



DELAWARE AVENUE
SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH

75th
Anniversary Celebration

July 25, 2026

*A 75-Year Legacy: Anchored in Hope,
Ready for Eternity*
1951 - 2026

❧ Welcome! ❧



Grace and peace to you in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

It is with profound gratitude and great joy that I welcome you to the 75th Anniversary Celebration of Delaware Seventh-day Adventist Church. It has been my distinct privilege and honor to serve as the pastor of this wonderful congregation for more than ten years, and I count it as one of God's richest blessings to celebrate this historic milestone with our church family, former members, friends, and honored guests. As we pause to reflect upon the past seventy-five years, our hearts are filled with thanksgiving for God's unfailing love, His abundant grace, and His providential leading throughout every season of our church's history.

For three-quarters of a century, Delaware Seventh-day Adventist Church has stood as a beacon of hope, faith, and compassion within this community. Throughout these seventy-five years, faithful pastors, dedicated leaders, and committed members have come and gone, each leaving a lasting imprint upon this ministry. Yet amid the many changes that time inevitably brings, one truth has remained constant—our unwavering commitment to a Christ-centered ministry dedicated to sharing the everlasting gospel, demonstrating Christ's love through compassionate service, and meeting the spiritual, emotional, and practical needs of those whom God has entrusted to our care. Above all, this church has faithfully proclaimed the blessed hope of Christ's soon return, encouraging generations to prepare their hearts to meet our soon-coming Savior.

As we celebrate God's faithfulness in the past, we also look with anticipation toward the future. The mission entrusted to Delaware Seventh-day Adventist Church remains unchanged. Our charge continues to be the fulfillment of the Great Commission found in Matthew 28:18–20, where Jesus commands His followers to "go therefore and make disciples of all nations." With the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we remain committed to proclaiming the gospel, nurturing discipleship, serving our community with Christlike compassion, and preparing people for the soon return of Jesus Christ. And, as we commemorate this significant anniversary, may we not merely celebrate our rich heritage, but recommit ourselves to the sacred mission God has given us until that glorious day when faith becomes sight and we welcome our Savior in the clouds of heaven.

May God continue to richly bless Delaware Seventh-day Adventist Church as we faithfully carry His message of hope to Santa Monica and beyond.

Pastor Roger Frazier

Delaware Avenue Seventh-day Adventist Church

75th Anniversary Celebration

Order of Divine Worship Service
75th Anniversary Celebration
11:00 AM

Call to Worship..... Angela Settle/Praise Team
Invocation..... Elder Fred Settle
Announcements/Greetings..... Elder Ed & Angela Settle
Song of Praise..... Praise Team
Offering Emphasis..... Elder Kenneth Shawver
 Loose Offering Today is for SCC Media Production Studio
Scripture Reading..... Pastor Roger Frazier
 Hebrews 6:19
Intercessory Prayer..... Elder Ed Settle
Song of Meditation..... Michelle Mayne-Graves

Message of the Hour..... Pastor Lawrence S. Dorsey Sr.
 "Will Your Anchor Hold?"
Song of Appeal..... Michelle Mayne-Graves
Closing Remarks..... Elder Ed Settle
Closing Hymn..... Elder Fred Settle
 Praise Hymn! Praise Him! #249
 (Words will be on the screen)
Benediction..... Elder Kenneth Shawver

75th Anniversary Afternoon Celebration
Praise & Recognition Service
4:00 PM

Welcome..... Elder Fred Settle
Opening Hymn..... "He Lives!"..... Praise Team/Congregation
Special Music..... One Accord
Historical Retrospective..... Angela Settle
Special Music..... One Accord
Anniversary Message (virtual)..... Dr. Pastor James Kyle
Recognition Service..... (Michelle Mayne-Graves, Melida Smith, Norma Allen)..... Angela Settle
Song of Praise..... "We've Come This Far by Faith" Praise Team/Congregation
Closing Remarks/Benediction..... Pastor Roger Frazier

To the Delaware Avenue Seventh-day Adventist Church Family,

On behalf of the officers of the Southern California Conference, we extend our heartfelt congratulations as you celebrate the **75th Anniversary of the Delaware Avenue Seventh-day Adventist Church.**

Seventy-five years is far more than a milestone on a calendar—it is a testimony to the faithfulness of God and to generations of believers who have answered His call to worship, serve, and share the everlasting gospel. Through changing seasons, changing communities, and changing generations, the Delaware Avenue Church has remained a witness for Christ in Santa Monica and on the Westside of Los Angeles.



