

Greater First Timothy Baptist Church at 1520 Dixie Highway (between Gaulbert and Hill), and they are looking to place an honorary sign for the founding pastor (Dr. Leonald Ramsey) at the Gaulbert and Dixie intersection. They would like to have this accomplished this spring/summer.

---

Dr. Leonard Aron Rasmey was born on November 21, 1934, to the late Reverend William and Willie Ramsey in Whittaker, West Virginia. He was licensed and ordained at Greater Good Hope Baptist Church under the leadership of the late Reverend R.E. Smith. During his tenure as a member of Greater Good Hope, Dr. Rasmey served as youth president, led the basketball team as coach, and sat on the trustee board. Notably, Dr. Rasmey was among the pioneering African American men to earn a doctoral degree, graduating from Catholic High School in the 1950s. He pursued higher education at the University of Louisville, earning a Bachelor of Arts degree in Experimental Psychology. Dr. Rasmey furthered his education at Liberty University, obtaining a Master's degree in Christian Education, and subsequently earned his Doctorate in Divinity in 1978.

In 1968, Dr. Rasmey founded and became the pastor of Greater First Timothy Missionary Baptist Church. During the Civil Rights Movement of the 1950s and 1960s, he marched alongside the late Dr. A.D. King, Reverend Jesse Jackson, Dr. Charles E. Kirby, Dr. Charles Elliott, and numerous other local ministers. As a member of the Central District Association of the National Baptist Convention, Dr. Rasmey was recognized as the most progressive pastor at the Baptist Unified Leadership Conference in 1973. Dr. Rasmey's professional experience includes working in Business Management for the Transit Authority of River City. He also served on the Boys Club of America and received awards from the Department of Public Safety Division for his work as a TRARC monitor. Further, Dr. Rasmey was honored by then County Commissioner Darryl Owens for his contributions to the city and his role in supporting Commissioner Owens' historic campaign as the first Black candidate for Mayor of Louisville.

Dr. Rasmey's accolades include the Ambassador of Goodwill, Distinguished Citizen Award, Key to the City for outstanding community contributions, and the esteemed Kentucky Colonel Award in 1990. Throughout his career, Dr. Rasmey helped establish numerous churches in Louisville and mentored aspiring young ministers, earning recognition for his compassion and vocal talents. After pastoring Greater First Timothy Missionary Baptist Church for 41 years, Dr. Rasmey remained devoted to his wife, Jean Rasmey, for 45 years, fathered four children, and embraced his grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

"Bryant C. Jackson"