



Victory in Christ  
CHRISTIAN CENTER

# The Service of **CONSECRATION** Licensing & Installation

MARCH 29, 2025

VICTORY IN CHRIST CHRISTIAN CENTER



# The Service of Consecration and Licensing

—*for*—

## MINISTERIAL CANDIDATES

Kenny Adams  
Rhonda Carden  
Marsha Jerman  
Elise Minor

Majorie Baker  
Christopher Hampton  
Kelli Little  
Sharon Nelson  
Andres Vilorio

Rachquel Briggs  
Sheila Horn  
David McGhee  
Betty Templeman

—&—

# The Service of Consecration and Installation

—*for*—

## DEACON CANDIDATES

Deborah Agbessi  
Nicole Harris  
Debra McGhee  
Marrtin Quick  
Michael Taylor

Richard Bailey  
Tracee Humphries  
Jasmine Moore.  
Chanoa Santiago  
Treena Davis-Trotman  
Gary Waller

Daryl Briggs  
Asata McFarland  
Yvette Pitman  
Andre Smith  
Joanne Turner

Saturday, the Twenty-Nine of March  
in the Year of our Lord Two-Thousand and Twenty Five  
at Six o' Clock pm in the  
Victory in Christ Christian Center Sanctuary

*Bishop John & Pastor Isha Edmondson*  
*Pastors and Founders*



## 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 ministers have been characteristic of Christ's holy catholic (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 elders, in subsequent times generally 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 ministers and deacons, who assist elders in all of this work. Ministers assist the eldership in the spiritual oversight of the local church body, while deacons assist the ministers to minister in Christ's Name to the poor, the sick, the suffering and the helpless of the local church body.

The persons who are appointed and recognized by the Church as being called by God to the ministry are admitted to these sacred orders by solemn prayer and the laying on of hands. It has been, and is, the intention and purpose of this church to maintain and continue these three orders; and for this purpose these services of licensing and installation with consecration are appointed. No persons are allowed to exercise the offices of bishop, elder, minister, deacon, in this Church unless they are so licensed or installed, or having already received such license or ordination with the laying on of hands by individuals themselves who are duly qualified to confer Holy Orders.

It is also recognized and affirmed that these ministries are not the exclusive property of this portion of Christ's universal Church, but rather gifts from God for the nurture of His people and the proclamation of His Gospel everywhere. Accordingly, the manner of licensing and installation in this Church is to be such as has been, and is the most generally recognized by Christian people as suitable for conferring the sacred orders of bishop, elder, minister and deacon.

When the Service begins please follow along in the program.

*Thank You and God Bless*



## A Special Note *from Bishop and Pastor Isha*

To our spiritual sons and daughters on this day of your sacred consecration and licensing as Ministers of the Gospel and installation as Deacons:

It is our personal conviction that one can only know a successful and fulfilled life to the degree that a person recognizes their destiny and seeks foremost to fulfill their divine calling in life. As God has knit our hearts together, we are so godly proud of how you have purposed in your heart to submit to God's will and call on your life. In the faithfulness of God He has brought you to this day of recognition before this assembly of people to whom you have faithfully ministered along with a host of God's choice servants.



You are beginning to embark upon a new dimension of fulfilling your destiny in God as we your spiritual parents lay our hands upon you to affirm your consecration. From this day forward you will surely possess a new heart to serve God. You will experience a new anointing with fresh and intense fire of the Holy Spirit aflame in your heart toward God and His people. His grace will empower and motivate you with renewed faith as you walk joyfully and humbly before the Lord. As servants of God who are truly submitted to spiritual authority, you will have a greater awareness of God's grace enabling you to serve the people to whom you are called to minister.

We must express our joy in the Lord towards you, because of God's faithfulness to call, prepare and promote you as individuals after "His own heart," who will lovingly help us empower people for their purpose, calling and destiny in the Kingdom of God.

Today, we share with you the abundant joy of your consecration in this new season of ELEVATION!

With Love,

Bishop & Pastor Isha  
*Your Spiritual Parents*



## A Word of Encouragement *from Elders Ron and Michelle Johnston*

Dear Minister and Deacon Candidates,

Elder Ron and I extend our warmest congratulations on your licensing as Ministers/Deacons! This is a momentous occasion, marking the culmination of your hard work, dedication, and commitment to serving your faith community.

We recognize the spiritual journey you have undertaken to reach this significant milestone. Your willingness to answer the call to ministry is truly inspiring, and we celebrate your faithfulness and the gifts you bring to this sacred role.

We pray that your licensing will be a source of immense blessing, both for you individually and for the congregations you will serve. May your ministry be filled with joy, purpose, and the profound satisfaction of making a positive impact on the lives of others.

We are confident that you will embrace this new chapter with grace, wisdom, and compassion. We wish you all the best as you embark on this journey of spiritual leadership.

Blessings,

Elders Ron and Michelle Johnston





## **A Word of Encouragement** *from Elder Dave Rothwell*

To: Newly appointed Ministers and Deacons of Victory  
in Christ Christian Center (VICCC)

Congratulations on your successful completion of your  
respective year of training. Your success in this phase of  
your partnering in the Vision of Victory is a testimony that  
you are at your set-place.

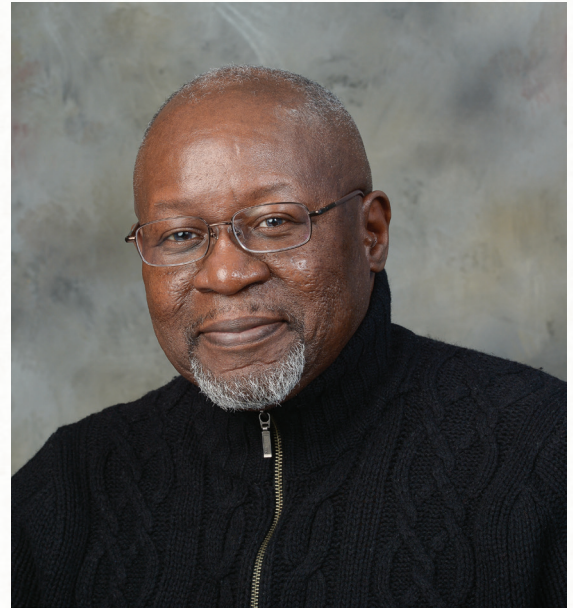
Because you have all been faithfully serving in various ca-  
pacities, I know and appreciate the value and anointing you  
add to all we do. Although greater demand will come with  
this elevation in this year of “Intentional Faith”, rest assured  
that there will be greater Grace and Anointing that will  
strengthen you for all that God requires of you.

I count it a privilege to have the opportunity to serve alongside you as a ministry gift in the  
house of Victory, and look forward to what the Lord has instore for us in the years to come.

Again, congratulations!

Sincerely,

Elder Dave Rothwell  
Shalom!





## A Word of Encouragement from Elders Marcus and Caroline Waters

It is with much enthusiasm that we extend an enormous CONGRATULATIONS to you for completing your respective trainings. Your ability to withstand the countless hours of studying and the sacrifice of time away from your families are a testament of your commitment to the body of Christ. You have been exposed to a snapshot of the work required of the ministers and deacons at Victory In Christ Christian Center.

Your training has afforded you the opportunity of the great calling of a minister and deacon at Victory.

Victory stands apart from other churches as your elevation is not just a title, but a service to God first and to Victory second. As you have seen with your own eyes in training, there is a lot of work to do. Be at peace in knowing that God will give you the strength and the anointing to carry out your responsibilities in excellence and with grace.

We, as two of the elders of Victory, are excited to labor alongside you. Though serving in your respective roles may be challenging at times, be assured that the almighty God will be with you working in you and through you as you minister to His precious people. And we, as upper-level leadership, are here to guide you and to support you.

Once again, congratulations! We look forward to a sensational and prolific new season at Victory In Christ Christian Center.

**Respectfully submitted in love,**

Elders Marcus and Caroline Waters  
*Shalom!*





# Ministerial Candidates

## Kenny Adams

Kenny Adams is a devoted family man, entrepreneur, and passionate follower of God. His faith is the foundation of everything he does, guiding him through life's journey with gratitude and purpose. As a loving husband, father, and Opi (grandfather), Kenny cherishes every moment with his family, finding joy in the simple yet meaningful moments that make life special. His greatest joy is spending time with his wife, Shawna, who is his rock, best friend, and biggest blessing. Together, for the last 28 years, they built a life centered around love, faith, and unwavering support for one another.

A genuine gift to the body of Christ, Kenny is a dynamic worship leader. Additionally, from a very young age, Kenny has served the local church as an anointed drummer. He humbly and gratefully serves at the pleasure of the one who has called him, rendering his gifts unselfishly.

In 2008, Kenny was ordained as a deacon at Word of Life Christian Center under the leadership of Rev. Dr. Frederick Thompson, where he served faithfully from 2001 to 2019. It was then that the Spirit of the Lord called he and his wife to partner with Victory in Christ Christian Center, under the leadership and oversight of Bishop John and Pastor Isha Edmondson.

Beyond family and faith, Kenny has a deep passion for cooking and discovering new recipes. Cooking is more than just a hobby for him—it's a way to express love, creativity, and care for his loved ones. As an entrepreneur, Kenny founded LSJ Apparel in 2020, a brand he has poured his heart and soul into. Designing new clothes and growing his business is not just a career but a calling—one that allows him to blend creativity with purpose.

In all that Kenny says and does, his heart's refrain is the same, "To God be the glory for the great things He has done!"



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*"To God be the glory for the great things He has done!"*



To my heart, Kenny:

It is my highest privilege and greatest joy to join in with heaven's rejoicing and congratulatory refrain for this momentous occasion—your licensing as a minister of the gospel. Over these 28 years, God has blessed me to have a front row seat to witness your journey—and the word that has threaded through every single year is UNWAVERING. It is a testament to your unwavering faith, your commitment to serving others, and your steadfast obedience—even when circumstances and situations challenged you to “make your calling and election sure.” But you did not stumble!

Your genuine compassion, your ability to connect with people and your gentle spirit truly inspires others, but I need you to know that your first and greatest impact has been to me, our daughters, and our grandchildren. You tirelessly and selflessly minister to and serve us, always keeping us first. We are your first congregation—and together, we say AMEN to what God has ordained over your life. Thank you for leading, covering and discipling me, Jazmine, Lyric, Zy'Mir, Zion, Zy'Aire, Zakari and Jhourni.

My love, I am EXCITED about this next incredible chapter that you (we) are embarking on, and I get to stand by your side! I fully anticipate that you will touch countless lives and change this world—advancing the Kingdom of God through your life, your light, and your love. And it wouldn't hurt for you to sing a song or two along the way!

Congratulations, my beloved. May God continue to lead you and guide you in all that you do.

With all my love and admiration,

Your Wife,

Shawna M. Adams

*“Over these 28 years, God has blessed me to have a front row seat to witness your journey—and the word that has threaded through every single year is UNWAVERING.”*

*Unwavering*



## Majorie Baker

Marjorie was born in Kingston Jamaica and moved with her family to the United States at the age of 17. She attended Weaver High School, and later obtained a Bachelor's in Social Work degree from Richard Stockton University. She also obtained a Master's degree in Human Resources Training and Development from Seaton Hall University and a Master's degree in Social Work from Walden University.

Marjorie began her career with NJ Department of Human Services since 2002 as Director of Social Services, where she provides social services to developmental disabled individuals, families and guardians. She oversees client-centered advocacy services to improve the quality of life and encourage empowerment.

Marjorie is the founder and CEO of Direct Support Incorporated which is a non-profit company that provides support and ministry to individuals that are sick, elderly and the disabled.

Marjorie accepted Christ at the age of 15, and since then has served in the body of Christ in various capacities such as Deacon, Children Ministry Teacher, Vacation Bible School Director, Events Coordinator, Altar worker and Bedside Outreach Minister at the Genesis Nursing Home. Marjorie is currently a Small Group Leader at the Victory in Christ Christian Center (United Intercessors Prayer group), and a member of the Prayer Team. She also is a graduate of Victorious Woman of Victory #1 and Victorious Women of Victory #2.

Marjorie has deep passion for prayer and knows that God has called her to an Intercessor in the Body of Christ. Marjorie enjoys ministering and praying for others to see the manifestation of God's power bring change to the lives of others so that God can be glorified. Marjorie lives her life according to Isaiah 61:1. *"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor, He has sent me to heal the brokenhearted to preach deliverance to the captive and recovering of sight to the blind to set at liberty that are bruised."* Marjorie is married to her soul mate and the love of her life, Calvin Baker since 2015. They have one amazing adult daughter Shamiah Howell (Baker).



*The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,  
because he has anointed me to  
preach the gospel to the poor, He  
has sent me to heal the broken  
hearted to preach deliverance  
to the captive and recovering of  
sight to the blind to set at liberty  
that are bruised.*

—Isaiah 61:1



Congratulations Sister Marjorie on your God appointed position as an ordained Minister of the Gospel.

I am certain that God will continue to use you mightily as He has done in the past. As you embark upon this new level I believe the Lord will open doors of opportunity for you to tell others of His grace and mercy and never-ending kindness. I believe that God will enable you to add to His number daily. You are indeed blessed to be a blessing to so many. Truly your eyes have not seen nor have your ears heard what God has in store for you. This appointed position is the beginning of the revealing of the predestined assignment that has been given to you by the working of the Holy Spirit. This position is not new to anyone, especially not new to me. You have already taken the stance of a leader for the kingdom of God. For your posture has not been one who sat in idleness. You have walked in the path of servitude and faithfulness long before a title was presented. For this many applaud you. This achievement is God's reward to you. Others have seen your good works, and have, and will continue to rise up, and call you blessed and highly favored of God.

