



Victorious Life Church of Albany, Inc.

Church Handbook© 2025 (Revised)



Our Leader



Bishop J. Nathan Paige, born to the Late Joe Nathan Paige, Sr. and the Late Lizzie M. Paige on July 28, 1969, the youngest of five children. Pastor Paige's musical genius was displayed at age of nine. From that time to the present, the musical ministry God entrusted to his care has impacted the lives of several generations of people. An exemplary lyricist and composer, Paige's ministry has reached and touched the souls of many.

Bishop Paige came to know Jesus Christ as his personal Savior in August 1978 during revival in Leesburg, GA. Later in his Christian walk, he acknowledged the call to the ministry and delivered his first sermon in October 1994 at Jordan Grove Missionary Baptist Church and was licensed to spread the gospel. In 1995, Paige was the co-founder and Assistant Pastor of Christ Centered Fellowship Baptist Church; also he was ordained to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Effective May 9, 1999, Bishop Paige became the pastor of Zion Hill Baptist Church, Leslie, Georgia, and on May 2, 2004, he became the Senior Pastor of New Dimension Christian Church in Albany, GA. On September 25, 2005, Bishop Paige organized Victorious Life Church of Albany, GA where he serves as Senior Pastor. Wherever Bishop Paige ministers the word of God there are testimonies of healing, miracles, and lives being changed through the power of the Holy Ghost.

Equally Bishop Paige is a powerful man of God, gifted musician as well as an anointed singer. He has traveled extensively preaching the Good News of the Kingdom and doing music seminars. He is the CEO/founder and director of Albany's group "True Glory".

Bishop Paige received his elementary and high school education from the Dougherty County School System. After graduation from Westover High School, he enrolled in Darton College in the Music Education Program. In May of 2008, Bishop Paige graduated from Darton College being certified in Church Music. Also, he attended Bethany Theological Seminary (Albany Extension), Albany State University, and he graduated March 13, 2014 as a Cum Laud Honor Graduate from Grand Canyon University majoring in Christian Studies. Bishop equally received his Masters Degree on Saturday, October 17, 2015 in Christian Studies with an emphasis in Leadership. Bishop is currently employed with Albany State University in Enrollment Management as an Academic Advisor.

On Saturday, June 3, 2006, Bishop Paige and the former Octavia Michele Slaughter united together in Holy Matrimony and the two became one.

Letter From the Pastor

Dear Friends,

I am writing to say welcome and how glad we are to have you as a part of Victorious Life Church. This handbook will be a great resource to you. It will help you to learn about the many wonderful activities and protocol of our ministry. It is our hope that you will find a way to become an enthusiastic and active member of your Church.

Our Christian faith tells us that because God has blessed our lives in so many ways, that we should give back something as an expression of thanksgiving to our God. We are to reach out in service and love to God and one another. By becoming actively involved in our Church we answer God's call to be a people of service.

Christian service is at the very core of our faith. We look at the life of Jesus Christ and we see a person who gave of himself to everyone all the time. He rarely thought about himself but rather cared about others so they could be saved.

We hope that this handbook will help you find a place in Victorious Life where you can reach out in service and love.

As your pastor, I feel I am truly blessed by all the wonderful, faith-filled people of VLC.

May we as a ministry grow deeper in the love of God, stronger in our respect for each other and become examples of what Christian love is all about.

God bless you and may He keep you in His love each day.

Sincerely,

Bishop J. Nathan Paige
Pastor

Victorious Life Church of Albany

VISION OF THE HOUSE:

To build a people of... PURPOSE, PASSION & POWER (3P)

MISSION STATEMENT:

To assemble, equip, and send forth believers committed to advancing the Kingdom of God in our city, state, nation, and world.

OUR VALUES:

G.R.O.W.S.

Victorious Life Church is a place where you can grow. Growing is a natural part of life. Every person grows at different levels and in unique ways. In our faith journey, we have a need to grow and experience God.

Growth is dependent on core values. The values of Victorious Life Church are the basic foundational principles God has given in the Bible for any church.

- G** **Growing spiritually** to be fully devoted to Jesus Christ
- R** **Relationships** established among the people of the church
- O** **Outreach emphasized** to the communities closest to us and around the world
- W** **Worship celebration** where Jesus Christ is honored for being the Forgiver of our sins and the Leader of our lives
- S** **Serving Together** to utilize the gifts and abilities God has given us to accomplish His purposes

***** These values define who we are as a church family. They help us measure our effectiveness and motivate us to be involved. These values are really God's values for us to follow. These values remind us of what is most valuable to HIM – each one of us!**

What We Believe

Baptized into Christ Jesus and confirmed by the gift of the Holy Spirit we desire to share the Light of Christ with all by proclaiming the Gospel with our lives. We strive to build the Kingdom of God in our lives, our homes, our church, and our community in order to renew our love for God and our neighbor. We commit ourselves to Worship, Education, Service, Ecumenical Relationships, and Evangelization. Filled with the strength of the Spirit and the love of the Father, we dedicate ourselves to carry out HIS will in our words and deeds. In all we do, we pray for the guidance and peace of Our Lord Jesus Christ in whose name we are the Victorious Life Church of Albany, Inc.

