



Member Answers God's Call at 93 Years Old



It's never too late to make a decision for Christ" is a sentiment that rings true for Margie Armstead, who at 93 years of age was baptized by profession of faith at Normandie Avenue church on Sabbath, March 20.

Armstead first became acquainted with Normandie church in 1999 through a seniors' group at the church named Golden Ages. Soon, Armstead began serving as a pianist for Sabbath School and in other ministries that didn't require membership.



Member Answers God's Call at 93 Years Old



Armstead shares the journey that led to her baptism. (Photo: Keith Bradford)

Armstead faithfully served at Normandie for more than 20 years before making a decision for baptism. Over the years, questions about her membership and baptism sometimes arose from Normandie or from her previous congregation at the Amos Memorial Christian Methodist Episcopal (CME) church. When asked why she waited so long, Armstead, who had been praying for wisdom all along, simply said, "I was waiting for the Holy Spirit to guide me."

That moment of clarity came at the beginning of March when Armstead was preparing for the annual day of prayer conducted by Normandie's women's ministry. "I heard the Holy Spirit say, 'It's time to go.' That's the confirmation I was waiting for," Armstead shared. "I didn't have to ask, 'Go where, when, or how?'" She immediately acted on this call and informed the church of her decision for baptism.

Keith Bradford, head elder, was particularly moved by Armstead's journey, as he too was previously a member of a sister CME church. "When the Lord reveals new light and truth," Bradford said, "it's on us to accept it and move forward."

Throughout the pandemic, Normandie has been without a senior pastor; however, Bradford recognized that "God



Member Answers God's Call at 93 Years Old

has blessed our church in a special way." The church is certainly growing. Armstead was baptized along with three other individuals on the same day, totaling 12 baptisms this year so far.

"My hope is simply that Margie will continue to be faithful to God, that her testimony and witness will inspire others to make that decision—both young and old," Bradford added. "It's a wonderful testimony even at 93 years old that the Lord is still using her."

"I'm just so happy, thankful, and full of gratitude at being a part of Normandie for 21 years," Armstead said, "and being accepted wholeheartedly."

By Araya Moss