

**SPRING
2017**



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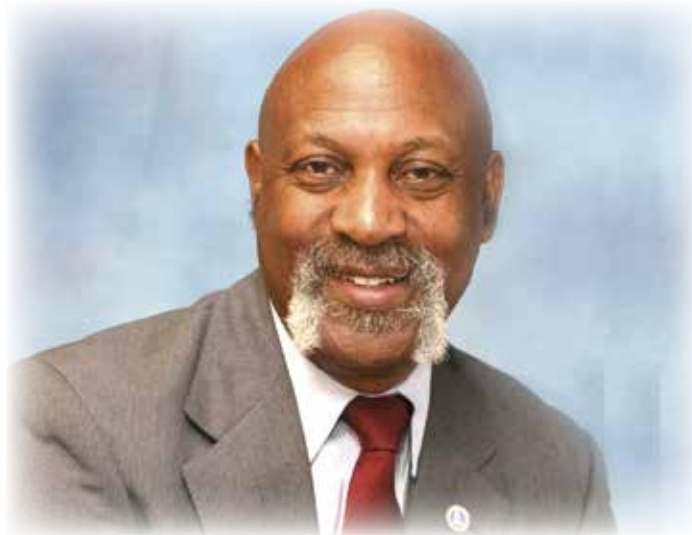


**NEW UGM
CEO**
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Special Edition In Memory of **WILLIAM "BRO. BILL" THOMPSON**

Bill, the oldest of five children born to William and Ernestine Thompson, grew up in a small town in the Mississippi Delta. He accepted Jesus Christ as his Savior at the age of 12 in a summer revival held at his church. After graduation from high school, he attended Central State University in Wilberforce, Ohio and graduated with a Bachelor's degree in Chemistry. His first professional job after college was as a chemist for Bristol-Meyers in Syracuse, New York. After about 12 years with Bristol-Meyers, he resigned his position to answer God's call to full-time ministry. He began a diligent search of the scriptures, engaging in self-study and sharing his faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. He volunteered in jail and prison ministry, nursing homes and taught Bible study at a small soup kitchen that served the homeless. On Saturday evenings, he held a Bible study for homeless men in the basement of his home.

In 1982, Bill enrolled in Dallas Bible College and earned a degree in Biblical



Studies. It was then that he started volunteering at the Union Gospel Mission (UGM). After volunteering for over two years, he was hired to work at the Mission part-time. He became the Assistant Director in 1986 and in 1988, he became the interim Director at the request of UGM's Board. Later that year, he accepted the position of Executive Director.

A founding member of Calvary Bible Church, Bill was asked to lead this all-volunteer congregation, which consisted mostly of homeless men and their families. One of the

highlights of his career was the creation of "UGM Games Day", a time for homeless men, women and children to enjoy a day of fellowship, competition, food and fun in local parks. Bill continued in both positions, Director of UGM and Pastor of Calvary Bible Church, until he was called home to be with the Lord.

Bill led a full, rich life. He made the most of the years God gave him. He was very active in sports while in high school, college and during his adult years. He was a talented saxophonist and flutist, and his piano skills were not all that bad.

He belonged to many professional organizations and served on numerous boards.

Bill loved God. Prayer, study and witnessing were priorities in his life. He loved his family. He was a good son, a wonderful brother and a devoted husband and father. He loved the Mission. He valued his relationships with the Board, staff and disciples. He loved his friends. He cherished them all. And he was loved.

Bill was preceded in death by his father, William Thompson; his grandmother, Annie Blunt Clark; his uncles, Oliver West and Walter Thompson; and his cousin, Dwain Thompson. He is survived by his mother, Ernestine Thompson; his wife, Erma; his daughter, Erika; his sisters, Faye Thompson; Janice (MacArthur) DeShazer; and Joyce Thompson; his brother, Terry (Priscilla) Thompson; and beloved cousins, nieces and nephews.

The Thompson family would like to thank all the people who helped during Bill's illness and passing. •

Remembering **WILLIAM "BRO. BILL" THOMPSON**



Bill let the love of Christ show through him by loving on everyone.

**Julie,
Bookkeeper**

He was never too busy to pray and extend the calming Grace of Christ.

**Jim,
Accounting Manager**

Bill was kind enough to take time from his schedule to pray with me when my daughter got sick.

**Maria,
Child Development
Center Teacher**

He loved God and he loved His people.

**Shametrius,
Chaplain**

Union Gospel Mission Announces New Role: Chief Operating Officer, Steve Allen



Steve Allen, formerly the Chief Administrative Officer, has accepted the role of Chief Operating Officer at Union Gospel Mission. He will serve alongside of Bruce Butler, the newly appointed Chief Executive Officer.