Articles Of Faith

1. Of the Scriptures

We believe that the Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired, and is a perfect treasure of heavenly instruction *2 Tim. 3:16-17; 2 Pet. 1:21; 1 Sam. 23:2; Acts 1:16; 3:21; John 10:35; Luke 16:29-31; Psalms 119:11; Rom. 3:1-2* that it has God for its author, salvation for its end *2 Tim. 3:15; 1 Pet. 1:10-12; Acts 11:14; Rom. 1:16; Mark 16:16; John 5:38-39*, and truth without any mixture of error for its matter *Prov. 30:5-6; John 17:17; Rev. 22:18-19; Rom. 3:4* that it reveals the principles by which God will judge us *Rom. 2:12; John 12:47-48; 1 Cor. 4:3-4; Luke 10:10-16; 12:47-48* and therefore is, and shall remain to the end of the world, the true center of Christian union *Phil. 3:16; Eph. 4:3-6; Phil. 2:1-2; 1 Cor. 1:10; 1 Pet. 4:11*, and the supreme standard by which all human conduct, creeds, and opinions should be tried *1 John 4:1; Isa. 8:20; 1 Thess. 5:21; 2 Cor. 8:5; Acts 17:11; 1 John 4:6; Jude 3:5; Eph. 6:17; Psalms 119:59-60; Phil. 1:9-11*

2. Of the True God

We believe that there is one, and only one, living and true God, an infinite, intelligent Spirit, whose name is JEHOVAH, the Maker and Supreme Ruler of Heaven and earth *John 4:24; Psalms 147:5; 83:18; Hebrews 3:4; Rom. 1:20; Jer. 10:10* inexpressibly glorious in holiness *Exod. 15:11; Isa. 6:3; 1 Pet. 1:15-16; Rev. 4:6-8*, and worthy of all possible honor, confidence, and love *Mark 12:30; Rev. 4:11; Matt. 10:37; Jer. 2:12-13*; that in the unity of the Godhead there are three persons, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost *Matt. 28:19; John 15:26; 1 Cor. 12:4-6; 1 John 5:7*; equal in every divine perfection *John 10:30; 5:17; 14:23; 17:5, 10; Acts 5:3-4; 1 Cor. 2:10-11; Phil. 2:5-6*, and executing distinct and harmonious offices in the great work of redemption *Eph. 2:18; 2 Cor. 13:14; Rev. 1:4-5; comp. 2, 7*.

3. Of the Fall of Man

We believe that man was created in holiness, under the law of his Maker *Gen. 1:27, 31; Ecclesiastes 7:29; Acts 16:26; Gen. 2:16*; but by voluntary transgression fell from that holy and happy state *Gen. 3:6-24; Rom. 5:12*; in consequence of which all mankind are now sinners *Rom. 5:19; John 3:6; Psalms 51:5; Rom. 5:15-19; 8:7*, not by constraint, but choice *Isa. 53:6; Gen. 6:12; Rom. 3:9-18*; being by nature utterly void of that holiness required by the law of God, positively inclined to evil; and therefore under just condemnation to eternal ruin *Eph. 2:1-3; Rom. 1:18, 32; 2:1-16; Gal. 3:10; Matt. 20:15*, without defense or excuse *Ezekiel 18:19-20; Rom. 1:20; 3:19; Gal. 3:22*.

4. Of the Way of Salvation

We believe that the salvation of sinners is wholly of grace *Eph. 2:5; Matt. 18:11; 1 John 4:10; 1 Cor. 3:5-7; Acts 15:11*, through the mediatorial offices of the Son of God *John*

3:16; 1:1-14; Heb. 4:14; 12:24; who by the appointment of the Father, freely took upon him our nature, yet without sin *Phil. 2:6-7; Heb. 2:9, 14; 2 Cor. 5:21*; honored the divine law by his personal obedience *Isa. 42:21; Phil. 2:8; Gal. 4:4-5; Rom. 3:21*, and by his death made a full atonement for our sins *Isa. 53:4-5; Matt. 20:28; Rom. 4:25; 3:21-26; 1 John 4:10; 2:2; 1 Cor. 15:1-3; Heb. 9:13-15*; that having risen from the death, he is now enthroned in heaven *Heb. 1:8, 3; 8:1; Col. 3:1-4*; and uniting in his wonderful person the tenderest sympathies with divine perfections, he is every way qualified to be a suitable, a compassionate, and an all-sufficient Saviour *Heb. 7:25; Col. 2:9; Heb. 2:18; 7:26; Psa. 89:19; Psa. 14*.

5. Of Justification

We believe that the great gospel blessing which Christ *John 1:16; Eph. 3:8* secures to such as believe in him is Justification *Acts 13:39; Isa. 3:11-12; Rom. 8:1*; that Justification includes the pardon of sin *Rom. 5:9; Zech. 13:1; Matt. 9:6; Acts 10:43*, and the promise of eternal life on principles of righteousness *Rom. 5:17; Titus 3:5-6; 1 Pet. 3:7; 1 John 2:25; Rom. 5:21*; that it is bestowed, not in consideration of any works of righteousness which we have done, but solely through faith in the Redeemer's blood *Rom. 4:4-5; 5:21; 6:28; Phil. 3:7-9*; by virtue of which faith his perfect righteousness is freely imputed to us of God *Rom. 5:19; 3:24-26; 4:23-25; 1 John 2:12*; that it brings us into a state of most blessed peace and favor with God, and secures every other blessing needful for time and eternity *Rom. 5:1-3, 11; 1 Cor. 1:30-31; Matt. 6:33; 1 Tim. 4:8*.

6. Of the Freeness of Salvation

We believe that the blessings of salvation are made free to all by the gospel *Isa. 55:1; Rev. 22:17; Luke 14:17*; that it is the immediate duty of all to accept them by a cordial, penitent, and obedient faith *Rom. 16:26; Mark 1:15; Rom. 1:15-17*; and that nothing prevents the salvation of the greatest sinner on earth but his own inherent depravity and voluntary rejection of the gospel *John 5:40; Matt. 23:37; Rom. 9:32; Prov. 1:24; Acts 13:46*; which rejection involves him in an aggravated condemnation *John 3:19; Matt. 11:20; Luke 19:27; 2 Thess. 1:8*.

