



PHILLIPS SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

The Seminary of the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church



The 30th Pastor's Conference and 82nd Founder's Celebration



Dr. Michael Eric Dyson



Attorney Shannon Felder



Dr. Frank Thomas

FACING NOW:

**“The Person, The Predicament, The Preacher,
The Pastor, The Prophet”**

January 5-8, 2026

Crowne Plaza Atlanta Permina Ravinia
4400 Ashford Dunwoody - Dunwoody, GA



INTERDENOMINATIONAL THEOLOGICAL CENTER

700 MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DR. SW ATLANTA, GA 30314-4143

PHONE: 404-527-7702 FAX: 404-527-7770

WWW.ITC.EDU



OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

January 5, 2026

Dr. Paul Brown
President and Dean
Phillips School of Theology

Dear Dr. Brown,

On behalf of the Interdenominational Theological Center (ITC), I extend warm congratulations to you, the faculty, staff, alumni, and friends of Phillips School of Theology on the announcement of your 2026 Pastors' Conference. The theme, "Facing Now: The Person, The Predicament, The Preacher, The Pastor, The Prophet," is both timely and deeply prophetic, speaking directly to the complexities of ministry and leadership in this present moment.

As a proud alumnus of Phillips, the school has long demonstrated a courageous willingness to engage the pressing realities of our world with theological depth, pastoral sensitivity, and prophetic imagination. This theme reflects that legacy and invites pastors and leaders to bring their whole selves into dialogue with the challenges and opportunities of the "now."

I am especially excited about the inclusion of the Music Institute and its special track for musicians. Worship leaders and church musicians are often the theologians who teach before a word is ever preached, and this intentional investment affirms their indispensable role in shaping faithful, relevant, and transformative ministry. This addition further strengthens the conference as a holistic formation experience for the church.

At ITC, we celebrate the great and encouraging work taking place at Phillips School of Theology and remain grateful for our shared commitment to sound theological education, justice-oriented ministry, and the preparation of leaders who serve both church and society with integrity and courage.

We are also pleased to share that ITC is in an exciting season of renewal and growth. Among many developments, we are preparing for my upcoming Investiture of the 12th President of the Interdenominational Theological Center. This moment marks not only a leadership transition but a reaffirmation of ITC's historic mission as the home of Prophetic Problem Solvers—leaders formed at the intersection of theology, justice, and praxis.

Finally, we proudly join you in celebrating the enduring impact of Phillips School of Theology Alumni, who continue to make a profound difference across the nation and around the world—as bishops, preachers, pastors, civic activists, politicians, scholars, practitioners, and public servants. Their witness stands as a testament to Phillips' enduring influence and faithful formation.

MEMBER

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OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

Please accept our congratulations and best wishes for a powerful and transformative 2026 Pastors' Conference. We look forward to continued collaboration and mutual support as we labor together for the good of the church, the academy, and the world God so loves.

With highest regards,

Dr. Herman 'Skip' Mason, Jr.
President, Interdenominational Theological Center
Historian & Archivist of African American Culture

MEMBER

ASSOCIATION OF THEOLOGICAL SCHOOLS IN THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA · UNITED NEGRO COLLEGE FUND

January 5, 2026



Greetings to the attendees the of the Phillips School of Theology's 30th Pastor's Conference and 82nd Founder's Day. On behalf of the City of Dunwoody, I extend the warmest welcome. We are thrilled that you are here.

We are so honored that your organization chose Dunwoody for this event. If you have time, please visit our parks, take a walk on our trails, enjoy our shops, and dine at our fantastic restaurants. Our community has much to offer, and we are so glad you are here.

I know you will enjoy your special events, meetings and each other's company as you share thoughts, challenges and ideas.

When it's time to travel back home, I hope you will leave this event with fond memories of Dunwoody. Best wishes for a truly wonderful conference!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lynn Deutsch". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Lynn Deutsch
Mayor
City of Dunwoody



Mike Jackson
Chief of Sales
Discover Dunwoody



Dear Attendees of the Phillips School of Theology 30th Pastor's Conference and 82nd Founder's Day, It is both an honor and a pleasure to welcome you back to Dunwoody. On behalf of Discover Dunwoody, I am delighted that you have selected our city as the host destination for this year's Conference at the Crowne Plaza Ravinia.

In Dunwoody, we take great pride in fostering a vibrant, engaging, and welcoming community where meaningful connections and memorable experiences can thrive. Whether you choose to explore our scenic parks, enjoy the diverse offerings of our local dining scene, or simply experience the warmth of our hospitality, we hope your time here is enriching, refreshing, and truly enjoyable.

It is a privilege to host such a distinguished and purpose-driven group. My team and I are fully committed to supporting your visit and ensuring a seamless and enjoyable experience. Should you need recommendations or assistance while exploring our city during your stay, please don't hesitate to contact us, we are here to help.

It is my sincere hope that this Conference provides a meaningful opportunity for spiritual growth, fellowship, and reflection. While your time in Dunwoody may be brief, I trust it will be impactful and memorable, just as your presence brings value to our community. Once again, welcome to Dunwoody. We are honored to host you and wish you a successful and inspiring Conference.

Mike Jackson
Chief of Sales

Third Episcopal District

Christian Methodist Episcopal Church



CONTACT

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PRESIDING PRELATE

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January, 2026

Greetings,

Once again I'm delighted to greet you and welcome you to Dunwoody, Georgia, as we share in the 30th Pastor's Conference and Founder's Day of our only Seminary, Phillip's School of Theology. It has been a year since we last gathered for this occasion so I'm confident you can join me in manifold witness, that God has been good to us. Furthermore, we can rejoice knowing that God's mercy is everlasting.

Whenever I think about the Pastor's Conference, I think about the sign I once saw in front of a framed structure that would soon be a McDonald's Hamburger restaurant. The sign simply read, "Under Construction." The Pastor's Conference reminds me that I too, am under construction. Although I recognized my call to ministry years ago, and have served the Church in many capacities including the episcopacy, I am still a work in process. Recalling when I first started seminary and how much of my theological understanding needed re-thinking and re-framing, each year I am challenged to come to the conference, mindful of how our ancestors prayed, "like an empty picture before a full fountain." My prayer is that God will deconstruct my insufficiencies and reconstruct me to be "a living Sanctuary" for service. As we gather using as our theme, Facing Now: the person, the predicament, the Preacher, the Pastor, the Prophet; I pray our time together will enhance our faith, deepen our commitment, and strengthen our fellowship.

Finally, allow me to thank Dr. Paul Brown for his continued leadership as Dean of our Beloved Seminary. Thanks also to the Bishops and the members of the Board of Trustees, as well as the alumni, students, Pastors, laity, and all who support through your prayers, presence, and contributions. Please know that you are valued and appreciated.

Blessings,

Bishop Sylvester Williams, Sr.

Bishop Sylvester Williams, Sr.
Chair, PST Board of Trustees

The First Episcopal District



Christian Methodist Episcopal Church

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Marvin Frank Thomas, Sr., Presiding Prelate

December 10, 2025

Phillips School of Theology
641 Beckwith Street SW
Atlanta, GA 30314

Dear CME Church Family:

It gives me great joy to extend greetings to the College of Bishops, General Officers, President-Brown, members of the CME Church, and guests of the 30th Pastor's Conference & 82nd Founder's Day Celebration of Phillips School of Theology, ***"The Seminary of the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church"***. I am excited about the time we will share when we gather, January 5-8, 2026, at the Crowne Plaza Atlanta Perimeter at Ravinia in Dunwoody, GA for worship, fellowship, inspiration, and challenge. The theme for our gathering is, ***"Facing Now: The Person, The Predicament, The Preacher, The Pastor, The Prophet"***. Our seminary leader, Dr. Paul Brown has engaged some distinguished scholars and practitioners to help us unpack this most timely theme. In addition, we will welcome persons leading and participating in the Music Institute. Thank you for your support of our seminary.

Again, thank you for sharing and caring with us and with best wishes for a successful and inspiring time together, I am

Sincerely,

Marvin Frank Thomas, Sr.
Vice-Chair
PST Board of Trustees



Rev. Dr. Paul Brown

President-Dean, PST

Greetings, members of the College of Bishops and your spouses, General officers and your spouses, Alumni(ne) and your spouses, friends of Phillips and other distinguished guests and visitors, please allow me to welcome you to this, our 30th Pastor's Conference and 82nd Founder's Day Celebration. What started as a vision to equip and engage the clergy of our church while raising funds for the Seminary, continues to inspire and invite dialogue and fellowship throughout our great Zion and beyond! The Pastor's Conference was the brainchild of the late Bishop E. Lynn Brown, then Chair of the Board of Trustees and (Then Dean) Bishop Thomas L. Brown, Sr., who, with God's grace, will be honorably retired in June of 2026. Bishop Brown's Pastoral ministry, his tenure at Phillips, and his Episcopal Ministry have been exemplary gifts to our great Zion, and we wish him well as we look forward to that great celebration.

I wanted to take this opportunity to once again welcome you to the city of Dunwoody, Georgia and to another Pastor's Conference. Our focus this year is on the total person engaged in ministry. We have selected a cadre of speakers designed to challenge and inspire you while at the same time, focusing on the important issues facing those of us on the front lines of transformational ministry. We are excited to kick off another group of "Compelling Preachers" in the second iteration of our five-year grant from the Lilly Foundation. Additionally, we have responded to your requests by adding a separate "Music Institute" track which seeks to engage those persons serving the music ministry of the church.

While the Church of God appears to be under attack against those dark forces and spiritual wickedness in high places, as men and women called of God to "Serve this present age" it is imperative that we do so with a ferocity of spirit and the tenacity of Christ centered love for humanity. It is my hope that this conference will assist you in that purpose!

Once again welcome, and thank you for supporting "The Only Seminary of the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church," Phillips School of Theology!

Dr. Paul L. Brown, Sr., President/Dean



The College of Bishops



First Row (L-R): Senior Bishop Lawrence Reddick; Bishop Thomas L. Brown, Sr.; Bishop Kenneth W. Carter; Bishop James B. Walker. Second Row (L-R) Bishop Sylvester Williams, Sr.; Bishop Teresa E. Snorton; Bishop Marvin F. Thomas, Sr.; Bishop C.K. Heath. Third Row (L-R): Bishop Denise Anders-Modest; Bishop Charley Hames, Jr.; Bishop Ricky D. Helton; Bishop K. Lawson Adjei. Fourth Row (L-R): Bishop C. James King, Retired; Bishop Henry M. Williamson, Sr., Retired (deceased) Bishop Paul A.G. Stewart, Sr., Retired; Bishop Othal H. Lakey, Retired; Bishop Marshall Gilmore, Retired.

