

EZRA

Youth Seminary

Biographies

2021

Ezra Youth Seminary, Inc., is a nonprofit corporation organized under the laws of the State of Maryland. It is organized exclusively for religious, charitable and educational purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended. The purpose of Ezra is to offer programs in theology and Christian leadership to youth between the ages of 10 and 18; to develop young godly servant-leaders; to develop character of good rapport; to learn about the Lord Jesus Christ and His purpose for their lives; to participate in leadership training; to build lifelong Christian leadership skills; and to support the development of a pipeline of Christian leaders and leaders who are Christian. The primary text is the BIBLE, New King James Version.



HAROLD DAVID MILES

Co-Founder

Chairman of the Board &

Ex-Officio Board Member

Harold Miles is a native of Washington, D.C. and was educated in the DC Public School system. Harold is a graduate of the University of the District of Columbia with Bachelor of Business Administration, majoring in Computer Information Systems Science. He earned a Master of Science in Administration from Trinity University, Washington, DC with a major in Educational Leadership.

Harold began his professional career in the information systems field working for Fortune 100 companies and consulting on Government projects. Harold then was the Founder and President of THE Coordinator, Inc. (Mitchellville, MD) a small information technology business which supported operations management for a multi-million dollar on-line teleprocessing system that analyzed monthly expenditures, developed forecasts for annual budget activities and assessed technical proposals for the United States Army Corps of Engineers.

Ultimately, he pursued his true calling – educator of tomorrow’s future and left the information systems field to become an educator.

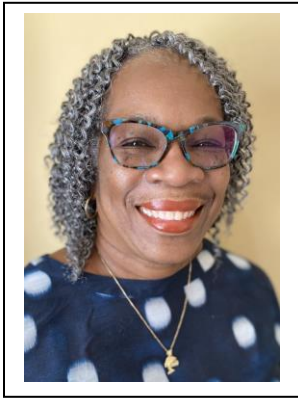
Harold is a middle school teacher in the Prince George’s County Public School system. He has worked with elementary and middle school-aged students for more than fifteen years. His professional experiences in education have included serving as a school Principal, Vice-Principal, Dean of Academics, and Instructional Coach in Maryland public schools and the District of Columbia Public Charter schools. He also has coached boys’ basketball and baseball at the middle school level.

Harold Miles accepted Christ while living in Baltimore, Maryland. He was baptized at Providence Baptist Church by Pastor Marcus G. Wood. After moving to Prince George’s County, he and his family joined Gethsemane Baptist Church in Mitchellville, MD, under the Rev. Dr. John E. Maddox, Pastor Emeritus. There, he faithfully served God and Gethsemane as Chairman of the Board of Deacons; a 10-year Member of Board of Trustees; and a member of the Usher Board.

Harold is married to Tonya Miles and the proud father of their three adult children, Aria, Darius and Kharlin. The couple looks forward to celebrating 30 years of marriage in 2019. Harold and Tonya are members of Woodstream Church in Mitchellville, Maryland where their Pastor is Rev. Dr. Robert A. Wingfield.

Harold is a life member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.

One of Harold’s favorite scriptures is Proverbs 3:5-6 NKJV - *Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths.*



TONYA MILES

Co-Founder

President & Ex-Officio Board Member

But without faith *it is* impossible to please *Him*, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and *that* He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him. Hebrews 11:6 (NKJV)

Tonya's former pastor, Rev. Charles E. Betts, of Morningside Missionary Baptist Church in Queens, New York gave her this scripture to commit to memory when she was fourteen years old. It remains as her favorite scripture. Tonya well remembers the Lord speaking to her heart when she was eight years old at her father's funeral and she has tried her best to walk with and trust the Lord ever since ~ through her trials, temptations, falls, rebounds at all. Tonya knows the Lord has been her strength, protector, provider and keeper.

A native of Brooklyn and Queens, New York, Tonya is a graduate of New York City public schools, received her Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from Princeton University and her Master of Business Administration (Finance and Strategic Planning) from the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania. She completed two seminary classes, Ministry with Young Adults I and II, at Wesley Theological Seminary in NW Washington, DC (proud of her A's in each class). Tonya is the former Executive Assistant to the President/CEO at Wesley and was elected by its Board of Governors to serve as the Secretary of the Seminary. To this professional experience, Tonya brought an illustrative leadership and managerial career from the corporate, private, public and non-profit business sectors including central office administration for two large urban Maryland public school systems.