7. Of Grace in Regeneration

We believe that, in order to be saved, sinners must be regenerated, or born again *John 3:3, 6-7; 1 Cor. 1:14; Rev. 8:7-9; 21:27*; that regeneration consists in giving a holy disposition to the mind *2 Cor. 5:17; Ezek. 36:26; Deut. 30:6; Rom. 2:28-29; 5:5; 1 John 4:7*; that it is effected in a manner above our comprehension by the power of the Holy Spirit, in connection with divine truth *John 3:8; 1:13; James 1:16-18; 1 Cor. 1:30; Phil. 2:13*, so as to secure our voluntary obedience to the gospel *1 Pet. 1:22-25; 1 John 5:1; Eph. 4:20-24; Col. 3:9-11*; and that its proper evidence appears in the holy fruits of repentance, and faith, and newness of life *Eph. 5:9; Rom. 8:9; Gal. 5:16-23; Eph. 3:14-18; Matt. 3:8-10; 7:20; 1 John 5:4, 18*.

8. Of Repentance and Faith

We believe that Repentance and Faith are sacred duties, and also inseparable graces, wrought in our souls by the regenerating Spirit of God *Mark 1:15; Acts 11:18; Eph. 2:8*;

1 John 5:1; whereby being deeply convinced of our guilt, danger, and helplessness, and of the way of salvation by Christ *John 16:8; Acts 2:37-38; 16:30-31*, we turn to God with unfeigned contrition, confession, and supplication for mercy *Luke 18:13; 15:18-21; James 4:7-10; 2 Cor. 7:11; Rom. 10:12-13; Psa. 51*; at the same time heartily receiving the Lord Jesus Christ as our Prophet, Priest, and King, and relying on him alone as the only and all-sufficient Saviour *Rom. 10:9-11; Acts 3:22-23; Heb. 4:14; Psa. 2:6; Heb. 1:8; 8:25; 2 Tim. 1:12*.

9. Of God's Purpose of Grace

We believe that Election is the eternal purpose of God, according to which he graciously regenerates, sanctifies, and saves sinners *2 Tim. 1:8-9; Eph. 1:3-14; 1 Pet. 1:1-2; Rom. 11:5-6; John 15:15; 1 John 4:19; Hos. 12:9*; that being perfectly consistent with the free agency of man, it comprehends all the means in connection with the end *2 Thess. 2:13-14; Acts 13:48; John 10:16; Matt. 20:16; Acts 15:14*; that it is a most glorious display of God's sovereign goodness, being infinitely free, wise, holy, and unchangeable *Exod.*

33:18-19; Matt. 20:15; Eph. 1:11; Rom. 9:23-24; Jer. 31:3; Rom. 11:28-29; James 1:17-18; 2 Tim. 1:9; Rom. 11:32-36; that it utterly excludes boasting, and promotes humility, love, prayer, praise, trust in God, and active imitation of his free mercy *1 Cor. 4:7; 1:26-31; Rom. 3:27; 4:16; Col. 3:12; 1 Cor. 3:5-7; 15:10; 1 Pet. 5:10; Acts 1:24; 1 Thess. 2:13; 1 Pet. 2:9; Luke 18:7; John 15:16; Eph. 1:16; 1 Thess. 2:12*; that it encourages the use of means in the highest degree *2 Tim. 2:10; 1 Cor. 9:22; Rom. 8:28-30; John 6:37-40; 2 Pet. 1:10*; that it may be ascertained by its effects in all who truly believe the gospel

1 Thess. 1:4-10; that it is the foundation of Christian assurance *Rom. 8:28-30; Isa. 42:16; Rom. 11:29*; and that to ascertain it with regard to ourselves demands and deserves the utmost diligence *2 Pet. 1:10-11; Phil. 3:12; Heb. 6:11*.

10. Of Sanctification

We believe that Sanctification is the process by which, according to the will of God, we are made partakers of his holiness *1 Thess. 4:3; 5:23; 2 Cor. 7:1; 13:9; Eph. 1:4*; that it is a progressive work *Prov. 4:18; 2 Cor. 3:18; Heb. 6:1; 2 Pet. 1:5-8; Phil. 3:12-16*; that it is begun in regeneration *John 2:29; Rom. 8:5; John 3:6; Phil. 1:9-11; Eph. 1:13-14*; and that it is carried on in the hearts of believers by the presence and power of the Holy Spirit, the Sealer and Comforter, in the continual use of the appointed means—especially the Word of God, self-examination, self-denial, watchfulness, and prayer *Phil. 2:12-13; Eph. 4:11-12; 1 Pet. 2:2; 2 Pet. 3:18; 2 Cor. 13:5; Luke 11:35; 9:23; Matt. 26:41; Eph. 6:18; 4:30*.

