GUEST SPEAKER:

DR. KELVIN AIKENS

# Pastor Appreciation Day

## Sunday, December 4, 2022

### 8:00am & 10:45am

PASTOR BRIAN E. KENNEDY, SR.

*Senior Pastor*

MT. ZION CHURCH OF ONTARIO
224 WEST CALIFORNIA ST.
ONTARIO, CA 91762

Pastor Brian Eric Kennedy has been the Senior Pastor at Mt. Zion Church of Ontario in California since 1998. Prior to Mt. Zion, Pastor Kennedy was on the management team of Prison Fellowship, as the Los Angeles Area Director for eleven years.

Pastor Kennedy also served as a Youth Pastor for 15 years in two local churches in Los Angeles (South Los Angeles Baptist Church, and Evening Star Missionary Baptist Church) before serving at Mt. Zion, and has thoroughly enjoyed full-time ministry since 1986.

Pastor Kennedy's life before full-time ministry was a short-term career in the accounting field. Graduating from San Diego State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration with an emphasis in Accounting, Pastor Kennedy worked as an accounting clerk, a bookkeeper and a cost accountant in a manufacturing firm.

Having received a foundation of commitment to Christ, and hard work from childhood from his father and mother (Bradford and Evelyn Kennedy), and his church family in Sacramento, Calif. (St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church), Pastor Kennedy's life goal is to live out servant leadership among the Mt. Zion Church Congregation, and beyond, to the end that God is glorified in His Church by Christ Jesus (Ephesians 3:20 -21).

Pastor Kennedy, was encouraged to attend seminary by Dr. S.M. Lockridge, (Calvary Baptist Church, San Diego, Calif.) and received a Master of Divinity Degree from Talbot School of Theology and with unwavering support from his wife Hilda, children, and the Mt. Zion Church family, received a Doctor of Ministry at Gateway Seminary.

Academic Degrees:

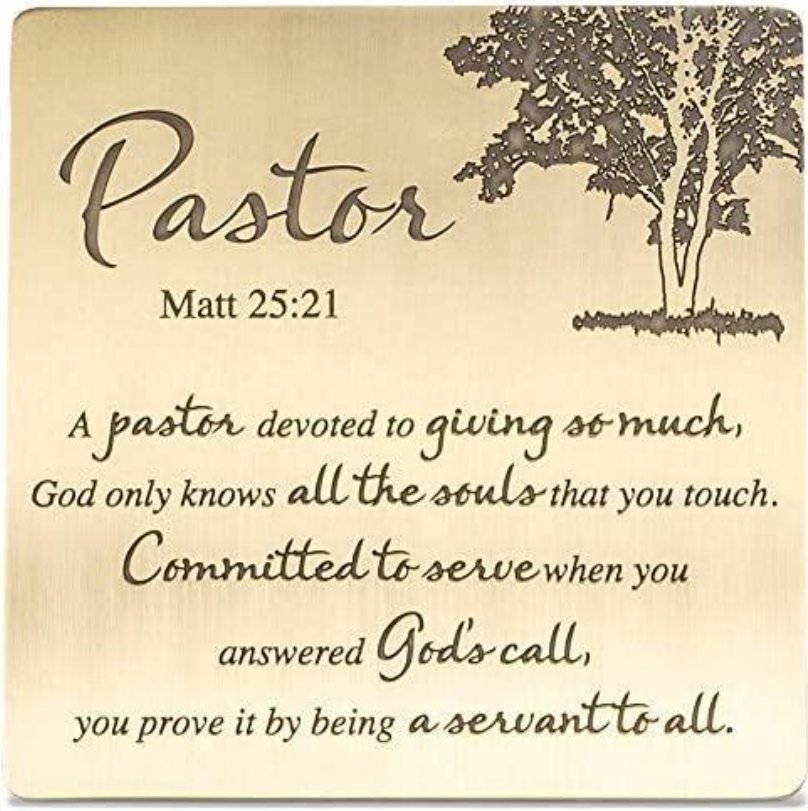
Bachelor of Science Degree, Business Administration, with emphasis in Accounting, San Diego State University, San Diego, California, 1983.
Master of Divinity Degree, Bible Exposition, Talbot School of Theology, LA Mirada, California, 1993.
Doctor of Ministry Degree, Leadership, Gateway Seminary, Ontario, California, 2005.

