Birthed & Kept By Prayer



SPECIAL 20TH ANNIVERSARY PRAYER MEMORIAL BOOK 1997-2017

PASTOR'S LETTER

Praise the Lord!

For the past 20 years God has consistently shown up on our behalf and we are celebrating the goodness and faithfulness of our Father. As has been stated many times, Living Word Church was birthed in prayer and kept by prayer and we thank God that the best is yet to come.

Many have sacrificed to make the past 20 years possible and I would like to express my sincere thanks for all you have done. A lot of hard work and dedication has also gone into publishing this 20th year booklet, so I pray that as you read it your spirit will be edified and your faith in God will go to another dimension.

I am so excited about our Prayer and Worship Encounter. We are declaring this to be our season of "Favor and Increase" and God is proving faithful to His word. As you come to celebrate with us during these seven days, come expecting God to move on your behalf like never before. We are believing God for a glorious manifestation of His presence, so come and receive your miracles!

On behalf of the entire Living Word Church family, thank you so much for helping us celebrate the goodness of God. We realize that as we give Him all the praise and glory, He will do even more for us!

In His Service, James L Drumgole, Pastor

THE VISION

Living Word Church Vision

- To teach the uncompromising Word of God that will change lives.
- To be a channel where the Power and Fire of God will cause signs, wonders and miracles to manifest.
- To be a fortress and refuge for the distressed, indebted and discontented.
- To be a refreshing center where yokes are destroyed and love, peace and joy will manifest in our lives.
- To equip the saints with the Word of God so they can live successful, victorious lives through the power of ... THE LIVING WORD!

"And they went forth and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them, And confirming the word with signs following." Mark 16:20



xcept the Lord build the house, they labour in vain that build it... Psalms 127:1

First of all, let me encourage everyone who reads this article to continue to seek God's face with worship and prayer because it will pay off! The story of LWC is one born of the supernatural results of prayer.

I can remember asking God for a real church building instead of a storefront building. I would dream about having a church building, so I knew in my heart one day we would have one. We spent the first 18 years of the ministry in Old South Baton Rouge on Nicholson Drive. We started the ministry in 1997 renting a room at the, now torn down, Prince Murat Hotel. Then, in 1998 we moved to the Blood Plasma Center down the street. In 2001, we purchased our first facility at 1564 Nicholson Drive.

In 2014, someone came to us seriously interested in purchasing our property, but Pastor James told him we could not sell until we had some place to move. From that time on, his realtor began to look for us a

property. He would call with different places to see, but nothing appealed to us. In the meantime, the owner of the property next to ours began to rent out his parking lot for big rigs. Because we had joint parking rights, that left us with very little parking for our members on Sunday mornings. One Sunday, we came to church and the parking lot was full of big rig trailers. Pastor James and I looked at each other and we said, "It is time to qo!" So, we began to prepare our property for sale.



The realtor finally sent us information about a facility at 3730 N. Sherwood Forest Dr. They were asking \$999,900 for 22,655 sq. ft. facilities on 7.95 acres. We looked at the property, felt this was God and decided to go for it.

We made an initial offer of \$850,000.00; however, within days of the acceptance, problems with the buildings began to surface. So, we took back that offer and issued another one, making it clear that \$750,000.00 was our final offer and if they didn't accept it, we would walk away. Needless to say, they accepted our offer. Praise you, Jesus!

Now, we had to settle the issue with our Nicholson Drive building. The person who wanted to purchase our property made an offer to Pastor James of \$525,000.00. He also offered to pay all closing costs and to allow us to stay in the building up to one year for the cost of \$1.00. Glory to God!

Those were not the only instances of the supernatural favor of God. We found a credit union that was offering a better interest rate than the bank, so we pursued them as the lending institution to finance our new building. There was unfortunately, one problem. They didn't deal in making church loans and had never made a loan to a church before. In order to accommodate us, however, they changed some of their by-laws to give us the loan. Hallelujah!

We closed on our property having only to finance \$250,000.00. Within just about three months and around \$150,000.00 later, we moved into our new facility at N. Sherwood Forest Dr. on July 5, 2015. We give God all the GLORY!