You are a soldier in the Lord's army, not fighting against flesh and blood but against the principalities, and the rulers of darkness. You have and will continue to take your stand against wickedness in high places as a minister of the gospel, bringing glory to God during the process. You did not choose God, but He chose you, and appointed you, so that you might go, and bear fruit, fruit that will last. I praise God in advance for the choice He made in you. I look forward to seeing how God is going to use you in this season of great change. With God's hand upon you may wisdom, knowledge, and understanding always be yours. And may you always find rest beside still waters with God's peace as a pillow. Remember that it is God who causes the increase, and He rewards those who diligently seek Him. Enjoy your reward.

Karen Lassiter

*“You did not  
choose God, but  
He chose you, and  
appointed you,  
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fruit that will last.  
I praise God in  
advance for the  
choice He made in  
you.”*

*Appointed*



## Rachquel Briggs

Rachquel L. Briggs is committed to sharing the Goodness of God with others and living a lifestyle that reflects her faith and trust in the Lord. Her late mother, Marilyn Clark instilled in her the importance of staying Anchored in the Lord and had always spoke over her life that she was gifted by God to serve His Kingdom. Initially, Rachquel did not see herself in any Ministerial role and avoided the call and kept a surface faith framework. After a near death, truck rollover accident in 2000, Rachquel elevated her pursuit of God and launched into a revered relationship with Him. She rededicated her life to God after connecting with Solid Rock Worship Center where she started taking Bible development classes and first publicly shared the Word at a Mother's Day Service. This helped her to see the call on her life and she began her journey to saying Yes to God and launching in her giftings. Rachquel then connected with Kingdom Life Fellowship where she served on the Women's Ministry and helped to do small group Bible Study lessons as assigned.

In 2015, Rachquel married her friend and earthly covering, Daryl M. Briggs and together they have a blended family inclusive of four now adult children—Darren, Stephanie, Jamyl and Chaela. After a small wilderness search for a family church, Rachquel and Daryl, became Partners at Victory in Christ Christian Center in 2016 as God confirmed Victory as their set place. She joined the Victorious Women of Victory (VWV) Women's Ministry in 2017 and served as the Assistant Director from 2020 to 2024. Rachquel began taking spiritual enrichment classes via Victory's Bible Training Center and eventually also helped to educate and empower women as a teacher in the VWV Discipleship program. She was also selected to serve as a Titus 2 Mentor for the 2022-2023 term. In January 2025, Rachquel was elevated to VWV Women's Ministry Director and continues to be committed to the empowerment of Women.

Rachquel grew up in Camden, NJ and is a graduate of Stockton University and later earned her M.B.A., from Eastern University. She has been employed by the State of New Jersey for the past 28 years in multiple roles and is currently in a statewide supervisor capacity. Rachquel joined Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. in 1990 and is currently a Life Member and in her second year as the Chaplain for Upsilon Delta



Omega graduate chapter. She also services as the Chair for their Spiritual Enrichment Committee. In 2024, Rachquel Chaired an Ecumenical Worship Service for the North Atlantic Region and presented how God Reigns via a Bible Roll Call. Rachquel has been invited to speak at Women's Day events, fellowships and homegoing services. Studying the Word and being able to Pray for family, friends and strangers is at her core and she is committed to spreading the Gospel. Rachquel often thanks her Spiritual Parents and her husband Daryl for encouraging her to fully walk in her spiritual gifting and calling. With the gifting granted by God and the training provided by Bishop John and Pastor Isha Edmondson via Leadership trainings, Victory's Ministry Development and the Minister in Training program, Rachquel hopes to live out Psalm 19:14; so that the *Words of her mouth and the meditation of her heart is pleasing in God's sight*. She knows the Lord as her Rock and Redeemer and is excited to share the Good News of the Gospel with others.



Dear Mom,

First thing first, I want to start off by saying how proud I am of you for pursuing and completing this path to becoming a Minister. I know you can't wait to share this milestone with the rest of the family, after being the family's pastor for all these years. Now after two long years of hard work and dedication, we can all officially call you Minister Rachquel for real. You know ever since I was a kid, I have always said you should be a Pastor, Reverend, Bishop. So, I'm not surprised that God moved you into position to go through this process.

Mom, thank you for always being an inspiration in my life. You showed me that no matter how much life throws at me, I must always keep fighting and praying my way through. You showed me what it means to serve the Lord and help others. When you called me and told me about you completing the Ministerial training, I felt nothing but pure happiness for you. It is inspiring to be able to witness the culmination of your efforts. No matter what trials or tribulations have been thrown your way, you never let them deter you from what God has for you. But I know this is just the beginning for you and God has so many plans for you and I can't wait to see the journey he sends you on and the lives you'll touch along the way.

That's why I know this is the calling on your life. Everything that's happened has been God preparing you for this, from being the chaplain for Alpha Kappa Alpha chapter, holding women's groups, being called upon to speak on different occasions in front of different crowds, even when deep down you didn't want to. They were all steps to show that God is walking right next to you. I know Grandmom and Aunt Nay are looking down smiling so big right now, bragging to the angels about you as they see you get ready to fully embrace this next spiritual chapter of life.

Lastly, I just want to say I love you and I'm so proud of you. And as I speak on behalf of Grandmom Marilyn, Aunt Nay, Uncle G, Grandmom Muse, Uncle Al, Uncle Fred and the rest of family that is no longer with us, Congratulations. And for the family that is still here, I know they'll have their own words of congratulations and celebrations for you. I hope you feel encouraged as you continue forward and know that God always has your back.

Congratulations and Love,

Jamyl B.

*"It is inspiring to be able to witness the culmination of your efforts. No matter what trials or tribulations have been thrown your way, you never let them deter you from what God has for you."*

*Resilience*



## Rhonda Carden

Rhonda Michelle Carden, affectionately known as Princess Rhonni (daughter of the Highest) is a devoted woman of faith with a passion for empowering and encouraging others in their walk with God. She believes in the power of God's love to transform lives and is committed to helping others (women in particular) embrace their true worth, value, and identity in Him. With a heart for ministry and a gift for uplifting those around her, she shares wisdom, biblical truth, and personal testimony to inspire others to walk boldly in their divine purpose.

In addition to her ministry work, Rhonda is a dedicated caregiver to her beloved mother and two younger brothers. As the primary caregiver, she selflessly provides love, support, and guidance, ensuring that her family is well cared for. Her unwavering devotion to her family reflects her deep sense of responsibility and compassion, demonstrating Christ's love through her daily actions. This role has strengthened her resilience, deepened her faith, and given her a greater understanding of God's grace amid life's challenges.

Rhonda has earned a Bachelor of Science in Business Management from Wilmington University and a Bachelor of Arts in Theological Studies from Last Day Remnant Bible College. She has had a successful career in business administration and is now a passionate author and travelpreneur, using her gifts to inspire others through her writing while creating opportunities to explore the world and embrace new experiences.

Rhonda carries the heart of a champion, embodying determination, tenacity, and perseverance in the face of adversity. Gifted in teaching and exhortation, she boldly imparts wisdom and encouragement to those she encounters. Every time her feet hit the floor, the enemy trembles, for she walks in a yoke-breaking, life-changing anointing. With a powerful prayer mantle and the oil of God's anointing upon her life, she stands as a relentless warrior, shaking the kingdom of darkness and ushering in breakthrough for those she is called to serve.



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*With a heart for ministry and a gift for uplifting those around her, she shares wisdom, biblical truth, and personal testimony to inspire others to walk boldly in their divine purpose.*



My Dearest Rhonda,

Congratulations, my beautiful daughter, on this incredible milestone in your life and ministry! Today, as you are ordained as a minister, my heart overflows with joy, pride, and gratitude to God for the remarkable woman you have become. This is not just a title—it is a divine affirmation of the calling that has been on your life, a calling that you have answered with faith, obedience, and a heart fully surrendered to God's will.

I have watched you grow, endure, and transform over the years, allowing God to mold you into the vessel He created you to be. Through every trial and triumph, you have remained steadfast, trusting in His plan and walking in His grace. You have chosen to live a life of service, pouring into others, encouraging, uplifting, and leading them closer to Christ. That is a rare and precious gift, and today, as you step fully into this new season, I know that God's anointing will only increase over your life.

It is a blessing to be your mother and to witness all that God is doing through you. I celebrate you today and always, knowing that this is just the beginning of even greater things to come. Continue to walk boldly in your calling, knowing that you are equipped, empowered, and covered by His grace. I love you, and I am so proud of you.

With all my love and blessings,

Mom (Joanne Anderson)

*“This is not just a title—it is a divine affirmation of the calling that has been on your life, a calling that you have answered with faith, obedience, and a heart fully surrendered to God's will.”*

*Steadfast*



## Christopher Hampton

Christopher Charles Hampton is a devoted husband to Wandria Hampton, father, and proud grandfather. His faith journey began in childhood, nurtured by his mother, Sandra Marie Hampton, and grandmother, Florence Williams, who instilled in him a legacy of trust and faith in God. During his freshman year of high school, Chris answered God's call to service, striving to embody and share God's love wherever he went. This led him to start Christian clubs, help establish the first gospel choir in his high school, and become the first Battalion Chaplain in their JROTC program.

A founding member of Victory In Christ Christian Center (VICCC), Chris has served in various ministries, including worship leader, leader of the first evangelism team (bringing VICCC to local apartment complexes), prison ministry assistant director, VBP team member, teacher in the VICCC Bible Training Center, studio host for the Victory Tea, and current Men's Ministry assistant director. Chris believes ministry extends beyond the church walls, representing the Kingdom both inside and out.

Driven by this belief, he founded The CHAMPIAM Organization to educate, empower, and equip parolees to discover, embrace, and pursue their visions for a purposeful life. He also works within his community to help young artists discover and cultivate their gifts and talents, encouraging them to give back to the community.




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*Chris believes ministry extends beyond the church walls, representing the Kingdom both inside and out.*



Beloved,

Congratulations on your licensing as a minister. This moment is a testament to your unwavering faith, dedication and resilience. To me, Isaiah 40:31 beautifully summarizes this day. "As Chris trusted in the LORD, he found new strength to soar high on wings like eagles. Chris ran and did not grow weary. Chris walked and did not faint." (Emphasis added). Your journey has not been without its challenges, but you have faced each one with God's grace and strength, truly embodying the spirit of perseverance.

I am so proud of the man you have become and the commitment you have shown to fulfilling God's purpose for your life. As you continue to grow both spiritually and personally, I have no doubt that you will touch countless lives as you minister, teach, and inspire others to be all God created them to be.

I declare today be the beginning of an incredible chapter filled with sovereign opportunities to serve, lead, and share God's love. Remember that you are not only a minister but also a beacon of hope and encouragement for others.

I am so excited to walk this journey with you and support you in all the amazing things God has in store. Chris, as you remain steadfast and obedient to the voice of God, remember 1 Corinthians 2:9 "...No eye has seen, no ear has heard, and no mind has imagined what God has prepared for those who love him."

With all my love,

Your Wife,

Wandria

*"I declare today be the beginning of an incredible chapter filled with sovereign opportunities to serve, lead, and share God's love. Remember that you are not only a minister but also a beacon of hope and encouragement for others."*

*Beacon*



## Sheila Horn

Sheila Horn is a Financial Consultant who is passionate about sharing principles the perpetuate wealth throughout generations. She is dedicated to continually finding creative solutions to help people live life in abundance. As an adult, she began to take notice of real life wealth disparities around. This led her to find and connect with professionals from various backgrounds and receive exposure that helped her realize there is a formula for wealth and it is attainable. She started a study of wealth in the scriptures and came to the realization that God's original intention for man was to live a life full of prosperity in the earth. That wealth is not just for some but that God's children are entitled to it. Knowing that these wealth principles can and should be taught at an early age she decided to start doing workshops to help change mindsets and share her information.

Sheila is currently writing a book that will help young adults realize early on that debt is not their portion. It is a book that will help those pursuing a college degree go to school absolutely free. She attended the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania for free and she didn't even have to pay for her books. She has a passion for helping our youth get off to a great start without having the burden of debt as they start their professional lives. If you would like to learn more, let's connect.



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*Sheila has a passion for helping our youth get off to a great start without having the burden of debt as they start their professional lives.*



First and foremost, I give honor to God our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

It is with pleasure that I give reference to my baby sister, Sheila Marie Horn. She is a true woman of God and has been unwavering in her walk with Christ. When she was gifted to me, my mother let me name her. I said to my parents, "When she cries I will get her." Sheila was a beautiful baby and a happy go lucky little girl.

Raised in the Church of God in Christ, Sheila accepted the Lord as her personal Savior at an early age. With the guidance of my late mother who was also a true woman of God and a faithful servant, Sheila remained under her wings, walking in the righteousness of God.

A dedicated mother, Sheila raised her sons in the church so that they would know Christ. One day, she asked me to go to church with her and I declined. A few hours later, I accepted the invitation. This is how I came to Victory in Christ Christian Center and came to accept Jesus Christ as my Savior. Had it not been for her offer, I would not have come to know the Lord. Sheila has remained steadfast in her journey to win souls for Christ, and it is my honor to give reference for her to be ordained as a minister at Victory in Christ Christian Center.