11. Of the Perseverance of Saints

We believe that such only are real believers as endure unto the end *John 8:31; 1 John 2:27-28; 3:9; 5:18*; that their persevering attachment to Christ is the grand mark which distinguishes them from superficial professors *1 John 2:19; John 13:18; Matt. 13:20-21; John 6:66-69; Job 17:9*; that a special Providence watches over their welfare *Rom. 8:28; Matt. 6:30-33; Jer. 32:40; Psa. 121:3; 91:11-12*; and they are kept by the power of God

through faith unto salvation *Phil. 1:6; 2:12-13; Jude 24-25; Heb. 1:14; 2 Kings 6:16; Heb. 13:5; 1 John 4:4.*

12. Of the Harmony of the Law and the Gospel

We believe that the Law of God is the eternal and unchangeable rule of his moral government *Rom. 3:31; Matt. 5:17; Luke 16:17; Rom. 3:20; 4:15*; that it is holy, just, and good *Rom. 7:12, 7, 14, 22; Gal. 3:21; Psa. 119*; and that the inability which the Scriptures ascribe to fallen men to fulfill its precepts arises entirely from their love of sin *Rom. 8:7-8; Josh. 24:19; Jer. 13:23; John 6:44; 5:44*; to deliver them from which, and to restore them through a Mediator to unfeigned obedience to the holy Law, is one great end of the Gospel, and of the means of grace connected with the establishment of the visible Church *Rom. 8:2, 4; 10:4; 1 Tim. 1:5; Heb. 8:10; Jude 20-21; Heb. 12:14; Matt. 16:17-18; 1 Cor. 12:28.*

13. Of a Gospel Church

We believe that a visible Church of Christ is a congregation of baptized believers *1 Cor. 1:1-13; Matt. 18:17; Acts 5:11; 8:1; 11:31; 1 Cor. 4:17; 14:23; 3 John 9; 1 Tim. 3:5*, associated by covenant in the faith and fellowship of the gospel *Acts 2:41-42; 2 Cor. 8:5; Acts 2:47; 1 Cor. 5:12-13*; observing the ordinances of Christ *1 Cor. 11:2; 2 Thess. 3:6; Rom. 16:17-20; 1 Cor. 11:23; Matt. 18:15-20; 1 Cor. 5:6; 2 Cor. 2:7; 1 Cor. 4:17*; governed by his laws *Matt. 28:20; John 14:15; 15:12; 1 John 4:21; John 14:21; 1 Thess. 4:2; 2 John 6; Gal. 6:2; all the Epistles*, and exercising the gifts, rights, and privileges invested in them by his Word *Eph. 4:7; 1 Cor. 14:12; Phil. 1:27; 1 Cor. 12:14*; that its only scriptural officers are Bishops, or Pastors, and Deacons *Phil. 1:1; Acts 14:23; 15:22; 1 Tim. 3; Titus 1*, whose qualifications, claims, and duties are defined in the Epistles to Timothy and Titus.

14. Of Baptism and the Lord's Supper

We believe that Christian Baptism is the immersion in water of a believer *Acts 8:36-39; Matt. 3:5-6; John 3:22-23; 4:1-2; Matt. 28:19; Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; 8:12; 16:32-34; 18:8*, into the name of the Father, and Son, and Holy Ghost *Matt. 28:19; Acts 10:47-48; Gal. 3:27-28*; to show forth, in a solemn and beautiful emblem, our faith in the crucified, buried, and risen Saviour, with its effect in our death to sin and resurrection to a new life *Rom. 6:4; Col. 2:12; 1 Pet. 3:20-21; Acts 22:16*; that it is prerequisite to the privileges of a Church relation; and to the Lord's Supper *Acts 2:41-42; Matt. 28:19-20; Acts and Epistles*, in which the members of the Church, by the sacred use of bread and wine, are to commemorate together the dying love of Christ *1 Cor. 11:26; Matt. 26:26-29; Mark 14:22-25; Luke 22:14-20*; preceded always by solemn self-examination *1 Cor. 11:28; 5:1, 8; 10:3-32; 11:17-32; John 6:26-71.*

15. Of the Christian Sabbath

We believe that the first day of the week is the Lord's Day, or Christian Sabbath *Acts 20:7; Gen. 2:3; Col. 2:16-17; Mark 2:27; John 20:19; 1 Cor. 16:1-2*; and is to be kept sacred to religious purposes *Exod. 20:8; Rev. 1:10; Psa. 118:24*, by abstaining from all

secular labor and sinful recreations *Isa. 58:13-14; 56:2-8*; by the devout observance of all the means of grace, both private *Psa. 119:15* and public *Heb. 10:24-25; Acts 11:26; 13:44; Lev. 19:30; Exod. 46:3; Luke 4:16; Acts 17:2, 3; Psa. 26:8; 87:3*; and by preparation for that rest that remaineth for the people of God *Heb. 4:3-11*.

16. Of Civil Government

We believe that civil government is of divine appointment, for the interests and good order of human society *Rom. 13:1-7; Deut. 16:18; 1 Sam. 23:3; Exod. 18:23; Jer.30:21*; and that magistrates are to be prayed for, conscientiously honored and obeyed *Matt. 22:21; Titus 3:1; 1 Pet. 2:13; 1 Tim. 2:1-8*; except only in things opposed to the will of our Lord Jesus Christ *Acts 5:29; Matt. 10:28; Dan. 3:15-18; 6:7-10; Acts 4:18-20* who is the only Lord of the conscience, and the Prince of the kings of the earth *Matt. 23:10; Rom. 14:4; Rev. 19:16; Psa. 72:11; Psa. 2; Rom. 14:9-13*.

17. Of the Righteous and the Wicked

We believe that there is a radical and essential difference between the righteous and the wicked *Mal. 3:18; Prov. 12:26; Isa. 5:20; Gen. 18:23; Jer. 15:19; Acts 10:34-35; Rom. 6:16*; that such only as through faith are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and sanctified by the Spirit of our God, are truly righteous in his esteem *Rom. 1:17; 7:6; 1 John 2:29; 3:7; Rom. 6:18, 22; 1 Cor. 11:32; Prov. 11:31; 1 Pet. 4:17-18*; while all such as continue in impenitence and unbelief are in his sight wicked, and under the curse *1 John 5:19; Gal. 3:10; John 3:36; Isa. 57:21; Psa. 10:4; Isa 55:6-7*; and this distinction holds among men both in and after death *Prov. 14:32; Luke 16:25; John 8:21-24; Prov. 10:24; Luke 12:4-5; 9:23-26; John 12:25-26; Eccl. 3:17; Matt. 7:13-14*.

