



*Welcome to the House!*

# New Member Orientation



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# INTRODUCTION



Welcome to the House of Light Church Family!!!

This course is designed to prepare you to walk in your God-given purpose and in the Light of Christ.

We believe accepting Jesus Christ as your personal Savior is the greatest, most impactful, and wisest decision you will ever make. Upon doing so, you activate God's perfect will for your life, thereby willfully participating in the plan He has for you.

This course consists of lessons designed to help you understand the mission, purpose, and focus of the House of Light Church. It will also help you understand how to provide a positive contribution to your church family and your community, through your association and participation with the House of Light Church.

We pray the blessings of God over your life! God bless you and thank you for entrusting us with your spiritual well-being!



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## HISTORY

The House of Light Church Ministries was founded March 2016 by Rev. Ken J. Gordon, Jr., Ph.D. (Pastor Ken) and Sis. Leslie Gordon, in Burlington, New Jersey.

The spirit-filled couple set about establishing a church, which focused on relationship, not religion and resisted judging, intolerance, and convention.

God revealed to Pastor Ken the church was meant as a place of light for those in darkness; a place where the good works of its members would lead people to Christ. God impressed upon Pastor Ken that the church would bring light to a dark world through the ministries God would reveal. God led Pastor Ken to Matthew 5:16 – “Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father, which is in heaven.”

Upon providing this spiritual inspiration, God gave Pastor Ken the name of the church - The House of Light Church.

Two years after establishing the House of Light Church - Burlington, NJ, Pastor Ken’s career moved him to Birmingham, Alabama. Unsettled and unsure, he questioned God about the move. As an answer to his prayers, God sent a prophet to confirm the move to Birmingham, where God would continue his plans for Pastor Ken and Sis. Leslie and their ministry.

After relocating to Birmingham, Pastor Ken continually went going back and forth to Burlington to preach and pastor. During this time, he sought God for direction regarding the establishment of a new church plant in Birmingham. After a 21-day fast in January 2018, God impressed revealed it was time to plant the House of Light Church - Alabama.

Therefore, on May 6, 2018, Pastor Ken and Sis. Leslie opened the doors of the House of Light Church – Birmingham, in downtown Birmingham, Alabama.

The new church plant in Birmingham saw growth and experienced the associated pains. During this time, the new church established an outreach ministry that brought several members to their church. The members spanned from business leaders to the homeless. Additionally, the church established an outreach ministry for a local transitional women’s home, classes for low-income residents, and a radio show focused on creating positive relationships.

In March 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic forced the church to close its doors and change to a virtual format for Sunday Worship and Bible Study. After the state mandated “sheltering in place” law was rescinded, the church began meeting again in August 2020.

The church implemented Social Distancing protocols and for the next year met with no

outbreaks. Though God was blessing the congregation, there was yet work to do.

That work was to include moving others in the congregation into leadership positions as God impressed upon Pastor Ken that it was time for he and Sis. Leslie to sojourn to another place that God would show them.

After seeking God in prayer and fasting, God spoke to Sis. Leslie and directed her to North Carolina. After a visiting several towns in the “Tarheel State”, God led them to Charlotte, North Carolina.

After much fasting, prayer, and preparation, the House of Light Church – Charlotte was opened on May 1, 2022, on the campus of Johnson C. Smith University.

This new plant is the beginning of a new chapter for the members of the House of Light Church, and all are excited to see what more God has in store!

# MISSION / VISION / STANDARDS / PURPOSE

## MISSION STATEMENT

The House of Light Church is founded upon *Matthew 5:16*, “*Let your light shine before others, so they see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven*”.

Our fellowship strives to minister in a non-judgmental, non-traditional, non-segregated manner that leads members out of darkness into Christ’s beautiful light. We do this by actively guiding people to achieve their best lives through making positive changes in body, mind, and spirit.

## VISION STATEMENT

We envision our members living joyful, spiritually enlightened lives, that fulfill their purpose, align them with the will of Christ for their lives, and encourage them to do good works. We help our members achieve this by providing gentle guidance, unconditional love, transparent communications, and biblically based teaching and support.

## STANDARDS

- ⑥ We allow the light of Christ to shine through our lives, according to Matthew 11:29.
- ⑥ We resist judgment and intolerance, according to Matthew 7:1 and Ephesians 4:2.
- ⑥ We teach salvation and sanctification, according to John 3:16 and 2 Chronicles 7:14.
- ⑥ We do good works in our communities and at home, according to Matthew 5:16; Colossians 3:23-24; and Ephesians 2:10.
- ⑥ We love the Lord with our whole heart, according to Matthew 22:37.

