CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST, INC.

Bishop John Drew Sheard
Presiding Bishop & Chief Apostle
Chief Celebrant



The Service of Episcopal Consecration and Installation Of Bishops

Jurisdictional and Auxiliary

to the Sacred Office of the Episcopacy in the Lord's Church

Monday, the Twenty Second Day of January
Two Thousand Twenty-Four
at Seven O'clock in the Evening

HYATT REGENCY | ATLANTA, GEORGIA

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Affirmation of Faith

We affirm our faith in the Bible.

Congregation: We believe the Bible to be the inspired and only infallible written Word of God.

We affirm our faith in God.

Congregation: We believe that there is only One God, eternally existent in three persons: God the Father, God the Son and, God the Holy Spirit.

We affirm our faith in the blessed Hope.

Congregation: We believe in the blessed Hope, which is the rapture of the Church of God, which is in Christ, at His return.

We affirm our faith in repentance.

Congregation: We believe that the only means of being cleansed from sin is through repentance and faith in the precious Blood of Jesus Christ.

We affirm our faith in salvation.

Congregation: We believe that regeneration by the Holy Ghost is absolutely essential for personal salvation.

We affirm our faith in Jesus Christ.

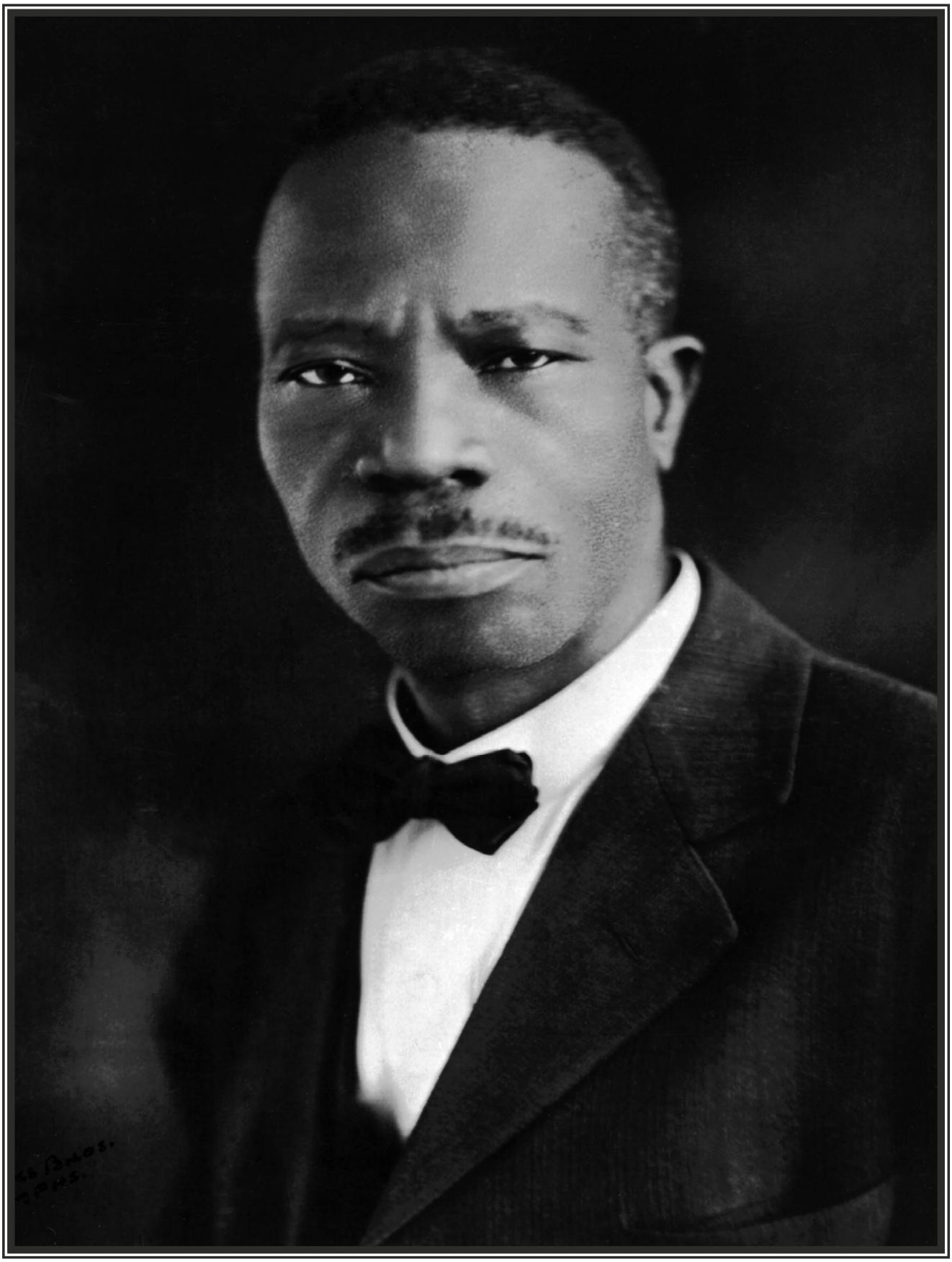
Congregation: We believe that the redemptive work of Christ on the Cross provides healing for the human body in answer to believing prayer.

We affirm our faith in the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: We believe that the Baptism of the Holy Spirit, according to Acts 2:4, is given to believers who ask for it.

We affirm our faith in sanctification.

Congregation: We believe in the sanctifying power of the Holy Spirit, by whose indwelling the Christian is enabled to live a holy and separated life in the present world.



Bishop Charles Harrison Mason

Founder, Senior Bishop and First Apostle

Bishop Charles Harrison Mason

Bishop Charles Harrison Mason was the founder and first Senior Bishop of the Church Of God In Christ (COGIC), presently the largest African-American Pentecostal church in the United States.

Born to former slaves Jerry and Eliza Mason in Shelby County, Tenn., on September 8, 1864, Mason worked with his family as a sharecropper and did not receive a formal education as a child. From an early age, he was influenced by his parents' religion.

Mason joined the African-American Missionary Baptist Church when he was an adolescent and later received his license to preach from the Mount Gale Missionary Baptist Church in Preston, Ark. In November 1893, Mason enrolled at the Arkansas Baptist College, but withdrew after three months to transfer to the Minister's Institute at the College. He graduated from the Institute in 1895.