Sincerely and with love,

Linda Mae Horn

*"This is how I came to Victory in Christ Christian Center and came to accept Jesus Christ as my Savior. Had it not been for her offer, I would not have come to know the Lord."*

*Principled*



## Marsha Jerman

Marsha Jerman embodies the essence of a phenomenal woman, as described by the legendary poet Maya Angelou. A visionary with charm, sophistication, intellect, and strength, she is a widow, mother, daughter, spiritual leader, businesswoman, and entrepreneur—a true mover and shaker. From fashion to music, entertainment to publishing, wealth management, and marketing, Marsha has left an indelible mark across industries, leading in event management, strategic consulting, and brand development.

With nearly 25 years of leadership experience, she seamlessly blends creativity with operational excellence, bringing both structure and balance to every team she joins. Her career spans serving as Director of Production for fashion brands, managing and consulting entertainment entities, Chief of Staff for wealth management organizations, and Chief Administrator for faith-based entities—leveraging her expertise to drive transformational success and strategic innovation.

Marsha is also the founder of Safe Place Enterprises LLC, a consultancy dedicated to helping leaders and organizations refine their vision, implement strategy, and execute with precision. Beyond her professional accomplishments, her greatest mission is to see the Body of Christ come into the unity of the faith, working toward collective impact and purpose. As a strategist, thought partner, and consultant, she continues to defy limitations, empowering those she serves with the clarity and direction needed to move forward. Whether in the boardroom, on tour, or in ministry, she operates with unwavering faith, unshakable integrity, and an unrelenting commitment to excellence.



*Beyond her professional accomplishments, her greatest mission is to see the Body of Christ come into the unity of the faith, working toward collective impact and purpose.*



Dear Marsha,

I hope this letter finds you in great spirits. I am writing to extend my heartfelt congratulations on you receiving your minister's license and being ordained as a minister! This is an amazing milestone, and I couldn't be happier for you.

Over the years I've watched you meet so many challenges and come out on the winning side. Your prayer life, dedication, compassion, unwavering faith and commitment to supporting and speaking life into others has truly prepared you for this sacred moment. They don't really make them like you anymore.

I truly believe your journey will one day be a book of spiritual inspiration. I've learned that when someone steps forward to serve at this level it makes an announcement to the universe that you will never be a victim of any of life's challenges but you will use them as testimonies and lessons to inspire others. This achievement is a testament to your faith and perseverance.

As you walk into this new chapter, this new season of your life, I have no doubt that you will be impactful.

Who knew that we would embark on a 25+ year journey when I met you at the New York Office of ASCAP, but I wouldn't change a thing.

To know you is to truly love you and no matter where life takes us that love will never diminish. I will always support and celebrate you.

Once again, congratulations on this remarkable achievement!

May God shine his light of favor on everything you touch.

Peace & Blessings

Donald Lawrence  
Producer / Songwriter  
Quiet Water Entertainment

*“Your prayer  
life, dedication,  
compassion,  
unwavering faith  
and commitment  
to supporting and  
speaking life into  
others has truly  
prepared you  
for this sacred  
moment.”*

*Inspiration*



## Kelli Little

Kelli M. Little was born and raised in the church and accepted the Lord as her personal Savior at an early age. However, it was not until 2005, when she heard and answered the call to preach and teach a message of hope, healing, and deliverance to the people of God. It was these words spoken from the Lord that filled her heart:

*“The spirit of the Lord is upon me, because He hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, to preach the acceptable year of the Lord” (Luke 4:18-19 KJV).*

Gifted in the 5-fold ministry gifts, in 2005, Kelli began serving faithfully under the tutelage and direction of Pastor Dana M. Green of New Life Ministries LLC, located in Camden, New Jersey. While serving in various roles as Youth Minister, Intercessory Prayer Leader, and Armor Bearer, the Lord spoke again concerning Kelli’s life and she was subsequently ordained in 2010. In 2018, with her Pastor’s blessing, Kelli felt the call to transition to Victory in Christ Christian Center located in Westville, NJ, where Bishop John and Pastor Isha Edmondson are her Pastors. Since her transition, Kelli is the former Director, now advisor of the Victorious Women of Victory Women’s Ministry as well as current mentor and coach of VWV’s Titus 2 Mentorship program. She also teaches in the VWV Discipleship Courses and served in the Intercessory Prayer Ministry.

With a heart of compassion to see all women, of all ages, and from all levels of society, not only healed, but made whole; in 2020, Kelli authored a women’s devotional called, *Love Evolving: A 21-Day Journey into the Father’s Heart*.

Kelli Little Ministries, LLC launched in 2024 from a heart of compassion to motivate women to reclaim their power from life’s painful experiences to rediscover their purpose. This ministry entails coaching, mentorship, courses, and events to empower women to a life of freedom and fulfillment.



Kelli has a bachelor’s degree in psychology from Rutgers University and a Master of Science in Counseling from Cairn University. Kelli resides in Mount Laurel, New Jersey and is the mother of two adult sons, Sean, and Aaron, a bonus daughter, Kyia; and three grandchildren, Jordyn, Elijah, and Ryan.

Although, an introvert at heart, she enjoys shopping, traveling, and spending time with those closest to her.



Dear Kelli,

What an exciting moment in time to be an ambassador for Christ! You were chosen by God before He even laid the foundation of this world to do something unique in His eyes; a calling beyond the mundane of life. Words cannot express how proud I am of you and all that God has equipped you to accomplish. Today is the day! As I ponder about you and how I have watched you over the years, I would like to share what I know about you using the acronym of L.O.V.E.

L is for a lady of wisdom: Kelli, you have studied to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth (2 Timothy 2:15, KJV). As a lady of perseverance, you obtained your master's in counseling. As a lady of compassion, you have an earnest desire to equip God's women with the steppingstones to seek a fulfilled relationship with our Savior. As a lady of grace, you have a simple elegance and refinement within your movement. From the top of your short curly afro, to the bottom of your pedicured feet, Kelli, you exhibit grace. Sister girl, you are sharp!

O is for; Oh, what joy you bring: I have watched you transition from walking, to skipping, to running, while embracing the assignment that God has etched in your heart. Oh, what joy I have, as I have watched you dive into the deep waters of God, fully relying on His presence and strength to navigate you through. Leaning and depending on the promises that God has made to you in Isaiah 43:2, "When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you."

V is for victorious: Victorious means to have gained a decisive advantage over an enemy, or to have triumphed over evil. You are a warrior woman. You are relentless in the things of God, travailing through every situation, not accepting anything less than God's best for yourself, your family, and God's people. One of the greatest gifts that I have learned from you is that there is victory in the surrender.

E is for evolving: From one season to another, I have watched you adapt like the stature of a tree throughout the years, embracing and responding to the environmental changes of your life. Winter, spring, summer, and fall. Experiencing color changes, leaves dropping on the ground, flowers blooming, then watching these flowers turn into fruit. You stayed planted by the rivers of water, bringing forth its fruit in your season, your leaf also did not wither; and whatsoever you do will continue to prosper (Psalm 1:3).

Congratulations!

Forever your sister,

Rev. Kimberly Hal

*"You stayed  
planted by the  
rivers of water,  
bringing forth  
its fruit in your  
season, your  
leaf also did  
not wither; and  
whatsoever you  
do will continue  
to prosper."*

*Joy*



## David McGhee

David Sheridan McGhee has been a partner at Victory in Christ Christian Center since 2018. He currently serves as the Bible Training Center Dean and Instructor. In addition to these roles, David is a dedicated member of the Prayer Ministry, Men's Ministry, and Marriage Ministry. He previously served as Assistant Director of the Victorious Business Professionals Ministry and is actively involved in several small groups. David's passion for ministering to others is evident in his mentoring young men, conducting workshops, serving as an LCD instructor, leading men's small group, and offering marriage counseling.

Born in Philadelphia, David spent much of his youth in church. It was at the Greater Bible Way Temple, in Philadelphia, under the ministry of the late B.F. Peterson Sr, where David began to develop a closer walk with the Lord and accepted the Lord as his personal Savior. During this time David discovered his ministry calling, serving many years as the Sunday School teacher and Superintendent at both local and national levels.

David received his education in the Philadelphia school system graduating from University City High School with honors. He went on to attend and graduate from Carnegie-Mellon University with a Bachelor's degree in Chemical Engineering and Business Administration. Five years later, graduating from Drexel University with MBA in Financial Management. Driven by his passion for ministry, David studied at the Urban Theological Institute of Philadelphia, where he earned a Masters of Divinity degree.

As a Design Engineer, David worked for companies such as Sunoco, GE, Jacobs Engineering, and DuPont, supervising the design of oil refineries and chemical plants within the USA and internationally. These multi-million-dollar projects were constructed in countries including Japan, India, Russia, Mexico, and Canada. David has received numerous awards and letters of recognition from clients and is a former member of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers.

As a business owner, David founded 3DE Investments, LLC for the purpose of purchasing, selling, rehabbing, renting, and managing real estate properties. By applying godly principles such as initiative, motivation, sacrifice, and



patience, he believes anyone can generate multiple streams of income, contribute positively to society, and honor God. He is a member of the Diversified Real Estate Investor Group.

As a hobbyist, David has a "green thumb" and enjoys gardening, particularly growing a variety of orchids. When the weather is warm, you can always find him outside in the yard. He is a former member of the Philadelphia Horticultural Society. Inside, David prefers not to be disturbed during any Sci-Fi, Action, Kung-Fu movie, or Eagles football game.

As a devoted family man, David has been married for six years to his lovely wife Debra, and they enjoy traveling, spending time with family, and serving God. Their blended family consist of three daughters: Marlonda, Danielle, and Davida and four grandchildren: Kaiden, Kyler, Noa, and Silas.



Congratulations to you, our Awesome brother-in-love David on your ministry ordination.

We admire your ability to always be calm, rational, and full of good advice and love! You have helped our family make it through emotionally difficult times. You are not only a cherished brother-in-law, but a true friend, a pillar of support, and a shining example of love and commitment. Words cannot explain how much your support has meant to us. May your ordination be a joyous celebration and blessed reminder of God's calling on your life to serve His people. We pray that you continue to be filled with grace, compassion, and abundant blessings.

Love,

Your sisters, Rosemary Fulton and Sandra Britt

Brother-in-law, Mark Britt

Nephew, Matthew Britt

*“You are not  
only a cherished  
brother-in-  
law, but a true  
friend, a pillar of  
support, and a  
shining example  
of love and  
commitment.”*

*Mentor*



## Elise Minor

Elise Minor is a dynamic leader with a passion for empowering others to excel in their God-given purpose. Her diverse background blends extensive professional experience with a deep commitment to ministry, giving her a unique perspective on leadership development. Elise honed her leadership skills in commercial property management, overseeing high-profile properties such as the Horizon Blue Cross of New Jersey building, the New Brunswick Judicial Complex, and the historic Curtis Center in Center City Philadelphia. This experience provided invaluable exposure to high-functioning leaders across various disciplines.

In 2017, Elise answered a call to full-time ministry at Victory in Christ Christian Center in Westville, NJ. In a cross-functional leadership role, she managed operations for their new campus and provided oversight for Small Groups and Partner Care Teams.

A New York City native, Elise carries the vibrant energy and rich cultural tapestry of her beloved city within her. This upbringing instilled in her a deep appreciation for people and diverse cultures, which permeates her approach to leadership and ministry.

Relocating to the Sicklerville, NJ area with her family in 2004, Elise found a home at Victory in Christ Christian Center. Her service there has been extensive and impactful, including serving as Director of the Small Group Ministry, teaching the VWV women's discipleship course, and co-leading the "I've Got Your Back" small group with her late husband, Sean, for over a decade.

Elise is a lifelong learner, constantly exploring new facets of life and emphasizing the importance of self-care and balance in fulfilling God's purpose. She is a powerful voice, challenging limiting standards and stigmas and inspiring others to discover and embrace their true identities in Christ. Her core belief is: "We are each inherently multi-faceted and complex persons. God fearfully and wonderfully made us and gave us unique gifts and strengths that can radically shift ourselves, our families, and the communities we serve."



Elise holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration with a concentration in Project Management from Capella University. In addition to her formal education, she believes that life experiences serve as valuable teachers. Elise is dedicated to following God's plan for her life and aims to create a legacy filled with purpose and impact. In her leisure time, she finds inspiration in books, music, and anything that ignites her creativity and joy—qualities that she considers her strengths. Elise cherishes spending time with her family, including her children Sean, Travis, Darielle, and Maiya, as well as her grandchildren Robert, Malia, Rueben, and Sarai.



To Our Amazing Mom Elise,

Congratulations on your incredible achievement of becoming inducted as a Minister at Victory in Christ Christian Center! This milestone is a testament to your unwavering faith, dedication, and resilience. You have faced countless obstacles along your journey, yet you have always remained steadfast in your commitment to serve God, your community, and have also inspired those around you to do the same.

As a mother, you have always been a constant source of love, guidance, and wisdom to not just your birth children, but your “bonus children” as well. Your ability to balance the demands of family life with your spiritual calling is nothing short of remarkable. You are a shining example of what it means to live a life of purpose. Your journey has been a beacon of hope for others, showing that with faith in God, all things are possible. You have touched the lives of so many, and your impact will be felt for generations to come.

