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Memphis Native and Highly Respected Pastor WALTER L PEGGS, SR. Passes Away

MAYOR, PASTORS, AND FRIENDS REFLECT ON PEGGS' LIFE



Walter Lee Peggs, Sr., Pastor of Fullview Missionary Baptist Church, was born July 15, 1946 and died February 12, 2021 following a brief, but courageous battle with pancreatic cancer. He is survived by his wife of 53 years, Rev. Wilma Peggs, his sons Brian and Walter Jr., and a host of loving family and friends.

“He was a faithful husband, a faithful father, a faithful friend. A man of love, service, humility and forgiveness. He was so loving,” said First Lady Wilma Peggs.

Walter L. Peggs, Sr was a shining example of the love of God in action. A compassionate and caring teacher of the Word, Rev. Peggs was always looking to share encouragement and provide a practical path on how to live a Godly life.

Peggs served as Senior Pastor of Fullview Missionary Baptist Church in Bartlett, TN for more than 36 years. He was selected to lead the Fullview congregation in the Fall of 1984. He guided the Church through its largest growth in membership and provided the vision to build a Family Life Center and a state-of-the art temple to better serve the needs of the community.

Pastor Peggs has touched thousands over the last 5 decades diligently working in ministry, community outreach across the Greater Memphis area and Mission work in the Dominican Republic and Uganda.

“While Pastor Peggs is surely missed, he is not lost; for we know where he can be found. He is in Heaven and has seen his LORD Jesus face to face,” said Fullview Assistant Pastor, Rev. Warrie Williams. “Pastor can also be found in those who knew him,” said Rev. Williams.

Rev. Peggs began his relationship with Christ at the young age of 10 in South Memphis. His Christian foundation was laid under the teachings of Pilgrim Rest Missionary Baptist on Pillow Street.

“Pastor Peggs was the embodiment of Jeremiah 3:15, a Shepherd and Pastor after God’s own heart,” said longtime friend and Pastor Bartholomew Orr of Brown Missionary Baptist Church in Southaven, MS. “He had a heart for his people, a humility like none other, and a holiness which characterized him as a man of integrity.”

The 74-year-old Peggs served 4 years in the United States Air Force and retired from the United States Postal Service after 35 years. Peggs made history becoming the first African American postal employee in the city of Germantown, TN.

Rev. Walter Peggs, Sr. excelled in his faith and believed in bridging gaps of racial and social divide. Founded in 1876, Fullview is one of the oldest churches in the predominantly white city of Bartlett. Peggs believed in building alliances with other churches in Bartlett and it all came together through a key friendship. Pastor Danny Siquefield, of Faith Baptist Church on Germantown Parkway in Bartlett, befriended Pastor Peggs 26 years ago. In recent years, Peggs and Siquefield created the Bartlett Community Celebration, an annual gathering of 8 different churches in Bartlett that join together for a powerful night of worship. The diverse congregations of Blacks, whites, young, old, from various backgrounds and cultures blend together for an evening of singing, musical performances and preaching.

“Pastor Peggs was always the favorite,” said Pastor Siquefield. “We never wanted anyone to preach after Brother Walter, so we were sure to put him at the elite position of preaching last.”

The night of fellowship has become a highly anticipated event in Bartlett.

“It is a service with unity among diversity. It’s one of the great celebrations of our town. You can imagine the beauty of that,” said Pastor Siquefield.

Pastor Siquefield characterized his Brother Walter as a loving, dedicated minister.

“The word humility and the spirit of a servant. But his legacy is one of faithfulness to the word of God and leadership among the people of God,” said Siquefield. “He really lived out for me, what is one of my favorite verses, Proverbs 22:1: ‘A good name is more to be desired than great riches.’ And Walter Peggs’ name is very, very good.”

Pastor Peggs made an impact beyond the walls of Fullview Missionary Baptist Church- leaving his civic mark on the City of Bartlett. He was a long-standing member of the Bartlett Rotary Club, helping to secure educational scholarships for deserving children. He was also a valued member of the city’s critical Planning Commission.

“No one served with more distinction than Pastor Peggs,” said Bartlett Mayor A. Keith McDonald.

McDonald has known Peggs for more than 25 years and has attended numerous services at Fullview. The Mayor even has been known to sing at Fullview during his visits to Sunday services.

Mayor McDonald credits Pastor Peggs for guiding him through critical decisions and topics pertaining to race relations and the African American community in Bartlett.

“He was a great voice of reason,” said McDonald.

“He was a man of character. He wasn’t afraid to let people know he loved the Lord, no matter the setting.”

Mayor McDonald reflected on his last conversation with Pastor Walter Peggs- just days before his passing.

“I told him, ‘Walter, I love you. You are family. You’re a great man.’”

“We’re going to miss him.”

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WHAT: Services Celebrating the Christian Life & Legacy of Reverend Walter L. Peggs, Sr.

WHEN: Saturday, February 20, 2021 12PM

Visitation: Friday February 19, 2021 12PM-6PM and Saturday 9AM- 11:45AM

WHERE: Fullview Missionary Baptist Church

7100 Memphis-Arlington Road

Bartlett, Tennessee 38135

WEBSITE: <https://fullviewbaptist.org/>

*We are asking you to please wear your mask and maintain a safe distance.

*In lieu of flowers the family has designated the Fullview Missionary Baptist Church Foreign Missions Ministry for memorial contributions.