The History of Victorious Life Church

In September of 2005, God transitioned and touched the heart of Pastor J. Nathan Paige to begin a new work in Albany, GA, which was the birth of Victorious Life Church of Albany.

We held our first organizational meeting at the Best Western Hotel's conference room on September 18, 2005 with a congregation that included 62 charter members. With a unanimous vote of all that we're present, Victorious Life Church was established and J. Nathan Paige was named our Pastor. We held our first worship service on the following Sunday, September 25, 2005 in the conference suite of the Wingate Inn where God richly blessed the lives of this newly formed body of believers. Though we didn't have much physically, we had more than enough spiritually and our faith indeed went before us. We worshiped at the Wingate Inn for an entire month and God turned that conference suite into His sanctuary. The presence of the Lord rested and dwelled there, as we gave him glory through radical praise, sincere worship, and expressive dance. The Word of God also came forth with such power and anointing out of the mouth of the Man of God that propelled us to a new realm of Victory, as we watched God save, heal, mend, deliver, and set free. During the first month of worship, God birthed out intercessors that begin to pray fervently for the future of Pastor Paige and Victorious Life. On Friday evening, October 14, 2005 Pastor Paige called the intercessors to gather and meet and from that meeting God gave the vision of an already prepared vacant church building awaiting us that we would soon call home. With no visible evidence or signs, we trusted God and kept praying for God's manifestation. After that meeting, less than two weeks later God touched the heart of Pastor Tiangelo Hill of the Pleasant Hill Baptist Church in Albany to meet with our Pastor and tell him about a vacant church building their congregation owned and had recently moved from. Immediately, we knew God had answered our prayers and caused a spiritual blessing to manifest itself in the earth. Victorious Life Church made that transition with no struggles and held our last worship service at the Wingate Inn on Sunday, October 30, 2005. With God's Favor and Blessings, we made 201 North Carroll Street in East Albany our official dwelling place and held our first worship service in the sanctuary on Sunday, November 2, 2005. Just like God blessed in the conference suite, He blessed even more abundantly in our newly acquired edifice. Victorious Life went from 62 members to over 100 members in less than two months and in our congregation, God blessed us with 4 licensed ministers of the gospel and 1 ordained elder. Victorious Life birthed out 17 ministries in the first 2 months of existence that were all built on the foundation of prayer with

the purpose to edify Christ and build His Kingdom. He also blessed us with qualified and faithful church staff that caused our ministry to be one of availability in the community with regular week-to-week office hours. And if that wasn't enough, God also blessed us with some of the most anointed and gifted musicians ever. We labored diligently and faithfully throughout the remainder of 2005 and God added souls to the church weekly. On Sunday, January 22, 2006, we held our official Inaugural Service at Albany State University's ACAD Auditorium and officially became recognized in the city of Albany and Dougherty County as Victorious Life Church. Pastor George Edge of Americus, GA was our organizing pastor along with other prominent Men and Women of God who shared with us in the wonderful occasion. Victorious Life was well on her way. Though we grew even the more in numbers, it was our love, our faith, our prayers, and our uncompromising trust in the Lord that held us together. As months passed by God revealed his Supernatural Power to the body of VLC and birthed more ministries, added more souls, and provided us with endless opportunities. Our web site was launched in April of 2006 along with our television broadcast, our substance abuse ministry became federally funded, and we hosted our first public Summer Camp Program in the summer of 2006.

On Saturday, June 2, 2006 our Pastor publicly confessed his love to the formerly Ms. Octavia Michele Slaughter of Macon, GA and the two became one. They shared their vows at Monumental Faith Ministries in Albany where Pastor Brian Keith Hodges of Atlanta, GA performed the services. God has been so good to Victorious Life and we are so blessed. We officially became Incorporated in September of 2006 and is now known as Victorious Life Church of Albany, Inc.

Covenant of Membership

We do, in the presence of men, confess Christ as our personal Savior and Lord; and do heartily give ourselves to His service, and take His Word as the rule of our life. Having been united by faith to Him, we do now, as members of the Body of Christ, humbly relying on His grace, unite with one another in this covenant.

We shall habitually observe private prayer and the reading of the Scriptures, earnestly seeking therein the help of the Holy Spirit.

We who are the heads of families shall maintain the worship of God in our homes, and shall endeavor to lead our children, or others committed to our charge, to faith in Christ and to the Christian life.

We shall attend regularly, as far as the Lord shall permit, the public worship of God on the Lord's Day, and such other meetings for worship and service as the church may appoint, and we shall faithfully observe together the ordinance of the Lord's Supper.

We shall walk together in brotherly love, with Christian sympathy and kindness, and shall tenderly and faithfully admonish and help one another as may be needful. We shall not bring to the church a complaint against any member for personal trespass or offense until we have taken the first and second steps pointed out by our Lord Jesus Christ (Matthew 18:15-17), thus endeavoring to settle all private offenses without publicity.

We shall aid, as the Lord shall prosper us, in supporting a faithful Christian ministry among us, and in sending the Gospel to the whole human family; and as we have opportunity we shall seek by example and word to lead men to Christ.

We shall endeavor to live soberly, righteously and godly in this present world, abstaining for whatever is unbecoming the Christian character; as baptism signifies our death to sin and resurrection to holiness, so we shall seek to walk in newness of life.

