

FIRST SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH

343 11th Avenue, Paterson, N.J. 07514



The First Seventh-day Adventist Church of Paterson is located at 343 11th avenue between East 19th Street and Madison Avenue in Paterson, New Jersey. The church began with a small group of Truth seekers in the Alabama Avenue Project in 1961 under the leadership of a dedicated elder, John Williams, from the Englewood Seventh-day Adventist Church. From his dedicated efforts and the leading of Christ, in 1967, President of the Allegheny East Conference, W. A. Thompson organized the Company into the "Ebenezer Seventh-day Adventist Church." Under District pastor, Charles Cheatham (1973-1975) with Elder Williams serving as lay pastor, the church membership grew.

In 1975, Pastor Thaddious Privette came to Paterson. During this time, the Pathfinder club was organized. In 1976, Pastor Victor Wallen became the church's next pastor. He was the church's first full-time conference pastor. He moved the church forward to win souls for the Kingdom of God. He conducted two crusades, a Branch Sabbath School, an after-school tutoring literacy program, and he organized the Paterson Gospel Choir.

Pastor William Hall became the pastor in 1979. With the zeal and skill of a seasoned veteran, he pitched two tents in the city of Paterson in 1979. His constant drive for souls paid off as the church grew tremendously. Under his leadership, the Paterson Gospel choir became one of the finest choirs in the Allegheny East Conference. They sang at the 1980 Camp Meeting.

Pastor William Leroy Ervin was assigned to Paterson in 1981. His strong administrative abilities allowed the Poor Fund, Deacon and Usher boards to become strong and vital during his stay.

Pastor Joshua Broomfield in 1985 made the adjustment from Arizona to Paterson as the church's next minister. He was family minded and with his guidance, the church grew, and the Pathfinder Club was on the move. He conducted two tent efforts in the city.

In 1987, Pastor Brian Carter was united with the Paterson Church as its pastor. He brought with him a spirit of beauty and vision. The reconstruction of the church began under his leadership. The name of the church was changed to the "First Seventh-day Adventist Church of Paterson." The next pastor in 1990 was Pastor Claude Harris, II. He was very innovative and youth oriented. He completed the building project and was instrumental in raising the standards of the Pathfinder Club to top form. His thirst for souls for the Master continued to move the church forward.

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Pastor Carl Hinds succeeded Pastor Harris (1991-2006) as the pastor. So far, he is the church's longest serving pastor. Under his leadership, the church continued to grow, and a functional top of the line Media Department was organized. It was also under his leadership that the church's location was changed from 440 East 36th Street to its present location, 343 11th Avenue. Pastor David King became the church's pastor in 2006. His avid desire for souls bore fruits because under his leadership, the church's membership grew significantly. He conducted one tent effort. He possessed efficient administrative skills. The church's leaders benefited from this. His vision was for the church to have an integral impact on the community. He started an ambitious building project, but unfortunately, he could not have completed it, because he passed in 2012. In 2012, the charismatic Dr. John Trusty became this church's Interim Pastor. He served until 2014. His leadership was profoundly effective. He came to Paterson at a time when the church was going through a difficult time, having lost Pastor David King. In 2014, Pastor Richard Campbell came to Paterson. He is the present pastor. He is community, family and mission focused. The church is learning and benefitting from the leadership of this man-of-God.