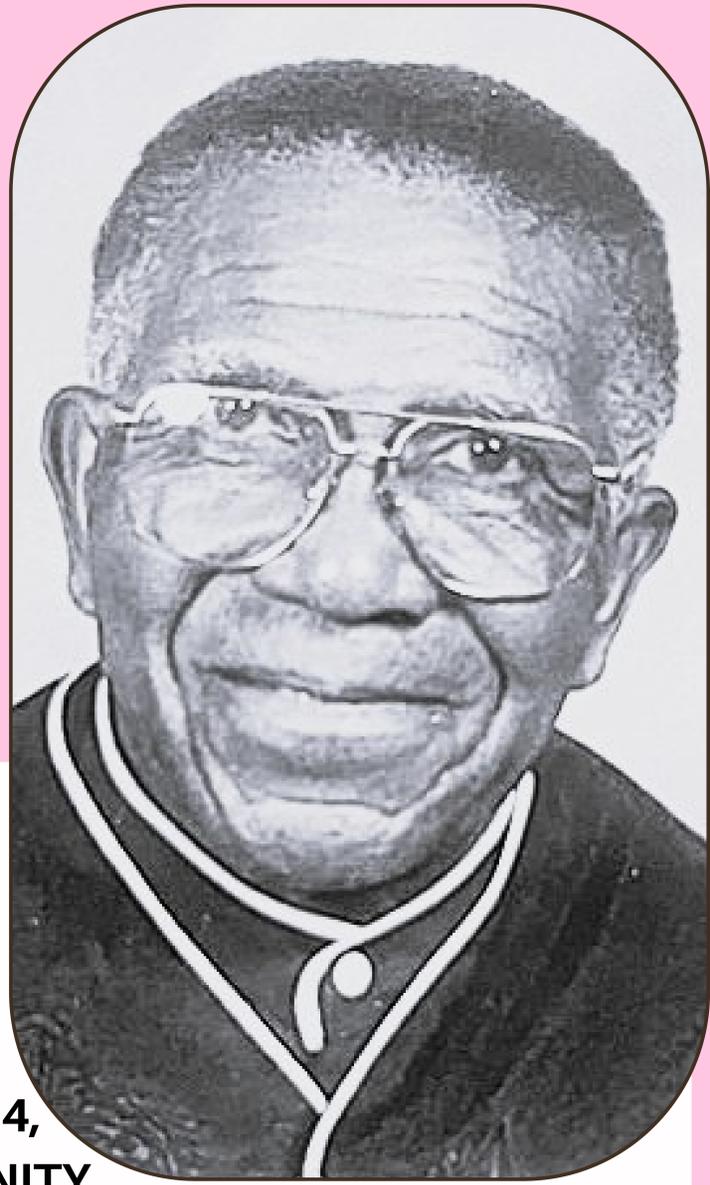


PASTOR FREDDIE THOMAS



DR. FREDDIE L. THOMAS SR. WAS A BELOVED PASTOR, BUILDER, AND COMMUNITY LEADER WHOSE LIFE LEFT AN INDELIBLE MARK ON BAKERSFIELD, CALIFORNIA. IN 1964, HE FOUNDED JERUSALEM MISSION COMMUNITY CHURCH, BEGINNING AS A SMALL GARAGE MINISTRY THAT GREW UNDER HIS GUIDANCE INTO A THRIVING CORNERSTONE OF FAITH ON MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. BOULEVARD. FOR NEARLY 60 YEARS, DR. THOMAS FAITHFULLY SHEPHERDED HIS CONGREGATION, OFFERING SPIRITUAL GUIDANCE, COMPASSION, AND UNWAVERING DEDICATION.

A TRAINED ARCHITECT AND CONTRACTOR, HE ALSO SERVED AS CEO OF T&T BUILDING CONSTRUCTION, USING HIS SKILLS TO CONSTRUCT CHURCHES AND COMMUNITY SPACES THAT UPLIFTED NEIGHBORHOODS ACROSS CALIFORNIA. HIS DUAL CALLING AS PASTOR AND BUILDER REFLECTED HIS COMMITMENT TO BOTH SPIRITUAL AND TANGIBLE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT. WHETHER MENTORING YOUTH, SUPPORTING FAMILIES, OR GUIDING COMMUNITY INITIATIVES, DR. THOMAS WAS KNOWN FOR HIS RADIANT SMILE, WISDOM, AND SERVANT HEART.

BEYOND HIS PROFESSIONAL AND PASTORAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS, HE WAS A MENTOR AND ROLE MODEL, INSPIRING COUNTLESS INDIVIDUALS TO PURSUE FAITH, INTEGRITY, AND SERVICE. HIS LEADERSHIP EXTENDED BEYOND THE WALLS OF HIS CHURCH, FOSTERING UNITY, HOPE, AND OPPORTUNITY IN THE WIDER BAKERSFIELD COMMUNITY.

DR. THOMAS'S LEGACY ENDURES NOT ONLY IN THE PHYSICAL STRUCTURES HE HELPED CREATE BUT IN THE LIVES HE TRANSFORMED. THROUGH HIS MINISTRY, MENTORSHIP, AND COMMUNITY BUILDING, HE LAID A FOUNDATION OF FAITH, SERVICE, AND LOVE THAT CONTINUES TO INSPIRE GENERATIONS. HIS MEMORY IS CELEBRATED BY THE COUNTLESS PEOPLE HE TOUCHED, AND THE INSTITUTIONS HE BUILT REMAIN ENDURING SYMBOLS OF HIS VISION, DEDICATION, AND UNWAVERING FAITH.