By Selena Drumgole





hen the Lord turned the captivity of Zion, we were like them who dream. This passage from the first verse of Psalm 126 was the theme for the Living Word Church Mortgage Burning Ceremony on Sunday, April 10, 2011.

In the fall of 2009, Pastor James issued the proclamation that LWC would be paid off by December 31, 2010. Although the balance was reported week after week as steadily decreasing, still by Christmas, the balance was not yet paid off.

The Lord God Almighty, however, honored our Pastor's faith as only He can and by December 30, 2010, the building was completely paid off!

By Deitra Warner





he Great Flood of August 2016 posed another opportunity for God to move on our behalf. Our facilities took on almost two feet of water. As is obvious, we had spent all our funds remodeling the building the previous year, so we had to start all over again with NO FLOOD INSURANCE AND NO **MONEY!** Pastor James stood before the congregation and told them the buildings were going to be better than they were before.

In the meantime, God had a ram in the bush. One of our pastor friends offered us his building for use after his services on Sunday mornings. We will be forever grateful to this man of God and his congregation for hosting us during this time! Also, we made good use of technology and social media, such as Periscope, Facebook Live and conference phone calls for several months, to continue our mid week services and prayer meetings.

The body of LWC and even strangers came together as the remodeling process began. We never had to stop the remodeling process because of a lack of money or help. One of our first miracles came when God sent about 10 to 12 professional workers to remove the damaged walls without charging us a dime. I asked the lead contractor who had sent him. He just looked at me, said that someone had called him and then left. We believe this was the work of angels (A MIRA-CLE!) Others came to assist with debris removal, cleanup and restoration from Baton Rouge, Monroe, New Orleans, Tennessee, Alabama and other locations.

We had money coming from other ministries as well as individuals from everywhere. When our first flood check donations came in, the Lord directed us to divide it among all the members of our church who flooded. When we later found out we had more members who had flooded, some of our next donation check went to them as well.

By Selena Drumgole

INCREASING BY PRAYER

n January of 2017 we celebrated our ministry's 20th year anniversary in our newly remodeled sanctuary. The work on the sanctuary being about 99% complete, we were now able to focus our attention on restoring the gym. We were awarded a \$64,000 grant and restoration on the gym is about 95% complete. Glory to God!

Presently, we are still believing God for air conditioning and a new roof on the gym, neither of which were part of the remodeling process due to flooding. Everything is indeed better than it was before. Praise the Lord! We are decreeing that what God has begun He will complete. This is our Year of "Favor and Increase!"

By Selena Drumgole

















The Lord has blessed me in so many areas of my life through the supernatural power of prayer. One testimony of many is how he moved in the life of my son, Damian. My son has played basketball for many years. He played in school and became very good. By his own admis-



sion, "I wasn't all that good (at first), I just practiced a lot."

He continued to play basketball in college and as favor would have it, the opportunity came along for him to try out for a professional team. Our family, along with some other saints, prayed for him to qualify in the first round draft and that he would go to the right team.

Well, not only was he drafted in the first round, but the team that he went to won a championship in his first year in the league. To God Be the Glory!!!! Dana Jones

Flo McNabb

All praises to God for my grandson, Damian Jones, for being first round pick in 2016 for the Golden State Warriors and 2017 Basketball Champions. He will be getting his first ring in April, 2018!



Atari Abbott

I had been suffering from migraines for about four months and on Sunday, August 13th, 2017 Pastor James did an altar call for infirmities. I went up and Prophetess Selena laid hands on me after Pastor James told us to decree out our mouths that we are healed. I followed his instructions and I have not had a migraine since! Thank you Lord for the power of prayer, and for using your vessels, Pastor James and Prophetess Selena.



Mary Claiborne

God saved my marriage and I am very grateful for that. Without God, I would have been divorced and depressed, but I give him all the praise and all the glory. Thank you JESUS for all you have done for us through the power of prayer.



Gerald Neddie

I did it – that's the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth so help me God! Not only was I guilty, but it was a third offense drug charge, as in three strikes and you're out. Oh, did I mention I also had a parole violation?