In 1895, Mason met Charles Price Jones, a popular Baptist preacher from Mississippi. Mason and Jones soon began preaching the doctrine of holiness and sanctification in the local Baptist churches, which led to their expulsion from the Baptist Convention.

Mason and Jones decided to form a new fellowship of churches. Mason suggested the name Church Of God In Christ, after what he described as a vision in Little Rock, Ark., to distinguish the church from a number of "Church of God" groups forming at that time.

Due to disagreements in the new Pentecostal teachings, the two men split their group in 1907. Mason won the legal rights to the Church Of God In Christ name and charter, and established his work in Memphis.

After moving the COGIC headquarters to Memphis, Mason established additional departments and auxiliaries, created dioceses, and appointed overseers throughout the country.

In 1945, Mason dedicated Mason Temple in Memphis as the church's national meeting site and the international headquarters of the Church Of God In Christ.

At the time of Mason's death on November 17, 1961, COGIC had a membership of more than 400,000 and more than 4,000 churches in the United States as well as congregations in Europe, South America, Africa, and Asia.

Today, it has an estimated 6.5 million members. The church can be found in every state in the United States and in more than 12,000 churches in 105 countries around the world.



January 22, 2024

Greetings to the Episcopal College,

The Lord Jesus Christ has established a system of governance for his church, with the sacred office of the Episcopacy having been established to protect and defend the doctrines and disciplines of our faith. After careful review and prayerful consideration, you have been recommended to the office of Bishop within the Church Of God In Christ, Inc. Your faith and devotion to service in the Kingdom of God are commendable.

I Timothy 3 mandates that a bishop must be above reproach. Walk after the spirit and pursue excellence as you perform your newly acquired responsibilities. Make sure your deeds uplift others, and your motives are absent of selfishness and conceit. Approach the fulfillment of your duties and obligations with maturity and anticipation of victory.

Reflect on the words of Paul from Colossians 1:9-11, *"For this cause we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you and to desire that ye might be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; that ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God; strengthened with all might according to his glorious power, unto all patience and longsuffering with joyfulness."*

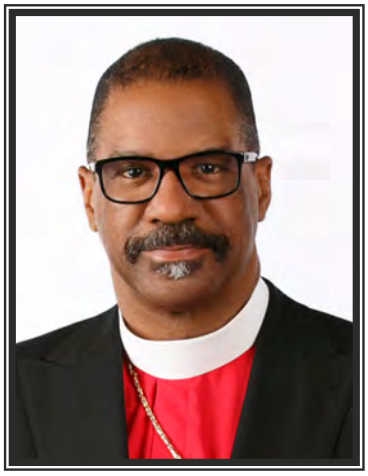
Finally, pray continually and maintain your love for the saints knowing that God is faithful to reward your labor of love.

In His Service,

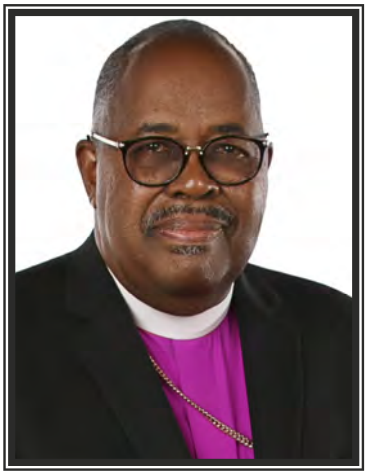
+John Drew Sheard
Presiding Bishop & Chief Apostle
Church Of God In Christ, Inc.



The Presidium



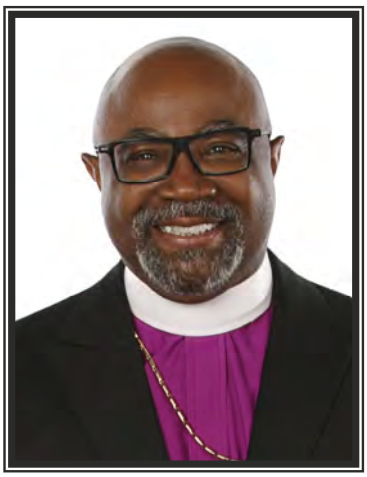
His Eminence, The Most Reverend
John Drew Sheard
Presiding Bishop & Chief Apostle
Eighth in Succession



The Right Reverend
Jerry Wayne Macklin, Sr.
First Assistant Presiding Bishop
and First Vice President



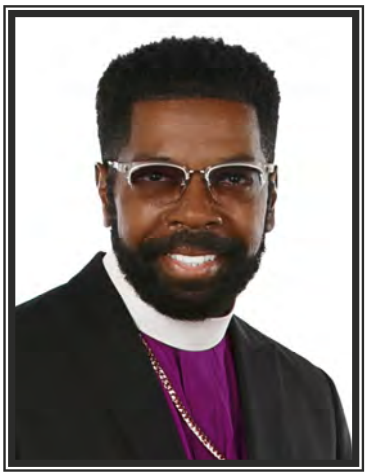
The Right Reverend
Lawrence Marcellus Wooten, Sr.
Second Assistant Presiding Bishop
and Second Vice President



The Right Reverend
Brandon Burdett Porter, Sr.
Secretary to the General Board

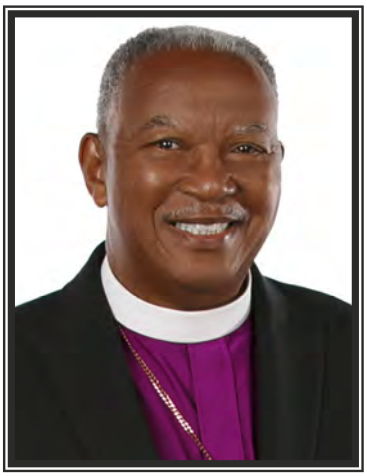


The Right Reverend
Michael Eugene Hill, Sr.
Assistant Secretary to the General Board

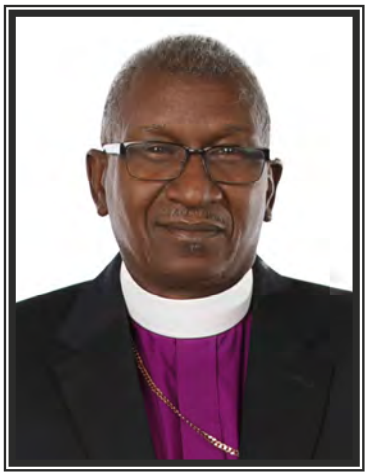


The Right Reverend
Darrell Lynn Hines, Sr.