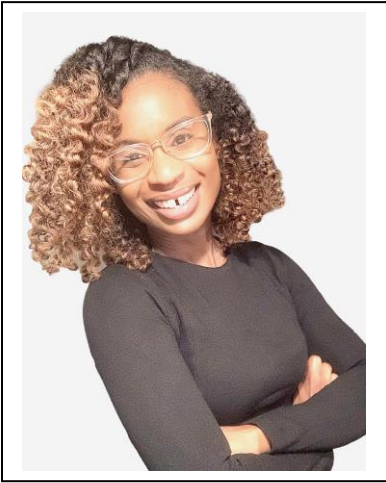
Tonya believes in public service! For the past thirty years, she has served as either the worldwide Vice Chair of the Princeton Schools Committee, the Co-Chair of the Princeton Alumni Schools Committee in Maryland including mentor to Chairs in Washington DC, Northern Virginia, Delaware, Denmark, Finland, Norway, and Sweden. She is a former Board Director for Princeton AlumniCorps. She was appointed by the Maryland Governor Robert Ehrlich to the Maryland State Board of Education and by the U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan to two terms (8 years) on the National Assessment Governing Board serving in leadership roles: Chair, Nominations Committee; Vice Chair, Committee on Standards, Design and Methodology; Chair, Ad Hoc Committee on Parent Engagement (envisioning and implementing its first national Education Summit for Parent Leaders); and a member of the Executive Committee; and Reporting and Dissemination Committee. Tonya was a long-time PTA member and officer, a recipient of the Maryland PTA Honorary Life Membership Award and former Girl Scout Leader to 25 teen scouts.

Tonya is a certified John C. Maxwell Team Speaker, Coach and Trainer with additional certifications for Parenting & Family and also Youth Leadership.

Most importantly, Tonya loves to serve the Lord's people. She is the former Executive Administrator to the Reverend Dr. John E. Maddox, Pastor Emeritus of Gethsemane Baptist Church in Mitchellville, Maryland where she also served fifteen years as church clerk, then member of the Board of Deaconesses and later Chairperson of the Board of Trustees. Simply put, Tonya Loves the Lord and to be used by Him!

The same Pastor Betts who assigned her Hebrews 11:6 at age 14 presided over her holy matrimony to the love of her life, Harold David Miles, 30 years ago. Together, the Lord has blessed them to be the proud parents of three adult children, Aria, Darius and Kharlin. Harold and Tonya are members of Woodstream Church in Mitchellville, Maryland where their Pastor is Rev. Dr. Robert A. Wingfield.

Tonya is excited for how the Lord moves in her life and for what He will do in Ezra Youth Seminary. All glory, honor and praise belong to the LORD God for entrusting her with the vision of Ezra in her heart, mind and soul.



JESSICA ANDERSON

Board Member

Jessica Anderson serves as a Youth Leader for the Higher Ground Teen Church at Alfred Street Baptist Church where she feels called to walk alongside young people as they learn, lead, and strive to love themselves and their neighbors.

She is passionate about building power and opportunity for young people and their families. She started her career as a youth developer in shelter, group home, and transitional housing spaces in San Francisco.

She received her Bachelor of Arts in Criminology from the University of Florida and later moved to Atlanta, Georgia to pursue a Master of Public Administration in Nonprofit Management at Georgia State University.

While in Atlanta, Jessica led special projects for hundreds of children and mothers experiencing homelessness in the Atlanta Mission network. Jessica then joined The Young Women's Project in Washington, DC as the Health Justice Director where she tripled the program size and impact to build the leadership and power of more than 300 teens in 24 DC Public and Public Charter High Schools.

Jessica is a Managing Partner at The Management Center where she has the privilege to train an emerging generation of social justice leaders across the country.

Jessica lives in Hyattsville, Maryland but she is a frequent flyer to her hometown of Fort Lauderdale, Florida where she enjoys Publix Subs and warm beaches.



FLORIANE BEYEGUE

Board Member

Floriane received a Bachelor of Business Administration, concentrating in Finance and a minor in Law and Society, from The George Washington University. During her time there, she interned at the JPMorgan Chase & Co. Institute as an Operations Analyst where she developed a quantitative model for measuring stakeholder engagement.

Floriane's education and analytical skill set led her to pursue a career in the financial services industry. She is currently a Real Estate Analyst in Freddie Mac's Multifamily Loan Servicing Division. In addition to her full time role, Floriane enjoys tutoring students in mathematics through the D.C. Mutual Aid and Serve Your City virtual tutoring initiative.

Originally from Cameroon in Central Africa, Floriane was raised in Greenbelt, Maryland where her home parish is St. Hugh of Grenoble Catholic Church; there she has been an altar server and a religious education volunteer.



ELIJAH FEREBEE

Chaplain & Board Member

Elijah Ferebee is a recent graduate of Wesley Theological Seminary, where he earned his Master of Divinity degree and hopes to one day be ordained as an Elder in the United Methodist Church.

At Wesley, Elijah works as a recruiter for the Seminary's Office of Admissions and possesses a love for ministry that manifests itself in all areas of his life. Alongside his love for ministry, Elijah also has a passion for mental health and pastoral care and counseling. While attending his alma mater Virginia State University, he earned his Bachelor of Science in the field of Psychology. It is also at Virginia State University where Elijah heard and felt his call into pastoral ministry.

During his time at VSU he heavily participated with the United Campus Ministries team on his school's campus, helping spearhead the "Men of Troy" mentoring program at neighboring school Ettrick Elementary in Petersburg, Virginia. Since that time Elijah has participated in two internships through the VAUMC (Virginia United Methodist Conference), Calling 21 and Connections 21, the latter afforded Elijah the opportunity to work closely alongside the VAUMC annual conference team as they prepped for the VAUMC's annual conference.