Let's be clear, I did not have a "jail house" religious conversion. I actually gave my Life to the Lord before I went to jail and had begun to change my life around. I knew that I would have to pay for my crimes, but after my conversion, I began believing God that it wouldn't be the worst case scenario, which was a 20 year prison sentence.

Well, that's when the prayer band started. My wife was praying, Pastor James was praving, Prophetess Selena was praying, and others were praying. And as a result of all of those prayers, what could have been a 20 year prison sentence ended up being only 1 year and 10 months! *Psalms* 126 says, "When the Lord turned again the captivity of Zion, we were like them that dream." It was like I was dreaming. I have to admit I didn't see that coming and was truly amazed and grateful at the favor God gave me.

I have been home with my wife and children for five years now. I am actively involved in the Men's and Audio/Visual ministries at LWC. I've also had an opportunity to minister to the youth during vacation Bible school and in regular church service as well. God really did completely turn my captivity!

I firmly believe that the corporate prayers of the believers brought the favor and a supernatural move of God on my behalf. Thank God for the power of prayer!



Garrick & Nicorrie Gordon

In 2009, the report from my doctor was that I would not be able to have children the normal way. As you can imagine, I wasn't expecting to hear that. To be clear, my husband, Garrick and I were not trying to have a baby at the time of this report, but we knew we wanted children eventually.

So, we began to pray and believe God for children. We would even write our prayer

request on our offering envelopes at church. For years, we continued to release our faith and pray for a child.

In 2014, God heard our heart's cry and answered our prayers in that I discovered I was pregnant in August of that year. Everything surrounding my pregnancy was nothing short of the blessing of God. I enjoyed a relatively smooth pregnancy and was in perfect health. Every need and even want was met.

Then, in May 2015, I gave birth to a beautiful, healthy baby boy. Garrick has brought so much joy into our lives. He has such a big smile and so much excitement when his father and I walk into a room, and it just warms our hearts.

The doctor's report said one thing, but we chose to pray and to believe the report of the Lord. We thank God for our miracle baby – the supernatural result of prayer!



Adeline Ambeau

He was just going about his day trying to get some laundry done. He had no way of knowing someone would enter the laundrymat that day shooting. Whether the person was high or there trying to rob someone, who knows. But my son, Michael, ended up taking a bullet for being in the wrong place at the wrong time.

It's one of those calls that no parent ever wants to get – your son has been shot and is in the hospital fighting for his life! Of course, I was a total emotional wreck. A tornado of emotions was swirling on the inside of me, but I was on the next thing moving going to Idaho to be by my baby's side.

At the hospital, they had to do exploratory surgery. And although the bullet had exited his body, the surgery was an extensive one to see if there was any damage to any of his major organs. All praises be to God, after the third day of surgery my son was up and walking around!

Let me encourage someone right here. You may hear some people say that when their crisis hit that they began to quote scriptures or pray in tongues. Well, that was not me! The truth is I was so distraught that I COULD NOT PRAY! With my son being all the way in Idaho, as well as all the crazy and negative thoughts that bombard the mind, I just did not have it.

However, the Lord gave me the presence of mind to stay in constant contact with Prophetess Selena. She prayed for me and my son, and informed me that Pastor James and the church was in continual prayer for us. Those prayers and encouragement strengthened me and carried me through one of the darkest times of my life.

Hallelujah, praise the Lord for the supernatural power of the prayers of the body of LWC!



Sarah "Storm" Matthews

I have so many testimonies of the supernatural power of prayer from my time here with my LWC family. However, I would like to share a testimony from my pre-LWC days, and it is a testament to the supernatural power of prayer!

The year 1998 was a landmark year in my life! First of all, I got saved in March of that year. The message on that day was about giving and all I had was \$2.00 and some change in my bank account. But, I gave all that I had.

In May, I found out I had cancer. July 1st – I lost my job; July 2nd – I kicked out my live in boyfriend; July 3rd - My brother and boyfriend got me kicked out of my apartment; July 4th – I found out I was pregnant; July 12th – I was back in New York City homeless; July 22nd - I lost my baby; and July 28th – I found myself back in Dallas in jail for a traffic ticket. And, at some point during that summer, my stepmom cancelled my health insurance. To say July was an eventful month would be an understatement!