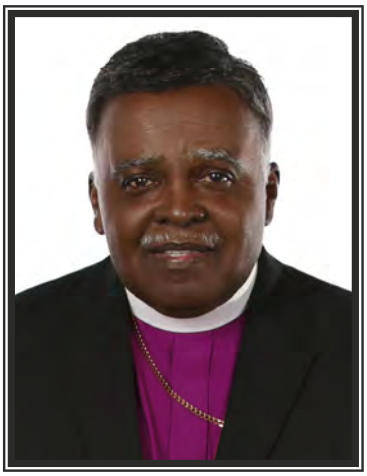
The Presidium



The Right Reverend
Prince Earl William Bryant, Sr.



The Right Reverend
David Allen Hall, Sr.



The Right Reverend
Malcolm Winslow Coby



The Right Reverend
Charles Henry McClelland



The Right Reverend
Elijah Hosea Hankerson III

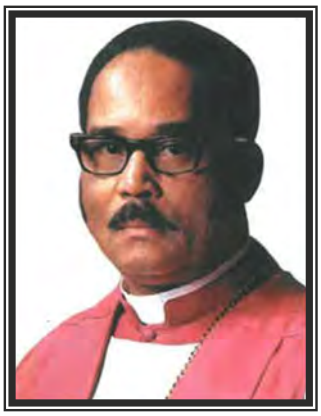


The Late Right Reverend
Sedgwick Charles Daniels

Historical Gallery of Chief Apostolic Leadership



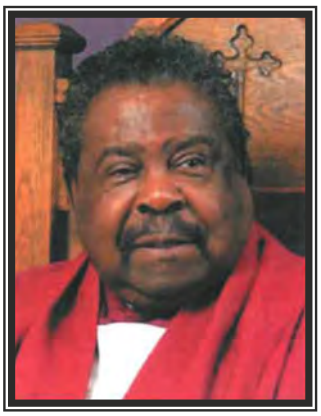
The Late Senior Bishop
Bishop Ozro Thurston Jones, Sr.
(1891-1972)
Second Senior Bishop
Served From 1961 to 1968
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania



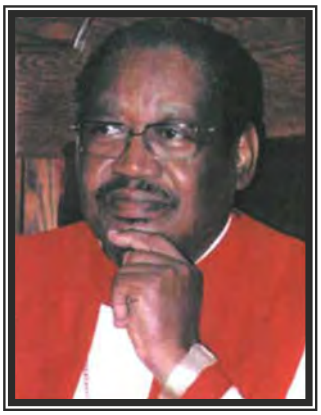
The Late Presiding Bishop
Bishop James Oglethorpe Patterson, Sr.
(1912-1989)
First Presiding Bishop
Served From 1968 to 1989
Memphis, Tennessee



The Late Presiding Bishop
Bishop Louis Henry Ford
(1914-1995)
Second Presiding Bishop
Served From 1989 to 1995
Chicago, Illinois



The Late Former Presiding Bishop
Bishop Chandler David Owens
(1931-2011)
Third Presiding Bishop
Served From 1995 to 2000
Atlanta, Georgia



The Late Presiding Bishop
Bishop Gilbert Earl Patterson
(1939-2007)
Fourth Presiding Bishop
Served From 2000 to 2007
Memphis, Tennessee



The Emeritus Presiding Bishop
Bishop Charles Edward Blake, Sr.
Fifth Presiding Bishop
Served From 2007 to 2021
Los Angeles, California

+The Old Testament
Isaiah 40:27-31 KJV

Why sayest thou, O Jacob, and speakest, O Israel, My way is hid from the Lord, and my judgment is passed over from my God?

Hast thou not known? hast thou not heard, that the everlasting God, the Lord, the Creator of the ends of the earth, fainteth not, neither is weary? there is no searching of his understanding.

He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength.

Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall:

But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

+The New Testament
I Timothy 3:1-7 KJV

This is a true saying, if a man desire the office of a bishop, he desireth a good work.

A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behaviour, given to hospitality, apt to teach;

Not given to wine, no striker, not greedy of filthy lucre; but patient, not a brawler, not covetous;

One that ruleth well his own house, having his children in subjection with all gravity;
(For if a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the church of God?)

Not a novice, lest being lifted up with pride he fall into the condemnation of the devil.

Moreover he must have a good report of them which are without; lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil.

The Hymn

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

Thomas Chisholm and William M. Runyan

"Great is Thy faithfulness," O God my Father,
There is no shadow of turning with Thee;
Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not
As Thou hast been Thou forever wilt be.

"Great is Thy faithfulness!" "Great is Thy faithfulness!"
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided—
"Great is Thy faithfulness," Lord, unto me!

Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,
Sun, moon and stars in their courses above,
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

The Service of Episcopal Consecration and Installation Of Bishops Jurisdictional and Auxiliary

Monday, the Twenty Second Day of January Two Thousand and Twenty-Four Anno Domini At Seven O'clock in the Evening

THE HYATT REGENCY
Atlanta, Georgia

The Order Of Divine Worship

(+Where indicated, Please Stand)

PRESIDING
THE RIGHT REVEREND JERRY W. MACKLIN
First Assistant Presiding Bishop
Prelate, California Nor-Cal Metropolitan Jurisdiction

+ Organ Prelude

+ The Apostolic Procession — **The Right Reverend Dickerson L. S. Wells**, ***Adjutant General***

THE NATIONAL ADJUTANCY
+THE PRESIDING BISHOP
+THE FIRST ASSISTANT PRESIDING BISHOP
+THE SECOND ASSISTANT PRESIDING BISHOP
+THE GENERAL BOARD
THE CHAIRMAN OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
THE GENERAL SECRETARY
THE GENERAL TREASURER
THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY
THE VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
THE CHIEF JUSTICE, NATIONAL JUDICIARY BOARD
THE CHAIRMAN, NATIONAL BOARD OF TRUSTEES
THE CHAIRMAN, GENERAL COUNCIL OF PASTORS AND ELDERS
THE COLLEGE OF BISHOPS, LED BY THE CHAIRMAN
THE EPISCOPAL ASSIGNEES
THE BISHOP-DESIGNATES [WITH EPISCOPAL ESCORTS]

Call To Worship — **The Right Reverend Brandon B. Porter**, ***Secretary, General Board***, *Prelate, Tennessee Central Jurisdiction*

THE LEADER: Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised in the city of our God, in the mountain of his holiness. Beautiful for situation, the joy of the whole earth, is mount Zion, on the sides of the north, the city of the great King.

