

BISHOP A. L. COBBS, JR. | SENIOR PASTOR

# 73<sup>rd</sup> CHURCH Anniversary



# Intentional

MAY  
24

314 SOUTH 12TH STREET | RICHMOND, CA 94804

# LIVING INTENTIONAL

## Providence Baptist Church

### Family

Preserving the family structure and end the destruction of our families.

### Faith

We live with the understanding that faith without good works dies on the vine, and our faith in God is demonstrated daily through our walk.

### Foundation

We stand of the principles of the Word of God as the foundation of our spiritual walk with the Lord. Understanding that God nor His Word never changes.

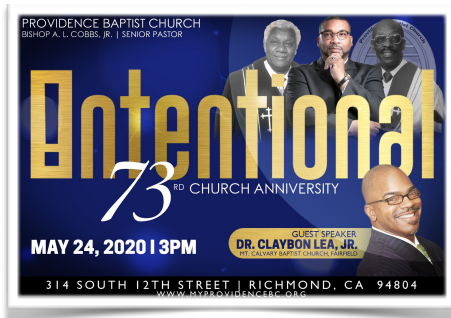
### Innovation

As God never changes, people do. We stand on the principle of being spiritually creative, by developing ways to reach each generations on their level, yet keeping the integrity of the Gospel in a technological, fast pace world.



## History

God put in the hearts of a small group of Christians residing in the Canal District of Richmond, that there was a need for a church for the saving of lost souls living in that area. This idea was born in the Coast Guard Center. In 1947, a meeting was held at the home of Rev. B.T. Payne



## 73 Years Of Divine Godly Leadership

We thank God for placing men of God as our Shepard as the watcher over our souls, and the sacrifices they and their families made over the Seventy Years of our existence.

- 1947 Rev. B. T. Payne
- 1950 Rev. R. H. Howard
- 1950 Rev. Walter LaBeaux
- 1958 Dr. Elijah Brocks
- 1991 Rev. Dino LaBeaux
- 1992 Dr. Mack T. Johnson
- 2006 Rev. A.L. Cobbs, Jr.

### *Jeremiah 3:15*

*Then I will give you shepherds after My own heart, who will feed you on knowledge and understanding.*

### *Ephesians 4:11-12*

*11 And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;  
12 For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:*

for the purpose of organizing a church and selecting a Pastor. The members present were: Rev. & Sis. Booker T. Payne, Rev. & Sis. John A. Malone, Bro. & Sis. Scott Berry, Bro. & Sis. Andrew Scales, Bro. & Sis. Roosevelt H. Henderson, Bro. & Sis. Elijah Dixon, and Bro. George Townsend. Rev. Booker T. Payne was elected as Pastor.

A campaign for the purpose of raising money for a building was established and a total of \$1,100 was donated. A payment of \$200 was made to Realtor, Mr. Henry Warnzer and through greater financial commitments to the building fund, the church was erected in the same year. In 1947, the Home Mission Society was organized under the direction of Sis. Clay Malone and Sis. Mae Willie Bowles, and in 1949, the Mission Society was organized. Officers were Sis. Rushing, President; Sis. O.V. Henderson, Secretary; Sis. Gertrude Bryson, Assistant Secretary; and Sis. Gertrude Collins, Treasurer.

In 1950, God saw that we were in need of a Pastor and Rev. R.H. Howard became the second Pastor of Providence Baptist Church, ending Rev. B.T. Payne's pastoral. During this same year, Rev. R.H. Howard's pastoral ended and Rev. Walter LaBeaux accepted the call to become the third Pastor of Providence Baptist Church.



In 1956, the church found itself in the redevelopment plans of the City of Richmond and was forced to sell our church building. In 1957, God blessed us to purchase land at our present location at 314 So. 12<sup>th</sup> Street, Richmond, CA.

In 1958, God saw that we were in need again for a Pastor and Dr. Elijah Brocks was elected to be the fourth Pastor of the Providence Baptist Church following Rev. LaBeaux's ending pastoral.

In 1975, under the leadership of Dr. Elijah Brocks the

sanctuary was demolished and a new foundation was laid for a new sanctuary. The sanctuary was constructed with the hard work of Providence members under the leadership of Pastor Brocks, the direction of Bro. Ralph Emerson Sr., and the Building Committee consisting of Bro. Jay Lee Brock, Bro. Clifton Cunningham, Dec. Levi Hill, Dec. Meadie Jackson, Dec. Joe Wright, and Bro. Winfield Turner. While under construction, services were held in the Nystrom Elementary School auditorium and the church's dining hall.