Ministry Highlights:

- Adjunct Preaching Professor at Gateway Seminary in Ontario, CA.
- Author of *Timeless Insights From the Book of Judges,* How to Function in God's Eternal Plan in a Compromising Culture, Westbow Press, 2017.
- Author of *Let's Stand Together and Pray,* A collection of prayers to respond to God's Word, Mt. Zion Church of Ontario Publication, 2014, 2015, 2016.
- Contributing Author of *Secret Sex Wars,* A Battle Cry for Purity, published May 1 2008 by Lift Every Voice.
- Host with Ontario Police Department of public forums with Federal, County, and Local Law Enforcement Officials to address Change from the Inside Out in Local Policing.
- The California Baptist Foundation Board Member.

- R.I.P.A. (Racial and Identity Profiling Advisory Board) Board Member for the State of California.
- CEEM (Cooperative Economic Empowerment Movement) Board Member.
- Member of the Racial Equality Task Force with California Senator, Connie Leyva.
- Advisory Team for Upland Police Chief.
- Author's Group with the Superintendent of the Ontario-Montclair School District – 5 Year Action Plan for 2021-2026.
- Chaplain, Ontario Fire Department.
- Guest lecturer for the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Officer Training Academy.
- Guest lectured for the Ontario Police Department Sensitivity Training Course.
- Guest instructor at Los Angeles Bible Training School.
- Guest lectured as a community leader at California Baptist University, Introduction to Ministry Class.
- Guest lectured for area-wide Sunday School conference for Pastor's development class.
- Workshop Leader, California State Baptist Convention.
- Guest speaker for local churches, and men's conferences.
- Strategic planning facilitator for struggling local churches.
- Missionary to Africa, St. Vincent, WI, and Tchula Mississippi.
- Led historic Mt. Zion Church of Ontario through several potential church splitting transitions, through the COVID-19 pandemic, and to paying-off a $2.4-million-dollar land loan.
- Enjoys mentoring six Senior Pastors.
- Advocate for spiritual formation in the local church.

Pastor Kennedy enjoys cycling, walking with wife, and spending time with family and friends. He is married to the former Hilda Barnes and they have four children: Brian Jr., Evelyn, Lelia and Joshua.



# *Order of Service*

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2022 – 8:00AM & 10:45AM

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**Master of Ceremony**
D'ante Smith

Welcome……..…D'ante Smith

**~ Honorees ~**

## *Pastor Brian and First Lady Hilda Kennedy*

Praise & Worship……Glorious / Mt. Zion Praise Team

Scripture…….Deacon Jamemy Barnett (8:00am)
Deacon David Barnett (10:45am)

Prayer…….Deacon John Edgar

**~ Introduction Speaker ~**

Musical Selection(s).....Mt. Zion Praise Team

Message.....Dr. Kelvin Aikens
Mt. Zion South Campus

**~ Invitation & Altar Prayer ~**
Pastor Richard Young

Presentations……..Deacon Bedford Matthew
Deaconess Rita Ford

***Now I urge you, brethren, by our Lord Jesus Christ and by the love of the Spirit, to strive together with me in your prayers to God For me. (Romans 15:30)***

# Order of Service

## (continued)

***But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. (Gal. 5:22-23)***

Prayer for Pastor……Elder Clay Jackson (8:00am)
Minister James Martin (10:45am)

**~ Communion ~**

**~ Offering ~**

Remarks ..... Pastor Brian Kennedy, Sr.
Sister Hilda Kennedy

**~ Benediction ~**

# *Our Pastor, God's Chosen Shepherd*

## Message by Dr. Kelvin Aikens

Genesis 12:1-6 & Hebrews 11:8-10

**Key Statement**: God's first shepherd was chosen because of his faith, which was evidenced by his willingness to follow God, and therefore, God declared him righteous.

1. God does not ask or suggest, He commands.
2. The first sign of faith is obedience.
3. Obedience to God's command causes one to be blessed.
4. The obedience of one person brings about blessings for others.
5. Abraham was looking forward to a promise.
6. Abraham looked forward to a city built by God.

**Personal Prayer**: Dear God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we humbly thank You, for the gift of Pastor Kennedy. I thank You for how You have blessed him with faith and wisdom. I thank You for the shepherd's heart You've given him. I thank You for his wife and children. I realize he is a gift from You that You gave to equip me for the work of ministry and to build up the body of Christ. Help me Lord, to continue to grow and to learn from him that I may be a faithful follower of You. Thank You for giving me a heart and mind to want to serve alongside Pastor Kennedy. Thank You for allowing me to be part of a loving family of believers on mission for You. Thank You for the vision and the mighty work You have given us. Thank you for blessing us with the 20 acres on Chino and Grove. Please Lord, help us to individually and collectively be good stewards of the blessings you continue to bestow upon us. I praise You and magnify Your holy name because You are worthy to be praised. I live to love and to serve You in all that I do. In Jesus name I pray, Amen.