THE PEOPLE: Declare his glory among the heathen; his marvellous works among all nations. For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised: he also is to be feared above all gods.

THE LEADER: Give unto the LORD, ye kindreds of the people, give unto the LORD glory and strength. Give unto the LORD the glory due unto his name: bring an offering, and come before him: worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.

THE PEOPLE: Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice: and let men say among the nations,
The LORD reigneth. Let the sea roar, and the fulness thereof: let the fields rejoice, and all that is therein.

THE LEADER: Then shall the trees of the wood sing out at the presence of the LORD, because he cometh to judge the earth.

ALL: O give thanks unto the LORD; for he is good; for his mercy endureth for ever.

Psalm 48:1-2, 1 Chronicles 16:24-25, 28-29, 31-34 (KJV)

+The Invocation	**The Right Reverend Michael E. Hill, Sr.** ***Assistant Secretary, General Board*** *Prelate, Michigan Great Lakes First Jurisdiction*
+Old Testament Reading (Isaiah 40:27-31 KJV)	**The Right Reverend Malcolm W. Coby** ***General Board Member*** *Prelate, Oklahoma Southeast Jurisdiction*
+New Testament Reading (I Timothy 3:1-7 KJV)	**The Right Reverend Elijah H. Hankerson III** **General Board Member** *Prelate, Missouri Midwest Jurisdiction*
+The Hymn *"Great is Thy Faithfulness"*	**The C. H. Mason Memorial Choir** *Dr. Myron Williams, President* *International Music Department*
+The Affirmation of Faith	**The Right Reverend Prince E.W. Bryant, Sr.** ***Secretary, General Board*** *Prelate, Texas South Central Jurisdiction*
The Anthem	**The C. H. Mason Memorial Choir**
The Sacred Ministry of Giving	**The Right Reverend Darrell L. Hines, Sr.** ***General Board Member*** *Prelate, Illinois Midwest Jurisdiction*
The Presentation of the Presiding Bishop	**The Right Reverend Charles H. McClelland** ***General Board Member*** *Prelate, Wisconsin Northwest Jurisdiction*

THE VOICE OF OUR LEADER
HIS EMINENCE, THE MOST REVEREND
JOHN DREW SHEARD
CHIEF CONSECRATOR & CELEBRANT

The Presentation of the Messenger

The Sermonic Selection	**The C. H. Mason Memorial Choir**
THE HOMILY	**The Right Reverend Edward Robinson, Sr.** *Prelate, Florida Central Second Jurisdiction*
Prayer of Healing & Deliverance	**The Right Reverend Darrell L. Hines, Sr.** ***General Board Member*** *Prelate, Illinois Midwest Jurisdiction*
The Invitation	

The Service of

Episcopal Consecration & Installation

His Eminence, The Most Reverend

John Drew Sheard

Chief Consecrator and Celebrant

This is a true saying, if a man desire the office of a bishop, he desireth a good work. A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behaviour, given to hospitality, apt to teach; Not given to wine, no striker, not greedy of filthy lucre; but patient, not a brawler, not covetous; One that ruleth well his own house, having his children in subjection with all gravity; (For if a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the church of God?) Not a novice, lest being lifted up with pride he fall into the condemnation of the devil. Moreover, he must have a good report of them which are without; lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil.

(1 Timothy 3:1-7)

Preface to the Ordinal

The Holy Scriptures and ancient Christian writers make it clear that from the Apostles time, there have been different ministries within the church. In particular, since the time of the New Testament, three distinct orders of ordained ministers have been characteristic of Christ holy (universal) Church. First, there is the order of bishops who carry on the apostolic work of leading, supervising, and uniting the Church. Secondly, associated with them are the presbyters, or ordained elders, prior to the New Testament Church, they were known as priests. Together with the bishops, they take part in the governance of the church, in the carrying out of its missionary and pastoral work, and in the preaching of the Word of God and administering His holy sacraments. Thirdly, there are deacons who assist bishops and elders in all of this work. It is also a special responsibility of deacons to minister in Christ name to the poor, the sick, the suffering, and the helpless.

The persons who are chosen and recognized by the church as being called by God to the ordained ministry are admitted to these sacred orders by solemn prayer and the laying on of hands by the Apostles. It has been, and is, the intention and purpose of the church to maintain and continue these three orders; and for this purpose, these Services of Ordination and Consecration are appointed. No persons are allowed to exercise the offices of bishop, priest, or elder, or deacon, or wear their insignia in the church unless they are so ordained or have already received such ordination with the laying on of hands by bishops who are themselves duly qualified to confer Holy Orders.

It is also recognized and affirmed that the threefold ministry is not the exclusive property of this portion of Christ universal Church, but it is a gift from God for the nurture of His people and the proclamation of His Gospel everywhere. Accordingly, the manner of ordaining in this Church is to be such as has been, and is, most generally recognized by Christian people as suitable for conferring the sacred orders of Bishop, Elder, and Deacon.

The Service of
Episcopal Consecration

HIS EMINENCE, THE MOST REVEREND

JOHN DREW SHEARD

CHIEF CONSECRATOR & CELEBRANT

(The Order of Worship completed and the Word of God having been preached, the Service of Consecration begins. The Presiding Bishop will summon the designates to the main altar for consecration.)

The Presentation

(The Chairman of the College of Bishops shall present the designates to the Presiding Bishop saying:)

"YOUR GRACE, BY THE WILL OF GOD I PRESENT THESE DESIGNATES TO YOU FOR PUBLIC CONSECRATION TO THE SACRED OFFICE OF JURISDICTIONAL BISHOP AND AUXILIARY BISHOP IN THE CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST."