Elijah hails from Brooklyn, NY, is the oldest of four children and was raised by his mother and grandmother. He is dedicated to empowering and uplifting others through the guidance of the Holy Spirit and believes that his life's greatest reward is the ability to glorify God with everything that he is and with all he has been given!



LAUREN HARRIS

Board Member

Lauren Harris accepted her call to preach in June of 2003. She is a native of Silver Spring, MD, but was born in Philadelphia, PA to New Jersey natives Shirley D. Phelps and Roderick A. Blackstone.

Early in life, Lauren demonstrated the gift of writing. As a child, she wrote short stories and poetry. As a result, Lauren earned a Bachelor's degree in English with a concentration in African-American literature from the University of Maryland in College Park, MD in 2001. In 2007, she earned a Master of Divinity from Howard University School of Divinity in Washington, DC.

During her matriculation at Howard University, Lauren served as the editor of "The Weekly Word." She produced over 50 publications for faculty and students. She self-published "I'm Singing This Song to You," a heartfelt letter to her children about her life with her late husband. It is available for purchase on Amazon.

Lauren has written for several ministries. She designed the newsletter for The Power Lunch Ministry founded by the Rev. Matthew L. Watley and served as its editor for three years. She was a contributing writer for Reid Temple AME Church's Joshua's Journal magazine for 10 years where she wrote several articles including "God's Ruby" and "You Don't Know My Name." Lauren also contributed to Gospel Today magazine where she examined women's issues in her column "The Filling Station." She interviewed First Lady Serita Jakes and BET "Sunday Best" finalists during their "All Star" season. Her work has been featured in Sojourners magazine, "Modern Loss," "Women in Theology" and "Soli Deo Gloria Sisterhood." Her personal blog, Throw Up and Theology, reaches approximately 500 readers each month.

Lauren's professional experience includes producing for the nationally syndicated radio show "Interfaith Voices" and interning with Faith in Public Life at the Center for American Progress in Washington, DC. Lauren served as the program manager at Southeast D.C. Partners, a nonprofit organization where she developed programs for children and families. She launched their annual Hip Hop Summit which attracted over 150 teens in its second year. Lauren served for five years as the executive assistant to the pastor at Mt. Ennon Baptist Church in Clinton, MD where the Rev. Delman L. Coates, Ph.D. is pastor. She is the former executive assistant to the dean at Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, DC.

Lauren has served on the ministerial staff at Reid Temple AME Church in Glenn Dale, MD for over 10 years under the esteemed leadership of the Rev. Dr. Lee P. Washington. She's worked with several ministries including the Women's Ministry, Singles Ministry and Youth Ministry. Recently, Lauren served for two years on the ministerial staff at Reid Chapel AME Church in Columbia, SC where the Rev. Carey A. Grady is senior pastor. Lauren is an itinerant elder in the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

Lauren is the widow of Gabriel A. Jones (11/14/1984-6/21/2013). In honor of her late husband, Lauren volunteers as a speaker for Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD). She is now married to her longtime friend and love Marvine Harris, III of Baltimore, MD. She is the proud mother of Kent Micaiah Jones (7) and Lacey Gabrielle Jones (5).

Lauren acknowledges her Lord and Savior Jesus Christ as the one who makes all things possible. Her favorite scripture is John 15:16, "You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit—fruit that will last. Then the Father will give you whatever you ask in my name."



DAVID STEPHEN HOPE, Esq.

General Counsel & Board Member

David Stephen Hope is an Assistant Miami-Dade County Attorney, and represents Miami-Dade in a litany of legislative, transactional, administrative, and litigation matters. David handles litigation at the trial and appellate levels, in both federal and state court. Since joining the Office of the County Attorney in 1996, David's practice areas encompass litigation and appeals, finance and municipal bonds, land use and zoning, aviation, telecommunications, housing, code enforcement, small business development, torts, and personnel.

David was the lead trial attorney for the County in such matters as a facial constitutional challenge of a regulatory ordinance imposing civil and criminal penalties for certain activities, by fourteen (14) adult entertainment establishments; declaratory and injunctive relief sought to invalidate actions of the County, City of Miami, and two Community Redevelopment Agencies pertaining to the redevelopment plan for downtown Miami, which included a new publicly owned baseball stadium for the Florida Marlins; and allegations that the County's provision of telecommunications services at Miami International Airport violated Florida law, Florida Public Service Commission rules, and County Home Rule Charter. David is admitted to practice in Florida, New York, Southern District of Florida, Eastern and Southern Districts of New York, Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals, and United States Supreme Court.

Prior to his legal career, David had over eight years' experience encompassing key aspects of finance related management consulting and commercial banking, with expertise developed in strategic business planning, micro-based financial systems implementation, and marketing. David obtained a Bachelor of Science in Engineering in Electrical Engineering & Computer Science from Princeton University, received a Master of Business Administration in Finance & Entrepreneurial Management from the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania, and graduated *Cum Laude* from the University of Miami School of Law.