On the third Sunday in December in 1976, members took possession of the new church sanctuary. In 1983, a cornerstone was laid in which a ceremony was held and performed by the M. Hirem Tyre Grand Lodge AF & AM. The cornerstone was donated by the late Sis. Marsha L. Emerson. On March 26, 1989, having served as Pastor for 30 1/2 years, Pastor Elijah Brocks was called from labor to reward to be with our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

In 1990, with the hard work and dedication of the membership, the Church was able to burn the mortgage. In addition, Brothers Jay L. Brocks, Robert L. Brocks, Ralph W. Emerson, James Fields, Otis Green, John Turner, and Winfield Turner were ordained as deacons by Associate Pastors, Rev. Ben Thomlinson and Eddie Owens. During the same year, Deacon Albert Reed was added to the Deacon's Board.

In 1991, God saw that we were in need of a Shepard and Rev. Dino A. LaBeaux was elected as the fifth Pastor of Providence Baptist Church, and under his leadership the church grew and prospered.

In 1992, we found ourselves again in need of a Pastor and Rev. Mack. T. Johnson was appointed as Minister-in-Charge and the church family came together to support the upkeep of the church, making repairs, and renovations. In 1993, Rev. Mack T. Johnson was elected as the sixth Pastor of Providence Baptist Church and many souls were added to church as we continued to grow. In 1997, Providence Baptist Church celebrated our 50<sup>th</sup> Year Church Anniversary. Theme, "Wisdom From The Past, Enlightenment For The Future." Proverbs 9:10-11. Under the leadership of Pastor Johnson seven new deacons were added, Deacon Don Robinson, Deacon Kirby Hamilton, Deacon Robert Johnson, John Turner Jr., Deacon Maurice O'Kieth, Deacon Charles Mitchell, Deacon Kamal Anderson.

In 2004, we found ourselves in need of a Pastor once again. After searching for almost two years, God answered our prayers. On November 25, 2005, the Providence members came together and Pastor Albert Leon Cobbs, Jr., was elected Pastor.

On February 10, 2006, Pastor A. L. Cobbs, Jr., was installed as the seventh Pastor of Providence Baptist Church. Under his leadership, we experienced a strong growth in Sunday school, weekly Bible class and church attendance; as well as an increase in membership and finances. A church logo, mission and vision Statement was developed. As our membership grew, so did the need for strong Christian ministries that would help support the needs of the Providence family and develop a sense of community. With this concept in mind, numerous ministries were added.

In 2007 the restrooms were updated and new flooring was installed throughout the halls and the ladies lounge. AV equipment was purchased and installed as well as the AV ministry established, and data base system purchased and installed. Three deacons were ordained by Pastor A. L. Cobbs, Jr.: Deacon Archie Barnes, Deacon Jackson Taylor, and Deacon Ronald Elliott.

In 2008 a new sprinkler system was installed, the fellowship hall was updated and the front and restroom doors were replaced. On March 27, 2009 Minister Shamar Lewis was licensed by Pastor A. L. Cobbs, Jr., to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ

On June 1, 2009, Pastor Cobbs found the need to restore and brighten the sanctuary and with the support of the church body, renovation of the sanctuary began and was completed on June 8, 2009. The sanctuary pews were restored as well as new choir stand and balcony seating was completed on July 15, 2009. On August 24, 2009, work began on our front lobby as well as safety glass installed in the balcony and was completed on August 29, 2009. "Look How Far We've Come."



On September 12, 2009, the building at 320 South 12<sup>th</sup> Street was placed on the market for sale. Seeing the need for more space, on September 27, 2009, it was voted on by the church body, to look into the purchase of this property. On October 18, 2009 the church body voted to make an all cash offer of \$140,000.00 for the building on the behalf of Pastor Cobbs, Trustees, Deacons, and the entire Providence Baptist Church membership. Sister Carolyn Cobbs of Better Homes Realty was signed on as our realtor, and Deacon Robert Brocks was voted on and given the power to represent the church. On October 17, 2010 (364 days later) the offer was excepted and the building purchased. On October 25, 2011, (372 days later) the self funded loan to ourselves was paid in full.

