

United For A Purpose, 2014



Apostle Williams along with the Board of Bishops, including speakers conducted training and seminars on-site at the headquarters church, Unity Church in Woodbridge, Virginia as the team broadcasted each session virtually.

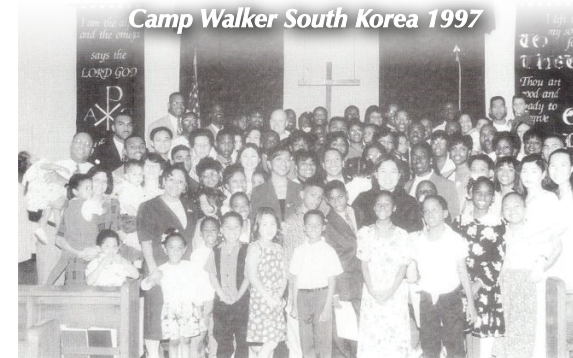
The year of 2021 also brought increase and elevation of Pastor Kenny Kendrick of Clarksville, Tennessee, to Bishop and overseer of the South-Central Region of UCFI Ministries in the United States. As vaccines and booster shots were administered throughout the nation, a decision to hold an in-person Summit was decided, which was held in September in Huntsville, Alabama at the Jackson Center, hosted by Bishop Ernest Edwards and UCFI Huntsville. As God continued to bless UCFI in the midst of the pandemic, the UFAP Ensemble produced its second recorded album called One Sound, which was played on local radio stations throughout the nation and shared on social music platforms such as YouTube, iTunes, Spotify, and others.

In January of 2022 UCFI Leadership Apostle (Dr.) Nelson K. Williams and First Lady, Williams addressed the organization with their "New Years" message declaring the theme "the Next Level" In God, Mark 4:35-41. In February 2022 UCFI partnered with Revelation Message Bible College, which opened opportunities for those that desired an undergraduate degree, including Jackson Theological Seminary which provided graduate degrees to those seeking higher education. Unity Christian Fellowship International Director of Christian Education Dr. Avery Goss was the coordinator. As of April 2022, progress continued as the Lord would lay on the heart of Apostle Williams to teach and deliver virtually several sessions on "Avoiding End Time Deception."



As change continued to occur and adapting to a new environment a decision was made to alternate annual meetings and gatherings. In 2022 United for a Purpose Convocation would not be held that year but would become the main venue for the following year. On 5 May 2022, UCFI Leadership led the organization into Intercessory Prayer, as they petitioned Heaven during the National Day of Prayer, hosted by Bishop Kenny & Pastor Carrie Kendrick during their weekly prayer line ministry. Prayer began with Apostle Nelson K. Williams and First Lady Lillian Williams, followed by Bishop and First Lady Edwards, Bishop, and Pastor Washington, and culminated with Bishop and First Lady Collins. In October 2022, UCFI Huntsville officially changed its name and became "United in Love Ministries," under the leadership of Bishop and First Lady Edwards, Huntsville, Alabama.

In October 2022, UCFI would host its annual Global Leadership Summit in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina at the Sheraton Hotel, during its two-and half-day event that equipped, educated, and empowered leaders throughout the organization and prepared them for "The Next Level." The Summit began with a meet and greet event, followed by training, networking, and a workshop, which was presented by Reverend Tony Lee who shared "Doing Church Out Of the Box." As the evening ended an elegant fellowship dinner was served on day two and culminated on day three with a worship message delivered by Bishop Varnie Fullwood, Pastor of Mount Pleasant Baptist Church Ministries, Clinton North Carolina. In January 2023, the Presiding Prelate, Apostle, and First Lady Williams delivered their New Year's Keynote address to the UCFI body, emphasizing the theme and declaring that we "Maintain our Position." In February and March Bishop Kenny Kendrick, the South-Central Regional Bishop of UCFI also presented three sessions on Black Presence in the Bible. UCFI continues to trust God as He guides the future of this Organization.



VISION

To create a permanent Christian organization/fellowship that will enable ministry by providing Biblically sound leadership, guidance, and oversight to various churches, ministries, and individuals for the Kingdom, ultimately making a difference in this world.

MISSION

To bring together like-minded men and women of God engaged in Kingdom building in order to enhance their ministry capacity spiritually, mentally, and physically.

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HISTORY OF UNITY CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP INTERNATIONAL (UCFI)



**Presiding Prelate (Dr) Apostle Nelson K. Williams
& First Lady Lilian Williams**

Leaders of Unity Christian Fellowship International

The history of Unity Christian Fellowship International (UCFI) began before the vision materialized, working behind the scenes God was creating an alliance and a unified body of baptized believers whom many came through the same vein of South Korea, under the leadership of Apostle Nelson K. Williams.

Born December 9th, 1965 in Fayetteville North Carolina, where he was reared by devout and praying parents Mr. Edward and Mrs. Rozena Williams. Holiness was a way of life in the William's household including music, which became a tether, as Apostle Williams grew up, causing him to remain connected to the church as he waited for his call to Ministry. In the 1980's The Lord would continue to influence Apostle Williams in his early years through music and would later be invited and led to Holy Deliverance Church of God where Apostle Bennie L. Kelly was Pastor, who would become a Spiritual Mother to Apostle Williams and where he would commit to following the Lord even more. By the 1990s Apostle Williams had played with some of history's most notable gospel artists, such as John P. Kee and Donnie Harper and the New Jersey Mass Choir to name a few.