# Thank You Pastor

Thank you Pastor & Sister Kennedy for being a Godly example to All of us. I appreciate you & love you both.

Veronica Clinkscales

Thank you for teaching us to love our neighbor unconditionally and intentionally. Sometimes it's hard, but I had to be reminded that at one point, mercy was bestowed on me and folks overlooked my faults. Why can't I?

Lord thank for Pastor Kennedy to keep me fit & discipline to stay focus for Kavate

I AM A POLICE OFFICER FOR THE ONTARIO POLICE DEPARTMENT. WHEN I MET PASTOR KENNEDY, HE BLESSED MY BADGE AND PRAYED WITH/FOR ME. PASTOR CONTINUES TO CHECK IN WITH ME AND KEEP ME IN PRAYER. I APPRECIATE PASTORS SUPPORT, ENCOURAGEMENT, GUIDANCE, COUNSEL, AND PRAYER.

Thank you for preaching like you me ~~[illegible]~~ you always make me smile. Love you Pastor.
C.J.

For too long I was looking for a church to call home. When my wife and I saw you speak and care so much for people you didn't know made me know you were the right pastor.

Pastor Kennedy has influenced my life by always reminding me of our purpose here on earth is to be a witness, ambassador and doer of the Word of God and to bring honor & glory to the Lord in everything we do, In Jesus' name.
Amen
U.W.

Pastor has influence me through his teaching and through his conduct, character and conversation representing our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Thank You Pastor for Preaching with enthusiasm and with facial expressions that cheer us up. Thank you.
-CJ-Mann

Pastor Kennedy:
Thank you & your wife Hilda for your many acts of Kindness one of which was the widow/widowers' luncheon during the holidays.
I especially want to thank you for the time taken during service a year ago, for the dedication of my granddaughter "Jalisa".

THANK YOU! **Betty Drake**

Words can't express how grateful me & family are for the spiritual/inspiration you & Sis. Hilda have made on our lives. You have not only imparted so much wisdom from God's Word but you lived it out as an example before us. I am so thankful God brought our paths together these many years.
Love, Monique Roberts + family.

PASTOR & SIS KENNEDY, I APPRECIATE HOW YOU LOVE THE LORD & LOVE US & HOW YOU SERVE WITH SUCH HUMILITY & INTEGRITY. I AM BLESSED TO BE HERE

Pastor Kennedy & Sister Kennedy have been instrumental in helping me heal. The Lord led us here after a difficult separation, from a previous church. His presentation of God's word and gentle invitation to serve here has allowed continued growth as a servant of God for me.
Adrienne Clay

Thank you Pastor for your devotion to your ministry. Thank you for always giving encouragement to everyone. Your dedication to service have a great impact on my life.

*Thank you for being such a great example of living a life of faith. You are a blessing to our church and community. Your messages are full of insight, revelation, and truth. Thank you for preaching the whole counsel of God. We are forever grateful. Thank you for being tenderhearted and compassionate in the face of grief and joy-filled events. Thank you for becoming part of our family, even when it demanded you to sacrifice time with your own. We love you.* ***Pastor Appreciation Committee***

***Daily Prayer for Pastors***

**Walk with God.** May he have a close walk with God and love the Lord with all his heart, soul, and mind. (Matt. 22:37, Prov. 3:5-6)

***Daily Prayer for Pastors***

**Biblical Faithfulness.** May he understand and hold firm to the truth, teaching it and rebuking those who contradict it. (Titus 1:9)

**Daily Prayer for Pastors**

**Marriage.** Establish his marriage and protect it. May they put each other's needs above their own. (Eph. 5:22-33, 1 Peter 3:7)

***Daily Prayer for Pastors***

**Obedience.** May he obey your commands and faithfully follow Your leading in his life. (John 14:15, Rom 6:16)

***Daily Prayer for Pastors***

**Health**. Give him good health and help him to care for his physical body, for it is your temple of the Spirit. (1 Cor. 6:19-20, 3 John 1:2)

***Daily Prayer for Pastors***

**Encouragement.** May his hope be found in You. Bring encouragers into his life to build up and support him. (1 Thess 5:11, Is 41:10, 1 Tim 5:17)


**Mt. Zion Baptist Church**

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