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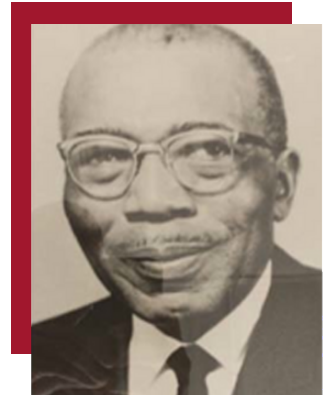
President-Deans



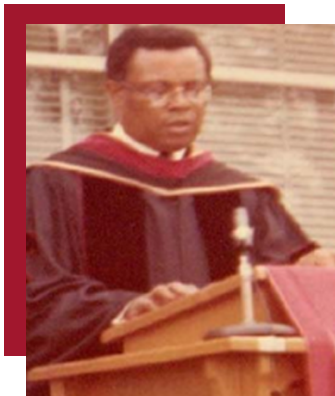
Bishop Joseph A. Johnson, Jr
1944-19954



Dr. U. Z. McKinnon
1951-1959



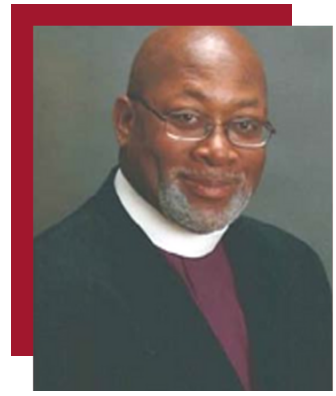
Dr. Millner L. Darneil
1959-1973



Dr. Alvin L. Dopson
1973-1979



Dr. William C. Larkin
1980-1990



Bishop Thomas L. Brown, Sr.
1990-2006



Bishop Marvin Frank Thomas Sr.
2006-2014



Dr. Paul L. Brown, Sr.
2014

Schedule of Events

Monday, January 5th, 2026

CPE

8:00 AM-5:00 PM (Maplewood)

Meeting of Archives Committee

(This is a private meeting)

8:00 AM-3:00 PM (Camelia)

Music Institute

10:00 AM-5:00 PM (LaGrotta)

Registration

10:00 AM-5:00 PM (Foyer)

Compelling Preaching (Meeting)

9:00 AM-4:00 PM (Dunwoody)

PST Board Meeting

2:00 PM-4:30 PM (Oakwood)

Trustee Dinner

5:00 PM-6:00 PM (Ravinia C)

Opening Worship

Senior Bishop Lawrence Reddick

7:00PM-9:00 PM (Ravinia)



Opening Worship
Speaker
Senior Bishop
Lawrence Reddick

Schedule of Events

Tuesday, January 6th, 2026



Registration
8:00 AM-5:00 PM (Maplewood)

CPE
8:00 AM-5:00 PM (Maplewood)

Music Institute
8:30 AM-5:00 PM (LaGrotta)



Conference Presentation
Dr. Michael Eric Dyson
8:30 AM-9:30 AM (Ravinia)



Scholars' Roundtable
9:45 AM-10:45 AM (Ravinia)

Dr. Erica Dunbar
Reverend Amber Lowe-Woodfork, Ph.D. Candidate
Dr. Jermaine Marshall
Dr. Jeremy Williams

(Session moderated by Bishop C.K. Heath)

Schedule of Events

Tuesday, January 6th, 2026

Conference Worship

(4th) Rev. Raphael Terry
10:45 AM-11:45 AM (Ravinia)

Alumni Lunch

12:00 PM-2:00 PM (Ravinia C)

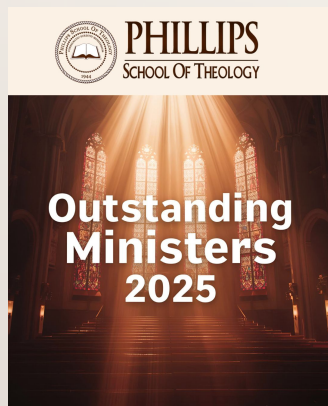


Special Session for Pastors Dr. Shannon Felder, Attorney

2:00 PM-3:00 PM (Ravinia)

Commission on Women In Ministry Service

3:15 PM-4:15 PM (Ravinia)



Outstanding Ministers Service

(6th) Rev. Stephen Delaine
7 PM-9 PM (Ravinia)

Late Night Worship (Alumni)

10 PM-11 PM (Ravinia)

Schedule of Events

Wednesday, January 7th, 2026



Registration

8:30 AM-7 PM (Foyer)

B. Julian Smith Lecture

Dr. Frank Thomas

8:30 AM-9:45 AM (Ravinia)



Plenary

Dr. Evelyn Parker

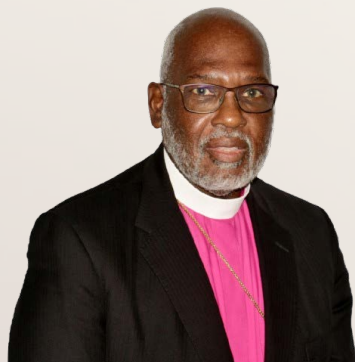
10:00 AM-11:00 AM (Ravinia)

Conference in Worship

(2nd) Rev. C. Thompson,
Attorney 11:15 AM-12:15 AM
(Ravinia)

COWIM Luncheon

12:30 PM-2:00 PM (Ravinia C)



B. Julian Smith Lecture II

Dr. Frank Thomas

2:00 PM-3:00 PM (Ravinia)

Conference Presentation II Bishop Marvin Frank Thomas, Sr.

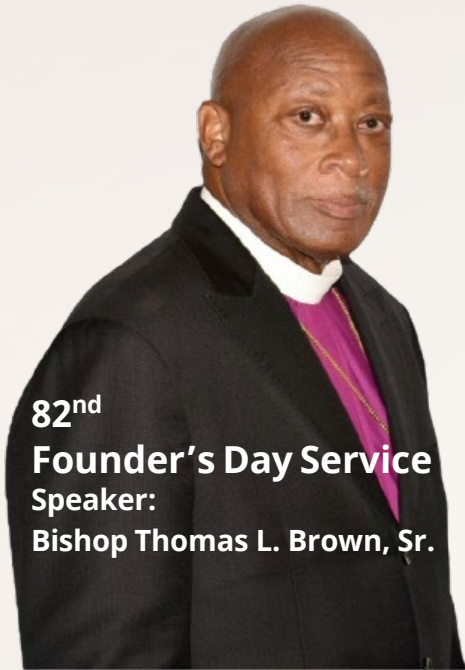
3:15 PM-4:15 PM (Ravinia)

Alumni Service

(1st) Presiding Elder Dr. Claude Bass
7:00 PM-9:00 PM (Ravinia)

Schedule of Events

Thursday, January 8th, 2026



**82nd
Founder's Day Service**
Speaker:
Bishop Thomas L. Brown, Sr.

82nd Founder's Day Service
Bishop Thomas L. Brown, Sr.
12:00 PM(Ravinia)

Departing Fellowship Meal
12:00 PM (Maplewood)

College of Bishops Meeting
3 PM-7 PM(Dogwood)



Opening Worship Service

Senior Bishop Lawrence Reddick



Bishop Lawrence Reddick, the 51st bishop elected in the Christian Methodist Episcopal (CME) Church, has been presiding bishop of the Eighth Episcopal District since July 2014.

Born June 20, 1952, in Huntsville, Alabama, he is one of seven children of the late Reverend and Mrs. L. L. Reddick, Jr.

He is a graduate of Ohio Wesleyan University of Delaware, Ohio (Bachelor of Arts degree) and Duke Divinity School of Durham, North Carolina (Master of Divinity Degree). He was conferred honorary doctoral degrees from United Theological Seminary and Bible College of Monroe, Louisiana, and Texas College, Tyler, Texas

His journey into ordained ministry began in 1966 in Athens, Alabama (Frazier Chapel CME Church), when he was licensed to preach by the Reverend R. E. Brooks. He was ordained deacon in 1968 and ordained elder in 1969 by Bishop E. P. Murchison, and admitted into full connection in 1972 by Bishop C. A. Kirkendoll.

His ministerial appointments prior to being elected bishop included being pastor in Alabama, Ohio, North Carolina, Missouri, and Mississippi. He also assisted as youth minister in Ohio.

He was elected editor of The CHRISTIAN INDEX, the Official Publication of the CME Church, in 1982, 1986, 1990 and 1994. When elected bishop in 1998, he was simultaneously serving as editor of THE CHRISTIAN INDEX and presiding elder of the Aberdeen-Tupelo District in the North-East Mississippi Annual Conference.

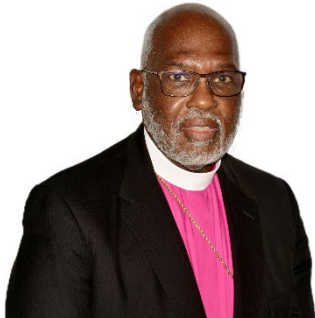
Upon election as bishop in 1998, he was assigned as bishop of the Tenth District (including the work in Jamaica, Haiti, Liberia, Ghana, and Nigeria). After service in the Tenth Episcopal District, Bishop Reddick was assigned in 2002 and 2006 as bishop of the Fifth Episcopal District (which includes the denomination's work in Alabama and Florida). In 2010 he was assigned to the First Episcopal District, comprising Arkansas, Tennessee and Jamaica. In 2014, he was assigned to the Eighth Episcopal District, comprising Texas (except El Paso) and Jamaica.

He became Senior Bishop (the longest serving active bishop and CEO) in 2014. He is chair of the Texas College Trustee Board, and was chair of the Committee to Develop a New CME Hymnal and the Compilation Committee for THE BOOK of DISCIPLINE 2014. He is a member of the Board of Directors of Bread for the World.

He is married to Mrs. Wynde Jones Reddick, and is the father of five children (Jon, Janice, Iris, Rose, and Samuel), and is the grandfather of eight (Sean, Nylah, Lailah, Gabriel, Benjamin, Anthony, Anyah, Judah).

Conference Presentation II

Bishop Marvin Frank Thomas, Sr.



Bishop Marvin Frank Thomas, Sr. was elected the 62nd bishop of the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church on July 1, 2014, at the 37th Quadrennial Session & 38th General Conference in Baltimore, Maryland. Upon his election to Episcopacy, he was assigned to the denomination's Second Episcopal District, covering the states of Kentucky, Ohio, and Central Indiana. He served as the presiding prelate of the Second Episcopal District from 2014-2022.

Prior to his election as bishop, he served as the seventh president/dean of The Phillips School of Theology ("The Seminary of the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church") at the Interdenominational Theological Center in Atlanta, Georgia and the pastor of the Good News Community CME Church in Lithonia, GA. While at ITC, Bishop Thomas also served as the Chair of the Council of Deans and an adjunct instructor.