Code of Conduct

Introduction:

Victorious Life Church is a place of healing, restoration, deliverance, and empowerment. Our mission is to assemble, equip, and send forth believers committed to advancing the Kingdom of God in our city, state, nation, and world. Ordained and established by God, this house of refuge is one where many of ALL races & nationalities gather and assemble together to worship our God and also fellowship with one another. The Man of God, Pastor J. Nathan Paige who is the Shepard of this house presents these rules of behavior so that everyone can be free of distractions or discomfort, so that God can be glorified, the people of God can be edified, and the Kingdom of God can be advanced. Victorious Life Church, known to be a place of Victory and not defeat!

In order to accomplish this, we must first recognize God as our Father and Jesus Christ as His Son, the lamb that was slain for our sins. In addition, we must realize that, within each of us the Holy Spirit dwells (*I Corinthians 6:19*). Once we accept this, we **MUST** treat every person accordingly. Keeping all of this in mind, we believe that each member of Victorious Life Church is entitled to the following:

Therefore, The Members of Victorious Life Church Are Expected:

- To always create an atmosphere that blesses God and encourages others
- To assume responsibility for their lifestyle, integrity, and loyalty and act respectfully both in and outside of Victorious Life Church
- To be honest always in their words and deeds
- To be free from insulting or abusive treatment from others
- To respect **ALL** church property, including the building, the grounds, church materials, and church furnishings
- To refrain from smoking, drinking alcoholic beverages, or engaging in any illegal drug activity on or around the church property and grounds (**ABSOLUTELY NO EXCEPTIONS!**) **This could result in law enforcement being notified.**
- To refrain from fighting or participation in any type of physical abuse or violence on or around the church property and grounds (**ABSOLUTELY NO EXCEPTIONS!**) **This could result in law enforcement being notified.**

- To refrain from any sexual activity or sexual abuse or harassment on or around the church property and grounds (**ABSOLUTELY NO EXCEPTIONS!**) **This could result in law enforcement being notified.**
- To respect the personal property and materials of others
- To use language that is free from vulgarity, disrespect, and profanity
- To act in a manner that does not bring embarrassment, shame, or discredit to Victorious Life Church, nor to act in a manner that would bring shame and dishonor to God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

New Members Orientation:

- New Members Orientation class is absolutely **MANDATORY** for all new members of VLC. This class is held periodically throughout the calendar year and is designed to introduce things such as church training, the vision and mission of the ministry, our church history, in depth teachings on tithing, Etc. All new members are responsible for completing this class before becoming recognized as full pledged members of Victorious Life Church.
- New Members Orientation class is mostly held on Sunday Mornings at 9:00AM during our Sunday school hour, unless otherwise noted and a wonderful reception is usually prepared for all new members to attend and learn more about the ministry immediately after worship on that particular Sunday.

Prior To Worship:

- The members of VLC are responsible for being 15 minutes before the beginning of Sunday Morning Worship at 10:00AM and Tuesday Evening Worship at 7:00PM and any other times worship is scheduled to go forth.
- The members of VLC agree to come promptly into the sanctuary and enter into His gates with thanksgiving and into His courts with praise every Sunday and Tuesday, prepared to PRAY and participate freely in worship.
- The members of VLC will come to the House of God dressed in modest, clean, neat, and respectful attire, keeping in mind that they are coming to “God’s House.”
- ALL members of VLC, especially leaders are expected to be in worship at all times during the beginning of worship and should not allow their leadership responsibilities and duties interfere with their ability to be in

attendance in the worship service, unless excused by Pastor or other appointed leadership staff.

Accountability:

- The Man of God is always entitled to know the whereabouts and the status of his sheep!
- It is **MANDATORY** that All members of VLC be accounted for at all times; this includes being late, absent, or sick.

The Proper Protocol for Accountability is as Follows:

Leaders:

- A phone call/text to Bishop J. Nathan Paige or his appointed leadership staff

Members Who Are Active In Church Ministries:

- A phone call to your ministry leader
- A phone call to the church office (If no answer, leave a message on the voicemail)

Members Who Are Not Active In Church

Ministries:

- A text to the church app

Administration of The Code of Conduct:

- Enforcement of the Code of Conduct is expected to help the members of Victorious Life Church understand the importance of being accountable to rules and regulations that are set in place. Attention to the conditions described here is the responsibility of Bishop J. Nathan Paige and his appointed key leadership. All members agree to abide by this Code and any deviation from it will result in appropriate consequences. These consequences will be administered in a fair, firm, and consistent manner, keeping in mind that Christian behavior is expected of all the members of Victorious Life Church.

Member Expectations

WHAT IS EXPECTED OF OUR CHURCH MEMBERS

SALVATION

We don't want just church members on our roll, but according to the Bible, church members should have received the Lord Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior by being born again (**John 3:3-6,1:12**)

We expect our members to know that they are saved, and how they are saved (**I John 5:11-13**)

We expect our members to witness for the Lord Jesus Christ by sharing their faith with family members, friends, and/or anyone they have an opportunity to tell how to be saved by God (**Acts 1:8**)

WORSHIP

We expect our members to set aside and sanctify Sunday as the Lord's day for worshipping God with the saints (**Heb. 10:24-25**)

We are to worship God together in our Sunday services

When we go out to worship with other churches, we would like for all of our members to attend (**Eph. 4:15-16**)

We are to participate in our monthly Holy Communion (**currently every 3rd Sunday of each month**)

PRAYER

We are to spend personal time with God in prayer daily

We are to pray with our families

We are to pray with our church family

BIBLE STUDY

Without the Bible, there is no knowledge of Christ or Salvation. We expect our members to grow in their love for God's Holy Scriptures, The Bible