Through all of this, believe it or not, I was constantly saying, "trials and tribulations last but a moment." People kept telling me that I needed to see a therapist, so I did. The therapist said that I reminded him of Job because my answer to everything was to cast my care, pray and thank God.

My praise report began before the end of 1998 with the good news that I was picked up by another insurance company. Thanks to God's favor they decided to cover the cancer treatment. I can testify to the Glory of God that I have been cancer free since.

November 13, 1998! Hallelujah! To this day, the doctors cannot figure out how I survived. My children are miracles because I should have had to have a hysterectomy because of the cancer.

Thanks to my LWC family for continuing to encourage and strengthen my belief in the supernatural power of prayer. It was the supernatural power of prayer that brought me through1998 with not only my faith and sanity intact, but with the knowledge that I could face anything as long as I looked to God. I learned how strong I was in the Lord and that I am a mighty warrior who puts the devil on the run.



Jowanda Neddie

I had seen the supernatural power of prayer work on behalf of my husband, Gerald, so of course, I have faith in the power of prayer. When I applied for the job that I now have, I made it clear that I wanted to work days and they said that would be fine. Well, when they offered me the job they offered me a night shift. Although that was not what we agreed upon, I felt led to accept it anyway. I did not want to work nights and was praying I would be moved to mornings. However, I kept the right attitude during this time, and as the Lord would have it, a door to minister and pray with several people opened up and I got to see the power of God move in their lives.

Well, of course, the enemy did not like that. Unbeknownst to me, there was some mess he was causing to brew among ladies on another shift and somehow, as the devil would have it, my name got pulled into it. Of course, for a minute I thought that I might be fired for something that had nothing to do with me! When we were brought into the office to clear things up, it turns out that what these ladies were upset about had no fact or basis to it. I explained to my supervisor that I was not in the midst of any of that and he said to me, "I know you weren't. I know your character, Jowanda."

A bit later, my boss came to me and said, "When do you want to start working mornings?" I was happy, but asked about the situation with the other ladies. "Don't worry about them – they've been fired." Y'all I was stunned! You see the ladies that were fired were his "favorites," but I had the favor of God!

I encourage everyone – the supernatural power of prayer changes things! I now work in the mornings and every shift starts off with prayer. Glory to God!



Deitra Warner & Raenata Hamilton

It started with an idea that was birthed in the heart of Prophetess Selena to commemorate in a book the faithfulness of God in supernaturally answering LWC'S prayers over the years. The creation of this prayer book itself is a super natural act of answers to prayer for ideas and ways to present it. We thank and give God all the Glory for His Divine assistance!





SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

A Church of Love, Worship and The Anointing

living Wor

"WORSHIP & PRAYER" ENCOUNTER SCHEDULE

SEPTEMBER 10 - 17, 2017 3730 N. SHERWOOD FOREST DR. BATON ROUGE, LA

Hosts: Pastor James Drumgole & Prophetess Selena Drumgole

Sun, 10 ~ 10 am - Worship & The Word Mon, 11 ~ 6:30 pm - Youth Prayer Encounter (Ages 5-18 Only) Tue, 12 ~ 6:30 pm - Worship & Prayer

Wed, 13 ~ 7 pm - Worship & The Word

Thur, 14 ~7 pm - Worship & Prayer

Fri, 15 ~ 7 pm - Worship & The Word (Guest Speaker: Shelly Hollins)

Sat, 16 ~ 10 am - Worship / Prayer Luncheon Sun, 17 ~ 10 am - Worship & The Word

LWC

ord Church

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

WORSHIP SERVICES Sunday - 10am Wednesday - 7pm

SUNDAY CLASSES 9 to 9:40 am

INTERCESSORY PRAYER

Mon & Wed - 11:30 am Tuesday - 6:30 pm 15 Minutes before services

CONTACT US

225-387-6228 livingwordbr@att.net www.livingwordbatonrouge.org

<u>Dooign Graphications</u> By Hamilton~Warner