He holds the Bachelor of Arts degree in history with a minor in sociology from Stillman College in Tuscaloosa, Alabama. He also earned the Master of Divinity degree from The Phillips School of Theology at The ITC and the Doctor of Ministry degree from United Theological Seminary in Dayton, Ohio.

He has served as the pastor of Walls Memorial CME Church in Chicago, Illinois. In addition to his tenure as pastor of Walls Memorial, he served as pastor of other congregations in the CME Church and presiding elder in the states of Alabama, Tennessee, Georgia, and Ohio. He currently serves as pastor of Trinity CME Church, Memphis, Tennessee. Bishop Thomas previously served as the Vice President for Student Affairs and a member of the Religion faculty at Lane College in Jackson, Tennessee. He has also served as a member of the religion faculty and Student Services staff at his alma mater, Stillman College.

In July of 2022, during the General Conference of the CME Church convening in Cincinnati, OH, Bishop Thomas was assigned to his current position, where he now serves as the presiding bishop of the First Episcopal District of the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church, which encompasses the states of Arkansas and Tennessee. He also serves as the chair of the denomination's Department of Lay Ministry. In addition, he serves as chair of the Lane College Board of Trustees, chair of Board of Directors of Connectional Headquarters of the CME Church, Collins Chapel Board of Directors, and the John Madison Exum Towers. He previously served on the boards of the Ohio Council of Churches, including a term as president, and the YMCA of Greater Cincinnati. Bishop Thomas is presently a member of the National Board of Directors of the NAACP and a life member of the same organization. In February of 2022, Bishop Thomas was named the Stillman College Distinguished Alumnus. Bishop Thomas was also awarded Honorary Doctorate degrees from Texas College in Tyler, Texas, and Stillman College in Tuscaloosa, Alabama. He is a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. In April of 2025, Bishop Thomas was the recipient of the Alpha Phi Alpha "Faith In Action" award. The City of Memphis honored Bishop Thomas with a Resolution citing his leadership, service and spiritual guidance while being 'Chaplain of the Day for the Memphis City Council Meeting, April 2025. In

June of 2025, Bishop Thomas accepted the honor of serving as Co-Chair of the NAACP Memphis Branch Hooks-Graves Prayer Breakfast. He also serves as Pastor of the Trinity C.M.E. Church of Memphis.

Bishop Thomas is a native of Tuscaloosa, Alabama. He is the second of six children born to the late Mrs. Minnie Thomas Brown. Bishop Thomas has two adult children, Kourtney Lea Thomas and Marvin Frank Thomas, Jr., and one grandson, Kameron.

82nd Founder's Day Service

Bishop Thomas L. Brown, Sr.



Bishop Thomas L. Brown, Sr. was elected the 54th Bishop of the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church on June 28, 2006 in Memphis, Tennessee. Upon his election, the General Conference assigned him to the Fourth Episcopal District which encompasses the states of Louisiana and Mississippi. At the 2018 General Conference, Bishop Brown was assigned to the Sixth Episcopal District. He is the Chair of the Department of the Department of Christian Education.

Bishop Brown was born June 21, 1951 in Oakland, Mississippi, the eighth child of Stephen and Lillie H. Brown. His elementary and secondary education was attained at Walker High School in Oakland from which he graduated as valedictorian of his high school class. He attended Northwest Junior College, Senatobia, Mississippi; and earned the Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Mississippi (Ole Miss) in 1973. He matriculated at the Phillips School of Theology at the Interdenominational Theological Center, Atlanta, Georgia, from which he earned the Master of Divinity degree, with honors, in 1976. Bishop Brown also earned, with honors, the Doctor of Theology degree in Pastoral Counseling from the Interdenominational Theological Center (ITC) in cooperation with Candler School of Theology/Emory University and Columbia Seminary in 1991. He is a member of Theta Phi Honor Society.

The ministry of Thomas Louis Brown, Sr. began during his junior year at Ole Miss when he answered the call to Christian Ministry. In the fall of 1973, he was admitted on trial in the Mississippi Annual Conference by Bishop Joseph A. Johnson, Jr. and was assigned to pastor Rice Chapel in Durant, Mississippi. In 1975 and 1976 respectively, Bishop Joseph C. Coles Jr. ordained him Deacon and Elder and admitted him into Full Connection in the Georgia Annual Conference.

Bishop Brown's itinerant ministry in the C.M.E. Church has been extensive and thorough. In addition to Rice Chapel, he served Murray Memorial, Covington, GA; St. James, Columbus, GA; Butler Street, Atlanta, GA; and College Park, College Park, GA. He was the organizing pastor of the Good News Community Church in Lithonia, GA. From June 1990 until July 2006, Bishop Brown served with distinction as the sixth President/Dean of the Phillips School of Theology at the ITC. During his tenure, more than ninety-five students graduated. It was under his leadership in 1996 that the Annual C.M.E. Pastors' Conference was established.

The 54th Bishop is a noted scholar, lecturer and preacher. He has served as adjunct professor of CME History and Polity as well as pastoral care; lectured at Candler School of Theology, (Emory University) and Columbia Theological Seminary, and Princeton Theological Seminary; and regular teacher and preacher with the Institute of Church Administration and Management (ICAM). He is in national demand as a preacher both within and outside the CME Church. Moreover, Bishop Brown has represented the church exceptionally well. He has been a delegate to the General Conference of the CME Church from 1978 to 2006; and was a delegate to the World Methodist Conference in Nairobi, Kenya and Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. He was a founding

member of Concerned Black Clergy of Atlanta, an advocate for the homeless and persons on death row. Civic participation includes the NAACP, SCLC and Urban League.

Bishop Brown is married to Dr. Louise Baker-Brown. They are the parents of Charisa Nicole Brown-Jefferson and Thomas, Jr.

Conference Presentation

Dr. Michael Eric Dyson



Michael Eric Dyson is one of the nation's most renowned professors, gifted writers, inspiring preachers, knowledgeable lecturers, and prominent media personalities. As a teacher who earned a Ph.D. in Religion from Princeton University, Dyson has taught at some of the nation's most distinguished universities, including Brown, UNC-Chapel Hill, Columbia, DePaul, the University of Pennsylvania, and Georgetown University. He is presently NEH Centennial Chair, Distinguished University Professor of African American and Diaspora Studies, College of Arts & Science, and Distinguished University Professor of Ethics and Society, The Divinity School, Vanderbilt University. Dyson is one of America's premier public intellectuals and author of 24 books, including seven *New York Times* bestsellers, and is a contributing editor for the ESPN website *The Undeclared*, and a political analyst for MSNBC.

Dyson has written bestselling volumes on Martin Luther King, Jr., Malcolm X, 2Pac, Marvin Gaye, Bill Cosby, and Barack Obama. Among his notable publications are *Reflecting Black: African American Cultural Criticism*, his pioneering book of black cultural studies, *I May Not Get There With You: The True Martin Luther King, Jr.*, his first book on the civil rights icon that probed his radical dimensions, *Holler if You Hear Me: Searching for Tupac Shakur*, which, according to *Publisher's Weekly* helped to prove that hip hop books are commercially viable, and *Is Bill Cosby Right? Or Has the Black Middle Class Lost Its Mind?*, which helped to renew a conversation on class in Black America. Dyson's book on Cosby, and his popular volume, *Why I Love Black Women*, both won prestigious NAACP Image Awards for non-fiction.

Dyson's *New York Times* bestselling *The Black Presidency: Barack Obama and the Politics of Race in America*, has been described by the *New York Times* as "an interpretive miracle" and was a finalist for the prestigious 2016 Kirkus Prize. His *New York Times* bestselling *Tears We Cannot Stop: A Sermon to White America*, was called by the *New York Times*, "one of the frankest and searing discussions on race...a deeply serious, urgent book, which should take its place in the tradition of Baldwin's *The Fire Next Time* and King's *Why We Can't Wait*." The book won the 2018 Southern Book Prize. Dyson's *Come Hell or High Water: Hurricane Katrina and the Color of Disaster* won the American Book Award. Dyson's *New York Times* bestseller *What Truth Sounds Like: RFK, James Baldwin and Our Unfinished Conversation on Race in America*, has been called by Kirkus Review "an incisive look at the role of politicians, artists, intellectuals, and activists in confronting racial injustice and effecting change," and an "eloquent response to an urgent – and still-unresolved – dilemma." The book was named by the *Washington Post* as one of the "50 notable works of nonfiction."

His book, *JAY-Z: Made in America*, was also a *New York Times* bestseller. *The Washington Post*, (which named the book one of the 50 notable works of nonfiction in 2019), said that the "eminent cultural critic delivers a fleshed-out portrait of one of the country's biggest rappers – and one of its biggest self-made men," and that Dyson "writes with the affection of a fan but the rigor of an academic." The book won Dyson an African American Literary Award as "Author of the Year." Dyson's most recent book is the national bestseller *Long Time Coming: Reckoning with Race in*

merica, which Robin DiAngelo calls a “searing cry for racial justice from one of our nation’s greatest thinkers and most compelling prophets.” Kirkus Review says it is a “sweeping overview of racism in America” and a “timely, fervent message from an important voice,” while *Publishers Weekly* says that it is “[r]ich with feeling and insight, this elegiac account hits home.” NPR Book Review says that “The writing is smart and the research that informs it is great, but what makes this an important book is Dyson’s voice, which is strong but always pregnant with frustration, pain, admiration and, ultimately, hope.”

As a preacher and sometime pastor for the last 40 years, Dyson – who was licensed and ordained at Detroit’s historic Tabernacle Missionary Baptist Church under the legendary pastoral ministry of Dr. Frederick Sampson, twice named by *Ebony* magazine one of the nation’s 15 greatest black preachers – has mounted many of the nation’s most noted pulpits to deliver sermons, from Manhattan’s The Riverside Church to Brooklyn’s Concord Baptist Church of Christ, from Dallas’s Friendship West Baptist Church to Richmond’s St. Paul Baptist Church, from Harlem’s First Corinthian Baptist Church to Memphis’ Christ Missionary Baptist Church, and from Harlem’s Abyssinian Baptist Church to Detroit’s Hartford Memorial Baptist Church, and his present home church, the Alfred Street Baptist Church in Alexandria, Virginia.