On February 23, 2012, four new deacons were ordained by Pastor A. L. Cobbs, Jr.: Deacon Willie Gooden, Deacon Andrew King, Deacon Ken McReynolds, and Deacon Ian Talley. On March 17, 2012, Minister Leon Scoggins was licensed to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

On November 25, 2012 at 11:00am Minister Douglas Keeton preached his first sermon, and on December 2, 2012, was licensed by Pastor A.L. Cobbs, Jr., to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Reverend Fred Brown and Reverend Samuel Green and Reverend Dwight Mitchell was ordained and elevated to the office of elder.

On November 15, 2013, The Providence Baptist Church Family Life Center was completed, dedicated, and new theater seating was added to the sanctuary choir stand and balcony.

On November 1, 2013, The PBCLive Mobile App and television broadcast on Comcast Channel 26, KTSV was launched. On November 21, 2014 at 11:00 am, the PBCLive Internet streaming broadcast was launched.



On November 21, 2013, Mission Possible was founded and began feeding the community and those in need. In June 2015 the Mission Possible food truck was added and through the hand of God, 29,520 meals have been served.

In October 2015 the fellowship hall was updated with new seating, tables, hand-washing station, electrical, paint, and flooring.

On May 24, 2016, Minister Shamar Lewis was ordained by Pastor A. L. Cobbs, Jr as a minister of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

On February 12, 2017, Minister Sheila Morris was ordained by Pastor A. L. Cobbs, Jr., as a minister of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and AV system updated, and camera system upgraded. On May 28, 2017, Deacon Candidate Chikala Warden was ordained by Pastor A. L. Cobbs, Jr., to the office of Deacon.

On September 10, 2017, the sanctuary lighting was updated and eleven new chandeliers were purchased and installed.

On June 10, 2018, the PBC Family Life Center donor plaques were installed in the Family Life Center. On November 11, 2018, Minister Beryn Dorton was licensed to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

On February 10, 2019 at 11:00am a new pulpit, tithe box, and communion table was installed in the sanctuary, and a new cornerstone dedicated to the Family Life Center.

We thank God for where He has brought us and understand that if we are faithful to Him, He will continue to be faithful to us as we become the most covenant Christian community the world has ever seen.



CITY OF RICHMOND, CALIFORNIA

# PROCLAMATION

## Celebrating the 73<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary of Providence Baptist Church

**WHEREAS**, Providence Baptist Church has been extremely involved within the city of Richmond for the past 73 years through dedication to community service and outreach; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1947, Reverend B. T. Payne, with the valuable help of other residents of the Canal housing projects, organized Providence Baptist Church, where seven men of God have served as pastor; and

**WHEREAS**, Reverend Elijah Brocks served the longest time of 31 years, during which the original structure of the church was demolished and rebuilt under the direction of Pastor Brocks and Deacon Ralph Emerson Sr.; and

**WHEREAS**, the current pastor since 2006, Pastor A. L. Cobbs Jr., was elevated to the office of Bishop in June 2017 and he focuses on equipping others to "serve the community to the glory and honor of God;" and

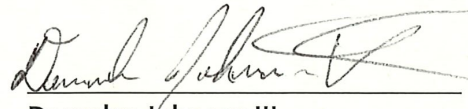
**WHEREAS**, there have been several renovations to the church, including the sanctuary and fellowship hall between 2007 and 2009 and the addition of the Family Life Center in 2014; and

**WHEREAS**, Providence Baptist Church has played an instrumental role in the community through outreach such as Bible study classes for all ages, a clothes closet to provide for those in need, a food pantry and participation in the Mission Possible program to feed the homeless, and engagement with Shoes for Souls and a backpack giveaway for schoolchildren.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Richmond City Council, on May 24, 2020, does hereby recognize and congratulate Providence Baptist Church on 73 years of dedication, service, and faith.



Tom Butt  
Mayor



Demnlus Johnson III  
Councilmember

CITY OF OAKLAND

# Mayor's Proclamation

IN RECOGNITION OF  
PROVIDENCE BAPTIST CHURCH  
RICHMOND, CALIFORNIA  
BISHOP A. L. COBBS, PASTOR

**WHEREAS**, the Providence Missionary Baptist Church, Ministry of Worship Mass Choir, was formed in 1947 under the leadership of Pastor B.T. Payne and continued to grow in number, dedication, anointing, and skill, under the pastoral leadership of seven great pastors; and

**WHEREAS**, for the last fourteen years and presently, their mass choir has been under the pastoral leadership of Bishop A.L. Cobbs Jr.; and