As you step into this new chapter of your life, we have no doubt that you will continue to lead with the same strength and dedication that have brought you this far. Congratulations once again, Mom, on this well-deserved honor. We are all so proud of you.

With love and admiration,

Sean, Travis, Darielle, Maiya & your Love Ms. Elise Tribe

*“Your journey has been a beacon of hope for others, showing that with faith in God, all things are possible. You have touched the lives of so many, and your impact will be felt for generations to come.”*

*Purpose*



## Sharon Nelson

Sharon Nelson grew up in church and accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as her personal savior at the age of 8 years old. Daughter of a Pastor, she has served in almost every position imaginable in the Kingdom, but her passion has always been praise and worship, dance, and children's ministry.

Sharon sang with the Stellar Award-Winning Rev. Ernest Davis Jr.'s Wilmington Chester Mass Choir and participated in all live recording sessions. She was blessed to be on stage to accept the choir's first Stellar Award. During her time with Wilmington Chester Mass Choir, she was afforded the opportunity to sing background vocals for Patty LaBelle, Earth Wind & Fire, Tramaine Hawkins, Dottie Peebles, Albetina Walker and many others. Currently, Sharon is one of the worship leaders at Victory in Christ Christian Center and was blessed to be able to lead worship on the Sea of Galilee and the Garden of Gethsemane during her trip to Israel with Victory in 2023. She also leads worship at conferences as well as workshops and was afforded the opportunity to lead worship in Darmstadt Germany for the US Army Base in 1994.

Sharon is also a passionate preacher and teacher of the gospel. She accepted her call to the ministry in 2008 and was initially ordained an Elder in the Lord's Church under the leadership of Bishop S. Todd Townsend in Wilmington, DE at The Resurrection Center. Under this leadership Sharon preached, taught Wednesday night Bible Study, Teen Bible Study, Youth Church, was Director of the Dance Ministry, was Chief Adjutant for Ordination Services, and led Praise and Worship. Sharon transitioned from The Resurrection Center to Victory in Christ Christian Center in January 2014.

Since becoming a partner at Victory in 2014, Sharon taught for 10 years in Kingdom Gates Children's Ministry (now called Victory Kids) recently retiring in December 2024. She also was a part of the prayer ministry for three years. Currently Sharon is the Assistant Director of the Dance Ministry, Teaches VWV Discipleship Courses, a former Mentor in the Titus II Mentoring Program, current Coach in the Titus II Mentoring Program and is one of the Worship Leaders. Sharon authored her first book in 2020 entitled, *Healing Life's Hurts God's Way*.



Professionally, Sharon has been employed in the commercial real estate field since July 1987. The favor of God has blessed her to work her way from secretary to Senior Property Manager where she currently over sees management of 60 properties in 12 states that is in excess of 4.5 million square feet.

Sharon's life verse can be found in 1 Peter 5:6-7, *"Humble yourself therefore under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time: Casting all your care upon Him; for He careth for you."*



On behalf of the Durham Family, we want to extend our celebratory praise for this honorable elevation as a Minister of the Gospel.

You have been walking, talking, teaching, dancing, and singing the Gospel of Jesus Christ for quite some time, and this is just the next chapter. Serving and submitting your gifts to this church community means the world to you, and we know that you are in good hands. Your faithfulness, love for the people of God, and integrity makes us so proud.

We know that God has prepared you for such as time as this to *“Proclaim the good news to the poor, bind up the brokenhearted, proclaim freedom for the captives, and release prisoners from the darkness,”* Isaiah 61:1. The world needs more like you! Shine your Light!

With all my love and gratitude,

LaBreyia Ellis aka Your First Born

*“You have  
been walking,  
talking, teaching,  
dancing, and  
singing the  
Gospel of Jesus  
Christ for quite  
some time, and  
this is just the  
next chapter.”*

*Shine*



## Betty Templeman

Betty Templeman is currently the Director of the Prayer Ministry at VICCC, she is a compassionate, loyal and dedicated individual who loves God and who has been a partner at VICCC for 12 years. Betty brings a deep love for people and a passion for sharing the transformative power of God through prayer. Betty is driven by the desire to see the lives of people change by having an intimate and personal relationship with God and watching Him show up and show out in their lives.

As a young girl Betty acquired a passion for cooking and spent many hours at her mother's feet, learning the craft and still can throw down in the Kitchen. Betty is often asked to prepare certain dishes for events as her gift of cooking keeps people asking for her food.

Betty is married to her husband Tony Templeman of 27 years, they have 2 sons, Rashad, Jamir and 5 grandchildren.

Betty is currently walking out the "yes" she gave to God, to serve him with her life and not shrink back on the path that he is guiding her to take. Betty is taking this path understanding that she is walking a path of not knowing. Meaning she is okay with not knowing where this path will take her but she is assured that on her journey she will never be alone and she never has to fear.



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*Beyond her professional accomplishments, her greatest mission is to see the Body of Christ come into the unity of the faith, working toward collective impact and purpose.*



Dear Betty (Pooh) Templeman,

On the behalf of your family, I want to Congratulate you on your ministerial elevation.

I have observed not only your faithfulness and commitment to your church, but I can also attest to your love and devoted faithfulness to your Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. I have admired your patience and diligence; you made your calling and election sure. You are not just a hearer, but you are indeed a doer of God's Word. Betty (Pooh), you have been faithful to your Heavenly Father, and now your gifts and calling have made room for you.

Not only are you my biological sister, but I relish in the fact that you are also my sister in Christ. I am appreciative not only for your impact on my life, but also for your godly influence on our entire family. Your life exemplifies the character of Christ.

I am excited for this new chapter in your life. I believe that the best is yet to come for you and your church. In the words of the Apostle Paul, *"Now unto God, who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that you can ask or think, according to His power that is at work in you."*

Love your brother,

Melvin Braxton Sr.

*"I am appreciative not only for your impact on my life, but also for your godly influence on our entire family. Your life exemplifies the character of Christ."*

*Influence*



## Andres Viloria

Andres R. Viloria is a 4th-degree martial arts master, avid reader, and passionate teacher. Delivered from a life of addiction by God, he is committed to paying it forward by living a life that exemplifies the freedom only God can give when you put your trust in Him.

Married to his beautiful wife for 28 years, Andres is a proud father of three amazing sons and grandfather to two cherished grandchildren. He loves reading books, swimming, and weightlifting as part of his dedication to personal growth and health.

As a mortgage professional with 24 years of experience, Andres has helped thousands achieve the dream of homeownership. In 2023, he published his first book, *Warrior's Way: The Art of Preparedness*, which has gained international recognition. He is currently working on his second book and is passionate about helping others discover their true identity and live with purpose.



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*Andres is passionate about helping others discover their true identity and live with purpose.*



I am honored to write this letter in support of Deacon Andres Vilorio, a man whose character and faith have profoundly impacted my life over the past decade. It has been a privilege to know Andres, not only as a friend but also as a spiritual mentor and a true brother in Christ.

From our very first meeting, Andres displayed a rare combination of godly wisdom and genuine encouragement. He invited me to join a men's retreat, and with his gentle prompting, I agreed. That single "yes" became a turning point in my spiritual journey, leading me to connect with other believers and step into my ministry calling at Victory In Christ Center. Over the years, Andres has remained a constant source of support, offering wisdom and encouragement through every challenge I have faced. Whether in moments of hardship, conversations at the gym, or family gatherings, his loving and caring nature has always shone through.

One of Andres' most admirable qualities is his unwavering commitment to his family. He is a devoted husband and a phenomenal father to his sons. Even when his responsibilities take him away from home, he ensures his family's needs are met, exemplifying his role as a loving and dedicated leader. Having had the opportunity to witness his fatherhood firsthand, I can confidently say that his family is his greatest priority and his proudest achievement.

Andres has also been a mentor during pivotal moments in my life. When I was uncertain about purchasing a home, it was his encouragement and wisdom that helped me see the greatness that lies in making bold decisions. Through his guidance, I was able to take a leap of faith and move forward with confidence, ultimately achieving something I once doubted was possible.

Beyond his practical advice, Andres has been a spiritual anchor for me. He has prayed with me during my toughest moments, held me accountable, and continually pointed me back to my faith. His integrity, humility, and dedication to God are evident in every aspect of his life.

Anyone fortunate enough to know Andres will quickly recognize his heart for God, his steadfast integrity, and his passion for serving others. He is a man of exceptional character, a devoted family man, and a powerful example of what it means to live a life of faith and purpose.

With the love of Christ,

Victor Branch

*"Anyone fortunate enough to know Andres will quickly recognize his heart for God, his steadfast integrity, and his passion for serving others. He is a man of exceptional character, a devoted family man, and a powerful example of what it means to live a life of faith and purpose."*

*Integrity*



# Deacon Candidates

## Deborah Agbessi

Deborah Agbessi, also known as Debbie and “Jazzy”, was born and raised in Norfolk, Virginia. She accepted Christ at a young age. She was baptized in her youth. Her grandmother, who was a traveling, licensed missionary, encouraged her in the ways of the Lord. In her teenage and young adult years, she served as a Sunday School Teacher, Finance Committee member, Choir member, Vacation Bible School teacher, Sunday School Visitation Coordinator, and as a Sunday School General Secretary within her hometown community churches. She also served in her community as an emcee, youth mentor, Talent Scout and Talent Coordinator for community events. She enjoys writing poetry, journaling, acting, speaking, emceeing, songwriting, singing, legal, and medical research.

She received her Medical Administrative Assistant Diploma and Evangelist License in Norfolk, Virginia. She moved to South Jersey in 2001 and currently resides in South Jersey. She received her Paralegal Studies A.A.S. Degree from Gloucester County College now known as Rowan College of South Jersey. She has been a partner at Victory In Christ Christian Center since 2015. She has served on the Drama Ministry, Prison Ministry, Victory in Israel Trip planning team, and is currently serving as a Small Group Leader for The Voices of Victory, We’re Just Sayin’ small group. She sings soprano voice on Victory’s Worship Arts Ministry Choir. She serves as a Bible Training Center class Proctor/Facilitator, and as a Host on Victory’s Production/Digital Ministry. She is a commissioned Victory Stephen Ministry (VSM) Caregiver and currently serves a VSM Training Coordinator. She serves in community outreach and community events for local and regional non-profit organizations. Debbie is a John Maxwell Certified Team Leader.

Debbie has a servant’s heart and is passionate about helping and encouraging others to become the best person they can be. She is graced with a spiritual gift-mix that allows her to explore and grow in multiple areas of ministry. She is a lifelong learner and desires to walk fully in her purpose and calling. Being a serving partner at Victory has truly allowed her to grow more spiritually and has offered her many opportunities to be a refresher of others and in return, experience God’s refreshing. She is blessed to be a blessing.



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*Being a serving partner at Victory has truly allowed Debbie to grow more spiritually and has offered her many opportunities to be a refresher of others and in return, experience God’s refreshing.*



Dear Mom, Deborah Agbessi,

I'm overjoyed to congratulate you on your deacon licensing! This remarkable achievement is a testament to your unwavering faith, compassion, and dedication to serving others.

Your selflessness and kindness have always inspired me, and I'm so grateful to have you as my mom. As you embark on this new chapter in your ministry, I pray that God continues to guide and empower you.

*"Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not people."*  
—Ephesians 6:7

I love you more than words can express, Mom. I'm honored to celebrate this milestone with you.

With all my love and admiration,

Shemuel Parker

*"This remarkable achievement is a testament to your unwavering faith, compassion, and dedication to serving others."*

Compassion



## Richard Bailey

Richard Bailey is a dedicated member of Victory and Christ Christian Center, where he has faithfully served for over five years. He is graduating from the Deacon in Training (DIT) Program, a testament to his commitment to spiritual growth and leadership within the church. During his time at Victory, Richard has actively contributed to multiple ministries, including the Greeters Ministry, Stephen Ministry, Men's ministry and Mentorship Program, where he offers guidance and support to fellow congregants. He is also a proud member of the LCD Men's Ministry Program, fostering brotherhood and accountability among men in the faith community.

Known for a servant's heart, Richard incorporates the values of compassion, integrity, and discipleship. His involvement across diverse ministries reflects his passion for connecting with others, nurturing spiritual growth, and strengthening the church's mission. Whether welcoming newcomers, mentoring peers, or participating in men's fellowship, he remains steadfast in his dedication to serving God and his community. As he steps into new opportunities, he will continue to prioritize faith, leadership, and uplifting those around him through Christ-centered service.



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*As he steps into new opportunities, he will continue to prioritize faith, leadership, and uplifting those around him through Christ-centered service.*



Richard,

I want to take a moment to congratulate you on your incredible journey in the DIT Deacon training program. Your dedication, perseverance, and commitment to serving God and His people inspire me every day. This new chapter is a testament to your faith and your willingness to grow in His calling. I am so proud of you and excited to see how God will use you in this role. Keep pressing forward—your impact will be great!”