Dyson has lectured across the country, and around the world, in many of the best colleges and universities, and in public theaters and auditoriums, and for many corporations and unions. He has also served for the last 30 years as a media commentator and host, on every major radio and television show, from NPR’s *Morning Edition*, *The Takeaway*, and *Fresh Air with Terry Gross*, to television’s *Meet the Press*, *Face the Nation*, *Today Show*, *Good Morning America*, and *Real Time with Bill Maher*, and as a political analyst on MSNBC, CNN and Fox News. Dyson has even found time to make guest appearances on scripted cable and network television programs such as *Soul Food*, *The Game* and *Black-ish*. While feminist author Naomi Wolf calls Dyson “the ideal public intellectual of our times,” writer Nathan McCall captures it best when he says that Dyson “is a street fighter in suit and tie.”

B. Julian Smith Lecture

Dr. Frank A. Thomas



Frank A. Thomas, PhD, currently serves as the Director of the Compelling Preaching Initiative and the Nettie Sweeney and Hugh Th. Miller Professor of Homiletics at Christian Theological Seminary, Indianapolis, Indiana. A revised and updated version of *They Like to Never Quit Praisin' God: The Role of Celebration In Preaching* was released in August 2013. To complement this classic preaching book, Thomas published, in 2014, *Preaching as Celebration Digital Lecture Series and Workbook*. For many years, Thomas has also taught preaching to Doctoral and Masters level students at McCormick Theological Seminary in Chicago, Illinois, Memphis Theological Seminary in Memphis, Tennessee, and United Theological Seminary of Dayton, Ohio. He is the CEO of Hope For Life International, Inc., which formerly published *The African American Pulpit*. Thomas also

serves as a member of the International Board of *Societas Homiletica*, an international society of teachers of preaching.

Thomas is the author of *How to Preach a Dangerous Sermon* and *Introduction to the Practice of African American Preaching*, released by Abingdon Press respectively, February, 2018 and November 2016. He also co-edited *Preaching With Sacred Fire: An Anthology of African American Sermons 1750 to the Present* with Martha Simmons, published by W. W. Norton & Company in 2010. This critically acclaimed book offers a rare view of the unheralded role of the African American preacher in American history. Thomas is also the author of several other books on subjects from matters of prayer to spiritual maturity.

Thomas served with distinction as the senior pastor for two remarkable congregations: New Faith Baptist Church of Matteson, Illinois, and Mississippi Boulevard Christian Church of Memphis, Tennessee, for eighteen years and thirteen years, respectively.

Thomas holds a PhD in Communications (Rhetoric) from the University of Memphis, a Doctor of Divinity from Christian Theological Seminary, Doctor of Ministry degrees from Chicago Theological Seminary and United Theological Seminary, a Master of Divinity from Chicago Theological Seminary, and a Master of Arts in African-Caribbean Studies from Northeastern Illinois University.

Thomas and his wife, the Rev. Dr. Joyce Scott Thomas, each earned their Certified Professional Coaching Certificate (CPC) from the Institute for Professional Excellence in Coaching (iPEC). Based in their coaching experience, Thomas published with Hope For Life International Press, *The Choice: Living Your Passion Inside Out*, in October 2013. Thomas explains and explores the spiritual and coaching process to live your passion from the inside out.

Thomas and his wife have two adult children, Anthony William and Rachel Dickerson (Milton).

Plenary Session

Dr. Evelyn Parker



Dr. Evelyn Parker is the author of *Between Sisters: Emancipatory Hope Out of Tragic Relationships*, (Cascade Books, 2017) and *Trouble Don't Last Always: Emancipatory Hope Among African American Adolescents* (Pilgrim Press, 2003) and editor of *The Sacred Selves of Adolescent Girls: Hard Stories of Race, Class, and Gender* (Pilgrim Press, 2006). She has also published several chapters and journal articles on adolescent spirituality, including "Divine Fortitude: A Reflection on God's goodness in black female child soldiers," in Susan Willhauck, ed., *Female Child Soldiering: Gender Violence and Feminist Theologies* (Switzerland: Palgrave Macmillan, Cham, 2019).

Dr. Parker is the President of the Association of Practical Theology and President-elect of the Society for the Study of Black Religion. She is also an active member of the American Academy of Religion, the international Academy of Practical Theology, and the Religious Education Association, where she has chaired groups, presented papers, coordinated segments of consultations and convened sessions. She served as a member of the grant writing team for the Perkins Youth School of Theology, a \$1.4 million theological program for high school youth funded by the Lilly Endowment. She also served as the Perkins School of Theology academic dean from 2013-2019.

A native of Hattiesburg, Mississippi, Dr. Parker grew up in the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church (CME). She has served the CME church as a local and district Director of Christian Education. She has also taught numerous educational ministry workshops and seminars on local, district, Annual Conference and Connectional levels. She represented the CME Church on the World Council of Churches (WCC), Faith and Order Plenary Commission from 1996 to 2006. During the WCC Ninth Assembly in 2006, she was elected to the Central Committee. Within the WCC Central Committee, she serves as co-secretary/reporter for the Nominations Committee. She was also a member of the 10th Assembly Planning Committee that was held in Busan, South Korea in 2013. During the 10th Assembly, she taught Bible study and shaped policy as a delegate representing the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church. She was elected to the WCC – Commission of the Churches on International Affairs in 2014 and serves as the Moderator of the Statelessness, Migration, and Refugees Group. She is an active member of the Kirkwood Temple C.M.E. Church in Dallas, Texas, where she serves as Christian Education Coordinator.

Dr. Parker received a Bachelor of Science from Lambuth College, a Master of Science from Prairie View A&M University, a Master of Religious Education from Perkins School of Theology at Southern Methodist University, and a Doctor of Philosophy from Northwestern University (in Cooperation with Garrett Evangelical Theological Seminary).

Plenary Session

Attorney Shannon Felder



Attorney Shannon Felder joined the National Association of Counsel for Children (NACC) in February of 2024. Attorney Felder works to ensure legal professionals have the resources they need to provide high-quality representation of children, parents, and agencies, and manages NACC's training department.

Attorney Felder previously served as a Managing Attorney for the South Carolina Department of Social Services for ten years. In this role Shannon collaborated with child welfare stakeholders, ensured high-quality legal presentations in abuse and neglect actions, provided case consultations to social work team members in complex cases, provided timely, frequent, and responsive training and supervised over 40 legal professionals.

Attorney Felder is also a member of the South Carolina Bar Children's Law Committee and the South Carolina Black Lawyer's Association.

Attorney Felder became involved in the child welfare legal system serving as a volunteer Guardian ad Litem for CASA while in law school. After a judicial clerkship, Attorney Felder entered private practice as a civil litigator focusing on personal injury, including nursing home abuse and neglect. While in private practice, she served as a contract attorney for the Guardian ad Litem program in South Carolina. After fourteen years in litigation, Attorney Felder joined the South Carolina Department of Social Services.

Attorney Felder earned her law degree from the University of South Carolina School of Law where she was a Carolina Legal Scholar, member of the South Carolina Law Review and President of the Black Law Students Association. Attorney Felder is certified by NACC as a Child Welfare Law Specialist. She is currently licensed to practice law in South Carolina.

Tuesday Conference Worship Service

Rev. Raphael Terry



Reverend Raphael S. Terry was born in Amory, Mississippi, in 1976. He is the youngest of three children born to Ellie and Geraldine Terry.

Reverend Terry answered the call to Christian ministry in 2004, serving as a local preacher at Lynch Street CME Church in Jackson, Mississippi, under the leadership of Dr. Charles E. Holbrook, Sr. In 2005, he was admitted on trial in the Mississippi-South Annual Conference by Bishop Thomas L. Hoyt. He was later ordained Deacon and Elder under the hands of Bishop Thomas L. Brown, Sr., who also admitted him into Full Connection in the Mississippi-South

Region Annual Conference.

Over the span of his twenty-year ministry, Reverend Terry has faithfully shepherded congregations at Sunnyside Chapel, Spring Hill, Ebenezer, Helms Chapel, Eden, Glenn Chapel, Davidson Chapel, and Bigbee Valley Christian Methodist Episcopal Churches. In 2023, he was transferred to the Northeast Mississippi Annual Conference and appointed to Lane Chapel CME Church in Tupelo, Mississippi, where he continues to serve with dedication.

Reverend Terry has served on numerous committees throughout his ministry. He previously served as Statistician for the Mississippi-South Region and currently serves as Chair of the Committee on Ministerial Examination for the Northeast Mississippi Annual Conference. Beyond his church work, he is active in various boards and organizations. He is a proud member of St. Joseph's Masonic Lodge #131 and Iota Phi Theta Fraternity, Incorporated.

Despite the many awards and accolades he has received, Reverend Terry is most proud of being a brother to all humanity, a father to his future queens, a devoted companion to his Queen, and a light of hope to others. He is married to the lovely Tynisha Walker-Terry, and together they are blessed with two beautiful daughters, Gabrielle and Kennedy.

Reverend Terry holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Chemical Engineering from Mississippi State University and serves as the Corporate Director of Environmental Health and Safety for Southern Furniture Industries.

Commission on Women in Ministry

Presiding Elder Rev. Dr. Orenthia Mason



Presiding Elder Rev. Dr. Orenthia Mason is an administrator, and community leader whose career reflects an unwavering commitment to excellence in education, civic engagement, and faith-based service.

Rev. Dr. Orenthia Mason's journey began with a strong academic foundation, earning a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education and English from Texas College in 1973, where she graduated *Magna Cum Laude*. She continued her pursuit of knowledge at Stephen F. Austin State University, completing a Master of Education in Reading and accumulating 45 hours in School Administration and Supervision. Her dedication to professional growth led her to additional studies in Curriculum, Supervision, and Technology at the University of Texas at Tyler, Behavior Management at the Jim Fay Institute, and international coursework at the Universidad de Santiago de Compostela, Spain.

Rev. Dr. Orenthia Mason's professional career spans more than four decades, beginning as an elementary school teacher at Chandler Elementary and H.M. Bell Elementary. She quickly advanced into leadership roles, serving as Instructional Consultant, Title I Coordinator, and later as Principal for Tyler Independent School District, a position she held for 17 years. Her expertise and leadership extended into higher education, where she served as Director of Teacher Education at Jarvis Christian College and Texas College, Vice President for Student Affairs, and Coordinator of Alumni Affairs. Currently, she continues to make an impact in Human Resources at North Tyler Daycare Center. Beyond her professional accomplishments, Rev. Dr. Orenthia Mason has been a pillar of her community, dedicating countless hours to civic organizations and faith-based leadership. She has served as Vice President of the Smith County Appraisal District Board of Directors, Member of the Humanities Texas Board of Directors, and Member of the United Way of Smith County Board. Her 15-year tenure on the Tyler ISD Board of Trustees, including service as President, underscores her commitment to educational excellence. She has also contributed to numerous city initiatives, including the Tyler Area Chamber of Commerce, City of Tyler Park Board, and Mayor's Round Table. Her leadership within Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., where she served as Chapter President and Regional Chaplain, reflects her dedication to empowering others.