UCFI Leadership & Board of Bishops

FROM LEFT TO RIGHT:

South Central Region Bishop
Kenny Kendrick, North Eastern
Region Bishop Leonard B. Lacy,
Director of Evangelism Apostle
W. Lenard King, Presiding Prelate
Apostle (Dr.) Nelson K. Williams,
First Assistant Presiding Bishop,
Bishop Michael L. Collins, Second
Assistant Presiding Bishop,
Bishop Kendall L. Washington Sr.,
South Eastern Region, Bishop
Ernest A. Edwards.



During this time, Apostle Williams would also be joined in marriage on December 22, 1990, to our own First Lady, Lillian Williams, and by 1995, God would call him to Ministry in South Korea. God would soon confirm his call on one Sunday morning as he stood behind a podium giving the benediction, and God spoke, “You are the shepherd of these people. It’s time for the Shepherd to Speak.” Through this Ministry in South Korea at the Camp Walker Chapel, many would be saved and join themselves to the birthing of what would eventually be called UCFI. In 2003, God would speak the name of this Ministry to Apostle Williams and reveal his next assignment in Virginia. While yet under the banner of Holy Deliverance Church of God in 2011, UCFI later that year would become an independent body; several pastors and their churches in the early years would join the ministry of UCFI under Apostle William’s leadership.

UCFI headquarters would hold its first service at the Mount Vernon High School in Alexandria, Virginia. In 2012, UCFI Headquarters would relocate from Mount Vernon High School to 1346 Jefferson Davis Highway, Woodbridge, Virginia where the Ministry would hold its first Holy Convocation, and United for a Purpose (UFAP) was officially launched. A three-day fellowship event designed to reach souls all over the world including various ethnicities and cultures, while the

saints of God came together to learn, share, and commit to a closer walk with God. Through this event, Iron Sharpens Iron was also born, allowing pastors and leaders to collaborate and exchange testimonies and wisdom aimed at becoming better servants of God and His people.

From 2013 to 2014, UCFI held UFAP in Woodbridge, Virginia consisting of seminars, training, a concert, dinner, and an official day culminating at the Hylton Memorial Chapel Christian Event Center. In 2015, Apostle Williams relocated UFAP to Huntsville, Alabama at the Four Points by Sheraton, where we celebrated the elevation and Ordination of Bishop Ernest Edwards which was held at True Light COGIC church, and official day and worship that culminated at the Huntsville Rescue Mission. In 2016, UFAP was again held in Woodbridge, Virginia, and in 2017 it moved its dinner venue from the Hylton Memorial Chapel Christian Event Center to the National Museum of the Marine Corps in Quantico, Virginia, consisting of a concert and Christian entertainment. In 2017, UCFI Headquarters would again relocate to its current location at 14747 Arizona Avenue in Woodbridge, VA.

The 6th Holy Convocation (UFAP) would also be celebrated that year in an elevation and ordination of Bishop Leonard Lacey who also became a part

of the Board of Bishops. In 2017, Apostle Williams also would appoint the Board of Bishops over regional areas: Bishop Michael Collins would oversee the Western Region, Bishop Kendall Washington Sr. would oversee the European Region, Bishop Ernest Edwards would be responsible for the Southeastern Region, Bishop Leonard Lacey the Northeastern Region, and Apostle Lenard King would oversee International Evangelism.

In 2017, God would again lay upon the heart of Apostle Williams to provide a special event for pastors and leaders, establishing a Pastors & Leaders’ Summit, of which the first one would be held in Germany hosted by Faith Temple Christian Center International (FTCCI) under the leadership of Bishop Kendall Washington and Pastor LaYona Washington. In 2018, the Holy Convocation (UFAP) was again held in Woodbridge, Virginia and the Pastors & Leaders’ Summit was hosted by the Western Region Bishop Michael Collins and United in Christ Discipleship International (UICDI) at the Apache Casino Hotel in Lawton, Oklahoma. In 2019, the Holy Convocation (UFAP) was again held in Woodbridge, Virginia, while the Summit was held in Charleston, South Carolina hosted by Apostle Lenard King.

In 2020, the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19)

evolved into a pandemic, and many churches became creative by holding virtual services and maximizing social media, which became platforms of ministry reaching souls well beyond the local community. In 2020, UFAP was canceled along with the Summit. As 2020 continued to cause the nation and many cities to lock down and to quarantine, UCFI leadership would minister and bring a little cheer and joy to the body of Christ. On 19 December, a virtual comedy show was established called “The Gift of Laughter” hosted by comedian Johnathan Slocumb, broadcasted on YouTube and Facebook live.

In May 2021, the Lord would again bring forth change to UCFI as He revealed a new season for the church, reassigning our Presiding Prelate (Dr.) Apostle Nelson K. Williams and First Lady Lillian Williams back to South Korea to establish and lead another group of warriors. In the meantime, Apostle Williams installed his First Assistant Presiding Bishop, Michael Collins, as Pastor and under-shepherd of Unity Church Woodbridge, Virginia during his mandate in South Korea. Apostle Williams remained Senior Pastor of Unity Church Woodbridge, Virginia, and the Presiding Prelate of UCFI Global Ministries. In 2021, as the pandemic continued, UFAP Holy Convocation was largely held virtually, although portions of it remained in person.