

Willie T. Bland Biography and Statement

Willie T Bland a native of Arkansas and a retired Automotive Inspector worker for (30) years; has been pastoring the Rescue Baptist Church of Jesus Christ for 50 years. He is a visionary and was instrumental in building a new edifice in 1995 after retirement; adjacent to other properties purchased that was once use for a junk yard for antiques. He is a costumate role model; and set a fine example for others to emulate.

Through his many years of commitment, he has enriched the lives of countless others and served as an example of faith, source of inspiration and a pillar of strength in the community with a focus on youth involvement.

For 50 years, Rescue Baptist Church has stood as a safe haven, a shelter from the storm; seeking to serve lost; the homeless, hungry, hurting and hopeless; reaching up; reaching out; and reaching within.

Pastor Bland served as a Father in the Ministry providing spiritual grounding, compassion, and pastoral support to all in need with without reservation. Many time lending a helping hand out of pocket to get a room for one who has no where to shelter; or a struggling family with children who furnace has gone out in the midst of winter. Many times providing financial help to families who have lost love ones with no insurance for burial.

Pastor Bland has a deep sense of resilience fueling his commitments to serve others and understanding the challenges faced by underserved communities. As a pastor, he represents the hope and drive found in individual who seek to overcome obstacles and uplift those around them; which makes him a great candidate of the "Honorary Sign".