In addition to her civic work, Rev. Dr. Orenthia Mason has devoted over 30 years to ministry, serving as Presiding Elder of the North Tyler District of the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church and pastoring multiple congregations, including Mt. Nevelton CME, Greely CME, Churchill CME, Pennell Chapel CME, Cole Hill CME, and St. James CME Church. Her faith and service have touched countless lives, providing spiritual guidance and community support.

Rev. Dr. Orenthia Mason contributions have been widely recognized. She holds an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters from Texas College and has been featured in *Who's Who in the South and Southwest*. Her accolades include Outstanding Woman in Tyler, Outstanding Citizen, and Outstanding Pillar of the Community, awarded by organizations such as Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., and Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. A gifted motivational speaker, she continues to inspire audiences with her message of leadership, perseverance, and service.

Outstanding Ministers Service

Rev. Stephen Delaine

Biographical Sketch of Rev. Stephen J. Delaine



Native of Cincinnati, Ohio.

Married to the former Cassandra M. Jones of Jackson, Tennessee.

Father of two adult sons, Adrian Jerome & Myles Carrington

Received B.A. degree in Sociology from Lane College (Jackson, TN); Master of Divinity (M.Div.) degree at the Theological School of Drew University (Madison, NJ) and received a certificate of Administration and Management from the Institute of Church Administration and Management (ICAM) at the Interdenominational Theological Center (ITC, Atlanta, GA).

Began ministry at the Metropolitan C.M.E. Church (Cincinnati, OH). Ordained deacon, elder and admitted into the full connection of the church through the Ohio-Central Indiana Annual Conference.

Served as student minister at Mother Liberty C.M.E. Church (Jackson, TN) and student assistant at Williams Institutional C.M.E. Church (New York, NY). Provided pastoral leadership at congregations in Ohio and Georgia. Currently serves as Pastor of Linden Shorts CME Church (Atlanta, GA).

Has served as an officer and member of several denominational and ecumenical ministerial alliances (including District 10 Ministerial Alliance, Atlanta), community action groups and is a Life Member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.; currently affiliated with the Eta Lambda Chapter (Metro Atlanta). He is also a member of the Atlanta Unit of the National Association of Parliamentarians and president of the Atlanta Chapter, Lane College National Alumni Association.

Has served as an instructor for the Certificate of Theology Program, College Park CME Church Site, of the Interdenominational Theological Center (ITC).

He is a member of the Georgia, North Regional Conference and the Atlanta-Rome District. He has served as the Statistician in the Ohio-Central Indiana Conference and currently in the Georgia, North Region. He also formerly served the Georgia, North Region as a member of the Committee on Ministerial Examination.

Tuesday Conference Worship Service

Rev. Cynthia L. Thompson, Attorney



Cynthia L. Thompson, a proud native of Dayton, Ohio, began her educational journey at Bethune-Cookman College in Daytona Beach, Florida, where she earned a degree in Sociology and minored in Criminal Justice. After completing her studies, she returned to Dayton, where she embraced her faith and accepted Christ as her Lord and Savior.

Driven by a passion for justice, Ms. Thompson pursued a Juris Doctor degree from the University of Cincinnati College of Law. In 1994, Ms. Thompson established her own law practice, focusing on Juvenile Law and Criminal Defense. Her commitment to justice and community service led to a historic appointment in July 1999, when she became the first African American Magistrate of the Greene County, Ohio Juvenile Court—a position she held with distinction until her retirement in November 2023.

Throughout her tenure, she presided primarily over cases involving child abuse and neglect. Alongside her judicial role, Ms. Thompson served as an adjunct professor and a passionate advocate for Family Violence Awareness, dedicated to amplifying the voices of those who often go unheard.

Answering a spiritual calling in 2012, Ms. Thompson embarked on a new chapter in ministry. Rev. Thompson serves as an ordained Elder and Pastor in the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church. Her theological education includes a Master's in Christian Ministry (2016) and a Doctor of Ministry (2021) from United Theological Seminary, as well as a PhD from Rhema College of Theology International, completed in June 2024. She has also completed four units of Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE).

Rev. Dr. Thompson remains a tireless advocate, speaker, and educator on issues such as intimate partner violence, child and elder abuse, mental health, and end-of-life planning. She is also the author of two impactful books: *I Am Not My Sister's Keeper, I am My Sister*, and *Hope in Mourning: Enhancing Caregiver Resilience in the Face of Death & Loss*.

Wednesday Alumni Service

Presiding Elder Dr. Claude Bass



Presiding Elder Dr. Claude Bass was born May 28, 1959 in Gary, Indiana to the Late Bishop Richard O. Bass, Sr. And Mrs. Edith Valentine Bass.

Dr. Bass attended the Public Schools of Los Angeles, California, completed High School at Oakland Technical High School of Oakland, California. He attended Texas College, Tyler, Texas (CME College) as a Sociology Major and transferred to Miles College (CME College) of Birmingham, Alabama, graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Social Science. Received the Master of Divinity, from the Phillips School of Theology (CME Seminary) at the Interdenominational Theological Center of Atlanta, Georgia.

Received a Doctor of Divinity, Union Baptist Theological Seminary.

Pastor Bass was called to preach and licensed at an early age in 1973 at the Lewis Metropolitan CME Church, Los Angeles, CA. Where his Father was the Pastor. Ordained Traveling Deacon by the Late Bishop James L. Cummings and Traveling Elder and Admitted into Full Connection by the Late Senior Bishop Ceasar D. Coleman. Pastor Bass has Pastored Churches in the State of Texas (8th Episcopal District) State of Alabama (5th Episcopal District). State of Georgia, Pastored St. James CME Church, LaGrange, GA. Land was made available to build a new parking lot. While at Holsey Monumental and it was relocated and land was purchased in new subdivision to build a new Multi-Purpose Church Building of over a half million dollars. Pastored Clifford Temple CME Church, Thomasville, GA. The Sanctuary was totally Renovated. (6th Episcopal District). Dr. Bass pastored in the State of California: St. Peter CME Church, ElCerrito, CA. Missionary Temple CME Church, San Francisco, CA. Phillips Temple CME Church, Berkeley, CA. (9th Episcopal District) State of Ohio: Lane Metropolitan CME Church, Cleveland, Ohio. (2nd Episcopal District). Formerly, Pastor Bass was the Senior Pastor of the Historic St. John CME Church of Detroit, Michigan (3rd Episcopal District). He is presently the Senior Pastor of the St. Paul CME Church of Jackson, Tennessee, Lane College Campus, under his leadership St. Paul was able to Burn the Mortgage of over \$300,000 dollars. (1st. Episcopal District) also, Denmark CME Church and the Presiding Elder of the Southwest District, in the East Tennessee Region Annual Conference.

Dr. Bass has been a Special Education Teacher (TEP: Transitional Education Program) for Contra Costa Unified School District, Pinole Middle School, Pinole, California. He has also served as a Field Internship Supervisor for Seminary Students at Berkeley Theological Seminary, Berkeley, California.

Elder Bass has been involved in and served in many Church and Civic organizations In

many capacities of Leadership. Served as the Chair of the Joint Board of Finance for the Michigan Indiana Annual Conference Region CME Church.

Member of the Trustee Board, Michigan Indiana Annual Conference Region, formerly, the Chairman of the Joint Board of Finance East Tennessee Region. Presently, A Member of the Trustee Board of the East Tennessee Region and a Board Member of Lane College. A Member of CODE RED: Ecumenical Faith Leaders Minister's Alliance of Jackson Madison County.

A Founding Member of I-CARE: Initiative For Community Advocacy, Resilience and Empowerment, Jackson Tennessee, Madison County.

Former Member of the General Connectional Board of the CME Church. Elder Bass has been a Delegate to the General Conference since 1990. He served as the Chair of the Committee on Ministerial Examination for many years in Georgia and Northern California. Dr. Bass has been an NAACP President and served on the State level in the State of California. He has served in many Minister's Alliances in various Cities. Was a member of the Founding, Organizing Steering Committee of D.R.I.V.E: Detroit Regional Interfaith Voices of Equity and a member of the Black Methodist Alliance in the City of Detroit. He is a Prince Hall Mason 32nd Degree and Royal Arch Companion Mason.

Elder Bass is a Third Generation CME Itinerant Preacher and has been the guest Preacher to many churches in Revivals in several States and ecumenical faiths. He loves Preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ and being a shepherd and Pastor. But he also loves being a Mentor to young people in this millennium.

Dr. Bass loves the Lord his Family and the church and believes the church should follow the leadership of Jesus Christ of what he calls the Galilean Ministry of Jesus Christ: Teaching, Preaching, Healing, taken from Matthew 4:23.



PHILLIPS

SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

Outstanding Ministers 2025

Rev. ELaura Q. James Reid

1st Episcopal District



Rev. ELaura Q. James-Reid is a third-generation pastor in the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church and the proud mother of Caura Reid. Since 2009, she has faithfully served as Pastor of Coleman Chapel CME Church in Memphis, TN—becoming the youngest female pastor in the area at that time. A sixth-generation CME member, Rev. James-Reid proudly continues her family’s legacy of faith and service.

A lifelong Memphian, Rev. James-Reid graduated as valedictorian of Manassas High School, earned her B.S. in Psychology from Spelman College, and a Master’s in Education from the University of Memphis. She served more than 19 years as a middle school math educator and department chair with Memphis-Shelby County Schools, receiving recognition for excellence in teaching and educational leadership.

Her true passion, however, lies in ministry and advocacy. Rev. James-Reid is committed to servant leadership, preaching a gospel rooted in justice and grace, and standing against all forms of oppression and suppression. She actively partners with community and faith-based organizations such as MICAH Memphis, Free the 901, and Churches United in Christ to advance equity and opportunity for marginalized communities.

She is currently pursuing a Master of Divinity at Memphis Theological Seminary, where she was named the inaugural Autura Eason-Williams Memorial Scholar for her dedication to social justice. Within the CME Church, she serves as Administrative Assistant to her Presiding Elder, Chair of Social Concerns, and member of the Joint Board of Finance—continuing her lifelong commitment to faith, education, and community transformation.

Rev. Sherri Green

2nd Episcopal District



As a passionate leader, **Reverend Sherri V. Green** is an anointed and called servant of God born and raised in Indianapolis, Indiana. She is the proud Pastor of Phillips Temple CME Church in Toledo, Ohio which was founded by her grandfather, Reverend Melvin Hunt, Sr, in 1917.

