

Interviewee: Rev. Timothy Boone

Interviewer: John W. Cooper, III

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Location: Clapp's Chapel AME Church, 1201 NC-61, Whitsett, NC 27377

Acronyms: TB: Timothy Boone JC (John W. Cooper, III)

JC: Okay. Hello, everybody. My name is John Cooper today I'm interviewing Reverend Timothy boo. How you doing today?

TB: All right. All right.

JC: Okay. So, first, can I just ask you your date of birth and where you were born?

TB: Yeah. February 18th, 1970. I born at Cone Hospital in Greensboro

JC: Cone hospital and who were your parents are. Who are your parents, excuse me?

TB: Arthur Boone and Flossy Boone.

JC: So can you tell me just a little bit about your childhood and your experiences growing up?

TB: Well, I grew up right here in Whitsett off of Boone Valley Road and, of course, I grew up here Clapp's Chapel AME Church. And so a lot of us who along Boone Valley road that grew up with, a lot of us went to this church together.

JC: So you've been a member of your whole life?

TB: Yes, sir. Yes, sir.

JC: So how did so how did you end up becoming the pastor? How did that transition go from being a member to Head pastor?

TB: Well, I was-My calling was back in 2006, which was in Bible study. And, of course, the pastor was Reverend Dorothy North and as I transition ended up, got the three years and the board of examiners int the AME Church ended up getting an assignment in St. James in Kingsville, North Carolina, which is going down towards Wilmington. So I've passed it there for about five years. And then I ended up getting an assignment here at Johnson chapel here in Mebane, which I pastored it there almost four years. And then the transition of being home now is just the joy. Now to pastor where you grew up at.

JC: What would you say is one of the greatest like, blessings you've seen, you know, just being a pastor here, one of the greatest gifts.

TB: Being able to help the church grew up in I mean, it's a blessing dad, getting to talk to those in a community that you've known for years. And then also here, here we are as a church that that

everybody knows each other. So it's a blessing to be in a neighborhood where you can do ministry and you actually know the community.

JC: So in terms of like knowing the community, like Do you do any community outreach?

TB: Yes.

JC: Or anything like that- can you into more detail about that?

TB: Yeah yeah, sure. So we did like this past week so for Thanksgiving, we give out boxes. We do trunk or tree. We have anniversaries, we've had a rainbow tea, which trying to reach out and do things and also we we had a ministry, I do coaching basketball, at Gibsonville's Parks and Rec. And they came over here and had their banquet, the girls basketball team have banquets and stuff over here now. Just to reach out and let let people in the community know that we have a church back here.

JC: So going back a little more to your about yourself. Where did you go to like school growing up?

TB: Okay. Okay. so I went to this Gibsonville elementary school. I went to my McLeansville which is now called Eastern Middle. But there are McLeansville Middle School was back when I went it was only seventh, eighth grade. And then I graduated from Eastern Guilford High School.

JC: And what was your experiences like in high school growing up?

TB: Well, I always had good experiences, but it was majority white school. Always had good friends. Good education, because back then, Eastern Guilford High School was a school of arts and science. So it was advanced in math and all that stuff. So great experience. Of course, I played sports, I ran track, play basketball, and things like that. And that's how I know a lot of people in that community too, because we grew up together, Gibsonville, McLeansville area. I know a lot of people and plus my dad was a quartet singer, So when I was younger, I got to know a whole lot of people.

JC: Did you end up going into higher education? Oh, or anything like that?

TB: Yes. Graduate alum of North Carolina A&T.

JC: Okay. What did you major in?

TB: Finance.

JC: Finance?

TB: Mmhhh (affirmative). And I also got a Master of Divinity from Carolina Graduate School of Divinity, which was up in Greensboro.

JC: Very educated. So, besides being a pastor, are there any other professions that you occupy?

TB: Well, I'm a full time employee also at Cone health, where I'm a capital accountant. And then, of course, you know, I like to do work with kids. do sports? I do. I did. Coaching and getting your Parks and Recs for years. Still do start off with the boys. I did that for six years straight. And then I went to girls. And I've also helped out over to high school coaching with parents and with kids.

JC: Where do you see your church, you know, going like the next 5, 10 years you would say?

TB: Growing. Right now, right now and a sister Nancy Stewart, where I did a previous interview where we have a lot of older members now. But we also have a lot of young people who have been coming to this church now. So have a great number of young people. And our goal is to reach out more to the community, make a change. And, you know, that change starts by being able to reach out and talk to others about who Christ is.

JC: So, who was were there any, like individuals that kind of really shaped the person that you are today? You know, personally, spiritually, yeah.

TB: Yeah, yeah, Well, my father passed when I was a freshman at A&T and I came home. And here my mom, where actually got a call from my grandfather, who told me that my dad passed away. But here at the church, there's always been some positive role models here at the church. And when I was coming along, Sister Nancy Stewart was over the trustee board, and I noticed a lot being a trustee under her. And matter of fact, we began some raisin fundraisers to build this fellowship hall we had right here right now. And then rather, Lindsay, who, who, Robert Lindsey, senior, who always gave me positive advice. And then being a role model, because him and my dad were real good friends. So even when I stumbled a little bit in life, he, he gave me some positive thinking, saying, Yeah, we all make mistakes that they're okay, but you can do better this way. He always gave me some good advice. So I had a couple of role models.

JC: That's pretty good. pretty good. Well, you know, people that are watching this video right now and whatever time it may happen, what words of wisdom or advice you would like to give any younger generation watching this video right now, based off your experiences?

TB: Well, just because you have tough situations, always keep God first. He'll bring you through, even when I didn't have school, stuff like that. I worked full time at Hardee's as a manager, but God provided me so many different ways. So just gotta endure until the end. Keep God first and then you will be successful in everything that you do. And you will have some stumbling blocks. But God gets you through it and my-always wanted to be just a finance person, man deal with numbers. But God called me out to do something different. And it was a change in my life. But at the end of the day, God always works it out. So I enjoy what I do, pastoring. I enjoy people and as long as we own this earth, just love people, everything else will work out. So it don't matter what color what race you are. Just love people and God will make ways for you.

JC: Well said. I appreciate you speak with me for a few minutes.

TB: Yes sir. Yes, sir.