(Having received the designates, the Presiding Bishop begins the charge)

The Charge

The Church Of God In Christ has expressed confidence in you, in your character, in your devotion to Christ and the Church, and in your ability to direct the affairs and promote the general interests of the entire Church in that she has signally honored you by selecting you to this high office. The Apostle Paul warns that *"a Bishop must then be blameless, the husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behavior, given to hospitality, apt to teach. Moreover, he must have a good report of them which are without, lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil."*

The General Assembly of the Church Of God In Christ has assigned to you as Bishop, the following duties:

- To uphold, obey and defend the Word of God.
- To obey and defend the Constitution of the Church Of God In Christ.
- To function as the Administrative Head of the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction to which you are assigned.
- To seek out and discover, in cooperation with your District Superintendents and Congregations, a suitable Pastor for each Congregation under your care.
- To encourage Ministerial Improvements and Leadership Training by planning Pastors Study Groups, In- Service Training, Ministerial Retreats and supporting the Charles Harrison Mason System of Bible Colleges.
- To inspire the Pastors to spiritual growth and personal improvement for more effective witnessing for Christ and His Kingdom.
- To encourage visitation among the Pastors in the homes, hospitals and penal institutions.
- To stimulate, by your life example, as well as, by your preaching, the outlook and vision of your people and inspire them to holy living and more dedication to the total program of the Church.
- To submit yourself to your Superiors in the church with all prayerful humility and by your example, teaching those under your charge to do the same.
- To seek out communities in your Jurisdiction into which a Christian Witness might be effective.

The Inquiry

The Presiding Bishop: In as much as the Holy Scriptures enjoin that no man be placed hastily in supervision of the affairs of God's Holy Church and in order that those here may know your mind and purpose concerning this Sacred office will you, in the fear of God, answer the questions we ask you in the name of Christ and His Church?

The Bishop Designate: I will.

The Presiding Bishop: Will you endeavor to live soberly, righteously and godly as a Bishop in the Church so that you may be an example to all others in Christian living?"

The Bishop Designate: I will by the help of God.

The Presiding Bishop: Will you instruct those who come under your charge, in the Word of God to the edification of the whole church?

The Bishop Designate: I will do so, the Lord being my helper.

The Presiding Bishop: Will you give diligence to faithfully perform all the duties assigned to you as Bishop of the Church Of God In Christ as directed by your Superiors?"

The Bishop Designate: I will, by the help of God.

The Presiding Bishop: Will you ever seek, in true humility, to deal justly and kindly with your brethren in the ministry and with all others over which you shall be placed as Bishop?"

The Bishop Designate: I will do so by the help and grace of God the Holy Spirit being my strength.

The Acceptance

(The designates will now turn and face the standing congregation)

The Presiding Bishop: Saints of Christ, do you under God, accept these men into this office and will you give them your cooperation, support and prayers as they seek to carry out the responsibilities of this office?"

The Congregation: We will do so, God being our helper.

The Investiture

The Ring: The Symbol of priestly authority.

The Cassock: The robe which is worn during the service, is the symbol of an Elder and Servant. The Bishop is first and foremost, a Servant and one among his brethren.

The Cincture: This Garment is a symbol of Christ. It speaks of the Bishop's willingness to "wash his brethren's feet" pursuant to the example of His Lord.

The Rochet: This white linen Garment is a symbol of the Priesthood. Aaron's Ephod is found in the book of Leviticus and is a reminder to the Bishop that his role as Celebrant and Worship Leader is prominent in the total Mandate of the Office.

The Chimere: This Garment is a symbol of a Prophet. The Bishop of the Church becomes the Chief Defender of the faith, and the Preacher of the doctrines in his Jurisdiction. This is one symbol that sets him apart from Elders, for he alone wears this Mantle of Office.

The Pectoral Cross: This cross of gold is hung around the Bishop's neck as a symbol of his imprisonment for Christ.

The Tippet: The tippet is the symbol of a slave. It is the tippet that binds the Bishop to his Church. Inscribed on the tippet, is the seal of the Church Of God In Christ, Inc., and the Seal of the Bishop. They are the symbols of Jurisdiction or Assignment. The tippet signifies that the Bishop is a man under authority.

(The Presiding Bishop now places Cross & Chain along with the Tippet about the neck of the newly appointed Bishop and makes the following declaration):

The Bishop is hereby officially inducted into the College of Bishops.

The Installation of Bishops

The Presiding Bishop: My brothers, in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, the Great Head of the Church and by the authority vested in me by the General Assembly of the Church, I do hereby install you as a Bishop in the Church Of God In Christ.

(The newly installed Bishops now kneel at the main altar)

The Prayer of Consecration

The Right Reverend Lawrence M. Wooten, Sr.
Second Assistant Presiding Bishop
Prelate, Missouri Eastern Second - Illinois Western Jurisdiction

The Issuance of Certificates of Appointment & Episcopal Assignment

The Right Reverend Joel H. Lyles, Jr.
General Secretary
Prelate, Maryland Greater First Jurisdiction

+The Prayer of Benediction

The Right Reverend David A. Hall, Sr.
General Board Member
Prelate, Tennessee Headquarters Jurisdiction

+The Recessional

"The blessing of the Lord be upon you; we bless you in the name of the Lord."
Psalm 129:8 KJV

In observance of the Recessional, please remain at your seat until the Presiding Bishop, the General Board and the College of Bishops have recessed.



"These are the men who the Lord delighteth to honor"

Bishops with Jurisdictional Designation

Bishop Designate Dennis Tyree Gordon
Prelate, Ethiopia Second Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction

Bishop Designate Edward Thurston Jones
Prelate, Liberia Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction

Bishop Designate Ronnie Eugene Surrey
Prelate, Ethiopia First Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction

Bishops with Auxiliary Designation

Bishop Designate Clinton Charles Bryant
Tennessee Fifth Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction

Bishop Designate Jackie Ronald Buckner, Sr.
Florida Eastern Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction

Bishop Designate William Lee Hennesy, Sr.
Texas South Central Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction

Bishop Designate Ezra DeWitt Kinlow
Washington State Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction

Bishop Designate McKinley Bernard Johnson, Sr.
New York Central Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction

Bishop Designate Albert Green Pass
Mississippi Northern Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction

Bishop Designate Brent Lamar Tiggs, Sr.
Bermuda Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction

***Bishop Designate James John Wilson, Jr.**
Illinois Seventh Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction

Bishops with Episcopal Assignment

Bishop James H. Bowman, Sr.
Prelate, New York Central Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction

Bishop Corby Bush, Sr.
Prelate, Trinidad & Tobago Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction

Bishop Morris O. Jenkins, Jr.
Prelate, Texas Southeast First Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction

Bishop Robert L. Perry, Jr.
Prelate, Illinois Fifth West Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction

Bishop Thomas L. Walker, Sr.
Prelate, Texas Northeast Fifth Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction

**The Bishop Designate has received a middle name from the Presiding Bishop. The Apostolic given name is given as a ceremonial tradition of brotherhood and purpose among the episcopates.*



Bishop Designate
Dennis Tyree Gordon
Prelate, Ethiopia Second Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction

Dennis T. Gordon is the founding pastor of New Hope, Church of God in Christ, in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. He has devoted himself to edifying God's children through sound doctrinal teaching and lifestyle evangelism for twenty years. Dennis actively served in missions and evangelism, ministering in various capacities in Bahrain, Ethiopia, Germany, and Korea. Through his supervision, many churches have been planted and provided the resources necessary for growth and sustainability. Additionally, New Hope provides education programs and subsistence support that meet the needs of the underserved population in Ethiopia.

Dennis served in the United States Air Force, retiring from active duty after 20 years of service. He graduated from Liberty University, earning the Bachelor of Arts in Biblical Studies and the Master of Arts in psychology from San Francisco University. He serves Bishop Corby Bush, Sr., Prelate of the Ethiopia Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction, as the First Administrative Assistant and the Superintendent of the True Love District. Dennis loves God, his family, and is passionate about preaching and teaching.



Bishop Designate
Edward Thurston Jones
Prelate, Liberia Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction

Pastor Thurston Jones is a native Philadelphian, the younger of two sons of Deacon Walter B. and Mother Juanita Jones. Raised in the church, Elder Jones accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as his Savior at the age of 12 years old. He has earned an associate degree in Culinary Arts from Johnson & Wales University; a Bachelor of Arts degree in Religion and Education from Boston University; a Master's Degree in Education from Arcadia University and a Master's of Divinity from Trinity College of the Bible and Theological Seminary.

Pastor Jones is married to Evangelist Patricia Hughes Jones, MD. She is a board-certified OB/GYN. Married since 1987 they were blessed with three children- Edward, Ian and Meghaan, but were later blessed to have- Angelic, Andrea, and Anna, and Ebone join their family.

His oversaw the reprinting of the YPWW Topics authored by his grandfather, Senior Bishop O.T. Jones and his uncle O.T. Jones, Jr into a one-volume book entitled, As We Walk With God, safeguarding their work from many years ago for future generations.

Brother Thurston Jones was ordained in the Lord's Church as an Elder in the Church of God in Christ in 1983. From that time until 1996 he served as an associate minister at the historic Holy Temple Church of God in Christ in Philadelphia. In 1996 he was invited to come to Chester, PA to serve as an assistant to Elder Clarence Lewis, then pastor of St. Paul's Church of God in Christ. Pastor Lewis later transferred to a pastorate in Coatesville, PA and Elder Jones was installed as pastor of St. Paul's in March 1997. In 1996, Elder Jones took his first missionary journey to Zimbabwe and Mozambique. He journeyed to South Africa in 2005 where he met a then young missionary pastor, Elder Vincent Mathews, initiating a friendship that continues until today. Subsequent mission tours have taken him to the Dominican Republic, Liberia, Kenya, and Puerto Rico. In 2017 he was appointed Regional Director of Region A (NY, NJ, PA, DE, MD) of the National Missions Department and in 2019 he was appointed Superintendent of the Gideon District in the Pennsylvania Commonwealth Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction, COGIC.

Bishop Designate
Ronnie Eugene Surrey
Prelate, Ethiopia First Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction



Ron E. Surrey is a native of Danville, Georgia. In 1964 he migrated from Macon, Georgia to New Britain, Connecticut. He served in the United States Army from 1969 to 1970 doing a tour of duty in Vietnam returning to the United in 1971 receiving an honorable discharge.

After his Army experience, he returned to Connecticut and graduated from Central Connecticut State University receiving a B.A. in Sociology/Social Work. He then went on to the International Seminary, Plymouth, Florida receiving a master's and PhD in Theology in 2007

Dr. Surrey was baptized in the Holy Ghost on February 6, 1976. He became a member of the Mount Olive Church Of God In Christ in New Britain. He heard and acknowledged the call to "Preach the Word." and in April 1978 he preached his first sermon.

From 1978 until 1986 Ron faithfully served his Pastor, Presiding Elder Samuel Kimble until his demise. In June 1988 Ron was installed by the Late Bishop Charles Henry Brewer, Jr., (Connecticut #1) as the new Pastor of Mount Olive later changing its name to The New Mount Olive Church of God in Christ. For over 35 years he has labored in the vineyard tirelessly.

He has served in the Connecticut 1 jurisdiction as District Superintendent, Administrative Assistant, and Chairman of the Council of Pastors and Elders.

Ron has been the husband of Evangelist Missionary Versie Surrey for the past 55 years and they have raised twin young men.



Bishop Designate
Clinton Charles Bryant
Auxiliary Bishop, Tennessee Fifth Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction

Clinton C. Bryant was the founding pastor of The Hope of Glory Deliverance Ministry Church Of God In Christ from August of 1991 until February of 2014, when the late Bishop Samuel Leon Lowe appointed him as his successor, to pastor the Gethsemane Garden Church of God in Christ in Memphis, Tennessee.

Bryant graduated from LeMoyne-Owen College earning a Bachelor of Arts in Theology. He currently serves as Executive Administrative Assistant to Bishop Jerry W. Taylor, Prelate of the Tennessee Fifth Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction.

In 1990, then Elder Bryant heard the voice of God proclaim, "Out of your belly shall come a nation of ministers and teachers. You shall teach my people the Word." For the past 32 years, Pastor Bryant has headed to the voice of God, demonstrating transformative compassion for the speckled and the spotted; teaching God's people that "Deliverance is the Only Option." Bryant uses his uncanny ability to break down the sacred scriptures to tell the untold, reach the unreached, and to help believers. Bryant is committed to building the Kingdom of God through his transparency, and his powerful messages of deliverance and hope. In addition to his love of the ministry, Bryant loves his beautiful wife of 40 years, Shelia J. Bryant, and their 3 wonderful children; Clinton II, LeighAnne, and Cameron; and their five grandchildren.