## PURPOSE

- ⑥ To accomplish the Great Commandment - Matthew 22:37-39
- ⑥ To accomplish the Great Commission – Matthew 28:18-20.



## **AFFIRMATION**

- ⑥ We are a House of Light; We are the light of the world! Matthew 5:14-15
- ⑥ People will come to God through seeing our good works. Matthew 5:16
- ⑥ We do not judge, instead we love. I Peter 4:8
- ⑥ We are not intolerant, instead we extend grace. Luke 6:6; Colossians 4:6
- ⑥ We are not about religion, instead we are about relationship. Ephesians 3:14-19
- ⑥ We are blessed and not cursed. Galatians 3:6-13; Deuteronomy 28:1,2,13,15
- ⑥ We are the chosen of God, but we walk in humility. I Peter 2:9; John 15:16; Colossians 3:12
- ⑥ We believe God in our lives makes us better people each day. Philippians 4:6-8; II Chronicles 7:14
- ⑥ We choose to believe in the Bible. I Thessalonians 2:13
- ⑥ We seek wisdom and we seek to grow in grace. Proverbs 4:5-7; James 1:5; II Peter 3:18
- ⑥ We walk by faith and not by sight or feel. II Corinthians 5:7; Philippians 4:6-8

- ⑥ We believe in the power of music ministry to lift us as we worship God through praise. *Colossians 3:16; Psalm 40:3; Psalms 5:11*
- ⑥ We believe in the healing power of God; *James 5:14-15; Isaiah 53:4-5*
- ⑥ We praise God through the good and bad, knowing he is with us in both. *Psalms 34:1-8*
- ⑥ We do these things in the name of Jesus. Amen. *John 14:13*

## **ORDINANCES**

We believe, according to Scripture, that Jesus Christ commanded the observance of three ordinances before He ascended unto His Father in Heaven; namely the Lord's Supper (*I Cor. 11:23-30*), Feet Washing (*John 13:3-9*) and Water Baptism (*Matt. 28:19*).

Only believers in Christ, those who give credible evidence of faith in Him, with works that follow, and those who believe in, and strive for sanctification and holiness, are entitled to participate in the Ordinances of the Church.

## **PRAYER AND FASTING**

We believe in the power of prayer and fasting, according to *Matthew 17:21*. For this reason, after the heart is made ready for the Word of God, we go to God's Throne in Corporate Prayer. Additionally, we fast every Wednesday, from the time we rise until 5 pm.

We start our Fast Days by anointing our head with blessed oil and washing our face, according to *Matthew 6:17*. While fasting, we only consume water and pure juices. We pray at noon and during the day we sing songs and hymns to keep us focused on Christ.

## ORGANIZATION

The House of Light Church subscribes to the Episcopal polity. As Christ is head of the Spiritual Church (*Colossians 1:15-20*), the Pastor is shepherd of the Natural Church (*1 Peter 5:1-5*).

The Pastor, led by God, justified by Christ, and informed by the Holy Spirit, is the church's chief leader. All church related issues, natural and spiritual, are brought before the Pastor, who has determinative authority.

Within the church corporation, the Pastor is the President and Chief Executive Officer. The church organization consists of a Board of Directors, which is responsible for fiduciary and corporate decisions, but does not oversee spiritual issues, of any kind.

## TITHES & OFFERING

- ⑥ Tithe - 10% of one's earnings, is the generally accepted amount, but is the minimum, not the maximum. Members may give more, as led by God, for one can never lose their reward by giving to God's work.
- ⑥ Offering - a monetary donation given in addition to tithes, which activates the overflow of God's blessings.

At the House of Light Church, we believe it is right to give tithes and offerings. We believe in sacrificial giving as a means of paying tithes and giving

offerings. We believe when you do so, you are aligning yourself with God's word, therefore, will experience supernatural blessings and favor, according to:

- ⑥ Malachi 3:10 - Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. And try Me now in this," says the Lord of hosts, "If I will not open for you the windows of heaven and pour out for you such blessing that there will not be room enough to receive it. And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, so that he will not destroy the fruit of your ground, nor shall the vine fail to bear fruit for you in the field," says the Lord of hosts. "And all nations will call you blessed, for you will be a delightful land," says the Lord of hosts.
- ⑥ Genesis 28:30-22 - Jacob made a vow, saying, "If God will be with me, and keep me in this way that I am going, and give me bread to eat and clothing to put on, so that I come back to my father's house in peace, then the Lord shall be my God. And this stone which I have set as a pillar shall be God's house, and of all that You give me I will surely give a tenth to You."
- ⑥ Matthew 23:23 - "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you tithe mint and dill and cumin and have neglected the weightier matters of the law: justice and

mercy and faithfulness. These you ought to have done, without neglecting the others.