David is currently an adjunct faculty member in the Litigation Skills Program at the University of Miami School of Law teaching Trial Skills; President of the Neo Lofts Condominium Association; and an Orange Bowl Committee member.

*I was raised in the Episcopal Church by God-fearing parents.
I fall short everyday, but try to treat others as I would like to be treated,
and walk along the path that the Lord has laid for me.*



LISA HOWELL

Treasurer & Board Member

Lisa Howell is a results-oriented professional with extensive leadership experience in corporate finance, budget and forecasting, financial audit and accounting, operations management and human resources. She has a proven ability to lead transformation efforts, implement solutions and manage process changes.

Lisa spent her formative years in Anchorage, AK. During high school, her family relocated to Vancouver, WA which she still considers home base. After graduating from Florida A&M University with a Bachelor of Science in Accounting, she began her career with PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) in New York City and later Atlanta, GA. During these years, Lisa gained valuable experience as a Public Accountant performing financial statement, internal control and compliance audits for a client base in a wide variety of industries including advertising, entertainment, financial services, manufacturing, not-for-profit and real estate. She was afforded the opportunity with PwC to relocate to the Washington DC area to begin a new journey as a Human Resources professional. She was responsible for resource management and succession planning, development and training, performance review and compensation administration, staff relations and recruiting.

Lisa eventually returned to her finance roots when she joined Marriot International as Senior Manager, Business and Discipline Accounting, Operations and Global Finance where she managed the Accounting team supporting four complex business functions in all efforts related to accounting, budgeting, forecasting, analysis, allocations, capital expenditures and reporting. She successfully leveraged her experience to further her career in corporate finance when she joined Choice Hotels as the Director, Budgets and Planning. In this role, Lisa provided financial planning support for domestic and international operations, representing approximately \$1B in annual revenues. She led the financial planning process across the enterprise with a focus on cost optimization, revenue generation, resource allocation and decision support.

After 30 years in Corporate Accounting and Finance, raising three children and being a wife, Lisa made an intentional decision to shift her career into higher education. She is now the Budget Officer of the University of the District of Columbia where she is responsible for the development of the University's budget which includes the appropriation of local government funding, as well as Federal, Intra-District and Private grants. This career shift has also allowed more time for Lisa to pursue her long-time passion for Real Estate. She is a licensed real estate agent serving the DC metro area.

Lisa and her husband, Charles Howell, reside in Mitchellville, Maryland where they are members of Zion Church in Landover, Pastor Keith Battle. Lisa is the proud mother of three young adults; and, she dotes on her grandson.



ARIA MILES

Secretary & Board Member

Aria Miles is interested in improving education, career, and leadership development opportunities for young people of color in the United States. Through her professional and volunteer work, she applies her skills to promote and strengthen initiatives and organizations that focus on the advancement of people and communities. She is looking to continue a career of driving positive social change through strategic planning, partnerships, and policy.

She is a Consultant with UPD Consulting (Baltimore, MD) and previously worked as the Director of Research and Public Policy at Momentum Nonprofit Partners (Memphis, TN) and Operations Coordinator at Center City Public Charter Schools (Washington, DC).

Aria serves on the Board of the Youth Activism Project and has previously volunteered as a member of the Memphis Urban League Young Professionals, Black Policy Conference planning committee at Harvard Kennedy School, Princeton Club of Washington, and cohort member of Princeton University's inaugural Bridge Year Program (Ghana). For over fifteen years, Aria served at her childhood church in various roles and ministries including Director of the Youth and Young Adult Ministry.

Aria holds a Bachelor of Science in Engineering in Operations Research and Financial Engineering from Princeton University and a Master in Public Policy with a focus on Social and Urban Policy from the Harvard Kennedy School of Government.

Aria was raised in Mitchellville, Maryland and is the daughter of Harold and Tonya Miles and oldest sibling to Darius and Kharlin. Aria has enjoyed travel to England, Ireland, Wales, Australia, Ghana, the Dominican Republic, Mexico and India. Aria loves to explore new cities, is learning to dance salsa, and learn about the stories of people and places.



H. DARIUS MILES

Multimedia/Communications Coordinator

Throughout his professional work, Darius has strived to utilize his knowledge of different multimedia platforms to effectively convey the mission and ideals on the United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Development. As a Human Resources Specialist, recently, he's focused on promoting the employee workplace benefits of participating in telework and health and wellness programs.

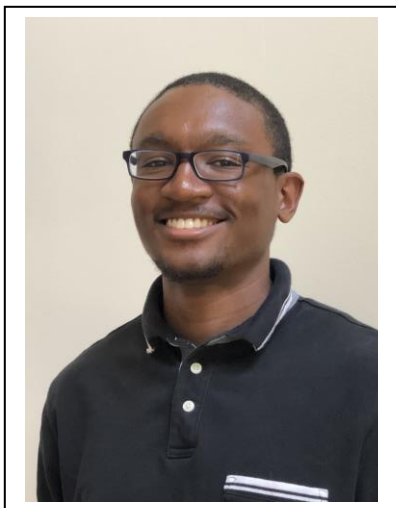
Darius is well-versed in multiple Adobe platforms, including Photoshop, Illustrator, Premiere, and InDesign as he looks to continue and enhance his public relations career goals.