Bishop Designate
Jackie Ronald Buckner, Sr.
Auxiliary Bishop, Florida Eastern Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction

Jackie Buckner is the founding pastor of Bible Way Church of God in Christ in Vero Beach, Florida. He has served for forty years endeavoring to cultivate the spiritual growth, faithfulness, and maturity of citizens in the kingdom of God under his care. His commitment and passion to serve the Lord wherever and whenever the opportunity is presented keeps him forever invigorated. Also, the members of Bible Way have been a great source for evangelism and ministering to the needs of those in the Vero Beach area and beyond.

Jackie is a graduate of Jacksonville Theological Seminary with a Doctor of Ministry degree. In addition, he has a Master of Science degree from Nova University and a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration from Florida Atlantic University. He serves Bishop Jimmie L. Williams, Prelate of the Florida Eastern Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction, as the Second Administrative Assistant, Central Region Coordinator, Jurisdictional Sunday School President, and District Superintendent of the Cocoa District. He loves to worship and praise God and is devoted to his wife, District Missionary Jennette Buckner, the love of his life.

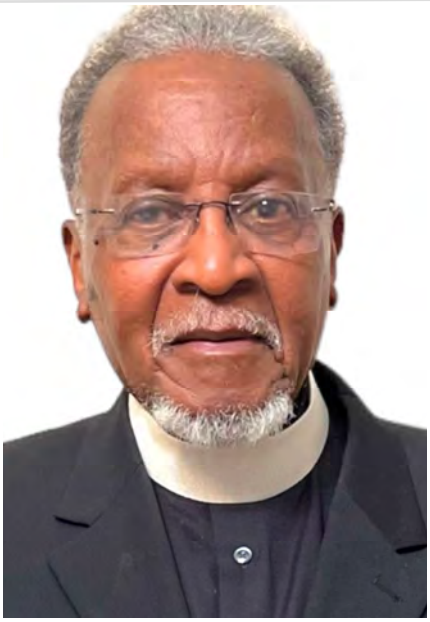
Bishop Designate
William Lee Hennesy, Sr.
Auxiliary Bishop, Texas South Central Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction



Supt. William L Hennesy is the Senior Pastor at the True Vine Church of God in Christ, Houston Texas. Supt. Hennesy has pastored this congregation for over thirty-seven years. Being called to the ministry in 1965, he has been faithful for more than fifty-eight years, and has served more than forty-seven years in pastoral ministry. As a resolute member to the Church of God in Christ, Supt. Hennesy has been faithful to the church his entire ministry. Being a Son of the church, he understands the importance of instilling the gospel and upholding holiness.

Being a visionary, Supt. Hennesy, along with the True Vine COGIC family, purchased a new building, and became debt free in 4 years. As Supt. Hennesy progresses, the church continues to progress. As a result, the church is producing growth and harvesting souls both spiritually and naturally. Supt. Hennesy would say, "It's the Lord's doing." Replicating loyalty and dedication, Supt. Hennesy has served Texas South Central for more than fifty years. Supt Hennesy is a family-oriented person and cherishes every moment with his beautiful wife, First, Lady Sharon Hennesy, as she serves faithfully at his side, along with their children and their families. Elder William II & Felesia Hennesy. Elder Tim and Sheryl Woods. Elder Jeremy and Moeshe Hennesy, and seven grandchildren, Emory, William III, Jeremy Jr., Noah (RIH), Wynter, Ezra and Luke

Bishop Designate
Ezra DeWitt Kinlow
Auxiliary Bishop, Washington State Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction



Superintendent Kinlow was called to pastor the Holy Temple Church of God in Christ in Spokane, Washington on November 29, 1981, serving for over 42 years. Superintendent Kinlow served 17 years as the President of the Washington State Youth Department. Superintendent Kinlow faithfully served the Washington State Jurisdiction under three bishops. He continues to serve the jurisdiction as the Sr. Administrative Assistant and Chairman of the Board of Superintendents, under the current leadership of Bishop Alvin C. Moore.

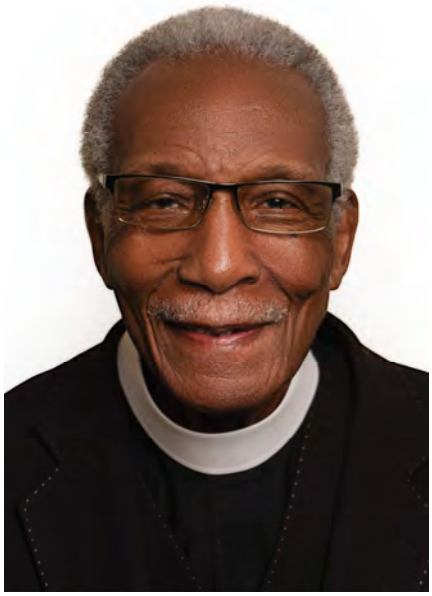
Superintendent Kinlow is recognized for his work and leadership in the community. He has been featured several times in the Spokane Review newspaper for his service and dedication to the City of Spokane. On August 10, 1987, he received the Outstanding Citizen Award from local government officials. His service in ministry extends to many civic arenas serving as a member of the Board of Directors for the Martin Luther King Jr. Family Outreach Center, the committee to select a new Spokane police chief, and co-chairperson of Spokane's 1996 Reconciliation Sunday. He is a member of Mission Spokane and has served in this capacity since its inception, filling the office of President for three years. Superintendent Kinlow has served on the Washington State Commission of the State Board of Nursing and is a past member of Washington State Promise Keepers organization. On January 29, 2012, he was presented with the "Spirit of Unity" award by the Spokane Ministers' Fellowship for his ability to bring leaders from various denominations together with one purpose – serving the community. In 2016 he received the Martin Luther King Jr "Community Impact Ward." He is currently a member of the Spokane Ministers' Alliance, the Greater Spokane Association of Evangelicals, and served as a member of the Churches Against Racism Committee in Spokane. He earned his undergraduate degree from Whitworth University and his master's degree in theology from the A.L. Hardy School of Theology.

