

## **LITTLE ROCK HOLINESS CHURCH**

21476 AUGUSTA HWY

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### **MY TESTIMONY**

I grew up going to Sunday school at the Little Rock Holiness Church. This church was Baptist prior to the Evangelical Pentecostal Movement started in our community by Pastor Fields. I was in Sunday school when my girlfriend was at MUSC in Charleston about to give birth to our first son. Upon my arrival at the hospital, we were informed that something serious was wrong with the baby. I remember going into a small restroom and kneeling at a sink and asking God to let everything be alright and I would serve Him. At the impressionable age of 17, I was dealt with by the Holy Spirit. By the age of 19 I was sanctified and became a fully committed Christian. Four years later in a great revival at the Pentecostal Holiness Church in Ridgeville, I was baptized with the Holy Ghost and spoke in tongues as the Spirit gave the utterance. I had been seeking earnestly for the Baptism; and, many during this revival were receiving and as a sister sang "I've Got a Feeling Everything's Going to be Alright" the Holy ghost fell and took control of me and I have been shouting the victory ever since that day!

I was born again under the leadership of Pastor Freddie Fields of the Edisto Indian Church of God and the beginning of my discipleship started under Pastor Oliver Lang at the same church. Brother Lang gave me my first opportunity to minister. My wife and I began working with the youth. Later I served as clerk and adult Bible class teacher. At this time Rev. Ossie Deese became our pastor; He discipled us for about five years. I will always remember the mission service that we had with Rev. Snipes who worked with the Sioux Tribe in South Dakota. During this service, I heard the voice of God as He called me into ministry. I prayed and said God if you are calling me, you will give me confirmation. The LORD gave me a very moving dream that confirmed my call to ministry.

During the next four years of my life, I finished college and worked at the church. The following four years I was a teacher and evangelized as God opened doors. Once accepted into medical school, I moved on to pursue my medical education. I studied at the Medical University of South Carolina College of Medicine in Charleston SC from June 1995- June 1999 in pursuit of a Medical Doctor Degree. I completed my studies in May of 1999. At the time that I was accepted to Medical school, a dear brother in the Lord was pastoring at the Little Rock Church. Jimmy Martin and I at one time would go to the Good Samaritan Mission in Charleston to exchange goods for an opportunity to preach. The Little Rock Church had just experienced a split and he had been pastoring for seven months at which time he had a massive stroke and later died. I informed the church that I would be glad to fill in until they found a new pastor. A few months later the congregation was asking my wife and I to serve officially as pastor. After much prayer and having received Divine guidance, we accepted the call to pastoring. The church was never organized under Little Rock Holiness Church so we used the Church of God teachings that we had been spiritually raised under and organized the church. After finishing medical school, I decided to do a residency in family medicine at the McLeod Family Medicine Program in Florence. My family and I continued pastoring during medical school and residency. The church has supported various missionaries that my wife, Charlene, and I began to support while at the Edisto Indian Church of God. The church has truly been blessed. We are in the process of building a new facility with hopes of turning our current sanctuary into a Christian school. We have recently celebrated our twelfth year anniversary.

I received my undergraduate education at the College of Charleston, SC. I have a Bachelors of Science Degree in Biology with a minor in chemistry. I also studied at Winthrop University, Rock Hill SC from March 1993- May 1994 and The Citadel Military College, Charleston SC to receive my Teacher Certification.

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The following is a list of honors received during my studies: J. Dill Pittman Scholarship, Nominee for outstanding Young Americans, Community Service Award at the Golden Apple Awards, Golden Apple Nominee, Colleton Auxiliary Scholarship, Second Presbyterian Scholarship, Speaker AAFP fellowship luncheon 2007 "The Art of Medicine & Ministry", Teacher of the Year, Student of the Year, Small Business of the Year 2007, Awarded a grant for upgrading the science lab, science department chair and pastor of the week 2006.

Subsequent to my teaching career, I practiced medicine, during my residency training, moonlighting at Pee Dee Family Practice. Then I practiced for one year and eight months at Walterboro Family Practice in Walterboro. I was offered a partnership with this group but they wanted me to give up pastoring. This was not an option; therefore, I decided to open my own practice. My practice is four years old and I have approximately six thousand patients with two nurse practitioners and twelve employees. I am actively seeking to recruit another provider. God has blessed tremendously! I am now able to take Wednesday afternoons and Fridays off. This gives me more time to devote to ministry. In fact, I have been able to carry six people with me on a recent trip to Central America with Ken Anderson to witness the transformation that the word of God and the Holy Ghost has brought to this region of the world as a result of the global vision that the Church of God has to fulfill God's mission. I have had six evangelists called to ministry and disciplined while under my ministry. We have had one associate pastor who has felt lead to pastor. He has gone on to be licensed under the PH church. We are hoping to build a closer relationship with the Church of God to help future ministers have access to the great resources in development and licensing. Currently, we have four ministers under our leadership.

In His Name,

Rev. John Glenn Creel, M.D.