

ATLANTA WEST PENTECOSTAL CHURCH

# MESSENGER

SEPTEMBER  
2025

35  
YEARS





BY: PASTOR DARRELL JOHNS

Every single year of every enduring relationship is significant, with each succeeding year building on the foundation of the last.

### **Cooperation**

Thirty years of serving a congregation is a significant milestone indeed, but that accomplishment is only possible when mutual trust exists between the pastor and the congregation. A pastor can only lead if a church is willing to follow. The story of the past 30 years is one of cooperative effort, building God's church for His glory – together.

On August 31, 1995, Atlanta West Pentecostal Church and the Johns family entered into a relationship that has endured for three decades. Whatever accomplishments we've achieved together can be attributed to the bond of trust that has been built and to the many people who shared—and continue to share—our vision.

We readily acknowledge that God has not blessed Atlanta West because of perfect leaders or perfect saints. However, we trust it can be said that God has seen the sincerity of our hearts and our relentless focus on doing His will by fulfilling the church's mission.

### **Faithfulness**

God honors faith and faithfulness (Matthew 25:21, 23). Without faith it is impossible to please God (Hebrews 11:6). Faith is believing that God will do what He said He would do—that He keeps His Word. Faithfulness is faith that is sustained for the long haul (Revelation 2:10). Faithfulness is the result of staying the course, regardless of challenges faced. Faithfulness is the glue that holds relationships together.

### **Endurance**

In the tradition of honoring an enduring marriage, 30 years is celebrated as the year of the pearl. While this is not a biblical perspective, it is true that, like a pearl, relationships that succeed for decades are built on

enduring love and persistence. Pearls form from an irritant in a mollusk, like an oyster or mussel. A pearl is the mollusk's way of transforming what is painful into something precious—something valuable and beautiful.

As a church, we can reflect on seasons of suffering that made us stronger. We've trusted God and one another for 30 years. Like a pearl, the beauty that has been fashioned in our church is the result of faithful endurance.

### **Gratitude**

On the occasion of this 30th anniversary, on behalf of our family, I would like to acknowledge every person who contributed to the progress of our church through the years. Current and former members of the Board of Trustees, pastoral team members, church leaders, volunteers, guest ministers, and everyone who ever donated even a dollar to this church are all shareholders in our victories. To you, we say thanks.

### **Looking to the Future**

Thirty years is a milestone and reason to celebrate what has been. But, in the Bible, 30 years was also a year of initiation for something new. Joseph, David, John the Baptist, and Jesus all began their productive years of ministry at 30 years of age. Old Testament priests were prepared and then placed in positions of service and leadership at the age of 30.

I want to borrow from these examples, proposing that, although we are grateful for the past, we also see this as the commencement of a new dimension of ministry. We are building on the past, but we are reaching for the future. We are excited about what the next generation will become for the Kingdom of God. Let us resolve to make this milestone more than a memory. Let it be the launching pad for a new season of ministry.

## September Birthdays

<b>1</b> Camelia Courtright Judah Greene Virginia Davis Patrick Shope Payton Boyd Chika Eziakor Roberta Keene Sean Henry Heather Livingston	<b>14</b> Phil Massey Jacque Hortenstine Bianca Talbot-Mason David Hudgens	<b>23</b> Ashlyn Austin Michaiah Bryan Carolyn Fryza
<b>2</b> Jerrod Runkel Michelle Upchurch	<b>16</b> Donna Strouse Gus Mariona Rebecca Waters Butch Quinn	<b>24</b> Emilly Namakonzi Phillip Nsajja
<b>3</b> Alexis Norris Colleen Bryan-Walters Jake Grayson Aurora Gonzalez Tarrence Berry	<b>17</b> Angel Townsend Mason Boyd Sylvia Harrylal Barrett Robinson Stephen Washington Claudette Watson Richard Evens Kadian Laing Kaleb Horn	<b>25</b> Shawn Scott Janette Crowder Shaun Beckles Adalynn Manley
<b>4</b> Statia Gbendah	<b>18</b> Donald Douglas Charity Evans Penny Newborn Angela Dudley LakeLynn Key Len Tuttle	<b>26</b> Juanita Barberi Jill Barnes
<b>6</b> Dennis Johnson Kenisha Tillmutter	<b>19</b> Sis. Jerri Ann Manley Alex Szecsey Joel Grant	<b>27</b> Crystal Flowers Rocio Sundberg Jeanie Nelson
<b>7</b> Bro. Don Morris Wesley Forrest Eli Pineda Sadisha Clarke TJ Huff	<b>20</b> Khyri Jones Julius Adams	<b>28</b> Kortez Allen Theron Richardson Doug Barberi Keegan Huff
<b>9</b> Tiffany Stubelt Janice Abernathy Don Mason Ethelind Calderon	<b>21</b> Sis. Dana Fain Andrew Barnett Roy Austin Luke Cottrell	<b>29</b> Stephanie Willey David Charles Cheek Donna Turner Jon Cude
<b>10</b> Emma Cole Cali Fuentes	<b>22</b> Landyn Lynn	<b>30</b> David Turner Angela Cheek Brooke Thorne Elle Livingston
<b>11</b> Cheryl Roe Jordan Fuentes David Oludiya		
<b>13</b> Santiago Martinez		