**WHEREAS**, the Providence Baptist Church, Ministry of Worship Mass Choir, strives to be consistent and an integral component in the worship experience; the mission and focus of the PBC Ministry of Worship are through the anointed song selections to create an atmosphere of worship; and

**WHEREAS**, PBC Ministry of Worship's goal is to sing the Gospel of Jesus can reach the heart of those that are in need ushering the congregation into the presence of God, making the task of preaching easy for their pastor; and

**WHEREAS**, over the last 47 years, providence has had many excellent and dedicated leaders, our present overseer of the Ministry of Ministry is Sister Evette Washington, who ensures the ministry stays connected to the word of God to be effective in creating an atmosphere of worship; and now

**THEREFORE**, be it *Proclaimed*, I, Libby Schaaf, Mayor of the City of Oakland hereby honor and recognize Providence Baptist Church, for their dedicated and devoted service to Oakland's community.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Oakland to be affixed.

  
LIBBY SCHAAF, MAYOR, CITY OF OAKLAND



*The Board of Supervisors of  
Contra Costa County, California*

Honoring Providence Baptist Church on its 73<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary

May 24, 2020

WHEREAS, Providence Baptist Church (PBC) of Richmond, California was founded by Reverend B.T. Payne and other residents of the Canal housing projects in 1947; and

WHEREAS, PBC has been located at 314 So. 12<sup>th</sup> Street in Richmond since 1957; and

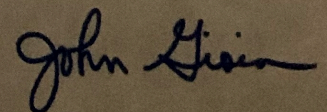
WHEREAS, PBC has served its community in numerous ways since its inception, demonstrating community service leadership; and

WHEREAS, Today, PBC is led by Pastor A.L. Cobbs, Jr. who was elevated to the office of Bishop in June 2017 and works to help other church members serve their congregation and the community; and

WHEREAS, PBC built the Family Life Center in 2014; and

WHEREAS, PBC continues outreach to the community by holding bible study classes for all age groups, hosting a clothes closet, food pantry and programs for donating shoes, and children's backpacks; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Supervisors of Contra Costa County does hereby honor the Providence Baptist Church on its 73<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary.



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John Gioia  
Board of Supervisors  
Contra Costa County

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# DR. CLAYBON LEA, JR.

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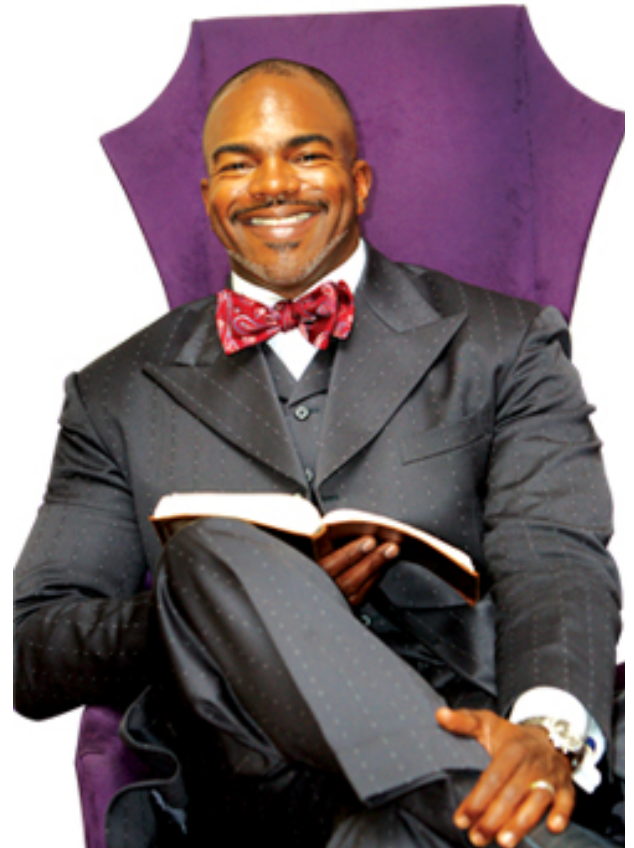
## Biographical Sketch

**Dr. Claybon Lea, Jr.**, is the pastor of the Mount Calvary Baptist Church in Fairfield and Suisun City, CA. He is the father of four remarkable children: Claybon III, Jillian, Christopher and Jessica.

Under Dr. Lea's leadership, Mount Calvary has experienced phenomenal holistic growth. In 2015, Dr. Lea led the church in the acquisition of 60 acres for the future construction of a mixed-use campus to facilitate the nonprofit and for-profit vision of the church.