Darius holds a Bachelor of Arts in Multimedia Journalism from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University in Blacksburg, Virginia. As an undergraduate, Darius was a member of Virginia Tech TV, a student-led campus television station, where he was a Sports Anchor and Field Videographer.

He was raised and currently resides in Mitchellville, Maryland. For over fifteen years, Darius served at his childhood church in various roles and ministries including Director of the Media Ministry.

Darius is the eldest son of Harold and Tonya Miles and the sibling to Aria and Kharlin.

Darius enjoys sports. And whenever the opportunities arise, he enjoys traveling to different cities, regions and countries and has visited Puerto Rico, China, and Spain.



KHARLIN MILES

Health & Wellness Coordinator

Kharlin enjoys and lives a healthy, fit, and exciting lifestyle. From an early age, he actively participated in sports, health, and fitness. He also has a passion for working with youth and those who want to improve and live a healthier life.

Kharlin earned his Bachelor of Science in Applied Exercise Science from Springfield College in Springfield, Massachusetts. As an undergraduate student, Kharlin held numerous leadership roles including health and wellness intern at the Springfield YMCA; Vice President and Treasurer of the Applied Exercise Science Club, and Supervisor for Intramural Sports.

Kharlin has taught 2 years of elementary Physical Education in Prince George's County Public Schools and has his certification from the American Heart Association in CPR/AED and First Aid.

He is a National Academy of Sports Medicine Certified Personal Trainer and is the founder of his own personal, group, and sports training business called *Let's Get Right Fitness*.

He is a child of God and has served in a number of roles at his childhood church including as a member and percussionist in the Music Ministry, a member of the Youth and Young Adult Ministry, and an officer on the Usher Board and President of the Youth Council.

Kharlin has two older siblings, Aria and Darius Miles, and his parents are the magnificent, dedicated, and high-achieving, Harold and Tonya Miles.

Kharlin enjoys to travel, go on adventures, and experience different places, cultures, and food. He has traveled to Italy, Sicily and Greece and enjoys having a great time with people.



STEVEN A. NASH, NHA

Board Member

Steven A. Nash has been the President and CEO of the Stoddard Baptist Home Foundation since 2007. He has served elders since 1983 in a variety of roles and has been a Nursing Home Administrator since 1994. Stoddard Baptist Home, Inc. has a legacy of caring for the elders in the District of Columbia since 1902 and operates Stoddard Baptist Nursing Home, a 164-bed nursing facility. Steve is currently leading the development of Presidential Estates at Sycamore Hill, an assisted living facility in Mitchellville, Maryland. Additionally, under Stoddard's management is Stoddard Baptist Global Care, a 259-bed facility and Stoddard Adult Day Care Center, a 55 participant Adult Medical Day Treatment Program.

Steve has served on several local and national associations and boards. He has held leadership roles in long-term organizations, which include: President of the District of Columbia Health Care Association; Chairperson of the District's Nursing Home Administrator Licensing Board; Chair of the National Association of Boards and Examiners of Long Term Care Administrators (NAB) Continuing Education Committee; Vice Chair of the Examination Committee; Leading Age Finance Committee; and Chair of Leading Age, D.C. The American Health Care Association selected him as a member of "Future Leaders of Long Term Care in America" and he was a recipient of a national grant for training nursing home administrators by the National Caucus on Black Aged. He also led a demonstration project for the D.C. Office on Aging to examine innovative ways to provide care for those with Alzheimer's disease. He is a board member of Leading Age D.C., an appointed member of the District of Columbia State Health Planning and Development Agency (SHPDA) and recipient of the 2016 Dr. Herbert Shore Outstanding Mentor Award. Currently, Steve is the host of "Stoddard Lives" Radio One broadcast and coach for the Leading Age Academy and winner of the Nation Leading Age Mentorship Award.

A graduate of Princeton University, Steven completed almost five years of theological study and prayer in preparation for his ordination to a ministry that reflects three aspects: the Word, the altar and charity; and one that lends assistance to pastors throughout the archdiocese in preaching the Gospel, distributing the Eucharist, blessing marriages, baptizing, presiding at funerals, and being engaged in ministries of charity and social justice, assisting those in need. On June 28, 2015, Steven was ordained by the Archbishop of Washington as a Permanent Deacon for the Archdiocese of Washington at a Mass of Ordination at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in the District of Columbia.