## September Anniversaries

9	David & Annalia Hudgens
10	Jacob & Lyssa Nunn
12	Michael & Jennieve Amore
12	Kortez & Kelly Allen
14	Josh & Jennifer Austin Sr.
16	Joseph & Stacy Dixon
17	Chris & Len Tuttle
18	Luis & Vanessa Colin
20	Beau & Morgan Johnson
22	Bro. Marvin & Cecilia Reyes
22	Jake & Amy Hobbs
23	Richard & Brenda Wells
24	Bro. Don & Colleen Morris
24	Joey & Kristy Grant
24	Jose & Gloria Moreno
25	Dylan & Charity Evans
26	Andrew & Kimberly Marsh
27	Brian & Sis. Debbie Miller
29	Scott & Jana Floyd
29	Bro. Ethan & Brook Miller
30	Anthony & Angela Dudley

*What's With the Party?*  
July 21 - August 24

**Baptized in Jesus' Name**

Bailey Brooks	Diamond Reaves
Ana Karina Carranza	Unique Robinson
Jaden Fuentes	Temiloluwa Sho
Jalen Haith	Rayvon DJ Thomas
Troy Harper	Fredy Vasquez
Amelia Hayes	Noemi Vasquez
Robert Holcombe	Amber Walker
Cameron Jackson	Theodore Willey

**Filled with the Holy Ghost**

Bailey Brooks	Forrest Minor
Juana Carranza	Haysley Quinn
Samara Hernandez	Diamond Reaves
Cameron Jackson	Unique Robinson



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 Labor Day Church Offices Closed	2 7 pm 301 Meeting Online	3 Guest Speaker: Bro. James Corbin  7:30 pm Children's Musical Rehearsal  7:30 pm CROWD	4	5	6 6:30 am HOPE  7:30 pm Pastor's Prayer Partners Team 1
7 30th Pastoral Anniversary Guest Speaker: Bro. David K. Bernard  Missions Sunday Small Groups Semester Begin 9 am & 11:30 am Ch.I.P.Z.	8	9	10 7:30 pm Children's Musical Rehearsal  7:30 pm CROWD 7:30 pm HYPHEN	11	12	13 6:30 am HOPE  7:30 pm Pastor's Prayer Partners Team 2
14 Volunteer Sunday 9 am & 11:30 am Ch.I.P.Z.  9:15 am Welcome to the Family	15	16 7 pm Ladies' Prayer	17 7:30 pm Children's Musical Rehearsal  7:30 pm CROWD	18	19	20 6:30 am HOPE  7:30 pm Pastor's Prayer Partners Team 3
21 IMAGINE 9 am & 11:30 am Ch.I.P.Z.  9:15 am Welcome to the Family	22	23	24 7:30 pm Children's Musical Rehearsal  7:30 pm CROWD 7:30 pm HYPHEN	25	GA District Men's Retreat	
					26	27 6:30 am HOPE  7:30 pm Pastor's Prayer Partners Team 4
General Conference - St. Louis, MO						
28 9 am & 11:30 am Ch.I.P.Z.  9:15 am Welcome to the Family	29	30	<div>SEPTEMBER 2025</div> <div>Ch.I.P.Z. - Children in The Power Zone</div>			