

## **Interim-Pastor James Spencer**

**In February, 1971 the Bay Area, the state and the nation were saddened by the death of Rev. F.D. Haynes, Sr., "a giant", a local and national leader who will be long remembered. His death brought an outpouring of tributes from a host of friends, and from the lowest to the highest levels of government and religious organizations and bodies throughout the country. Rev. James E. Spencer, for several years Youth Pastor and was appointed Assistant Pastor in 1970 by Rev. Haynes, Sr. was chosen interim Pastor. In this capacity, he performed the pastoral tasks and began carrying out the unfinished work of Rev. Haynes, Sr. in the best tradition. He continued with the Broadcast of the Sunday night service, the planning for the Frederick Douglas Haynes Gardens and the burning of the church mortgage which was accomplished five months after Rev. Haynes death. Thus two of Rev. Haynes dreams came a little closer to fulfillment — paying off the church debt in preparation for completing the building plan (constructing the administration building, the third and final phase), and setting the stage for groundbreaking for the Gardens which would provide housing for Third Baptist Church members and others in the San Francisco community in need of this service. He served conscientiously and prayerfully, guiding a bereaved congregation until Rev. Fredrick Haynes, Jr. began his pastorate at Third Baptist in June 1972, a little more than a year after his father's death.**



**James Spencer  
Interim Pastor  
1971-1972**