Assigned to serve under Bishop Roy E. Campbell, Deacon Nash has been actively involved in his assigned ministries at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Largo Maryland. Some of his duties include Assistant Chaplain Knights of Columbus, leadership in the RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation), youth Ministry Group and Prison Ministry. He appears regularly on the televised Sick and Shut-in Mass, is a highly requested retreat master and Master of Ceremonies for the Bishops of the Archdiocese of Washington, D.C. Before ordination, he served as an Acolyte and Extraordinary Minister at Holy Redeemer Church. He also was the President of the Legion of Mary Washington Comitium.

Deacon Nash lives in the District of Columbia and is married to Stephanie; they have three young adult children.



Kevin Lamár Peterman

Academic Dean & Board Member

Born in Newark, New Jersey, the Reverend Kevin Lamár Peterman is a cutting edge faith based scholar who has been called by God to preach, teach, and advocate for a better world in the 21st century.

Reverend Peterman is a graduate of Howard University, where he earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political Science. He earned a Master of Arts Degree in Theology with an additional certificate in Black Church Studies from Princeton Theological Seminary. He also holds a Master of Science Degree in Higher Education from the University of Pennsylvania. Rev.

Peterman is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in Higher Education at Howard University. In conjunction with his regular course work, Kevin has studied extensively throughout China, Japan, Ghana and South Africa in effort to learn more about the region's political, economic, and cultural affairs.

Reverend Peterman currently serves as the Director of Assessment & Strategic Initiatives at the Howard University School of Divinity and a Research Fellow at the United Negro College Fund's Frederick Patterson Research Institute. He has also worked for the Penn Center for Minority Serving Institutions, the US Department of Education, and the DC Public School System. As an activist, he has participated in demonstrations in Ferguson, Baltimore, Washington, DC, New York, Chicago and Ohio. He recently ended a series with National Public Radio where he was featured as a contributor on NPR's Sunday morning show, *The Weekend Edition*.

Rev. Kevin Lamár Peterman is an ordained Baptist minister and currently serves at the historic Shiloh Baptist Church in Washington, DC. Prior to returning to the nation's capital, he served at the Trinity United Church of Christ in Chicago, Illinois, the Cornerstone Baptist Church of Brooklyn, New York and the First Baptist Church of Vauxhall, NJ. Rev. Peterman is a proud member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. and has been regarded as one of the nation's most preeminent millennial leaders.



Pastor REGRETTA B. RUFFIN

Board Member

Pastor Regretta Ruffin is a native of Washington, D.C. She is the daughter of Mrs. Julia M. Burruss and the late Pastor R. Burruss, Sr. of the New St. Paul Baptist Church.

Dr. Ruffin is musically inclined with the ability to play several instruments. She was director and musician for several choirs in the Metropolitan Area and eventually became the director for the National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc.

Dr. Ruffin strongly believes in education, not only for preaching ability but to enhance the whole person in which God has created. Because of her quest for knowledge, at the age of 15, she graduated from McKinley Tech High School in Northeast Washington with honors. While still attending high school, she studied at the University of the District of Columbia majoring in Mortuary Science and later received her degree from Catonsville Community College, Baltimore, Md (1981). She also matriculated at the Howard University School of the Arts for studies in music. She received her Master of Science from the University of Maryland (1986), Master of Theology from Richmond Virginia Seminary (1996), Master of Divinity from Virginia Union University (1999), Doctorate of Theology from Eastern Theological Seminary, Phil., Pa. (2001), Doctorate of Ministry from Richmond Virginia Seminary (2007).

In 1984, she united with the Pilgrim Rest Baptist Church under the pastorate of Reverend Dr. Freddie Davis. In May of 1990, Dr. Ruffin announced her call to the ministry and was licensed to preach in September 1990. Six months after being licensed to the ministry she was called to pastor the Greater New St. Paul Baptist Church in Washington, DC.

Following the call of God, in May of 1999, she resigned from the Alexandria Hospital where she was employed for fifteen years. She also worked as a licensed Mortician for eighteen years with several funeral establishments in the Metropolitan Area.

Dr. Ruffin, has been the Senior Pastor of the Greater New St Paul for 30 years. She is the Founder and Facilitator of the Metropolitan Area Lenten Journey and Fellowship; a journey of like-minded Pastors and Churches that come together seasonally for prayer, fasting and deliverance. She is A Founding Partner of the John C Maxwell Team of Certified Coaches, Teachers, Mentors and Speakers, training Pastors and Leaders around the nation. She have received several Governor Citations and Awards, including the Volunteer Service Award from President Barack Obama. She has served as President of the Baptist Ministers Conference of Alexandria Virginia and Vicinity for 3 terms, President of The Washington Metropolitan Ministerium for 3 terms, and Past Recording Secretary of the Baptist Convention of D.C. & Vicinity. She is presently serving as President of the Mt. Bethel Educational Congress, Executive Board Member and for Leadership Council of Healthy Committees, along with several other tasks as a member of various committees, conferences and conventions too numerous to name. Presently she was nominated to be a part of the Strategic Pastoral Excellency Program with Lott Carey Foreign Missions and Founding Member of the Lott Carey Pilgrimages for Women Pastors traveling and ministering overseas and all over the world.

