel the old church located on east 14<sup>th</sup> street and chestnut. I was baptized at Greater Mt. Zion under the pastor, Reverend N.S Brown because old David Chapel didn't have a baptizing facility.

Later candidates were baptized in the Colorado River.

Before Mount Calvary was built we cleaned off the vacant lot. Cans, paper, iron, pieces furniture, you name it, it was there.

My brothers built the church Willie Ray Davis, O.D Davis and Floyd Davis. I remember when the mason lodge laid the cornerstone.

Mrs. Roberta named Mount Calvary Missionary Baptist church. Our business meetings were held every month. Mrs. Olivia Wood was our clerk, after her Vessie Tutt and today Artie Faye manor.

I sang in the first sunshine choir, I severed in the Y.W.A (Young Women's Auxiliary).

Going back I remember my mother was one of the members that raised the most money at the time of her annuals. She had home and extension class in Sunday school. She would search the neighborhood for people that was out of church and made a report each Sunday and had them to come to church and unite.

I remember the Bell Tower; I could hear the music from my house. You could hear the 11:00 service all over the community. I was BYPU president which was held at 5-6 pm, night service would start at 6:00pm. The young and newest preachers would preach. They would rotate. We had more at night service than we had in the morning.

Every year in September we would get ready for the national convention the ushers, mission sisters, and the pastor. They would park the buses on the parking lot and would return on the Friday night or Saturday. During the time I was married to my first husband that in the service and overseas. I didn't go to church for three months, going to the Jazz session every Sunday. I would say to myself, I will go next Sunday but put it off for three months then I went every Sunday since unless I was sick.