Tamara Watson Bailey

*“Keep pressing forward—your impact will be great!”*

*Servant*



## Daryl Briggs

Daryl has been an active serving partner of Victory in Christ Christian Center (VICCC) since becoming a partner in 2016. He has been blessed to serve on the Parking Lot team, Homegoing team, Victory Food Group and the Ministry Of Protection (MOP). While on MOP, he was promoted to the position of Captain and also, served as a trainer for new MOP candidates. He enjoyed this role until he was chosen to serve as an Armour Bearer. Daryl enjoys serving to help others and is committed to helping to fulfill the vision of VICCC. His commitment to making an impact resulted in him being selected by each Ministry as one of its VIPs over the years. In addition, Daryl is a graduate of the Leadership, Covering, Discipleship (L.C.D.) program.

Daryl was born in Newark, NJ to the late Morris C Briggs Sr and Evon G Briggs. He is the youngest of 5. He grew up in a family of faith filled believers, living by their Mothers' favorite scripture, Psalm 100:3 — *Know ye that the Lord he is God: It is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.* Daryl always gives special thanks to his big sister Minister Yvonne Briggs, for being a spiritual inspiration and source of encouragement. In addition to rooting him in faith, his parents taught him core values that he still exhibits today, like the importance of punctuality, being disciplined and caring for others. These values were further strengthened when he served in the United States Army (19 Delta Cav Scout).

In 2015, Daryl married his good friend and sweetheart Rachquel. Together they established their home based on the principle of Joshua 24:15, *"As for me and my house we will serve the Lord."* It is this scripture that has been used to help him cover his family. Daryl is the proud father of 4 adult children (Darren, Stephanie, Jamyl and Chaela). He willingly shares his faith and leads his family to focus on keeping faith at their foundational core



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*In addition to rooting him in faith, his parents taught him core values that he still exhibits today, like the importance of punctuality, being disciplined and caring for others.*



To My Dearest Dad,

I am so immensely proud of you. Congratulations on accomplishing such an amazing milestone! This role requires commitment, resilience and compassion. Three qualities that I know you possess so well as you have instilled them in me. I am honored to have watched you grow in your spiritual journey throughout my life. I am truly inspired by your devotion and I know you have been an inspiration to others. I've seen the hard work you've put in and the way your face lights up when you share the goodness of God. Even when things may be tough you always persevere in your ability to keep going. "Mind over matter", as you would tell me.

This major milestone shows true faith and I am in awe of your dedication to God and Victory in Christ Christian Center. Your dedication to God has inspired me throughout my life and I know without him none of this would be possible as he has ordered this plan. In the Bible Jeremiah 29:11 says, *"For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to give you hope and a future."* We know God is in control and that he created this path for you as he has provided the blueprint. It is now time for you to execute your assignment and I know you will continue to serve him well.

I want you to truly embrace your role and enjoy this moment as you step into this new journey. I'm very proud of you and can't wait to see you thrive. Sending you my love and prayers always.

Sincerely,

A Proud Daughter,  
Chaela Camille Briggs

*"Your dedication to God has inspired me throughout my life and I know without him none of this would be possible as he has ordered this plan."*

*Commitment*



## Nicole Harris

Nicole Harris is a dedicated servant of God who has devoted her life to family, faith, and community. Married for 24 years to the love of her life, Herb, she is a part of a blended family of 3 adult children and 3 grandchildren.

Her service is her worship!

Born and raised in a nurturing Christian environment, she was profoundly influenced by her mother's steadfast service to God and His people. This upbringing instilled in Nicole the values of faithfulness and compassion, leaving an indelible mark on her heart and mind that would transcend into adulthood. This foundation of faith translated into her service in various roles in her childhood church, St John Born Again Church of the Apostolic Faith. During her tenure, she assumed many roles, which included, in part, as Sunday School teacher, President of the usher, greeter and nurse's guild and also in the capacity of a trustee and Deacon.

As of 2016, Nicole partnered with her current home church, Victory in Christ Christian Center, under the leadership of Bishop John and Pastor Isha Edmondson. Under their leadership, Nicole continued to serve in various ministries to include, in part, PLACE, Partner Care Scholarship Program and the Victorious Business Professionals Ministries. Currently, Nicole serves as an advisor on the Connection Ministry and a facilitator for the Discover and Connect Workshop. In May 2024, Nicole began leading a Victory Small Group named, "Goal Getters" with the purpose of helping people achieve their God-given goals through support, instruction and accountability, further extending her impact within the church and community.

Nicole's commitment to service extends beyond her spiritual life. She has dedicated 12 years of her life to serving in the military starting at the age of 17. Her discipline and leadership skills were honed during this time, preparing her for a life of dedicated service. Nicole's community involvement and volunteerism are extensive. Over the years, she has been a part of Community Outreach and Food Bank programs with churches and schools; a part of cancer walks, MLK outreaches and much more. Currently, she has been employed in the Social Services field for over 15 years, where she continues to advocate for and assist those in need.



Beyond, her unwavering commitment to God and His people, both in and out of church, she continues to exemplify her belief that every task, no matter how large or small, is an act of worship to God and should be done in the spirit of excellence.

Nicole's purpose in life is to help others discover who they are and encourage them to find their purpose through serving. She is passionate about helping people find out who they are through self-discovery coaching and is currently working towards launching her Non-Profit organization, URTHESTAR. In her very limited free time, Nicole enjoys concerts, comedy shows, traveling and creating photo books for family and friends.



To My Wife,

First and foremost, I would like to give thanks to God for giving my wife the opportunity to know him and for allowing me to get to know God through her. I want to say Congratulations to my wife for her hard work and dedication.

You deserve everything God gives you and I am proud of you.

I love you PUD!

Love,  
Your Husband

*“I would like to  
give thanks to God  
for giving my wife  
the opportunity  
to know him and  
for allowing me to  
get to know God  
through her.”*

*Excellence*



## Tracee Humphries

Tracee Lynn Humphries is married to Earl Humphries, Jr, and has one daughter, Shante Marie Williams. Tracee is a Certified Paralegal with an A.A.S degree in Paralegal Studies and has 30+ years of experience and works at the New Jersey Department of Corrections in Trenton, New Jersey. Her passion for justice is reflected in both her career and ministry work. Tracee loves spending time with my family, traveling and being a blessing to others.

Tracee and her husband Earl have been dedicated Partners of Victory in Christ Christian Center for 13 years and have faithfully served in the ministry for 12 years. Tracee serves as Assistant Director in the Armor Bearer Ministry.

Additionally, Tracee is an active member of the Blazer's Ski Club of Philadelphia, where she provides supervision and leadership for a developmental ski program aimed at minority youth in grades 6 through 12.



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*Tracee and her husband Earl have been dedicated Partners of Victory in Christ Christian Center for 13 years.*



My Dearest Tracee,

Congratulations on being selected as a deacon at Victory in Christ Christian Center (VICCC). You have shown your dedication by completing your assignments and performing the necessary duties to show that you are worthy for this godly position. You did this while working a full-time job and maintaining a balanced family life.

You truly have a servant's heart and your commitment to VICCC is an inspiration to our church community. I know you have the attributes to bring grace, wisdom and love to this new role.

I know this is a significant step in your spiritual walk and I've known that you were capable of great things, and this is an example of your brilliance. I feel blessed to have you by my side, inspiring me, and supporting me every single day.

Thank you for being you. And thank you for making me so incredibly proud to be your husband, because you deserve all the happiness and fulfillment this new calling will bring.

I love you more than words can say

Earl AKA "Big Daddy"

*"You truly have a servant's heart and your commitment to VICCC is an inspiration to our church community."*

*Supportive*



## Asata McFarland

Asata B. McFarland Sr. has served as a dedicated partner at VICCC for the past 12 years, bringing his passion for education, mentorship, and service to help serve the kingdom. His commitment to others is deeply rooted in his faith and a desire to empower individuals to reach their full potential. Asata believes in the transformative power of Christ, embodied in his favorite verse, Philippians 4:13, *"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."* This principle guides his work and inspires those around him. He continually seeks opportunities to learn and teach, sharing his knowledge and experience to uplift and support others on their journeys.

A devoted family man, Asata has been happily married to his high school sweetheart, Salama McFarland, for 33 years. Together, they have built a loving family with three children: Asata Jr., Amira, and Akim. Their family has grown to include two grandsons, Jaden and Joel, and a daughter-in-law, Julianne. Family is a cornerstone of Asata's life, providing him with strength and inspiration to serve his community and beyond.

Through the grace of God, Asata has overcome personal challenges and is deeply committed to walking in his God-given purpose. He embodies the spirit of a submitted servant, always ready to lend a helping hand and share his wisdom. His dedication to serving others, coupled with his unwavering faith and belief in the potential of every individual, makes him a true asset to his community and a source of inspiration to all who know him.



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*Through the grace of God, Asata has overcome personal challenges and is deeply committed to walking in his God-given purpose*



## A Letter of Love and Admiration

To the Love of My Life, Asata McFarland,

Today is a day of celebration, honor, and recognition of the incredible man you are and the calling God has placed on your life. As I reflect on our journey together, I am deeply grateful for the growth and strength I have witnessed in you—not just for the man you are, but for the man you continue to become each day. Your unwavering faith, steadfast leadership, and commitment to serving God's people inspire me daily. You are truly a leader among leaders, walking boldly in your God-given assignment.

You are strong, courageous, and unwavering in your faith. You are a protector, a covering for our family and those you love, standing firm in the face of challenges and ensuring that those entrusted to you are guided, nurtured, and safe. Your leadership is not just seen—it is felt, in the way you shield, support, and uplift those around you with wisdom and love. You embody what it means to stand firm in faith, to lead with integrity, and to serve with a heart full of compassion.

As your wife, it is my greatest honor to walk beside you, supporting and encouraging you as you fulfill God's purpose for your life. I strive daily to be the wife you can trust completely, bringing you good and standing with you as you continue to lead our family, church, business, and community with excellence. You are a man worthy of honor, a husband worthy of trust, and a leader worthy of respect.

I am beyond proud of you and excited for all that God has in store. This is only the beginning, and I know He will continue to bless you as you walk faithfully in His will. Congratulations, my love! May His grace and wisdom continue to guide you in this next season of your journey.

With all my love and admiration,

Salama McFarland

*“Your leadership is not just seen—it is felt, in the way you shield, support, and uplift those around you with wisdom and love.”*

*Submitted*



## Debra McGhee

Debra (Fulton) McGhee was born in Youngstown, OH and graduated from South High School. She pursued her passion for science and medicine attending and graduating from Carnegie-Mellon University in Pittsburgh, PA, with a B.A. in Chemistry. She began her career as a development chemist at General Tire and Rubber Company in Akron, OH, where she worked for four years. She continued to pursue her passion for healthcare, earning a Doctor of Dental Surgery (DDS) degree from Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, OH. She operated a private General Dentistry practice in Toledo, OH for over 30 years. She also served vulnerable communities, providing dental care to the homeless, mental health patients and other underserved populations in the area. Since relocating to New Jersey, she continues to provide dental services to underserved communities at CAMcare Health Corporation in Camden, NJ. An advocate for preventive healthcare and health education, she is passionate about ensuring that everyone has access to not only quality oral healthcare, but comprehensive healthcare.

Debra accepted Christ at an early age, encouraged by the teachings of her maternal grandmother. Although she faced challenges during her college years, through the love, support and guidance of her parents and church family, she was always able to return to those early teachings. Family has always been especially important to Debra. She cherishes the relationship that she had with her late parents who were married for 65 years, her late grandmother, daughter Marlonda, granddaughter Kara and brother Fred. She enjoys a close relationship with her two younger sisters, Sandra, and Rosemary. She and her husband of six years, David, are a blended family of two daughters, Danielle and Davida and four grandchildren, Kaiden, Kyler, Noa and Silas. They are happily married as David leads their home well and they work toward a shared vision. Debra enjoys spending time with family, travel, theater and attending teas.

Debra's experiences led her to have a passion to inspire women to embrace their authentic God-given identity and to grow spiritually without compromise. She also has a special place in her heart for seniors, valuing their wisdom and offering help to them whenever needed. She is a 29-year member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated where



over the years she served as chaplain and chairman of the health, courtesy, and protocol committees in the Toledo, OH chapter.

Debra was an active member at her previous church, Cornerstone Church in Toledo, OH where she served in the Intercessory Prayer, Hospital Visitation and Altar Workers Ministries. She graduated from a 3-year Ministerial Studies program at Cornerstone Church. In addition, she was volunteer at the Sparrow's Nest, a homeless shelter for women where she provided nutrition education and facilitated Bible study.

Debra has been a partner at Victory in Christ Christian Center since 2018. She currently enjoys having the opportunity to serve in the Partner Care, Women's, and Marriage Ministries. She is grateful for the encouragement and love of Bishop John and Pastor Isha Edmondson and the entire Victory leadership and church family!



### Congratulatory Letter for Debra McGhee

Blessings and our heartfelt congratulations to you, our big sister Debra, on your installation as a Deacon. Our family is truly proud of you.

You have always been an inspiration to us, leading by example with love, support, and compassion. We have always admired your dedication and unwavering commitment to everything you do. Your calm and sweet spirit makes everyone around you feel special and loved. We are always proud to share that our sister Debra is not only a great prayer warrior but a gifted writer. May this important day be a well-deserved reward for your selfless dedication to the service of our Lord. May God bless and guide you in this new role.

