

REV. JAMES A. HOUSE

Associate Pastor 1983-1988

(Reverend House passed away on December 20, 1995. This letter was written for our 25th Anniversary 1995)

Dear Friends at Ashford,

I want to send my heartfelt love and congratulations to you on your 25th Anniversary. Ashford UMC has touched many lives over the last 25 years, including mine. Your ministry and witness has gone far beyond Dairy Ashford.

The four years I spent with you as your associate-pastor were the formative years of my own ministry. You nurtured me, corrected me when needed, and loved me as I transitioned from the secular corporate world to full-time Christian ministry-As you well know, I am not the only minister in our Annual Conference that you helped raise and nurture in the faith. Every life that we have "touched" or influenced has been touched by you. Through your ministry and witness to the flock, you have been His witness "in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria and to the end of the earth". Christ calls us forth to be in ministry to the last, the least, and the lost, and you have certainly been about your calling during the past 25 years.

In addition to me, you also nurtured and loved my family while we were with you, and for this, I will be eternally grateful. You gave Grady and Sarah a great start in their faith journey. Karen and I want to thank you for the love and care you gave us while we were with you, and we want to thank you for the love you continue to share as we all serve God in our separate vineyards.

We are thinking about you and praying for you as you celebrate your 25th Anniversary. We are thankful that we had the opportunity to be a part of your history.

With much Love,

Jim, Karen, Grady, Sarah