As a lifelong member of the CME Church, her formative years began at Emmanuel CME and later at Phillips Temple, Indianapolis where she served as Local and District Youth Director, Young Adult Liaison, Women's Ministry Coordinator and in various positions.

She answered the call to preach in November 2005 and received her local preacher's license in June 2007. In July 2011 and 2013, she was ordained a Deacon and Elder. Reverend Green holds a bachelor's from Indiana University, studied at Ashland Theological Seminary and earned her Master's in Ministry, 2022. She is a Certified Leadership Coach and graduate of the CME Clinical Pastoral Education.

She married Gary Green in 1995. They reside in Akron OH with one adult son. In July 2023, she was called to pastor Phillips Temple in Toledo and named Outstanding Pastor of the Cleveland Pittsburgh District in 2024.

Reverend Green co-founded DIVAS, an interdenominational women's ministry, and "Celebrating the Princess Within" for girls ages 5-17.

She is a member of the Methodist Ministers' Affiliation, the First Ladies Network, OBW Leadership Caucus, and UPSE (Urban Pastor's for Social Equality). She served on the YWCA Board, and supports other community action groups.

Reverend Green's mantra is to trust God.

Rev. Gayle Mack-Mason

3rd Episcopal District



Pastor Gayle Mack-Mason is a visionary leader, dynamic preacher, and compassionate servant who serves as Pastor of St. Peter Christian Methodist Episcopal Church in Kansas City, Kansas. Known for her innovative leadership, financial wisdom, and heart for people, she blends spiritual depth with practical ministry to meet both the soul and the needs of the community.

A proud wife, mother, and Honey, Pastor Gayle leads with authenticity and grace. She believes deeply in following the leading of the Holy Ghost, trusting the Spirit to guide every step of her journey in ministry and life.

She graduated magna cum laude from the University of Missouri–Kansas City and earned her Master of Divinity with honors from St. Paul School of Theology, where she also received the Brady Preaching Award for excellence in preaching.

In addition to her pastoral ministry, she serves as a Hospice Chaplain with Advanced Healthcare and Hospice, offering comfort, care, and hope during life's most tender moments. Pastor Gayle is also a proud member of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Incorporated, where she lives out her commitment to sisterhood, scholarship, and service.

Pastor Gayle Mack-Mason is a woman led by the Spirit, driven by purpose, and confident that God still has greater in store.

Rev. Matthew Freeman, Sr.

4th Episcopal District



Rev. Matthew Freeman, Sr. is a devoted husband to Lady Tamika Freeman of Shannon, Mississippi, and together they are the proud parents of three wonderful children - Alyssa, Alashia, and Matthew Jr.

A native of Tupelo, Mississippi, Rev. Freeman accepted his divine call to preach the Gospel in 2003 at Palmetto CME Church. He received his license to preach in 2004, was ordained a deacon in 2005, elevated to elder in 2007, and admitted into full connection within the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church in 2012.

Throughout his pastoral journey, Rev. Freeman has faithfully served several congregations, including Naylor Chapel CME in Pontotoc, Chandler's Temple CME in Verona, Beckley Chapel CME in Booneville, and Poplar Springs CME in Shannon. He now serves as the proud and passionate pastor of Mt. Nebo CME Church in Baldwyn, MS and continuing a ministry marked by compassion, integrity, and transformation.

Rev. Freeman is a 2014 graduate of the University of Phoenix, where he earned a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology. In 2015, he completed his first unit of Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) through the National Institute for Human Development in Fairfield, Alabama. A lifelong learner and theological thinker, he earned his Master of Divinity degree from the Phillips School of Theology at the Interdenominational Theological Center in Atlanta, Georgia, in 2018 where he also served as President of the Student Body.

In addition to his pastoral responsibilities, Rev. Freeman is a dedicated community leader. He serves on the Medical Ethics Committee at North Mississippi Medical Center and the Tupelo Police Advisory Board. He also serves as a compassionate chaplain with Gentiva Hospice, offering comfort, presence, and hope to individuals and families in their most vulnerable moments.

A proud member of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc., and a former facilitator at Mississippi Baptist College, Rev. Freeman's ministry is anchored in the holistic healing of God's people spiritually, emotionally, and mentally. His life's mission is to remind the world that wholeness is possible through faith, love, and divine purpose.

Humbled by grace and driven by service, Rev. Freeman stands as a pastor for the people faithful to his calling, committed to his community, and grateful that God chose him for such a time as this.

Rev. Mary McKinney

5th Episcopal District



EDUCATION

Bachelor of Science 1970 Bethune-Cookman University, Daytona Beach, FL

Master of Divinity (1994 Missiology & African Traditional Religions) PST @ The ITC Atlanta, GA

Field Study: Religions: Brazil, Candomblé Religion; Gabon, Christian Syncretism; African to African American Dialogue- Female Genital Mutilation.

PROFESSIONAL

Florida Department of Labor & Employment Security (1972- 1991)

-Labor Employment and Training Field Representative

Provided technical assistance to service providers in the planning, development and implementation of private industry job training contracts; and monitored service providers service delivery for programmatic and budgetary compliance in 14 Northeast counties.

Broward Community College (2001– 2004)

Adjunct Professor: World Religion & Introduction to Religion

VOCATIONAL

-Foreign Mission Coordinator with several Bishops in the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church

-Recruit & train teams for foreign mission; evaluating mission projects for sustainability value; and leading teams on short-term foreign mission projects. Traveled, work and studied in Brazil, Haiti, Jamaica, Burundi, D.R. Congo, Egypt, Gabon, Ghana, Kenya, Liberia, Nigeria, Rwanda, South Africa, Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

-Florida Region Chair & Member Committee on Ministerial Examination

-Pastor: Murchison Temple CMEC, Jacksonville, FL; Dawson Chapel CME Church, St. Augustine, FL

-Clergy in Residence: Central Metropolitan CMEC Jacksonville, FL.

Chair Commission on Membership & Evangelism: Designed & implemented 8-week intensive Evangelism Training for 15 Spiritual Counselors who have successfully witnessed & provided intake to seventy-six new members. Developed Ministry Moments whereby every church ministry provides informational skits to entice membership.

Rev. Brendolyn Lovette Jenkins Boseman

6th Episcopal District



Reverend Brendolyn Lovette Jenkins Boseman is the 53rd and first woman Pastor of Williams Memorial CME Church in Augusta, Georgia. She is also Executive Director of The Imani Group, a community-based nonprofit dedicated to criminal, environmental, and social justice. She became the first woman co-chair of the African American Ministers Leadership Council and serves as Vice President of the Concerned Ministers Fellowship in Aiken, South Carolina. She is pursuing a Master of Divinity at the Interdenominational Theological Center in Atlanta, Georgia.

She has been a funeral service professional for more than 50 years in New York and South Carolina. She has taught in the BASICS World of Work and EMERGE Initiative re-entry programs in Georgia and South Carolina, preparing the formerly incarcerated to re-enter their communities. She has been a delegate to four United Nations Climate Change Conference of Parties. The Imani Group has partnered with the U.S. Department of Energy and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

A native of Barnwell, South Carolina, she now resides in Aiken. She honors her late parents, Mrs. Johnnie Ruth Jenkins, for nurturing her activism, and Deacon Willie Matthew Jenkins, Sr., for instilling a spirit of servant leadership. She and her husband, Bobby, cherish their three daughters, Razzie, Remy, and Rozlyn, and lovingly remember their son, Corey. Her joy overflowed with the birth of their Grand Twins, Indigo Ruth and Francis Quest, on September 14, 2024.

“Now is the accepted time...It is today that our best work can be done.” W. E. B. DuBois

Rev. Gary McDaniel

7th Episcopal District



Rev. Gary McDaniel has pastored two churches in the South Carolina area, Fairview Christian Methodist Episcopal Church in Chesnee South Carolina and also Young Laymen Temple Christian Methodist Church in Greenville, South Carolina. Rev. Gary McDaniel has been pasturing his home church Brown Temple C.M.E. Church for 26 years. He has labored for over 38 years in the ministry.

Rev. McDaniel received his Bachelor of Arts degree from Shaw University of Raleigh, North Carolina, he also completed the C.M.E. Bishop School of Ministry. For 37 and a half years he worked for the City of Asheville as a Supervisor in the Code Enforcement Office and Plan Review II. Rev. McDaniel has worked with several outreach community programs in North and South Carolina.

Rev. McDaniel is the Past President of the Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance of Asheville North Carolina. Rev. McDaniel serves as a Board Member of the ABCCM (Asheville Buncombe Community Christian Ministry), Rev. McDaniel also serves as a Board Member of The Eagles Wings Community Development Cooperation of Asheville NC.

Rev. McDaniel was faithfully, married to the Late First Lady Yvette McDaniel for 26 years and from this union they have four children LaVette, Gary Jr., Robert and LaToya and four granddaughters JeNaya, Kaimaiha, Mariah, and Serenity, and one grandson Jaiden, and his first great grandson will arrive in April.

On July 30, 2022, Rev. McDaniel was blessed to marry his lovely bride First Lady Toya McBeth - McDaniel (Lady T) through this union he has gained 5 bonus children Paris, Jerogeron, David Jr., O'Shay, and Anniya. He also ganged 10 bonus grandchildren Jakiub, Cordae, Jamarion, Jayla, Jamese, Monty and Makayla, Kington, Princeton, and Melanie. Rev. McDaniel has gained 2 special daughters Alicia and Sade and a special grandson Khamani. Rev. McDaniel gained 2 sons -in-law Kevin and Ben and 1 daughter -in -law Tamara. Rev. McDaniel is a loyal and faithful husband; he is a dedicated Father, Grandfather, Pastor, and a Child of God.

Rev. McDaniel's favorite scripture is Proverbs 3:5-6 “ Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct thy paths.” One of his favorite hymns is *Glory to His Name*.

Rev. Gary Chalk

8th Episcopal District



I am **Rev. Gary Chalk** the proud pastor of St Paul CME Church in Orange, Texas, from the Beaumont -Nacogdoches District, Southeast Texas Region, and the Exciting 8th Episcopal District.

I thank Senior Bishop Reddick and his executive staff for selecting me as this year's Pastor of the Year for the Exciting 8th.

I humbly receive this honor in the remembrance of my father, who pastored for 23 years in the CME church and showed me how to be a successful pastor by loving and respecting those who you have the privilege to nurture and guide.

I realize that there are many who deserve this award, but I thank God that my work has not been in vain. May the work I've done, speak for me.

Thanks to my family, friends, Dean Brown, and this Pastors Conference for acknowledging all of us today.

Rev. Jermaine J. Marshall, Ph.D.