Love,

Your sisters, Rosemary Fulton and Sandra Britt  
Brother-in-Love, Mark  
Nephew, Matthew

*“Your calm and  
sweet spirit  
makes everyone  
around you  
feel special  
and loved.”*

*Interceding*



## Jasmine Moore

Jasmine Joy'Lisa Moore is a devoted servant of God, a passionate community leader, and a dedicated advocate for faith-driven service. She has been a proud partner at Victory in Christ Christian Center for almost 10 years, faithfully serving in various capacities of leadership to support the ministry's outreach, discipleship, and community engagement efforts. Born and raised in Atlantic City, New Jersey, Jasmine's spiritual foundation was shaped by her upbringing in the Baptist church. Growing up, she was surrounded by a strong faith community that instilled in her the values of service, perseverance, and trust in God's plan. Her experiences in the church—from Sundayschool to praise dancing—ignited her passion for ministry and laid the groundwork for her future as a leader in faith and advocacy.

Jasmine's life and spiritual journey were profoundly transformed when her husband led their family to Victory in Christ Christian Center. It was through his leadership and obedience to God that they found a church home that not only nurtured their faith but also equipped them to walk fully in their God-given purpose. Under the spiritual guidance of their pastors and elders, their entire family has flourished as faithful servants, using their gifts to pour into the ministry and uplift others. Together, they serve in various capacities of leadership—from the parking lot to the youth ministry to the discipleship ministries—ensuring that every area of the church reflects excellence and the love of Christ.

Victory has been more than just a church for their family; it is family! It has been a place of transformation, growth, and divine alignment with God's plan. It was here that Jasmine was able to step fully into her calling as a creative, author, and a mentor to young women who, like her, have overcome life's obstacles. Through her journey of faith, she has been able to inspire and uplift others, showing them that God's plan is greater than any challenge they may face.

Jasmine's professional background is in law, public administration, health equity, and nonprofit leadership. She is deeply committed to advocacy and politics, working to create meaningful change in underserved communities.



Through her leadership, she strives to bridge the gap between faith, policy, and social impact, ensuring that those in need have access to resources and opportunities for a better future. Beyond her ministry and professional work, Jasmine is a devoted wife, mother, and entrepreneur.

She and her husband are blessed with many God-given business ventures, using their gifts to create opportunities and serve others. She is truly honored to be entrusted with this elevation to Deacon and holds the spiritual leadership of Bishop John and Pastor Isha Edmondson in the highest regard. She is committed to representing the Kingdom of God and Victory in Christ Christian Center wherever she goes, serving with humility, leading with integrity, and advancing the work of the Lord.



Jasmine,

I am beyond proud of you on this incredible milestone of being installed as a deacon. As your little sister, I have always admired you, not just for the title you now hold, but for the person you have always been. You have led with love and grace, you truly deserve your flowers for the way you pour into others.

You are an amazing mother to my nephews, a devoted wife, a loving daughter, a loyal friend, and most importantly, a true servant of God. If more people in this world carried your kindness, strength, and selflessness, it would undoubtedly be a better place. Your hard work, dedication, and the way you make others feel valued never go unnoticed, and I want you to know how much I appreciate and love you. Congratulations on this well-deserved honor! I am so excited to see you continue to walk in your purpose.

With love,  
Your little sister, Janae

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Congratulations Deacon Elect Jasmine Moore

I am so proud of you! I am grateful for this day! I can remember Community Baptist days you serving in any way you can praise dancer, choir member, soloist, presenting out in Bible study the way you understood it. God had his hand on you then. The servant leader in you would always shine through. Regardless of the task you got it done. I have watched you endure and come out victorious. Battles that would cause the average person to quit and you found ways to serve through the pain. I have seen you serve all age groups from covenant house to your local assemble. There is no job too big or too small if you place your hand on it has to prosper. God is truly with you and the hand of God rests on your life.

I celebrate the woman, mother, and wife you have become all because you know how to serve. This is another level for you. Keep your ear tuned to God's voice he's got more to show you according to Rev 4:1. and 11 Cor. 2:9 Know I am praying and pushing God is not through with you yet.

"Oh my sister be encouraged", I love you

Pastor Hamiyd

*"I have watched  
you endure  
and come out  
victorious. Battles  
that would cause  
the average  
person to quit and  
you found ways to  
serve through the  
pain."*

*Devoted*



## Yvette Pitman

Yvette N. Pitman has been a serving partner for more than seven years. She currently serves as the VWV Discipleship Coordinator and as a board member for The Victory Group. With over 15 years of experience in human services, Yvette is passionate about raising her son, Emanuel W. Small III, and serving others and the community.



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*Yvette is passionate about raising her son, Emanuel W. Small III, and serving others and the community.*



Dear Yvette,

I was so thrilled and overjoyed to hear about your ordination as a deacon at Victory in Christ Christian Center! This is such a wonderful and well-deserved honor, and I'm so incredibly happy for you. I've always admired your dedication to serving others and your unwavering faith.

Your passion for the Lord shines through in everything you do, and I know you will be a blessing to the congregation in this new role. Your years of service, including your work as the VWV Discipleship Coordinator and your contributions to The Victory Group, have clearly demonstrated your commitment to our community and your love for God's people. I remember your dedication and passion you shared while working with the Youth group at church. You were always willing to serve as a mentor that encouraged and displayed positive Christian values and beliefs. While serving as a soft cushiony place for youth to land when they needed support and love. Further demonstrating your true servant's heart, and I have no doubt that you will excel as a deacon.

Congratulations again, Yvette! I'm so proud of you and excited to see all the amazing things you will accomplish in this new chapter of your spiritual journey. May God continue to order your steps and allow you to serve a beacon of light in Christian leadership!

With love and blessings,

Dr. Chenequa Hayden (Sister-friend)

*“Your passion  
for the Lord  
shines through  
in everything  
you do, and I  
know you will be  
a blessing to the  
congregation in  
this new role.”*

*Passionate*



## Marrtin Quick

It was said, “This is a diligent child.” A loyal friend is he! As a child, the Boy Scouts oath and law was drilled into my brothers and me, by my uncle. I would have to say that this has been the guide set in my heart ever, since along with the inspired word of God.

I am Bro. Marrtin Quick, an educator, a historian, advocate and mentor to youth well over 30 years. Husband to Daisy. The father of Milani and Dionna. Grandfather to DiNori and Xylo. Raised in a prayerful environment as the third son of 4 boys of a total of 6 children. My mother was a teacher and a seamstress. Mom ran a tight ship as she kept us in church like her mother and father did for her and her siblings. She indeed would invoke the fear of God into us with that ominous look.

Feeling that I was ready for the world at 18, I ventured off to school. I didn’t leave the church—I just didn’t join another when I went South to college. I did however, take my sword with me. Not realizing how important it was for me to be anchored with a community of believers, I found I was drifting farther away from the things of God than I even imagined. God, in His infinite wisdom; knew just how much of life was needed to beat me into submission. Remembering the many testimonies, I grew up hearing, I was mindful not to be beaten unto death before returning back to God, literally.

Although it made no difference whether one is beaten unto spiritual death or physically; it was the same to me. I could not recognize myself. But God.

Today, I stand at the precipice of a new dawn as God has renewed, revived and rejuvenated my soul. I pray to be fit to do the bidding of the Lord, in Jesus’ mighty name!



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*Today, I stand at the precipice of a new dawn as God has renewed, revived and rejuvenated my soul. I pray to be fit to do the bidding of the Lord, in Jesus’ mighty name!*



Congratulations to Marrtin Quick on His Installation as Deacon!

Today is a momentous and well-deserved occasion as my beloved husband, Marrtin Quick, is installed as a deacon at our church, Victory in Christ Christian Center. Marrtin, you are a man of unwavering faith, wisdom, and integrity. Your kindness, intelligence, and dedication shine in all that you do—as a loving husband, father to Milani and Dionna, grandfather to DiNori and Xylo, and mentor to many of your students and friends.

From the day we met in 1990, we built a foundation of friendship, laughter, and faith. Who knew that 13 years later we would reconnect, and we have been side by side since then. Seventeen years of marriage later, I remain in awe of the man you have always been—steadfast, compassionate, and a pillar of strength for our family and friends. You have consistently been the one that family and friends turn to in times of need, offering guidance rooted in the word of God.

Today, I salute you and celebrate this milestone in your journey of service. I am beyond proud of you, honored to stand by your side, and grateful for the love and leadership you bring into our lives. I know God will continue to bless and guide you in this new role.

With love and admiration,

Daisy

*“Seventeen years of marriage later, I remain in awe of the man you have always been—steadfast, compassionate, and a pillar of strength for our family and friends.”*

*Strong*



## Chanoa Santiago

Born and raised in North Philadelphia, Chanoa Santiago grew up in a home filled with family and faith, spanning five generations and guided by her grandmother, Lula. The family's Pentecostal church, located in their basement, nurtured her love for God, shaping her foundation in worship and belief—"Con Dios Adelante."

In 2002, she married Antonio, and together they built a life centered on faith and family. God blessed them with two wonderful sons, AJ and JoJo, who have given them purpose beyond happiness. For years, she searched for a church home, feeling an emptiness only God could fill. In 2016, following a childhood tradition, she and her husband attended Easter Sunday service at Victory In Christ Christian Center—and their lives were forever changed. She began attending consistently, and in 2017, she became a partner and served faithfully for three years, believing that one day God would bring her husband and sons alongside her—and He did. *"But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."* (Joshua 24:15). Today, her husband serves in the Communications Ministry, overseeing the church's graphics. Antonio and AJ both serve in Victory Youth, while AJ and JoJo also serve in the Parking Lot Ministry.

Throughout her career, God has placed her in rooms and at tables where she may have been less qualified, but she was anointed and willing. By His grace, she has built a successful career as a Human Resources Practitioner in corporate America. Over 25 years, her faith and determination have led to 14 promotions, each expanding her scope, responsibilities, and impact. Beyond her professional journey, she has overcome rejection, abandonment, neglect, oppression, and abuse by relying on God's strength. Her identity was tested in the corporate world, but through faith, she conquered the fear of judgment, the need for acceptance, and doubts about her capability and intelligence. Her relationship with God has been her anchor, and through Him, she continues to rise.

*"Wait for the Lord; be strong and let your heart take courage; yes, wait for the Lord."* –Psalm 27:14.

Her journey in ministry began in 2017 as a Greeter at Victory In Christ Christian Center. By 2019, God elevated her



to Assistant Director of the Greeters Ministry, where she used her gifts of love, organization, and coaching. In 2022, she, her husband, and their sons became Small Group Leaders of "Be The Light", using their passion for family and faith to bring others closer to God through gaming and connection. A year later, God called her higher, appointing her as Director of the Small Group Ministry, where she continues to use her gifts of visionary, support, encouragement, and development of leaders in their walk with Christ, connecting believers to community.

Now, God is calling her to serve on a greater level. She is humbled by His plan, grateful for His grace, and ready to go higher, deeper, and wider in service to His kingdom as a Deacon at Victory In Christ Christian Center. Her heart belongs to God, her gifts are rooted in faith, and her soul is dedicated to lifting others closer to Him. He is not finished with her yet. Thank you, Jesus Christ, her Lord and Savior.



My Chanoa,

I find myself reflecting on the amazing journey we've shared, and I want to take this moment to truly congratulate you, from the deepest part of my heart. I am beyond proud of the woman you have become. Watching you grow, evolve, and embrace all the challenges life throws your way fills me with a sense of awe. You have not only transformed my life but have changed the way I see the world. Your strength, grace, and unwavering love have reshaped my perspective on what truly matters.

You've taught me the power of patience, kindness, and the beauty of perseverance. One of the greatest gifts you've given me is how much you've inspired me to dive deeper into my own faith. You've shown me, through your own example, how powerful the Word of God truly is. I am learning so much from you, not just about love, but about the strength that comes from a life rooted in faith. Watching you live your life so fully, trusting in His guidance and wisdom, has been nothing short of inspiring, and it's brought me closer to God than I ever imagined. Every single day, I fall more in love with you. It's hard to imagine that the love I feel for you today is even greater than before, but it is. You amaze me with how much of yourself you pour into our family, and I see the way your heart touches everyone who is fortunate enough to be around you. Your ability to guide and uplift those who seek your wisdom is something I admire deeply. You have an incredible gift, and I am so blessed to witness the incredible woman you continue to become.

Congratulations, my love, not only for your achievements but for the beautiful soul you are. I feel truly honored to call you my wife, and I know the best is yet to come. I will always be here, by your side, cheering you on every step of the way.

With all my love,

Antonio Santiago

Dear Ma,

Ever since Jo and I were born you have shown us the love of God through your love for us and your love for others. Even before Victory found us and even before we found Christ, you always had something different that I could never figure out.

Growing to know and love God from my very first day of Middle School to my High School Graduation has shown me what that special something you have is, It's the Grace of God. Your Grace has been pivotal in my learning of God. You have shown the whole family what it means to love God. But I guess that's the story of your life, ever since you were JoJo's age you have been instilled with the Grace of God. This family would not be as united and together as we are right now if you did not take that first step to really know God. Even when you were a kid it was you that united your family forever when you found Grandma working for the now family restaurant where you would later meet our Dad.

You were meant for this and God has been waiting for you to become this righteous version of yourself that you are now. Watching you change as a person and a child of God throughout my life has gravitated me towards God and the Church. It has also made me excited to watch your spirit and righteousness draw my brother towards the church as well. It has been my honor to be your first-born son, and I will continue to look up to you as my Mother, Protector, Guardian, and my lifeline to the Kingdom of God. My life has been forever changed because of the faith you had in me and the courage you have to always keep learning and loving your neighbor.