As we celebrate this anniversary, we honor those whose vision, sacrifice, generosity, and prayers established a spiritual home where lives have been transformed, families nurtured, and the love of Jesus proclaimed. While buildings and programs have their place, the true legacy of a church is found in people, people who have encountered Christ, grown in faith, and carried His hope into their homes, neighborhoods, and workplaces.

We are grateful for the ministry of Pastor Roger Frazier and for the many members who continue to invest their time, talents, and hearts into God's mission. Your congregation has demonstrated that faithful ministry is measured not simply by numbers, but by lives touched, relationships built, and the consistent witness of a church committed to serving its community.

The apostle Paul reminds us:

"Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us, to Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen."
(Ephesians 3:20–21)

As you reflect on God's blessings over the past seventy-five years, we pray that this celebration will also inspire a renewed vision for the future. May the Lord continue to strengthen your congregation, deepen your love for one another, and empower you to be a beacon of hope to your community for many years to come.

Congratulations on this remarkable anniversary. May God richly bless you as you continue to exalt Christ and share His love with the world.

Cordially,

John H. Cress
President
Southern California Conference
of Seventh-day Adventists

Southern California Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

July 25, 2026



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GREATER LOS ANGELES REGION Southern California Conference

Dear Delaware Avenue Seventh-day Adventist Church Family,

On behalf of the Greater Los Angeles Region of the Southern California Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, I extend heartfelt congratulations to Pastor Dr. Roger Frazier and the Delaware Seventh-day Adventist Church as you celebrate your 75th Anniversary. This milestone is a testimony to God's enduring faithfulness and to the generations of members and leaders who have faithfully advanced the mission of Jesus Christ in your community.

For seventy-five years, Delaware Seventh-day Adventist Church has been a beacon of hope, proclaiming the gospel, making disciples, and serving others with Christ's love. As you celebrate God's leading throughout your history, may you also be encouraged by His promise to continue guiding your ministry into the future.

We pray that the Lord will continue to bless Pastor Dr. Roger Frazier and the entire Delaware church family with renewed vision, unity, and strength as you carry the everlasting gospel to future generations. Congratulations on this remarkable milestone and may God's richest blessings remain upon your congregation for many years to come.

In His Service,

Lawrence S. Dorsey, II
Region Director
Greater Los Angeles Region
Southern California Conference of Seventh-day Adventists
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Historical Retrospective

Delaware Avenue Church History

Seeds of Faith and Early Foundations (1941–1951)

The journey began in 1941, when the Holy Spirit moved a devoted group of believers to establish a gospel ministry specifically focused on serving the African American community of Santa Monica, California. Guided by the dedication and steady perseverance of pioneering leaders—including Dr. Carl and Mrs. Lavetta Dent, Sister Dollie Collins, Sister Eva Bradford Rock, and Dr. Obie and Mrs. Viola Hicks—the small flock first gathered in local homes and rented neighborhood churches.

Originally organized under the name Ephesus Seventh-day Adventist Church, the group spent a decade in earnest prayer and hard work. Their faithfulness bore tangible fruit when they purchased a parcel of land on the northeast corner of Delaware Avenue and 20th Street to build a permanent sanctuary.

Building and Renewing the Sanctuary (1951–2021)

In 1951, construction on a beautiful Spanish-style facility was completed under the leadership of Pastor Garland Millet. With a new home came a new identity, and the congregation officially became the Delaware Avenue Seventh-day Adventist Church. On July 28, 1951, members celebrated their very first Sabbath in the new building.

The completed house of worship was formally dedicated on May 15, 1954, by Pastor R. R. Bietz (President of the Southern California Conference of Seventh-day Adventists), Pastor Dennis T. Black, and Associate Pastor C. R. Pritchett.

As the decades passed, the congregation continued to care for its sacred space:

1991: Exactly forty years after its completion, the facility underwent a major renovation.

2017–2021: A comprehensive four-year refurbishment brought historic upgrades. For the first time in 66 years, central heating and air conditioning were installed. The sanctuary was enhanced with padded pews, new carpeting, repaired stained-glass windows, and updated lighting for the interior and parking lot, complemented by beautiful, evergreen grass outside.