On March 20, 2004, God blessed her with the one whom her soul loves and she became the wife of Pastor Rodney E. Ruffin, who is the Pastor of the Elim Baptist Church in Temple Hills, Maryland. And the half has not been told, nor revealed what God has in store for His servant!

Dr. Ruffin first thanks Almighty God for all that He has done, and is doing in her life. Secondly, she thanks God for a husband who accepts her for all that God made her to be. Thirdly, she rejoices in having saved parents who encouraged her to be all that she can be. Finally, she thanks Him for enabling her, counting her worthy and putting her in the ministry. To God Be The Glory!!!

BOARD *of* ADVISORS



Pastor Kip Bernard Banks, Sr. is the Senior Pastor of the East Washington Heights Baptist Church of Washington, DC where he is working to build up an intergenerational family of disciples who love God, love neighbors and work to transform the community with the Gospel of Christ.

He also has recently served as the General Secretary of the Progressive National Baptist Convention Inc. (PNBC) the church convention of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. In his role as PNBC General Secretary Rev. Banks oversaw the operation of the nation's second-largest Black Baptist denomination.

A native of Los Angeles, CA and a graduate of that city's public school system, Banks received a Bachelor of Arts degree in economics from the University of California at Santa Cruz.

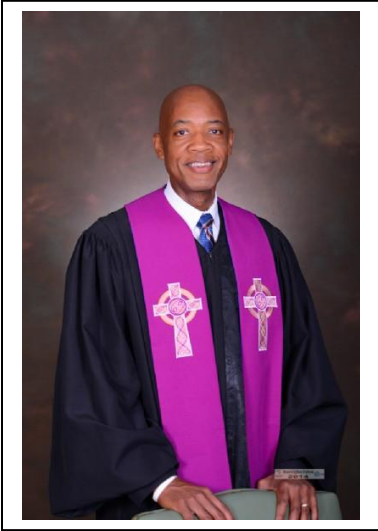
Selected as an Alfred P. Sloan Fellow, Rev. Banks also completed master of public policy and urban planning degrees from the University of Michigan. In addition, he holds a Master of Divinity degree from the Howard University School of Divinity and a Doctor of Ministry from Wesley Theological Seminary in NW Washington, DC.

Before being called to East Washington's pulpit, Rev. Banks served as Director of Theological Education with the Congress of National Black Churches and where he oversaw efforts to empower Black ministerial alliances on a nationwide basis. In their June 1, 1998 issue, Newsweek magazine recognized Banks as one of the "Lord's Foot Soldiers" in the battle to reach at-risk-youth.

Among his many public and civic involvements, Rev. Banks has served as a senior aide to the U.S. Senate Budget Committee under Sen. Jim Sasser (D-TN) and Director of Government Relations with the American Public Transit Association. He also serves on the Board of the Baptist World Alliance, the Baptist Joint Committee, Creation Justice and Washington Interfaith Power and Life. He is a member of the Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity.

Pastor Banks and his wife Dollie are the parents of three children, Carlyne Marie, Margaret Katherine and Kip Bernard, Jr.

BOARD *of* ADVISORS



The Reverend Paul Timothy Roberts Sr. is President of Johnson C. Smith Theological Seminary in Atlanta, GA, a position he has held since the spring of 2010. Johnson C. Smith Theological Seminary is one of the ten theological schools of the Presbyterian Church (USA), and the only one that is historically African American. Under Paul's leadership, JCSTS is reinventing itself and has gained prominence in the national conversation about new models of theological education.

Paul is a native of Stamford, CT. However, he grew up in Bradenton, FL, which he considers his home. Paul graduated from Princeton University in 1985 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Architecture and African American Studies. Prior to his career in ministry, Paul worked for eight years in advertising in New York City. He later received the Master of Divinity degree with a concentration in New Testament Studies from Johnson C. Smith Seminary at the Interdenominational Theological Center in Atlanta, GA. He also is an Academic Fellow of the Ecumenical Institute at Bossey in Celigny, Switzerland. From 1997 through 2010, Paul was the pastor of Church of the Master (PCUSA), a church founded in 1965 in Atlanta, GA, as an intentionally interracial congregation.

Paul preaches and teaches nationally. He is a contributing writer to *Pastoral Care: A Case Study Approach* by Orbis Books in 1996, *Feasting on the Gospels* by Westminster/John Knox Press released in 2013, and he writes consistently for the *Presbyterian Outlook Magazine*. Paul is a consultant with the Louisville Institute. He serves on the boards of the Presbyterian Foundation (PCUSA) and the Macedonian Ministry Inc. of Atlanta. He is the recipient of the 2016 Devoted Service Award from Louisville Theological Seminary. Recreationally, Paul enjoys tennis and yard work.

Paul and his wife, Nina, have three beautiful children—one adult daughter and two teenage sons.

