

Repentance Tabernacle Church

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The Biography of Pastor Marsha Riley

Salvation History:

I met the late Evangelist Carolyn Spells in 1974 at New York City Community College who witnessed to her about the Apostolic faith. My profound love for the Lord began when I was baptized in Jesus name according to Acts 2:38 at the age of twenty-three (23) and was filled with the Holy Ghost one year later in 1975.

Church History:

My early church years were spent at Zion Temple of the Apostolic Faith in Queens, NY, under the pastorate of the late Pastor Marie Wright from 1974-1980. After many years in Zion Temple, the Lord spoke to me and told me to "Get thee out of thy country and from thy kindred". I was then directed to Salem Church of Christ of the Apostolic Faith, founded by the late Bishop Avant Lytle, Sr. and Mother Gretha Lytle now under Pastor Vincent Hart from 1980-2012.

On June 29, 1997 I was ordained a minister of the Gospel of Jesus Christ and in June 1999 was appointed President of the Missionary Department. On January 2001 was appointed Adult Sunday School Teacher.

In 2011, the Lord gave Elder Riley a vision to relocate in North Carolina and also informed me in prayer that I must go. While waiting on the Lord to fully direct our path we worshiped at Apostolic Revival, Apostle John Bennett for a short time. On January 16, 2012, we prayed and the Lord directed us to Back to Acts Pentecostal Church, Apostle Gwenna K. Span-McCarty.

Ministry Calling:

My ministry calling began in 1981 elevated in the Lord to Prophetess and was endowed with the gift of healing, prophecy and discerning of spirits. He called me in the ministry to preach the gospel in 1987. He first called me with the scripture John 21:15-17, to feed his lambs and sheep. However, before my ordination he sent his word to me again Luke 4:18, "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised."



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Ministry Experience:

In 1978, under the guidance and tutelage of Missionary Evangelist Naomi Williams I learned how to effectively reach out and spread the word of Jesus Christ to others. Sometimes, I brought my children along with me as I did my missionary work and they enjoyed the experience and are now evangelist in their own right. While there I did missionary work that involved going to hospitals and nursing home for the elderly. The missionary work consisted of bringing the word and teachings of Jesus Christ to those who at the time were unable to actively hear the word themselves.

In 1981, I began my tenure at Salem during which I served in many positions and was elevated higher in the Lord to Prophetess and was endowed with the gift of healing, prophecy and discerning of spirits. As Prophetess I served as church secretary and continued my missionary work of visiting the sick and elderly. I preached the gospel of Jesus Christ to all. As I gained more experience under the guidance of the Holy Ghost I felt more confident in exercising my gift in the Lord.

Ministry Accomplishments:

I was ordained as a minister in June 1997. Appointed as President of the Missionary Dept. in June 1999 and Adult Sunday School Teacher in 2001.

On November 2008 I was ordained to Assistant Pastor of Salem Church of Christ of the Apostolic Faith under the leadership of Pastor and First Lady Hart. My role of Assistant Pastor involved more than filling in for the Pastor in his absence. It included being involved in the day to day administrative workings of God's church, preaching, fund raising, counseling, interceding in prayer for the saints of God and shepherding the flock. Also, I have various documents, licenses and evaluations: Ordained Prophetess licenses in the work of the Ministry, Teaching Evaluation for Acts chapter 4, Certificate of Consecration in work of an Assistant Pastor, Tools for Effective Spiritual Maturity – (Christian Walk Spiritual Growth).

In 2013 I was ordained as an Asst. Pastor at Back to Acts Pentecostal Church and continued my missionary work of visiting the sick and elderly at Carver Living Center.

Present Ventures:

In 2015 appointed as Pastor, to work with my husband (Elder Riley) in the ministry God has given us to establish a church title "**Repentance Tabernacle**" with the slogan of "**House of Prayer and Deliverance**".

<u>2 Peter 3:9</u> states: "The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance."



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Conclusion:

I endeavor is to continue teaching and preaching the gospel of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ "for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: **Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man**, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ" [Eph. 4:12-13]; and while I pressed towards the mark of the high calling in Christ Jesus. Also, to continue to feed His lambs and sheep [John 21:15-17] and "**preach the gospel to the poor, heal the brokenhearted, deliverance to the captives, recovering of sight to the blind, and to set at liberty them that are bruised**" [Luke 4:18] under the **anointing of the Holy Ghost.**