9th Episcopal District



The Reverend Jermaine J. Marshall, Ph.D., is the Presiding Elder of the Oakland District for the Northern California Region of the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church, Pastor of the Davis Chapel CME Church, and Pastor of the Emmanuel CME Church, both congregations in the Northern California Region. He is a native of Jacksonville, Florida, where he was reared as a fourth-generation CME in the Central Metropolitan CME Church. After completing his secondary education at the Paxon School for Advanced Studies in Jacksonville, Florida, Dr. Marshall earned his Bachelor of Arts in Political Science, with minors in Religious Studies, History, and Public Administration, from the University of North Florida. Following his undergraduate work, Dr. Marshall earned his Master of Divinity with a concentration in Church History from Phillips School of Theology at the Interdenominational Theological Center and his Master of Theology with a concentration in Historical Theology from Candler School of Theology at Emory University. Dr. Marshall earned his Doctor of Philosophy degree in Theological Studies at Regent University School of Divinity with a concentration in Historical Theology, where he passed his qualifying exams with distinction and defended his dissertation, *The Scandal of Christianities in British Colonial America and the Early Republic, 1730-1835*, with distinction. Dr. Marshall's first publication, *Christianity Corrupted: The Scandal of White Supremacy*, published by Orbis Books, was released in the Fall of 2021.

Dr. Marshall serves as the Assistant Professor of Historical & Systematic Theology at the Interdenominational Theological Center. Additionally, he serves as an Adjunct Associate Professor of Theology at St. John's University, Adjunct Professor of Theology at Saint Leo University, and Adjunct Professor of Historical Theology at Virginia Christian College. Dr. Marshall has also served as an Adjunct Professor at many other institutions, including New York Theological Seminary, Wesley Seminary at Indiana Wesleyan University, Barry University, Strayer University, Sanford Brown College, and William J. Seymour College. During his graduate studies, Dr. Marshall served as a Graduate Teaching Assistant at the Interdenominational Theological Center and Clark Atlanta University. His academic and professional affiliations include membership in the American Academy of Religion, the American Society of Church History, the American Historical Association, the Wesleyan Theological Society, the Society for Pentecostal Studies, Theta Phi (National Honor Society for Theological Studies), and Pi Sigma Alpha (National Political Science Honor Society).

Dr. Marshall is an Ordained Traveling Elder in the CME Church. He is in Full Connection and currently holds membership in the Northern California Region of the CME Church

and serves as the Ninth Episcopal District Coordinator for the Committees on Ministerial Examination and as the regional Chair of the Committee on Ministerial Examination. Dr. Marshall has also held membership in the Birmingham, Florida, and New York-Washington Regions of the CME Church. In the Birmingham Region, he served as the Conference Statistician. In the Florida Region, he served as Chair of the Committee on Ministerial Examination and as Coordinator of Ministerial Development for the Fifth Episcopal District, which afforded him the opportunity and responsibility of developing a new, innovative curriculum for ministers on trial based on the Bishops' Course of Study. In the New York-Washington Region, he served as the Chair of the Committee on Ministerial Examination. On the connectional level, Dr. Marshall served as the Secretary of the Standing Committee on Revision and Legal Affairs for the 2010 General Conference, Assistant Secretary of the Standing Committee on Itinerancy for the 2014 General Conference, and has served as Secretary of the General Conference and General Connectional Board for the CME Church since 2016.

Before he was appointed the Presiding Elder of Oakland District, Pastor of Davis Chapel CME Church and Pastor of Emmanuel CME Church, he served as the Senior Pastor of the historic Williams Institutional CME Church in Harlem, New York City from 2016-2022, Senior Pastor of the Mount Olive CME Church in Orlando, Florida from 2009-2016, and as the Senior Pastor of Murray Temple CME Church in Anniston, Alabama from 2006-2009.

Mission Supervisor Nathaniel P. Blamo, Sr.

10th Episcopal District



Elder Nathaniel P. Blamo, Sr., was born in the year 1951, Manneh Beach, Rivercess County. He is married to Mrs. Beatrice Blamo, and they have four Children, two girls and two boys, fourteen grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

EDUCATION:

A high school diplomat with a “C” certificate from the Kakata Rural Teacher Training Institute (KRTTI), Kakata, Margibi County. He could not further his education due to his father's illness, and he had no alternative but to leave school to serve as a classroom teacher to look after his old folks in their illness.

MINISTRY AND CALLING:

Elder Blamo was called from the classroom to serve the Lord. He started as conference secretary and a local minister of the then Mary Sharpe Memorial Church, years before the merger with the CME Church in 1984, during the service of Bishop P. Randolph Shy in the Tenth. Elder Blamo was ordained as a Deacon, Elder, appointed Ministerial examination chair, and later elected into full connection when the Rivercess district was established by the 39th elected Bishop of the CME Church, Nathaniel Linsey (1986-1994, tenth episcopal district), who then appointed him as the second presiding elder of the Liberia Region, assigned to the Rivercess District up to present. In 2000, he was appointed by senior Bishop Lawrence L.L. Reddick III, who served the Tenth from 1998-2002, as Mission supervisor to present.

Under his leadership as Mission Supervisor, two other districts were added to the Region- the Kakata and Margibi districts, giving the region five districts. Elder Blamo, serve as a unifier, a peace maker, and a servant leader who patiently carried out his spiritual and administrative duties under the humble leadership of our Episcopal Leaders; Bishops Randolph P. Shy, Nathaniel Linsey, Charles L. Helton, Lawrence L.L. Reddick III (senior Bishop), Ronald M. Cunningham, Kenneth W. Carter, Godwin T. Umoette (late), and Ricky D. Helton.

Boniface Ohhiambo, D.Div

11th Episcopal District



Rev. Bonface Odhiambo is a distinguished clergyman and scholar currently serving as Pastor of Grace Family Chapel CME in Nairobi, Kenya, and Mission Supervisor, Kenya Region of the Eleventh Episcopal District.

Born in 1975 in Siaya County to the late Mr. Charles Odhiambo and the late Reginah Auma Odhiambo, Rev. Odhiambo has devoted his life to the service of God through ministry, education, and community transformation.

He earned a Diploma in Theological Studies from Harvesters Bible College, Nairobi, in 1996, and later pursued an online Bachelor's Degree in Religious Studies through Nations University in Louisiana, U.S.A., graduating in 2009. His deep commitment to holistic pastoral ministry led him to obtain a Diploma in Counseling Psychology from the Kenya Institute of Business and Counseling in 2014. In recognition of his exemplary leadership and contributions to Christian ministry, Rev. Odhiambo was awarded an Honorary Doctorate in Divinity by Dominion Mission Theological University of Ghana.

In his ecclesiastical service, Rev. Odhiambo holds several key leadership positions within the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church. He currently serves as Mission Supervisor for the Kenyan Region of the Eleventh Episcopal District, Bold Steps Initiative Captain of the same district, and Scholar in Residence in the *Compelling Preaching Program* for the Kenya Region.

Rev. Odhiambo is widely recognized for his exceptional teaching and preaching ministry. His popular television program, *"The Revelation of Grace,"* has been broadcast twice weekly on Kingdom Television for over a decade, reaching audiences across Kenya and beyond. As a prolific author, he has written two impactful works: *"In the Eyes of Grace"* available on Amazon and CreateSpace and *"The Unshakable Kingdom,"*

Beyond the pulpit, Rev. Odhiambo is an advocate for education and social empowerment. He is the Director at Graced Juniors Education Centre, an institution located in one of Nairobi's informal settlements, providing access to quality primary education for underprivileged children.

Rev. Odhiambo is married to Mrs. Jacqueline Wambui, and together they are blessed with two children: John Maxwel Odhiambo and Gianna Regina Odhiambo.

In his personal time, he enjoys traveling, following soccer, and sharing his favorite meal—chicken and chapati—with family and friends.

Dr. Luther Smith

Development Officer Award



I am **Luther Smith**, a lifelong CME, an ordained CME minister for over 53 years, and after 35 years of teaching and administration at the Candler School of Theology of Emory University, I'm now Professor Emeritus of Church and Community of Emory University.

I'm honored to be an awardee for the 2026 Outstanding Ministries Award from The Ecumenical Affairs and Program Development Office. The ecumenical involvement of my ministry, as an official representative of the CME Church, has been as: Lecturer and author for the Bicentennial Celebration of Methodism in the United States; speaking on the distinctive legacy of the CME Church in Bristol England, and writing the book chapter on the CME church: "Discipleship: Living Our Past and Future" in the book entitled, *The People Called Methodist*.

I've served for 40 years as a representative of the C.M.E. Church to what is now named "The Pan-Methodist Commission". For almost 30 of these years on the Commission, I initiated and served as the Coordinator of the "Pan-Methodist Campaign for Children in Poverty".

I've represented the C.M.E. Church on the Strategy and Implementation Committee of the Consultation on Church Union. And represented the CME Church on a study committee of the National Council of Churches that focused on membership criteria.

At the very outset of my ministry, even when I have not been an official representative of the CME church, I have sought to represent honorably the denomination when I've been involved in ecumenical and interfaith service. This is especially evident in founding and leading the Metropolitan Ministerial Alliance of St. Louis; the International Community School (focused on children who have experienced violent and traumatic realities); and the Interfaith Children's Movement that works with faith communities in Georgia to advocate for children.

These, and many more of such opportunities, have given me deeper understandings of God's enlivening presence among sisters and brothers of faith with beliefs and practices that are different than my own.

Many years ago, reflecting on how any of us receive recognition for service, Bishop Dotsy Isom told me: "Any honor we receive is because somebody has called our name". I am deeply grateful

Alumni

1960

Davis, Abraham E.
Jones, James A., Jr.

1961

Kirby, Queen Elizabeth
Williams, Willie Clyde

1962

Dean, Gene Robert
Douglas, Jesse Lee
Gathers, George E.
Mays, Willie
Smith, William T.

1963

Brown, Edward Lynn
David, Arthur L.
Graves, William H.
Larkin, William C.
Purham, Louis T.

1964

Delaney, Henry, Jr.
Miles, Joel
Pratt, Thomas A.

1965

Burt, Gene Eddie
Chambers, Will Earl
Debroy, Theodore R., Jr.
Hicks, Earlie H.
Hoyt, Thomas L., Jr.
Kimbrough, Marjorie L. (UMC)
Smith, Nathaniel J.
Stone, Willie Edd

1966

Bonner, Wardell
Davis, Elijah
Jackson, Mance C.
Pace, Betty Walker (72)
Stewart, Paul A. G.

1967

Jones, Willie C.
Okorley, Seth M.
Robinson, John H. (72)

1968

Harold, Austin L.
Bonner, Julius C.
Johnson, William R., Jr.