We expect all of our members to read, study, meditate, and memorize Scriptures (**II Tim. 2:15**)

All members are to attend Sunday School/Biblical Foundation

GIVING

We expect our members, by faith and love, to give to God tithes and offerings

We should be faithful supporting our pastor financially, with our prayers, and by giving
We are to unite with our church in support of missionaries: financially, and with our prayers
We are to give our time and abilities to the church

RELATIONSHIP WITH OTHER MEMBERS

We are to try to get to know members we do not know
We are to be united for the cause of our Lord Jesus Christ
We are to love and build up other members
We are to share with others when they are less fortunate than we are
We are NEVER to gossip and talk behind one another's back; such practices are DEMONIC

SERVICE

God has called all of us into His service as soldiers of Jesus Christ and God has given all of us natural and spiritual gifts to serve Him and His church
We expect all of our members to have a ministry and be involved in a church ministry
We expect our members to serve in a ministry in the church

What Are Ministry Leaders?

Ministry Leaders report directly to Pastor Paige. They are responsible for coordinating their assigned ministry, keeping Pastor informed of progress and problem areas (with suggested solutions) as well as ensuring approval prior to implementation of ministry agenda. Each Ministry Leader is responsible for maintaining a cooperative not a competitive relationship with all other ministries. All Ministry Leaders must be in Sunday School and Bible Study unless other arrangements have been made due to work or school schedule.

Ministry Assistants report directly to the Ministry Leaders. They are responsible for assisting in the ministry and are encouraged to offer suggestions and ideas to enhance the ministry. All Ministry Assistants should strive to be in School School and Bible Study.

Each person is expected to conduct himself / herself in a Christian manner and to handle all matters biblically and respectfully. Everything must be done in decency and order so that God will get the glory and people will be ministered to. We do not own these ministries; they are as unto the Lord. Each ministry will be evaluated to determine its effectiveness and timeliness. "Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than themselves. Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others." **Phil. 2:3,4**

VLC, YOUR CHURCH – YOU MAKE IT!

Your church is what you make it!

**If it is a "growing church" it is because
you come regularly with your family
to learn from God's Word.**

**If it is a "Scriptural church" it is because
you will settle for nothing less.**

**If it is a "friendly church", it is because
you are friendly and make it so.**

**If it is a "giving church", it is because you give with a
heart of love.**

**If it is a "praying church", it is because you regularly and
consistently pray for your church and its ministries.**

**If it is a "spiritual church", it is because you daily walk in
the Spirit and abide in Christ.**

**If it is a "Bible-believing church", it is because you "study
to shew yourself approved unto God....rightly dividing the
word of truth."**

**Please remember that your church will be exactly what
you make it!**

What Is Tithing?

1. **What is tithing? Tithing is the first tenth of one's income as property rightfully claimed by God.**
 - a. The Old Testament: The first bushel out of every ten bushels of grain, lamb, livestock, etc.
 - b. The New Testament: The amount of one's income of ten percent.
2. **Why do you tithe?**
 - a. God says so! (**Malachi 3:10**)
 - b. Tithing is essential of the body of Christ.
 - c. We care about our relationship with God.
 - d. We want to be connected to the body of Christ.
3. **When you don't tithe...**
 - a. You are cursed with a cursed.
 - b. You are being disobedient unto God.
 - c. You will not prosper.
4. **Tithing is a breakthrough for every Christian.**
 - a. It unlocks the door of our mind, heart, and will.
 - b. It releases us financially.
 - c. It does something spiritually. (GROWTH)
 - d. Tithing is essential to your development as a Christian.
5. **The purpose of tithing is to prove God.**
 - a. Tithing is God's way for us to develop faith in Him.
 - b. Try Him and see.
 - c. Giving our tenth or above isn't our opportunity to prove ourselves to God, but God's opportunity to prove Himself to us.
6. **Victorious Life Church members believe that nothing takes the place of Tithes and Offerings.**
 - a. Tithe first and then give your offering unto the Lord.
 - b. Your offering can exceed your tithe.
7. **All of the tithes and offerings belong to God. It just so happens that it comes through our hands. We are the ones who labor for the money, but it belongs to God.**
8. **God only ask for a tenth of our earnings, if we do not give it, there will be a problem. God may allow the entire 100% to slip through our hands. We will be trying to figure out where the money went.**

9. Tithing is a covering.

- a. No good thing will the Lord withhold from those that walk upright. **(Psalm 84)**
- b. He will supply all our needs. **(Philippians 4:18)**

10. Be consistent in your giving.

- a. Once a month
- b. Bi-weekly
- c. Weekly

11. The work of God in the church takes money to operate.

- a. God places the work of the church in man's hands. The members must be connected to the body of Christ.

12. When we are able to turn loose money, God then knows that He has our heart.

- a. Giving is a heart thing.

13. Tithing must be taught to the people.

- a. Tithing is a solution or a "backbone" for the church.
- b. There's a lack of knowledge when it comes to tithing.

14. But ye seek ye first the Kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you. (Matthew 6:33)

- a. God will take care of us day by day.
- b. Seek the Kingdom.

How Christians Should Dress **According To The Scripture**

Let us not allow the worldly, wrongly, and wickedly dress fashion to be one of the gods in our lives. We need to cleanse and change our garments...

(Genesis 35:2)

Therefore, God wants to change not only our heart but also our dress appearance.

