Meet our Pastor, Bishop Patrick L. Wooden, Sr. Abbreviated Biography



Bishop Patrick L. Wooden, Sr. is a soul stirring gospel preacher, singer and prolific visionary leader who is dedicated to excellence, holiness, and God's truth. He has been saved and serving the Lord for over 46 years and has served as Senior Pastor of Upper Room Church of God in Christ in Raleigh NC for 36 years. In 2016 Bishop Wooden was consecrated Jurisdictional Bishop of North Carolina Third Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction where he oversees churches in North Carolina, South Carolina, and Virginia. Nationally, Bishop Wooden serves as Co-Director of the Men's Ministry in the Church of God in Christ.

As a visionary leader, Bishop Wooden has led the church through three major building projects, which includes the first COGIC sanctuary ever built in Raleigh, a Christian school, and the 2000 seat edifice where they currently worship. In 2016 he led the ministry in retiring all its long-term debt and the church has a strong emphasis on marriage and family, evangelism, outreach and upon developing men and women into strong Christians and courageous defenders of the Faith.

Bishop Wooden devoted 40 years of his life to faithful service in Greater North Carolina Jurisdiction under the leadership of Bishop Leroy J. Woolard and Bishop L. B. Davenport. Chiefly, he served as Superintendent of Greater Central District, First Administrative Assistant and then Executive Administrative Assistant after being the first in the jurisdiction to be consecrated as an Auxiliary Bishop. He also served in other capacities as assigned.

Bishop Wooden attended Fayetteville State University and obtained a Doctor of Divinity from the North Carolina College of Theology. As a renowned gospel preacher, he is known for boldly and uncompromisingly addressing issues that adversely affect today's culture and for apologetically standing in defense of God's truth. His involvement in societal issues has catapulted him into mainstream media where his point of view has been sought around the world.

Bishop Wooden has been married to Pamela McNeil Wooden for 42 years. They have two adult children and three grandchildren. Bishop Wooden's motto for life and ministry is, God First.

He attributes his success to God's grace, mercy, unmerited favor, and good leadership.

An extensive biography is available by request.