Ezra D. Kinlow, Jr. has deep roots in the Church of God in Christ. His parents the late Ezra D., Sr. and the late Mary Kinlow served as the pastor and first lady of Holy Temple Church of God in Christ in Dumas, Arkansas, while raising eleven children. Superintendent Kinlow is child number six. He is the husband of one wife, First Lady Eleise Kinlow, and they have kept their marital covenant for over 60 years. They are the parents of six children, eleven grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren. He loves his family, the church, and above all, he loves the Lord.

Bishop Designate

McKinley Bernard Johnson, Sr.

Auxiliary Bishop, New York Central Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction



Bishop Designate

Albert Greene Pass

Auxiliary Bishop, Mississippi Northern Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction

Superintendent Albert G. Pass resides in Collierville, Tennessee, and is joyfully married to Missionary Claudette L. Pass. Together, they are blessed with six daughters and one son. He serves as the Pastor of Christ Temple COGIC in Holly Springs, MS, and is the District Superintendent of The Holly Springs District (District #11) of the Northern Mississippi Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction Churches of God in Christ, under the leadership of Bishop William Dean.

Nationally recognized as one of the Senior Vice-President of The International Department of Evangelism of the Church of God in Christ, Inc., Bishop Elijah Hankerson lll, President. I have been apart since the late 1960's under Bishop L.C. Page. Now serving as an honorary member. Elder Pass holds a doctoral degree from St. Thomas Christian University in Jacksonville, two degrees from the International Seminary in Plymouth, Florida, and a degree in Biblical Studies from Jimmy Swaggart's Bible College in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. With a deep commitment to evangelism, he travels extensively, witnessing numerous people coming to salvation, receiving the baptism with the Holy Ghost, and experiencing healing. Guiding his life's work is his steadfast belief: "Christ is the Answer to the World's Unrest."

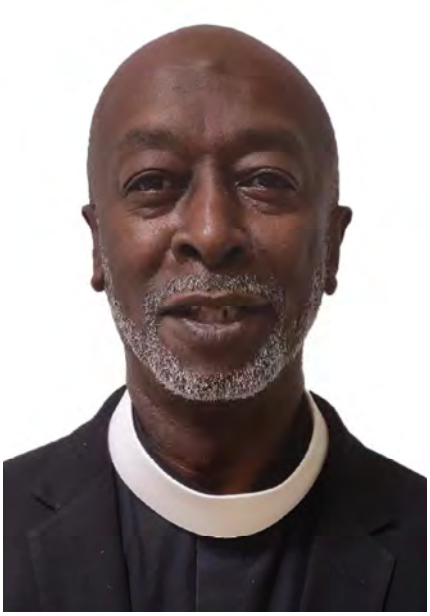
Bishop Designate
Brent Lamar Tiggs, Sr.
Auxiliary Bishop, Bermuda Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction



Brent L. Tiggs, Sr. is a proud native of Marietta, Georgia. He is a successful entrepreneur (restaurant owner) and dedicated and devoted Pastor to his church. Tiggs is the youngest of 7 siblings and was born to the late Earl and Alice Tiggs. Following the successful completion of secondary education (Allgood Elementary, Marietta Jr. High and Marietta High School), he attended Beulah Heights Seminary. Having a keen sense of observation as a young boy, he was always focused and tuned in to the ways of his mother, who nurtured her family by creating well sought-after, mouthwatering meals. At a very young age, Tiggs began to develop a passion to serve people in the same way. This would lead to his desire in becoming a chef. As a young adult, Brent eventually opened his first restaurant, "Fresh Off the Hook," a thriving business that served the community for many years. During this time, he married Consuela Freeman (Tiggs). Becoming a husband and eventually a father is one of the highlights of his life. He is the proud father of Damon, Brent Jr. and Skylah. His concern for his three children's future is one of the things that inspired him to dream bigger, leading him to open a second restaurant, which he proudly and lovingly named "Alice Marie's Café," to honor his mother. Maintaining a purpose-driven life, his success led to the growth and enhancement of his restaurant business, currently known as "The Manna House Café." (Marietta, Ga.) Businessman, family man and man of God, Brent answered another call - and this time, it was to the ministry. Shortly after saying yes to the Will of God, he was ordained by the late Bishop Chandler David Owens as Pastor and Founder of Great Faith Pentecostal Tabernacle COGIC.

Pastor Brent L. Tiggs, Sr. has proven to be a devoted, loving husband, proud father, and humble servant of God. His self -denying characteristic of servitude has and continues to impact the lives of many.

Bishop Designate
James John Wilson, Jr.
Auxiliary Bishop, Illinois Seventh Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction



James Wilson, Jr. is the founding pastor of the Bethel Deliverance Center Church of God in Christ for thirty years. He has been an innovative and energetic leader who has instructed people in righteous living and spiritual development, empowering the lives of people in the Chicago Austin community. He created several programs to help the community of the west side of Chicago, including food and clothing giveaways, a free health clinic with board-certified physicians, and summer sports and camp programs. He believes the Church is to be of service to the community, naturally and spiritually. Elder Wilson attended Chicago Public Schools, Wright College, and Benedictine University. He received medical training at the Chicago College of Osteopathic Medicine. He has worked in several Chicagoland and suburban hospitals for more than 37 years.

Elder Wilson serves Bishop Edward Goodwin, Sr., Prelate of Seventh Illinois Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction, as an administrative assistant and Superintendent of the Love and Joy District. His love for God is apparent in his teaching and preaching. He is married to Sister Shirley R. Wilson and is the father of five children, nine grandchildren, and four great grandchildren.



Bishops with Episcopal Assignment

Bishop
James H. Bowman, Sr.
Prelate, New York Central Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction

Bishop
Corby Bush, Sr.
Prelate, Trinidad & Tobago Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction

Bishop
Morris O. Jenkins, Jr.
Prelate, Texas Southeast Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction

Bishop
Robert L. Perry, Jr.
Prelate, Illinois Fifth West Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction

Bishop
Thomas L. Walker, Sr.
Prelate, Northeast Fifth Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction



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The Reverend Herman George Platt
Deputy Adjutant General
Greensboro, North Carolina

The Reverend John Brandon Smith
Deputy Adjutant General
Memphis, Tennessee

The Reverend Nickolus Clay South
Scribe of the National Adjutancy
Farmington Hills, Michigan

The Reverend Waddee Bernell Thoroughgood, Jr.
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