

Jordan Grove Baptist Church
1529 Railroad Street
Augusta, Georgia

July 15, 2025

To the Honorable Augusta-Richmond County Commissioners:

We, the members of Jordan Grove Baptist Church, respectfully submit this request to Honorary rename Railroad Street, located in Augusta-Richmond County, Georgia, as Mattie Mae Ellison Way.

This honorary renaming would honor Mother Mattie Mae Ellison, our longest-living and most devoted church member. For over 85 years, she has faithfully served Jordan Grove Baptist Church, uplifting generations with her wisdom, grace, and unwavering commitment. Her service has extended far beyond the church walls, as she consistently gave back to the broader community—feeding the less fortunate and assisting families with essential needs. She also played a vital role in the construction of our current sanctuary, helping to purchase and lay the bricks that stand to this day.

Mother Ellison’s dedication began in her youth. She fondly recalls holding lanterns for laborers during the building of the church. Over the decades, she has shared her culinary gifts at countless church events, warmly welcomed visitors, and mentored generations with compassion and strength. As our beloved “Mother of the Church,” she has served as a spiritual pillar and a living example of faith in action.

On July 4, 2025, Mattie Mae Ellison reached the extraordinary milestone of 100 years of life. In recognition of her life and legacy, the City of Augusta graciously issued a proclamation declaring that day as “Mattie Mae Ellison Day.” We extend our sincere thanks to Mayor Garnett Johnson and the Augusta Commission for this meaningful honor.

In celebration of her legacy, and as a lasting tribute to her century of love, service, and leadership, we respectfully request that Railroad Street be honorarily renamed Mattie Mae Ellison Way. We kindly ask that this change be completed by August 15, 2025, so that it may be joyfully unveiled at our 97th Church Anniversary Celebration on September 7, 2025, an event we hope Mother Ellison and her family will be able to attend.

We understand that a commissioner must bring this request before the board for consideration. I, Rev. Anthony R. Walker, humbly ask that one of you esteemed commissioners champion this request on behalf of Jordan Grove Baptist Church.

Thank you for your time, your thoughtful consideration, and your continued dedication to uplifting the individuals who have so deeply shaped our community.

With deepest gratitude,

Rev. Anthony R. Walker
Pastor, Jordan Grove Baptist Church
Deacon James A. Haynes
Chairman, Board of Deacons