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Reverend, Dr. Robert A. Wingfield (Pastor Bob) is the Founder and Senior Pastor of Woodstream Church (formerly Landover Memorial Baptist Church (LMBC)) and the Founder and Chancellor of Woodstream Christian Academy. Pastor Bob came to know Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior in March 1979 at the age of 19 as a result of his mother's influence and listening to Christian radio. The Lord called him to His service in June 1981. Pastor Bob and his wife, the former Yolande' Hinkle, were married on June 30, 1979. Prompted by God's calling on his life, Pastor Bob, along with his wife, Yolande', and baby girl, Rachel, moved to Lynchburg, Virginia, to attend Liberty Baptist Theological Seminary in August 1981. Pastor Bob holds a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Maryland (UMD), as well as a Master of Arts degree and a Doctor of Divinity degree both from Liberty Baptist Theological Seminary.

After graduating with his Masters in May 1983, Pastor Bob and his family returned to Landover and reinstated their membership at Riverdale Baptist Church, where he was eventually licensed to the ministry and ordained. During his sophomore year at the University of Maryland, God gave Pastor Bob the vision of one day building and pastoring a Baptist church. While participating in an evangelistic outreach ministry at Riverdale Baptist and knocking on doors in the Landover area, Pastor Bob was again burdened with the desire to start a church. Being an obedient servant, he founded the Landover Memorial Baptist Church and conducted its first worship service at Kenmoor Middle School on Sunday, June 26, 1983. Pastor Bob was installed as the pastor on August 28, 1983 at the church's organization service.

Pastor Bob continued the evangelistic outreach of knocking on doors in the surrounding community with the goal of sharing the good news of the gospel. This outreach resulted in the church experiencing amazing growth. Many current members were saved and joined this church as a result of the working of the Holy Spirit through Pastor Bob's obedience to the calling of God on his life. On Easter Sunday, May 29, 1989, LMBC conducted its first service in the newly constructed sanctuary on Manson Street.

In the spring of 1992, construction began on the church's two-story educational wing. In September 2003, construction on the new 82,000 square foot facility in Mitchellville, Maryland was completed and the name of the church was changed to Woodstream Church. The growth of the church has been nothing short of miraculous and is a testament to God's sovereignty and the sacrifice and dedication of its founder, Pastor Bob.

Pastor Bob enjoys sports, particularly major league baseball and professional football. He is a diehard fan of the Washington Nationals and the Washington Redskins. He also enjoys keeping up on current events, bicycling, and caring for his dogs. Pastor Bob and Yolande' reside in Upper Marlboro, Maryland. They are blessed with five adult children and eight grandchildren.

SPECIAL ADVISOR TO BOARD CHAIR & PRESIDENT



David A. Thomas

12th President of Morehouse College

Dr. David A. Thomas took office as the 12th President of Morehouse College on Jan. 1, 2018, ushering in a new era of leadership for Morehouse College, the nation's largest and most prestigious liberal arts college for men.

His appointment in October 2017 ended a six-month period of leadership transition at the College, which began in April when the Board announced its national search for a new Morehouse President. Members of the Morehouse College Board of Trustees selected President Thomas for many reasons, including his visionary leadership as a business school administrator and his proven track record in fund-raising, which includes a capital campaign that raised more than \$130 million in five years for Georgetown University's McDonough School of Business.

President Thomas has 30 years of higher education experience. He holds a doctorate in Organizational Behavior Studies and a Master of Philosophy degree in Organizational Behavior, both from Yale University. He also has a master's degree in Organizational Psychology from Columbia University, and a Bachelor of Administrative Sciences degree from Yale College.

President Thomas is the former H. Naylor Fitzhugh Professor of Business Administration at Harvard Business School, and the former Dean of Georgetown University's McDonough School of Business.

As Dean of Georgetown McDonough, Thomas led 250 employees and more than 2,000 students through a period of growth, which included a redesign of the MBA curriculum, the launch of the school's first online degree program, and a \$130-million capital campaign. He enhanced academic and professional opportunities for the school's undergraduate and graduate students, including adding the Global Business Experience and an Office of Professional Development for undergraduates. He also increased the diversity of faculty and staff, launched new research initiatives, and boosted the school's research funding.

Prior to Georgetown, Thomas served for two decades as a professor and administrator at Harvard University. He returned in 2017 as the H. Naylor Fitzhugh Professor of Business Administration at Harvard Business School. He is also a former assistant professor of management at The Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania.

In addition to his work as an educator, Thomas serves as a member of the Board of Directors of DTE Energy, the American Red Cross, and The Posse Foundation. He was the recipient of the Washington Business Journal's 2014 "Minority Business Leader of the Year" award and the National Executive Forum's "Breaking Through: 2020, Beacon Award," among other honors. He has also worked as a consultant on issues relating to organizational change, diversity, and inclusion for 100 of the Fortune 500 companies, as well as major governmental and nonprofit organizations.

Thomas is nationally renowned for his research on managing diversity in the workplace. He has written numerous case studies and academic articles on the subject. He is also the co-author of two related books: "Breaking Through: The Making of Minority Executives in Corporate America," one of the first in-depth studies to focus on minorities who have made it to the top; and "Leading for Equity: The Pursuit of Excellence in Montgomery County Public Schools."