He is a graduate of Morehouse College in Atlanta, GA, with a B.A. degree in Religion. He received his M.Div. degree from Union Theological Seminary in New York City. He also earned his D.Min. degree from the United Theological Seminary in Dayton, OH. In December 2015, he graduated with a Ph.D. in Biblical Studies from Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary in Mill Valley, CA, with highest honors. His dissertation is entitled *The Hermeneutics of Desmond Tutu: Liberationist or Reconciliationist?* Dr. Lea currently serves as an adjunct professor of New Testament at Gateway Seminary in Ontario, CA.

In 2000, Dr. Lea was inducted into the Martin Luther King, Jr., Board of Preachers at Morehouse College. In August of 2004 he was selected to attend The University of Oxford in England as a participant in the Oxford Round Table discussion on Religion, Education and Government. He currently serves as a Vice-President of the National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc. In addition, he is a proud member of Omega Psi Phi, Incorporated and a life member of the NAACP.



Dr. Claybon Lea, Jr.,  
Mt Calvary Baptist Church

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## Rev. Dr. Marsha Drew



***Even then God had designs on me. Why, when I was still in my mother's womb he chose and called me out of sheer generosity! Now he has intervened and revealed his Son to me so that I might joyfully tell non-Jews about him. Galatians 2:15***

This passage speaks volumes about the calling God has on the life of Rev. Dr. Marsha Drew. She is a native of San Francisco, 9<sup>th</sup> child of 11 children born to Rev. Milton & Sis. Irma Wise. She is the blessed mother of 2 daughters, J'Quila (Johnson) & Mamesha Drew and honored grandmother of Louia', Lulu, Louis-Baptiste and Lily Johnson. Ministerial Alliance member and Dean of Christian Education at Calvary Hill Community Church, Rev. Dr. Joseph Bryant Jr., Pastor. Currently, Dean of Christian Education of Progressive Baptist Missionary Educational District Association, Dr. Rondell Leggett, Moderator, teacher of Biblical Studies at Vallejo Bible College and Assistant Director of Stanford Arboretum Children's Center.

Dr. Drew, is Committed to Christ and the work of the church. Encourages an intimate relationship with God, His Word, Son, and Holy Spirit. She has been a missionary in two countries, Nova Scotia and Haiti. She teaches God's Word with creativity and contagious joy. She is willing to go, help, seek and find those who are lost, burned out and/or who have image issues and concerns. She cares about people's understanding of who they are in God's Will and Plan for their lives. She enjoys reading, Alvin Ailey's Dance Troupe, basketball (watching or coaching), writing, and building great structures with her grandchildren. She is kind, caring and has a great sense of human need and the drive to succeed. She is a lifelong learner and student of the Bible.

She has a Doctorate in Theology from Pneuma Theological Seminary, Master's Degree in Educational Leadership from Golden Gate Theological Seminary, BA in Liberal Art from SFSU and BA in Biblical Studies from Fellowship Bible Institute and an AA in General Psychology w/minor in Early Childhood Education from Skyline College & City College San Francisco. In 2019, Dr. Drew was ordained as Rev. Dr. Marsha Drew.

***"I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death,<sup>11</sup> and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead."***

*Philippians 3:10*

## From the Pastor's Desk

To all of our PBC members and friends,

I am so grateful to God for you and all of your support during this COVID-19 pandemic.

It has tested my personal commitment to ministry and the Providence Baptist Church in the area of faith and trust in our God. I thank God who gives us the victory through His Son Jesus, for Him finding me faithful enough for this journey, to lead His people through this wilderness experience.

During this time I've tried my best to continue to provide the Providence Baptist Church with powerful worship and the Word of God for such a time as this. We have focused on providing our members and community with food and resources to help them during this time of pandemic. Our focus has been on the Providence Baptist Church being a church that shows the love of Jesus Christ, not just through our worship, but through our actions and deeds.

### **Matthew 25: 35-26**

**35** *For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in:*

**36** *Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me.*

During the Months of March, April and May, we have been blessed to help feed hundreds of families, and provide our members in need with fresh meat, toilet paper, hand sanitizer and special resources, to help them through their time of need as the church is to be giving to good works.

We have also been blessed to supply small tokens of our appreciation in the form of cupcakes to our frontline workers at San Francisco General, and UCSF Citywide Case-management.