- ⑥ *1 Timothy 5:17-18* - Let the elders who rule well be counted worthy of double honor, especially those who labor in the word and doctrine. For the Scripture says, “You shall not muzzle an ox while it treads out the grain,” and, “The laborer is worthy of his wages.”

## THE 5 CS:

### Commitment ~ Consistency ~ Contrition ~ Community ~ Concern

We believe true membership in this church,  
requires the 5 Cs:

- ⑥ COMMUNITY – we were created to be relational, and this extends outside of our church walls to all those around us. (Genesis 2:18; Hebrews 10:24-25; Galatians 6:2; Matthew 18:20; Acts 2:46–47)
- ⑥ CONCERN – true ministry is selfless and intercessional, moving us from thinking only of our situation to caring for those God has placed in our lives. (Philippians 2:4; Ephesians 4:32; John 13:34-35)
- ⑥ COMMITMENT – adherence to church standards and expectations and regular attendance at church services and events. (Acts 2:42; 2 Timothy 2:22)
- ⑥ CONSISTENCY – continually walking in Christian character. (Ephesians 4:1)
- ⑥ CONTRITION – the state of feeling remorseful and penitent, which allows humility and appreciation of God’s abounding grace. (2 Corinthians 7:10)

# **MINISTRIES**

We are commanded to do good works, according to Matthew 5:16. Good works occur through our ministries.

The following are The House of Light Church ministries:

- ⑥ Clothing - Angel's Closet
- ⑥ Community Outreach - Team 1423
- ⑥ Divorce Recovery
- ⑥ Food - FAITH (Feed and Inspire the Hurting)
- ⑥ Health - Tri T (Tip Top Temple)
- ⑥ International Outreach
- ⑥ Dads of Faith
- ⑥ Women of Light
- ⑥ Couples
- ⑥ Relationships – Commitments 101
- ⑥ Young Adult - M&Ms (Millennials and Ministry)
- ⑥ Youth - Operation S.T.E.P.
- ⑥ Children's Church - Camp 1914



## STATEMENT OF FAITH

- ⑥ We choose to believe the Bible is the inspired and infallible written Word of God.
- ⑥ We choose to believe there is one Supreme God, eternally existent in three persons: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.
- ⑥ We choose to believe that the only means of being cleansed from sin is through sincere repentance and contrition and faith in the cleansing power of the precious Blood of Jesus Christ.
- ⑥ We choose to believe baptism by the Holy Ghost is essential for personal salvation, and according to Acts 2:4 is given to believers upon their confession to salvation.
- ⑥ We choose to believe the fullness of the manifestation of the Holy Spirit occurs as one sanctifies themselves, according to 2 Timothy 2:21; Ephesians 3:16-19.
- ⑥ We choose to believe the redemptive work of Christ on the Cross provides spiritual, physical, and mental healing in answer to believing prayer.
- ⑥ We choose to believe in the power and spiritual necessity of sanctification; and,

- ⑥ We choose to believe the indwelling of the Holy Spirit enables us to live a holy and separated life.

# Welcome to The House!!!



Join us for a refreshing worship experience!

We have a casual, welcoming atmosphere and a non-judgmental, contemporary approach.

We strive to offer an alternative to those who are tired of religion and are seeking a relationship with Christ. We do not focus on clothes, come as you are. God is more interested in your heart!

We were put on this earth to love God and love others. We show love when we serve others. We show love when we care for those in need. We invite you to join our service ministries. We believe true service to God is letting our light shine, all day, every day, as we joyfully serve others!

*“Come for the Light; Stay for the Love!”*

## Pastor Ken and Sis. Leslie

# WEEKLY SERVICES



## Sunday

Praise & Worship                      10:00 am

Morning Worship                        10:30 am

## Wednesday

Fast Day                                      Until 5:00 pm

Noon Day Prayer                        12:00 pm

Evening Bible Study                    7:00 pm

*\*\*\*Pastoral Counseling by Appointment\*\*\**