1969

Harvey, Henry P.
Kendrick, Franklin D.
King, Alex R.
Plummer, Roy G.
Sloan, Albert J.H., II

1970

Dopson, Alvin L.
Hentrel, Ike A.
Poole, Jerry
Quaye, Nii Gordon

1971

Aker, Clyde E.
Carter, Nathaniel, Jr.
Gathers, George E.
Hicks, Earlie
Long, Curtis (Independent)
Wilker, Willie

1972

Alexander, Johnny R.
Douglass, Jesse L.
Ford, Robert L.
Grantham, Joseph
Harmon, Woodrow, Jr.
Johnson, Larry L.
Pace, Betty Walker ('66)
Robinson, John H. ('67)

1973

Davidson, Albert
Mitchell, Caesar C., Sr.

1974

Jackson, Othel R.
Minor, Luther
Williams, Anthony L.
Woodfork, Jerry D., Sr.

1975

Cowley, Gilbert T.
Johnson, Johnnie B.
Obong, Edet Ekoi
Walker, Oliver D.
Whitlock, Q. H., Jr.

1976

Brown, Thomas L.
Gardner, Paul
Peterson, Harold
Wilks, Robert L., Jr.

1977

Taylor, Shelby B.
Washington, Joseph E.
Watkins, Lloyd

1978

Cheeseboro, Willie
Massey, James D.

1979

Atwater, Melvin L.
Bonner, Robert, Jr.
Green, Timothy R., Jr.
King, Charles
Scott, Robert
Spears, Conway

1980

McGriff, James E.
Mitchell, Frances V.
Owens, Willie N.
Patrick, William O.
Price, Jerome B., Sr.
Robinson, Curtis T.
Stokes, Richard F.
Thomas, Marvin

1981

Baker, Mary H.
Bass, John N.
Ewing, Martha M.
Napier, Lindsey
Price, Jerome B.
Price, Timothy
Smith, Benjamin L.

1982

Doyle, Satchell
Haynes, William C.
Hunter, Christopher C.
Pace, John
Williams, Thomas J.

1983

Arnold, Marion H.
Dumas, Leroy E., Jr.
Fryer, Larry
Johnson, Larry L.
Peoples, Robert L.
Pitts, Etha P.
Walker, James B.

Alumni

1984

Maness, J. Ronzell
Robinson, James R.

1985

Abiade, Zawdie K.
Buchanan, Clarence
Daniels, Alvin
Hargrove, Lynn
Stewart, James T.
Williams, Roy L.
Zak, Frederick J.
Zak, Roderick

1986

Davidson, DeAndre' M.
Henderson, Tony C.
Liggins, Bennie R.
Mack, Leroy H

1987

Echoles, Desi L.
Felder, Quincy L.
Jackson, Robert L., III
Jamar, James E.
Key, Patrick J.
Kynes, James B.

1988

Barker, Michael L.
Newton, Michael E.
Price, Jerome B., Sr.
Williams, Sylvester

1989

Boncy, Paul L., Jr.
Carroll, Earl C.
Clark, Harold
Evans, Stanley K.
Manning, Christopher N.
Smith, James E., Jr.

1990

Batie, Larry
Craig, Eugene A.
Davis, Tyrone
Donaldson, Elisha D.
Dugas, Leslie
Foreman, Woodrow W.
Gardner, Joseph C.
Hazel, Kathryn S.
Johnson, Christopher
Jones, Harlan K.

Smith, Edward

Smith, William T.

1991

Betts, Leonard N.
Brown, Paul L.
Brown, Thomas L., Sr.
Greer-Cook, Eunece F.
Loving, Hattie
Purham, Aaron L.
Ridgley, Clara H.
Washington, Phillip D.
Whitmore, Jeffrey J.

1992

Gilbert, Alvin C.
Haliburton, Wesley S.
Williams, Nellie C.

1993

Johnson, William J.
Simmons, Bobby R.
Wilburn, Stevey
Wilson, Hughlett W.

1994

Allen, L. K.
Averett, Jesse, Jr.
Blount, Horace
Campbell, Mary
Delaney, Valerie
Garrett, Alpha B.
Richard, Charles

1995

Burns, Vanessee
Colquitt, Joseph
Reese-Young, Regina
Robinson, Anthony

1996

Boggan, James E.
Heath, Clarence K.
Mays, Wayne W.
Thomas, Kenneth D.

1997

Askew, Dianne
Green, Robert W.
Taylor, Carlton
Taylor, Marcus

1998

Anders-Modest, Denise M.
Waugh, Uylee
West, Curtis, Jr.
Yenn-Batah, Jackson

1999

Claybon, Darryl
Downey, M. Deloris
Gardner, Charles C.
Griffin, John D.
Hartfield, David C., Jr.
Jones, Donnell R.
Lester, Peris J., I
Wade, Dwayne L.

2000

Bass, Claude
Dawson, Joyce
Goss, Christopher
Holloway, Billy R.
Houston, Faye
Johnson, Bernard
McDuffie, Richard S.
Pasley, John D., Jr.
Williams, Wayne A.

2001

Allen, Kenneth
Bell, William H., Jr.
Blackmon, Janice D.
Fletcher, Shirley H.
Gardner, Paul W., Sr.
Harris, Dexter L.
Massey, Oscar M.
McKinney, Stevie D.

2002

Bolden, Dorothy Ann Lee
Boswell, Charles K.
Buford-Clark, Sucena
Goforth, Mark W.
Head, Horace A.
Lue, Marvin C., Jr.
Martin, Eric T.
McIntyre, Lavonia E. K.
Reed-Wright, Earthalee
Walker, Kaylan B.
Walker, Nola J.
Williams, Alvin R.
Willis, Ermanno A.

Alumni

2003

Burt, Alisha R.
Patterson, Alelike "Lisa"
Payton, Luevonnia Ann
Yenn-Batah, Jackson

2004

Allen, Cedric C.
Fleming, Gloria L.
Lewis, Robert L.
Hardrick, Marquise L.
Murphy, Mario K.
Page, Allen, III

2005

Duckett, Adrian J.
Ellison, Keith E.
Jones, Felix M.
Whiteside, Janie K.
Williams, Gregory M.
Williams, Leon H.

2006

Best, Bobby
Briggs, Arthur, Jr.
Claybon, Darryl
Cochran, John
Goliday, Cheryl
Jackson, John W.
Jackson, Rutha M.
Jackson-Douglas, Leticia
Thornton, Eddie

2007

Harris, Clifton E.
Hayes, Lionel
Keith, Ouida
McNeese, Kemmie
Barnes, Reginald G.
Callaway, Eron J.
Dawson, Joyce
Hopkins, Calvin
Marshall, Jermaine J.
Norwood, Robert
Wilks, Keith
Williams, Sylvester

2009

Bell, Jr., Willie C.
Capers, Jamie L.
Dukes, Jennifer
Hicks, Doris L.
Neal, Kornelius
Wright, Irvin

2010

Armstrong, Sheryl D.
Banks, William
Brooks, Donna L.
Finkley, Janci
Gattis-Hopkins, Emmalyn
Hardaman, Joya
Haynes, Gloria W.
Hill, Michael K.
Keys, Cassandry
McGriff, Alton
Monmouth, Raynard
Walton, Reginald

2011

Donna Brooks
Cassandry Keys
William Smith, III
Carolyn Carlisle
Earlie Douthard
Bobby Goliday
Mildred Watson
Brenda Williams

2012

Baum, Brandon
Cooper, Mark
Dunbar, Ericka
Dykes, Omar
Harris, Geraldine
Jackson, Amber
Jenkins, Hillard B.
McDaniel, Geraldine
Moody, Jacson
Thomas, Jane E.

2013

Vincent Andujo, Jr.
Brown, Walter
Reuben C. Caro
Venice Coleman
Ian S. Gibson
Lawrence Monday Jefferson
Lamont Johnson
Richard Johnson
Octavia S. Lindsey
Gloria L. Longstreet
Shadene Stewart
Moria L. Santino
Lavonia McIntyre
Alford M. McClaney

2014

Vincent Andjuo, Jr.
Walter L. Brown, Jr.
Reuben C. Caro
Venice C. Coleman
Ian Gibson
Lawrence Jefferson
Lamont Johnson
Richard Johnson
Octavia S. Lindsey
Gloria L. Longstreet
Alford McClaney
Moria Freeman SantiO
Shadene Stewart

2015

Timothy Grady Butler
Loyd Hicks
Javon Douglas Jackson
Jill J. Jackson
Andre' C. Loyd, Jr.
Amber Louisa Lowe
Herman "Skip" Mason, Jr.
Freeman McKindra
Leon F. Parker III
Rafaele V. Robinson
Marcus Julius Rogers
Da'Henri R. Thurmond, Sr.

Alumni

2016

Keedra Keeley
Roslyn Mafico Valda
McCauley
Acquirneta McNair
Edward Moultrie
Carol Perry Gregory
Scott Lillie Shaw
Gwendolyn Tolbert

2017

Janice Brooks
Sheila Crabb
Lindsey Napier
Eddie Richardson
Rickdrieka Sanders

2018

Tommie Benjamin
Myrtle Bussey
Barbara Fitzhugh
Amber Jackson
Herman Mason
Eloise Walker

2019

Jerome Bates
Geraldine Harris Kai
Horn
Miya Lee
Lindsey Napier
Yolande Petty

2020

Andrew Archer
Sheaneter Bogan
Russell Brooks
Marshall Coleman
De Wayne Hickman
Elisha Thomas
Larry Woods

2021

Pamela Peoples
Gerald Rowe
Marecia Stephenson
Reginald Walton

2022

Sheila Crabb
Tiffany Echoles
Lorenzo Heggs
Angel Howard
Alexis Jay
Percy Johnson
Samuel McKinsey
Gwendolyn Pabon Yolande
Petty
Arthura Seabrook Buchanon

2023

Lesha Agnew
Sharon Francis Thomas
David Patten

2024

Nyla Barker

2025

Veronica Brown
Janet Corley
Carlotta Ficklin
Talisha Graves-Whitehurst
Geraldine McCollough
Travis Morris



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 Wednesday, January 7, 2026 12:30 pm
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Christian Methodist Episcopal Church
Commission on the Concerns of
Women In the Ministry



Rev. Lisa Lewis Balboa,
 Coordinator




Bishop Teresa Snorton,
 Chairperson & Featured Speaker

COWIM Luncheon Program:

Opening Remarks/Welcome: Coordinator Rev. Lisa Lewis Balboa
 Selection: Name Here
 Opening prayer & Blessing of the Food
 Lunch is served
 Speaker: Bishop Teresa Snorton
 Pledge Appeal: Name Here
 Closing remarks & Introduction of Commissioners:
 Coordinator Rev. Lisa Lewis Balboa
 Closing Prayer



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