Steve brings over 27 years of executive experience with him as he takes on this new position. Throughout his career, Steve has been fortunate to be in various senior executive roles for nonprofits, corporations, and governments. He has

also served in volunteer church lay-leadership roles working with the homeless, jobless, and low-income communities.

During the two-year period of Bill Thompson's illness, Steve used his expertise as the Acting Executive Director. It was a very busy time for Steve, but he handled it like the professional he is. "I feel called to be here [at UGM], and enjoy working here." Steve said recently when asked about the new role.

When asked about Bill, Steve said, "He was a true servant leader, a man of God, and my friend."

Steve and his wife of 31 years, Marcia, live in Coppell, Texas, and are active members of Prestonwood Baptist Church. They have three children, Chris (28), Mary Ashley (26) and Quint (24). He is a graduate of Texas A&M University. •

Union Gospel Mission Introduces New Board Chairman: Jack "Davey" Davis



Davey, who is self-employed in Real Estate, has served on the UGM Board since 2008. Bringing his real estate expertise and other board experience with him, Davey has also served on the Real Estate Committee helping to guide the Mission in new property acquisitions.

After graduating from the University of Texas in Austin with a degree in Finance and Real Estate, Davey worked for ten years with Lincoln Property before starting

his own business. Davey likes sports, especially golf, and he is a devoted family man. He and his wife of 29 years, Laura, have four children: a daughter Michele (26), and three sons, Jack (24), Cliff (23) and Pete (19). They live in Dallas and are active participants in their church and community.

When asked about Bill Thompson, Davey said, "I think of three things when I think of Bill: godly Christian, servant leader, obedient follower of Christ. As we move forward as an oversight board, we hope to honor Bill's legacy and preserve the community and culture of faithfulness to Jesus Christ that Bill worked selflessly to create for nearly 30 years." •

Bill was never too busy to listen to anyone. His door was always open, and he had the best advice. I counted him a friend and a mentor.

**Beni,
Development**



When there would be a disagreement between employees, he would always remind us of our faith in Christ and our responsibility to act in a way that would reflect Him.

**Lydia,
Men's Program Assistant**

Union Gospel Mission Announces New Chief Executive Officer, Bruce J. Butler, CPA



The Union Gospel Mission is pleased to welcome Bruce J. Butler to the staff as Chief Executive Officer. Bruce, a native Texan, started his volunteer service at UGM in 1990 as a kitchen worker and a chapel provider. "I preached my first sermons right here in the UGM chapel," Bruce says. In 1993, Bruce was elected to the Board of Directors. During his time on the Board, Bruce worked closely with Bro.

Bill, learning more about how to be a servant leader. Bill prayed for and with Bruce for more than 20 years, and they were good friends. "Bro. Bill was an inspiration to all that were blessed to know him. I will always cherish our friendship and Bill's love for Christ and his commitment to serving the last, least, lost and lonely nationwide."

Bruce graduated from the University of North Texas with

a Master's degree in taxation and an undergraduate degree in accounting. He worked as a Certified Public Accountant and Certified Internal Auditor. Bruce was also a member of the TSCPAs and the Institute of Internal Auditors, and was elected as treasurer of the Denton Baptist Association in 2012. Bruce is completing his Master of Divinity degree at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Ft. Worth, Texas. Currently, Bruce greatly enjoys his role as Pastor of Victory Fellowship Church in Denton, Texas. Bruce lives in Denton with his wife of 32 years, Sharon, and his son, Bruce J. Butler, II.

Under Bruce's leadership, the future of the Union Gospel Mission looks bright. Bruce hopes to carry on with Bro. Bill's desire to win the lost, encourage the weak and lonely, and to help build life-long disciples of Jesus Christ. •



Memorial Project Coming Soon

The Union Gospel Mission will be establishing a memorial project to honor Bro. Bill and his legacy at the Mission.

We are considering several options, and will have more information soon.

UNION GOSPEL MISSION
DALLAS Serving the last, least, lost and lonely since 1949

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Published by the Union Gospel Mission

3211 Irving Blvd. • Dallas, TX 75247 • ugmdallas.org
Board Chairman/Jack Davis • Executive Director/Bruce Butler
Editor/Beni Mayer • Graphic Design/T-Bone Design
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The purpose of the Union Gospel Mission is to meet the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of homeless men, women and children in the Dallas, Texas area. The physical needs are met by providing meals, clothing, shelter, emergency medical referral, and daycare for children. The emotional needs are met through evaluation and referral to professional counselors. The spiritual needs are met through Chapel services and Bible studies.

Our goal is to restore the last, least, lost and lonely to a productive life by giving them needed life and job skills, as well as teaching them to build a new life on the solid foundation of the Christian faith.

The Union Gospel Mission is non-denominational and is supported by donations from individuals, churches and businesses.