➤ **Orderly Clothing** –

To adorn, arrange, put in order. It implies harmonious orderly arrangement, instead of ruffled, uncoordinated chaos. ***I***

Timothy 2:9 says “woman adorn themselves.” Adorn means to bring beauty

- **Modest Clothing** –
Not showy, honoring others, and not attracting attention. It is a blend of modesty and humility.
- **Moderate Clothing** –
Self-control of passions and desires; a self-control that holds the reins over Propriety. It is a word that implies moderation; humility; honorable to God; self control; hating sin.
- **Distinctive Clothing** –
(*Deuteronomy 22:5; I Corinthians 11:14, 15*)
Men should dress like men and women should dress like women. If we do not dress according to our sex, we are an abomination unto the Lord thy God."

The Purpose of Clothing

If you look at what scripture says about clothing, you find that clothing is meant for covering the body, not revealing it. Scripture tells us that sin is the reason for the need to clothe the body. Since the fall, we are no longer naked and unashamed.

Genesis 3:7 And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons.

Genesis 3:10 And he said, I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself.

Genesis 3:21 “Unto Adam also and to his wife did the Lord God make coats of skins, and clothed them.” The word “coats” is translated in other places “tunics” or “garments” and they usually refer to clothing that completely covers the body.

The Scripture adequately answers the question, “Why clothing?”

The answer is “To cover nakedness”

Ladies:

Keep your hair clean and well groomed. Do not let your hairstyles be exaggerated or overwhelming. Be very careful about “trends” and “modern” styles. If you wear makeup, be sure that it is applied in such a way that it does not call attention to you. Always be sure that you are not

noticed for your flashy clothing, obvious hair-do, gaudy jewelry, or heavy makeup. We believe ladies should dress attractively and have no objections to proper jewelry.

Men:

Dress like Christian gentlemen. Be sure you are clean and neatly dressed. Keep your hair clean and well groomed. If you choose to wear sideburns, a mustache, or a beard they must not be extreme and must be kept neatly trimmed.

Usage of The Building

Rehearsals & Meetings:

- All ministries desiring to use the building for any type of ministry rehearsal/meeting, the ministry leader only must notify the church office with a date and time for usage. This must be done to avoid scheduling conflicts on the church calendar and also to make sure the building will be unlocked and alarm disarmed for those who do not have keys.
- If the church office is not notified, then your rehearsal/meeting is not approved through the church office, and therefore is not authorized and **SHOULD NOT** be held. **NO EXCEPTIONS!**
- Any other members desiring to use the building for any type of non-ministry rehearsal/meeting, the member must notify the church office with a date and time for usage and also the nature of the rehearsal/meeting being rendered. This must be done to make sure rehearsal/meeting is appropriate and to avoid scheduling conflicts on the church calendar and also to make sure the building will be unlocked and alarm disarmed for those who do not have keys.
- If the church office is not notified, then your rehearsal/meeting is not approved through the church office, and therefore is not authorized and **SHOULD NOT** be held. **NO EXCEPTIONS!**

Other Special Usage:

- All other special usage inquiries of the church building should be addressed through our church office.
- The following things our office will need to know at the time of inquiry are as follows:
 1. The purpose for requesting use of the building
 2. Date & Time of building request
 3. All contact information of person requesting use of the building.

**** All use building requests will be submitted to Pastor Paige for approval or nonapproval and after his decision, all information will be forwarded back to our church office. Our church office will notify individuals in a timely manner.

**** Please be aware, depending on the nature of the request for use of building, there may be a fee charged to individuals requesting to use the building.

**** Also for all approved “special usage” of the building, we will have our staffed security on site during the entire event and if there is a need for sound, music, or media for your event, we will have our staffed Media Technicians on site as well. **(No One Is Authorize To Operate Any of VLC Equipment, such as soundboard, microphones, video camera, CD player, etc. except authorize staffed technicians)**

Victorious Life Church

J. Nathan Paige, Founder & Pastor

OUR CHURCH STAFF

Office Coordinator:

Quinlan Parker
Stephanie Paige, Admin

PASTOR'S WORSHIP STAFF

Admin. Assistant To Bishop:

Elder-Elect Brandon Willis

Adjutants/Armor Bearers:

Elder-Elect Brandon Willis
Jawaski Bailey
Minister Arymis Barnes
Isaiah Jones

Elders & Ministers:

Elder Edwin Willis
Elder Kenneth Bush
Elder Willie Edmondson
Elder Brandon Willis
Elder-Elect Erica Mccants

Minister Rachel Fedd
Minister Kawambee Whitaker
Minister Arymis Barnes
Quinlan Parker, MIT
Jayla Morris, MIT
Isaiah Jones, MIT

Prayer Team:

All Elders & Ministers
Lady Michele Paige
Minister Rachel Fedd
Linda Weaver
MIT Jayla Morris
Aubrey Willis
MIT Quinlan Parker

OUR MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

1. Adjutants/Armor Bearers
2. Care Ministry
3. Children & Youth (HYPE Ministries)
4. Youth & Young Adult
5. Evangelism & Outreach
6. Hospitality
7. Media
8. Men of Power (Men's Ministry)
9. Music Ministry
10. Nursery
11. Prayer & Intercession
12. Security
13. Women's Ministry (Women of Destiny & Grace)
14. Worship Counselors
15. Ushers

Join Us at Victorious Life Church

201 N. Carroll Street
East Albany, GA 31705

Morning Worship Services: Sundays at 10:00AM

Holy Communion Services: Every 3rd Sunday at 10:00AM

Weekly Bible Study: Tuesdays at 7:00PM

You Can Also Write Us At:

Our Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 6151

Albany, GA 31706

Look Us Up On The Web:

www.vlcalbanyonline.com

Morning Prayer:

Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays

667-776-9425

Victorious Life Church of Albany, Inc.

“Where we SEE the INVISIBLE and EXPECT the IMPOSSIBLE!”