Ma, I thank you for all of the sacrifices you made for our family, because of this we are forever changed, and we will continue to learn and grow in the Kingdom of God forever.

Love,

Buddha and Peanut (AJ and JoJo)

*Courageous*



## Andre Smith

Andre F. Smith is a seasoned professional with over 28 years of experience in the Aerospace and Defense industry, currently dedicated to his role as a Software Quality Engineer at BAE Systems. While his technical expertise is undeniable, his bio would be incomplete without mentioning his strong commitment to his faith and family.

Beyond his technical background in Aeronautical Studies and Business Management, Andre possesses a distinguished career marked by leadership and a focus on quality. At BAE, he ensures the integration of contractual and quality management system requirements into all aspects of projects. Previously, he held key roles in the development and testing of complex systems for the US Navy and the FAA, demonstrating his ability to navigate demanding technical environments. Andre is a licensed UAV drone operator, FAA licensed Private pilot. His dream is to start his own drone business and offer aerial imagery services in 2025.

Andre is a man of faith, actively involved with Victory In Christ Christian Center for ten years. He served as a Lieutenant in the Ministry of Protection and is on the Marriage Ministry Leadership team. He is a faithful husband to Deitra Smith and a proud father to Andrea and Myles. This well-rounded perspective allows him to bring not only technical proficiency but also strong values and dedication to build the Kingdom of God with every endeavor.

Andre finds solace and strength in his favorite scripture, Psalm 91: *"The Lord is my refuge and my fortress, my God in whom I trust with all my heart."*



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Andre finds solace and strength in his favorite scripture, Psalm 91: *"The Lord is my refuge and my fortress, my God in whom I trust with all my heart."*



Dear Dad,

Words can't express how incredibly proud I am of you today as you become a Deacon in our church. This is such a wonderful testament to your unwavering faith, your deep compassion for others, and your dedication to serving God and our community. You truly have a heart to serve others, and that is so evident in how you live your life every single day. I am blessed to have a first account of how amazing you are and the things you do to make Kingdom impact in our home, our church and on your job. God is pleased that you remained diligent and connected to the calling He has for your life. I want to share why I am so proud of you and how you inspire me to live a life that glorifies God.

I've always admired your quiet strength, a trait I see reflected in myself. You have a way of leading and serving without needing the spotlight. That's something I truly value and aspire to. You've always been a steady presence, a rock for our family, a shining example of a Godly man, and to me the best girl Dad a daughter could ever ask for. You embody the verse from Micah 6:8, *"He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God, demonstrating a life of integrity, compassion, and humility."*

You've set the bar high for what I will look for in a husband. The way I see you love on mom, me and Myles, and all others around is beyond remarkable and I can't wait for others in our church body to experience that love from you as well.

Becoming a Deacon is a significant commitment, and I know you will embrace this new role with the same grace and humility you apply to everything you do. It requires a servant's heart, a willingness to put others before yourself, and a deep love for God's people—qualities you possess in abundance. I am so excited to see all the good you will accomplish and the lives you will touch in this new capacity. I know you'll be a blessing to so many. And even though you sometimes eat my leftovers... I'm still incredibly proud of you! (Just kidding... mostly!)

Congratulations, Dad. This is a well-deserved honor, and Myles and I are so blessed to have you as our father. You are my role model, my confidant, and my friend. I love you more than words can say.

With all my love,

Andrea Smith

*"God is pleased that you remained diligent and connected to the calling He has for your life. I want to share why I am so proud of you and how you inspire me to live a life that glorifies God."*

*Diligent*



## Michael Taylor

Mike Taylor is a family man, dedicated to not only providing for them but covering and discipling them. From a young age, his belief system and work ethic were instilled in him by his parents, who encouraged the gift God gave him to help others and to love God. He loves his family with everything he has, which is evident whenever you hear him talk about Bridget or Lexi. He has had a lot of challenges in his life, but he will tell you how God has gotten him through every time.

In his spare time, he enjoys a lot of outdoor activities like fishing, hunting, archery, exploring in the woods, playing golf or a variety of other things. He has a passion for anything mechanical and enjoys the challenge of trying to figure out how things work. You will find Mike under the hood of a car or beneath it a lot of the time, at a car show or a racetrack. Basically, he likes anything with an engine, a passion he has passed on to his daughter Lexi. But, more often than not you will find him enjoying time with his family.



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*Mike has had a lot of challenges in his life, but he will tell you how God has gotten him through every time.*



Dear Mike,

I would like to start out by telling you how incredibly proud Lexi and I are of you for all the hard work you have put into this program to become a deacon. We are always proud of you because you are a husband and father that continues to strive to be your best.

I have known you for almost 30 years! I have witnessed a large part of your walks with God. I say walks because your testimony includes struggles and finding your way back to God. Proverbs 22:6 says, *“Train up a child in the ways he should go and when he is old, he will not depart from it.”* This is most certainly the case. You were raised with strong teachings and with some excellent examples of Christianity in your family.

Many know that a big part of your testimony includes our daughter Lexi and the battles she faced at such a young age. You stepped up as a dad but struggled with your relationship with God. At the time, you were focused on her needs and lost focus on your need for God in your life. But when you talk about this testimony, you do so with pride because you know it was the road you needed to travel to get back to God. This testimony has given you insight and strength to help others in a unique way.

To see you rededicating your life back to God was beautiful. To see you take that and run with it is more than I could have imagined... But not God. He knew and waited for you to say, “put me in coach.” Not too long after we started attending Victory, you leapt at the chance to volunteer when they asked for men at a tent revival. You were proud to be put in as MOP and be able to protect the church and leadership, that you would come to call your spiritual parents. I will never forget the pride you had telling me about the experience. I watched you smile ear to ear and was so happy to see you start this journey. A journey that has included learning, growing and helping others.

You have always been a man to help others and would prefer it be behind the scenes. Lexi and I see you help us and others without hesitation. We are honored to see you start your new journey as Deacon Mike. We love you and are proud of you! Lexi wanted to add to this letter, “My Daddy is awesome!” and I think many would agree. We love you!

Love,

Bridget and Lexi

*“Your passion  
for the Lord  
shines through  
in everything  
you do, and I  
know you will be  
a blessing to the  
congregation in  
this new role.”*

*Overcomer*



## Treena Davis-Trotman

Treena Davis-Trotman is a native of New Brunswick, NJ and a graduate of Rutgers University. She is the daughter of Henry (deceased) and Edith Davis, the proud mother of adult children Khalil, Kamilah and Khoury Trotman and the doting grandmother of Nayeli Trotman.

Treena was introduced to Christ as a child. She gave her life to the Lord and was baptized at the age of 12 becoming a member of the Tabernacle Baptist Church in New Brunswick. At Tabernacle she served in the Youth Ministry and on the United Voices of Tabernacle Youth and Young Adult Choir from her teen years through young adulthood.

Growing up summers were spent with her maternal grandmother, Lillie Pearl Muse, siblings and first cousins in Virginia. These summers were always excitedly looked forward to and are now treasured memories of a great childhood of family and fun. Her grandmother affectionately called Mrs. Pearl, was a respected church mother and deaconess at her church, Union Hope Baptist Church. She modeled for Treena a life of kindness, service and a love for the Lord.

Treena is a lover of music and song and has been singing since the age of 7 in school choirs, musical productions and at church. She became a partner at Victory in Christ Christian Center in May of 2002. At Victory she has served in the Children's Ministry, Drama Ministry and has served on the Praise & Worship team for many years. Treena is a passionate and energetic worshipper and is always glad to make a joyful noise unto the Lord.



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*Treena is a passionate and energetic worshipper and is always glad to make a joyful noise unto the Lord.*



Dear Mom,

I am so amazed by all the hard work you've put towards becoming a Deacon. My whole life you've been an example of what it means to be a strong woman of faith. I have many fond memories of sitting in the car with you listening to Bishop John's services first on tape, then CD and now over bluetooth.

You never shy away from things that are hard if they're the right thing to do and, becoming a Deacon was no exception. When God called you to expand your service you answered with no hesitation and I've never been prouder.

Love,

Kamilah

*"You never shy away from things that are hard if they're the right thing to do and, becoming a Deacon was no exception."*

*Worship*



## Joanne Turner

Joanne Turner is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW), Certified Clinical Supervisor, Field Placement Site Supervisor for interns of Rutgers University, Widener University, and Capella University, Certified School Social Worker, and an Adjunct Professor at Rowan College of South Jersey. She has worked in the mental health/behavioral health fields for more than 25 years with experience in both administration and direct practice of clinical services in various settings. She is currently the owner and a therapist of a private practice, By Original Design, LLC, a Personal Development, Counseling, and Consultation Service located in West Deptford, NJ and a new office opening in Sewell, NJ in March 2025.

She has extensive expertise, providing counseling services, clinical supervision and consultation. She aims to provide clinical services for those with a history of trauma, depression, anxiety as well as victims and perpetrators of childhood sexual abuse. Her passion for helping others motivated her to achieve her certification in American Sign Language where she not only counsels deaf clients but also engages in the deaf community.

Additionally, she is the President of Girls Phenom, Inc. (GP) of which she has served for the past two years along with being a member for over 10 years. GP is a not-for-profit organization that connects with phenomenal women, to inspire them through resources, to fuel their minds and spirits and to impact lives beyond personal greatness.

She has served as a partner of Victory in Christ Christian Center, since March 2017 of which she has served in Partner Care with baby dedications and baptism, the Bible Training Center of which she also completed various classes, Co-chair of the Scholarship Committee, a former small group co-facilitator, and has completed the Victorious Women of Victory (VWV) Discipleship Group – Level 1, Level 2 and the Titus 2 Mentoring program as a mentor.

In her free time, she loves spending time with her husband, children and grandchildren, in addition to traveling and fine dining both locally and around the world. She has a heart to serve people, especially those with a need. Her personal and



professional mission are one of the same to make a difference in the lives of people making for a better person, family, and community at large.

Although she was not raised in the church, once she has accepted the Lord as her Savior, she continues to have a passion for studying and sharing the Word of God with others not just in word or deed but through her life. She has occupied many positions since salvation but the one she loves the most is being the child of God.



Recently, my mother asked me to draft a letter regarding her upcoming elevation to Deacon. I am taking this opportunity to publicly express my gratitude for one of the strongest and most powerful women I know—my real-life template of a good woman.

The characteristics of a deacon, according to 1 Timothy 3:8-11 (ESV), are as follows: dignified, not double-tongued, not addicted to much wine, and not greedy for dishonest gain. These aren't attributes my mother has just now attained; they have been evident in her character for as long as I can remember.

My mother raised two children as a single mother in North Camden, NJ. Not only that, but in her early 30s, she went back to school—not just for an associate's degree, not just for a bachelor's degree, but for a master's in social work—all while working full-time and raising us in one of the toughest neighborhoods in Camden. She doesn't look like what she's been through.

My mother raised us to be God-fearing people. Her faith is her superpower. I marvel daily when I reflect on the countless trials and adversities she has endured throughout my life. Recently, I asked her how she managed to do it all—going to school, working, and raising us. And if you saw our church schedule in those days, you'd know she had two full-time jobs. She served as an administrator/secretary, Sunday school superintendent, minister, choir director, preacher, and teacher. My mother did it all. Whenever I feel overwhelmed by my own responsibilities, I think about her, and my appreciation for all she has done grows even deeper.

The toughest part of this assignment was keeping it to one page. I could go on for days and still not run out of words to express how proud I am of my mother. Her favorite scripture growing up was Joel 2:25-26, and I firmly believe she is experiencing God's grace daily. She has often said, "I'm still trying to figure out what I want to do when I grow up," which serves as a constant reminder that with God and through God, all things are possible.

With love,

Your son,

Michael C. Detreville Jr.

*"My mother raised us to be God-fearing people. Her faith is her superpower. I marvel daily when I reflect on the countless trials and adversities she has endured throughout my life."*

*Godly*



## Gary Waller

Gary Waller is a Senior Accountant by profession. He has been in the accounting profession for thirty years with the majority of his career in the area of mutual fund/investment accounting. He had recently transitioned into the financial and corporate accounting field. He has an Associate's Degree in Accounting and a Bachelor's Degree in Business Information Systems.

Gary is an energetic and passionate person who loves music. He started his musical endeavor at the age of five years old, singing in school choirs and by the age of nine, he started playing the organ. He started accompanying his middle school choirs by playing the piano and by the age of twelve, he started playing the organ in his home church. Since then Gary has appeared on the *Bobby Jones Gospel Show* and traveled both nationally and internationally in music, including the countries of Canada, Austria and the Republic of Georgia (of the former Soviet Union). He also loves to travel and take nature walks, appreciating God's creation.

Since an early age, Gary has continuously served in the local church, not only as musical and choir directors, but also as a youth leader, serving in the audio and visual departments, Sunday School teacher, administrator and in other ministerial positions. He loves teaching and sharing the Word of God, believing that having clarity and knowledge of God's Word is paramount. He also loves encouraging others to reach their full potential in their life endeavors. He firmly believes that "we can do and have more, if we knew more."

Currently, Gary is working professional advancement in his recent position, pursuing to oversee the offshore accounting team to be established in the Philippines. He also desires to become a professional counselor and mentor.