A Legacy of Youth, Community, and Service

Over seven and a half decades, Delaware Avenue has been a vibrant participant in Conference and Regional events, making its mark in convocations, choir festivals, sports leagues, and the annual Bible Quiz-a-Rama, where the church regularly placed in the top three. This energetic spirit was highly visible in the 1970s through a powerful youth outreach initiative and a championship church league basketball team.

The church's heart for service shines brightest through its community outreach, highlighted by a Sunday food distribution program launched in the early 2000s. For twenty years, this weekly ministry provided essential produce and canned goods to neighbors in need. This massive effort flourished under the leadership of Community Services Leader Sister Norma Allen and her ministry partner, Sister Lillian Franklyn. In February 2021, the church honored their enduring devotion by presenting them with a commemorative plaque and renaming the fellowship hall the Allen/Franklyn Fellowship Hall. Alongside the physical nourishment, Elder Benjamin Miller consistently shared the Word through weekly Bible studies, guiding many community members to join the church fellowship.

The Great Commission and Future Hope (2017–Present)

Since 2017 the church has deeply recommitted itself to the “Great Commission,” launching citywide evangelistic campaigns across Santa Monica every year since, including through the 2020 pandemic. Utilizing flyer distributions and social media, the church blanketed the city and miles beyond with invitations to timely evangelistic meetings. A vital part of this outreach is a dedicated prayer line established in 2017. Operating at least three times a day, every week, this spiritual lifeline connects members, neighbors, and callers nationwide and worldwide in testimony, prayer and scripture study.

The church’s profound impact was recognized in 2017, when Delaware Avenue was named “Church of the Year” by Elder Royal Harrison, Director of the Greater Los Angeles Region of the Southern California Conference. This honor came during the tenure of current pastor Dr. Roger Frazier, a season in which the congregation has blossomed into a beautifully diverse, multi-cultural church family.

The Delaware Avenue congregation continues to support the ongoing missionary work of one of its own members, Elder Fedley Bonneau. In dedicating several years of sacrificial service to the mission field—primarily in Thailand—his tireless efforts, alongside those that serve with him and the guidance of the Holy Spirit, have joyfully resulted in several baptisms.

Since 2023, the Adventist Youth department leaders have hosted Sabbath afternoon AY programs featuring video presentations on relevant issues facing Christian youth and young adults today, followed by lively group discussions. Additionally, the Personal Ministries Department also shares videos on alternating Sabbath afternoon focused on personal spiritual growth and development during these turbulent last days.

Today, as we look back on 75 years of fruitful ministry in the Lord’s vineyard by the sea, the members of the Delaware Avenue Seventh-day Adventist Church look forward with unwavering faith, dedicated to preparing their families and the world for eternity and the Blessed Hope of Christ’s return. Alleluia...Amen!

Delaware Avenue Pastors from 1951 to 2026

Garland Millet - 1951 to 1954	Charles Brangman - 1981
Clayton Pritchett - 1955	Robert Dent - 1982
Dennis T. Black - 1956	William Dawson - 1983 to 1987
Jackson M. Doggette - 1959 to 1963	Warren Neal - 1988
Harvey Kibble, Sr. - 1964 to 1966	William DeShay - 1989 to 2000
David Hughes - 1967 to 1969	Kendall White - 2000
Robert Dent - 1970 to 1971	James Patterson - 2001 to 2007
Dennis T. Black - 1972 to 1973	Moise Isaac - 2008 to 2012
James Middleton - 1974 to 1976	Lawrence Dorsey, Sr. - 2012 to 2016
James Kyle - 1977	Roger Frazier - 2016 to the present
Leslie Pollard - 1978-1980	

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

On this momentous 75th Anniversary of the Delaware Avenue Seventh-day Adventist Church, we extend our deepest gratitude to everyone who helped make this celebration possible. Above all, we thank our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, for His abundant blessings over 75 years of faithful service to our community.

We are truly honored by the presence of our conference officials, who took the time to mark this milestone with us. Our heartfelt thanks also go to our two former pastors for inspiring us with messages of hope and encouragement. To all of our guests, participants, and musical artists: thank you for sharing your talents and making this day extraordinarily special.

Finally, we recognize the incredible dedication of those who supported this event through prayers and financial gifts, as well as the tireless volunteers working behind the scenes. Whether you prepared or served food, decorated, cleaned, printed programs, ushered, managed our technical needs, or just helped wherever you could, your hard work made this day a resounding success. We thank God for you!

THANK YOU!



*Bible Quiz-A-Rama
Plaque*



*Church Of The Year
Award*



*Commemorative Plate
Given in 1954*