Thank you for your time, talent and financial support during the restrictions on mass gatherings. I miss you and love you dearly and continue to pray daily without ceasing for you. May the grace of our God be with you until we meet again!

Your Pastor,  
Bishop A.L. Cobbs, Jr.

**73rd Year Church Anniversary**  
 Sunday, May 24, 2020 11:00am  
 “A Church Intentionally United in the Spirit”  
 Ephesians 4:1-1

Scripture.....Ministers

Prayer.....Ministers

Morning Hymn.....Ministers

Welcome.....Announcing Clerk

Announcements.....Announcing Clerk

Alter Prayer.....Ministers

Praise & Worship.....Praise Team

Introduction of Speaker.....Bishop A. L. Cobbs, Jr.

Spoken Word.....Dr. Marsha Drew  
 Calvary Hill Church  
 San Francisco, CA  
 Dr. Joseph Bryant, Pastor

*73rd Year Church Anniversary*  
 Sunday, May 24, 2020 3:00pm  
 “A Church Intentionally United in the Spirit”  
 Ephesians 4:1-1

Devotion.....	Minister
Call to Worship.....	Minister
Praise & Worship.....	Praise Team
Mistress of Ceremony.....	Minister Lennie Brown
Welcome.....	Youth Department
Praise through Dance.....	Generation of Worship
The Occasion.....	Deacon Gilbert Dyer
Praise through Mime.....	Brother Roland Byrd
Introduction of Speaker.....	Bishop A. L. Cobbs, Jr.
Spoken Word.....	Dr. Claybon Lea, Jr. Mt. Calvary Missionary Baptist Church Fairfield, CA
Invitation to Discipleship.....	Bishop A.L. Cobbs, Jr.
Words of Thanks.....	Sister Denise Knox
Video Production.....	Bro. Christophe Cobbs ItsCobbs Production

## Special Thanks

Special thanks to Sister Lesia Gwyn, Sister Sheron Hammond, Brother Benny Barnes, Deacon Archie Barnes, Sister Arnie Barnes, Sister Sherron Kidd, Sister Carol Hill, Sister Isabell Emerson for your help in distributing the food weekly.

Special Thanks to Sister Carolyn Cobbs, Sister Denise Smith, Sister Tamera Alberty, Sister Katina Knox, Brother Christopher Cobbs, Sister Clarice Baker, Brother Edward Alberty Sr., Brother Edward Alberty Jr., Brother James Calhoun, Brother D'Mauriae Harris, Rev. Jordan Caldwell for your commitment to worship and sacrificing your time to help bring the church and worship to the people.

Special thanks to Sister Carlisa James for helping spread joy and Christian encouragement to our frontline workers. Sister Denise Knox, Sister Isabel Emerson, Sister Eula Lewis and Sister Sheron Hammond for your commitment to our weekly wellness checks of all our members, as well as our administrative team, Sister Maxine Henagan, Sister Denise Knox, Sister Barbara Hill, Sister Vena Tracy, Sister Carolyn Cobbs.





## *Our Many Thanks*

*On behalf of Pastor A.L. Cobbs, Jr., and the Providence family, we would like to extend our sincerest thanks to the 73rd Year Church Anniversary Committee and those who participated on today's program, the Anniversary Reception, and culinary services. Job well done!*

*The 73rd Church Anniversary Committee would like to extend our heartfelt thanks and gratitude to Pastor Cobbs and our PBC, Family for your support in making this celebration one to be remembered!*

*Special thanks to Pastor Claybon Lea, Jr., and the Mont Calvary Church we were truly blessed by the Word of God and your virtual presence. To Dr. Marsha Drew for your awesome Word, and the Calvary Hill Church, Overseer, Dr. Joseph Bryant – Thank you!*

*Former Providence Members, Family and Friends we were blessed by your presence  
Thank you!*

*To God Be The Glory!!!*

*Anniversary Committee  
Sister Maxine Kenagan  
Sister Marva Robison  
Sister Loretta Dyer Sister Denise Knox  
Sister Vernita Smith  
Pastor A.L. Cobbs, Jr.*

*Very Special Thanks to: Musicians, Praise Team, PBC Dance Ministry,  
Brother Roland Byrd, Christopher Cobbs & ItsCobbs Production for the Video Anniversary  
Production*

*Providence Baptist Church  
314 So 12th Street, Richmond, CA 94804  
[www.myprovidencebc.org](http://www.myprovidencebc.org)*