Gary is the youngest of five children and he is the proud father of five children, four sons Xzavier, Jordon, Jairon and Davian and one daughter, Aleya.



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*Gary also loves encouraging others to reach their full potential in their life endeavors. He firmly believes that "we can do and have more, if we knew more."*



I writing this letter of congratulations on the behalf of Gary Waller. I am one of Gary's older sisters. I have never known Gary be dishonest nor disrespectful to anyone, Gary has a strong love for the Gospel and he will/can engage people to talk about the Gospel of the Good News of Jesus Christ but he will never push his views on people who do not want to hear. From an early age, Gary dedicated his life to Christ to serve where and whenever he can.

All throughout his childhood, Gary has always had a love for playing the organ, he learned to play at an early age and his choice of music has always been Gospel. Since God gave him this gift, he vowed to give it back to God. Growing up in a Christian home and being a choir director and organ player at the age of 12, I watched him grow spiritually. And in 2010, Gary was ordained as an Elder under a previous church organization and has proven to be a trustworthy servant of God. Gary is not only dedicated to serving time working with young people engaging them to pursue their talents, but he also has dedicated his life to mentor others, especially other men to pursue being the best they can be.

Gary is a proud father of five children and through every difficulty and challenge in his life, he vowed to always be in all of his children's lives. He has proven to be faithful to his family, the church and most of all to the Call of Christ.

Congratulations baby brother on your installation as a Deacon and your call in ministry.

Many Blessings,

Cathy St. James

*“Gary is not only dedicated to serving time working with young people engaging them to pursue their talents, but he also has dedicated his life to mentor others, especially other men to pursue being the best they can be.”*

*Encourager*



# The Order of Consecration of Licensing and Installation

*+ Please stand where indicated*

## Prelude

*The people remain seated*

## The Procession

## +The Call to Worship

## Victory in Christ Praise & Worship Team

*The people stand to offer worship in song and praise unto the Lord our God.*

## +The Invocation

*The people remain standing*

Pastor Isha

## The Ministry of Worship in Dance

## The Ministry of the Word

Bishop John

## The Licensing and Installation Ceremony



## Lessons *from the Word*

*All are seated for the following reading of the scriptures*

### A LESSON FROM THE HEBREW SCRIPTURES

#### ISAIAH 61:1-3

**LECTOR:** Elder David Rothwell

The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me; because the LORD hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound; To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all that mourn;

To appoint unto them that mourn in Zion, to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that he might be glorified.

The Word of the Lord.

**THE PEOPLE RESPOND:** Thanks be to God.

### A LESSON FROM THE PROPHETS

#### ISAIAH 6:1-8

**LECTOR:** Elder Caroline Waters

In the year that king Uzziah died I saw also the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up, and his train filled the temple. Above it stood the seraphims: each one had six wings; with twain he covered his face, and with twain he covered his feet, and with twain he did fly. And one cried unto another, and said, Holy, holy, holy, is the LORD of hosts: the whole earth is full of his glory. And the posts of the door moved at the voice of him that cried, and the house was filled with smoke. Then said I, Woe is me! for I am undone; because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips: for mine eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts. Then flew one of the seraphims unto me, having a live coal in his hand, which he had taken with the tongs from off the altar: And he laid it upon my mouth, and said, Lo, this hath touched thy lips; and thine iniquity is taken away, and thy sin purged. Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, Here am I; send me.

**THE PEOPLE RESPOND:** Thanks be to God.



## *Lessons from the Word (cont.)*

*All are seated for the following reading of the scriptures*

### **A READING FROM THE PSALM & PROVERBS**

#### **PSALM 90:17, PROVERBS 3:5-6**

**LECTOR:** Elder Ronald Johnston Jr

And let the beauty of the Lord our God be upon us: and establish thou the work of our hands upon us; yea, the work of our hands establish thou it.

Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all they ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct thy paths.

**THE PEOPLE RESPOND:** Thanks be to God.

### **A READING FROM THE EPISTLES**

#### **1 PETER 5:1-4**

**LECTOR:** Elder Michelle Johnston

The elders which are among you I exhort, who am also an elder, and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that shall be revealed: Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind; Neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being examples to the flock.

And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away.

**THE PEOPLE RESPOND:** Thanks be to God.

### **A READING FROM THE GOSPELS**

#### **MATTHEW 20:25-28**

**LECTOR:** Elder Marcus Waters

But Jesus called them unto him, and said, Ye know that the princes of the Gentiles exercise dominion over them, and they that are great exercise authority upon them. But it shall not be so among you: but whosoever will be great among you, let him be your minister; And whosoever will be chief among you, let him be your servant: Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many. And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away.

**THE PEOPLE RESPOND:** Thanks be to God.



# The Act of Receiving

## PASTOR ISHA ADDRESSES THE CHURCH:

I present these Candidates to be licensed as Ministers in Christ's Holy and Apostolic church.

They have gone through the necessary stages in preparation for this time. I believe their manner of life to be suitable to the exercise of this ministry.

I certify to you that they have been prepared and met the requirements of the church and we believe them to be qualified for this calling. They have been examined and approved by our council of Elders in this church and are now ready for public examination.

## BISHOP:

Candidates, please stand. Will you be loyal to the doctrine, discipline, and worship of Christ and this local church? Will you in accordance with the canons of this church, walk in unity with your Pastors and Elders who will have authority over you and your work? Will you be faithful to the Holy Scriptures, holy discipline, and worship of the church?

## CANDIDATES:

I am willing and ready to do so; and I solemnly declare that I do believe the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testament to be the Word of God, and to contain all things necessary to salvation, and I do solemnly engage to conform to the doctrine, discipline and worship of the church.

## BISHOP: (Asks the People to stand and says the following):+

Brothers and Sisters in Christ Jesus, you have heard the testimony given that these candidates have been duly and lawfully appointed to be a minister of Victory In Christ Christian Center. You have been assured of their suitability and that we Pastor Isha and I and the Elders have approved them for this sacred responsibility. Nevertheless, if any of you know any reason why we should not proceed, let it now be made known.

Is it your will that they be made Ministers in this church?

**THE PEOPLE RESPOND:** It is.

## BISHOP:

Will you uphold them in this ministry?

**THE PEOPLE RESPOND:** We will.



## The Invitation

The Victory In Christ Christian Center, after prayerful consideration and examination concerning the fitness of these candidates for Ministers is pleased to authorize them to walk as Ministers in this church.

We the Eldership of this church invite you to come forward for examination as a sign of your consent to receive license as a Minister of Victory In Christ Christian Center.

## The Examination

### BISHOP:

Before God and this congregation, we ask you:  
Are you persuaded that God has called you to be  
a Minister of the church of Jesus Christ?

**ANSWER:** I believe I am called.

### PASTOR ISHA:

Do you now in the presence of the church  
commit yourself to this trust and responsibility?

**ANSWER:** I do.

### ELDER DAVID:

Will you respect and be guided by pastoral and  
eldership direction and leadership? Will you walk  
in accountability with those over you?

**ANSWER:** I will.

### ELDER CAROLINE:

Will you be diligent in the study and reading  
of the Holy Scriptures, and in seeking the  
knowledge of such things that make you a  
stronger and a more able minister of Christ?

**ANSWER:** I will.

### ELDER RON:

Will you endeavor to minister the Word of God  
and the ordinances of the New Covenant, that  
the reconciling love of Christ may be know and  
received?

**ANSWER:** I will.

### ELDER MICHELLE:

Will you strive to be a faithful Minister to all  
whom you are called to serve, laboring together  
with them and with your fellow ministers to  
build up the family of God?

**ANSWER:** I will.

### ELDER MARCUS:

Will you do your best to pattern your life and  
that of your household in accordance with  
the teachings of Christ, so that you may be a  
wholesome example to the people?

**ANSWER:** I will.

### BISHOP:

Will you persevere in prayer, both in public and  
in private, asking God's grace, both for yourself  
and for others, offering all your labors to God,  
through the mediation of Jesus Christ, and in the  
sanctification of the Holy Spirit?

**ANSWER:** I will.



## The Examination (cont.)

### PASTOR ISHA:

Do you, with the churches throughout the world accept the scriptures of the Old and New Testament as the inerrant Word of God, the rule and standard of Christian faith and practice?

**ANSWER:** I do.

### ELDER DAVID:

Do you promise to be diligent in your private prayers and in reading the scriptures, as well as the public duties of your office?

**ANSWER:** I do, relying on God.

### ELDER CAROLINE:

Will you be zealous in ministering both the truth of the gospel, in administering the sacraments and rites of the church, and in exercising leadership?

**ANSWER:** I will, relying on God's grace.

### ELDER RON:

Will you keep all confidences shared with you?

**ANSWER:** I will, relying on God's grace.

### ELDER MICHELLE:

Will you seek to regard all people with equal love and concern and undertake to minister impartially to the needs of all?

**ANSWER:** I will, relying on God's grace.

### ELDER MARCUS:

Having prayerfully considered the duties and responsibilities of the minister of the gospel, are you prepared to serve with the help of God in Christ's name and for the glory of God?

**ANSWER:** I am.

### BISHOP, PASTOR ISHA AND THE ELDERS:

May the Lord who has given to you the will to do these things give you the grace and power to perform them.

**ANSWER:** Amen.



# The Charge

## **ELDER DAVID:**

We charge you to know the truth. As Paul instructed Timothy, “Be diligent to present yourself approved to God as a workman who does not need to be ashamed, handling accurately the Word of truth.”  
—2 Timothy 2:15

## **ELDER CAROLINE:**

We charge you to preach the truth. Though the message of the cross is “foolishness” to those who are perishing, yet “God was well pleased through the foolishness of the message preached to save those who believe.” —1 Corinthians 1:18,21

## **ELDER RON:**

We charge you to live the truth. Keep your personal character blameless. Lay the law of kindness upon your heart and tongue. Be a servant, not a master. Persuasion is more effective than force. Lead by example. —Matthew 5:16

## **ELDER MICHELLE:**

We charge you to always be directed by the truth. Knowing the truth is what will always make you and keep you free. We charge you, know the truth, preach the truth, live the truth and walk in truth all the days of your life. —John 8:32

## **ELDER MARCUS:**

Finally we charge you to stand unwavering on the foundation of God’s Word. Watch, stand fast in the faith, be brave, be strong. Let all that you do be done with love(1 Corinthians 16:13-14). Do not waver in the face of opposition or be swayed by the winds of deception. Clothe yourself in the full armor of God so that you may be able to withstand the schemes of the enemy. —Ephesians 6:11



## The Consecration

*+All the people stand, except the candidates, who kneel before for the laying on of hands upon the candidates.*

### **BISHOP:**

Each candidate shall now kneel. Pastor Isha and I along with The Elders, will now anoint you with oil and laying of hands for service in the Church of Jesus Christ.

The prayer continues as the Eldership place their right hands upon the heads of the candidates saying together:

“Therefore, Father, make these Ministerial Candidates ministers in your Church. Pour out upon them your princely Spirit, whom you bestowed upon your beloved Son Jesus Christ, with whom He endowed the apostles, and by whom your Church is built up in every place, to the glory and unceasing praise of your Name.”

The prayer will conclude with the people responding in a loud voice together after Bishop says:

**AND ALL THE PEOPLE SAID:** Amen!

## The Directive

### **BISHOP:**

Ministers, please rise and stand before us in your new Office of a Minister.

## The Giving of Gifts and Credentials

The new Ministers shall now be presented a ministers cross and bible along with ministerial credentials (which include certificate of License and ministerial papers).

### **BISHOP:**

Receive the ministerial cross, credentials and bible as a sign of the authority given to you to preach the Word of God and to administer His Holy ordinances. Do not forget the trust committed to you as Ministers in this church.

### **PASTORAL DECLARATION:**

In the name of Jesus Christ the head of the church by the authority of Victory In Christ Christian Center, We declare these individuals to be licensed as ministers of the gospel of Jesus Christ, to serve in the Body of Christ. May the Holy Spirit strengthen you for the ministry of The Gospel and equip you with everything good to do God's will.



# The Presentation of New Ministers

+ All stand as the new Ministers are presented to the People.  
The People offer their acclamation and applause in response to their consecration.

The new Ministers will now take their rightful place on the altar amongst the Eldership as they prepare to consecrate the deacon candidates.

## The Invitation to Deacon Candidates

### ELDER DAVE:

The qualifications for the Office of Deacon are set forth by the Apostle Paul in the third chapter of his First Epistle to Timothy, in which he says:

“Deacons must be worth of respect, not shift and double talkers but sincere in what they say, not given to much wine, not greedy for base gain, craving wealth and resorting to ignoble and dishonest methods of getting it.”

### ELDER CAROLINE:

“They must be earnest, wholehearted followers of Christ, who is the hidden Source of their faith.”

### ELDER MARCUS:

“Before they are asked to be deacons, they should be given other jobs in the church as a test of their character and ability, and if they do well, then they may be chosen as deacons.”

### ELDER MICHELLE:

“The women also must be worthy of respect and serious, not gossipers, but temperate and self-controlled, thoroughly trustworthy in all things.”

### ELDER RON:

“Let the deacons be the spouse of one person, and let them manage their children and their own households well. Those who do well as

deacons will be well rewarded both by respect from others and also by developing their own confidence and bold trust in the Lord.”

### BISHOP:

During this past year, the candidates for the Office of a Deacon have been examined, proven by Pastor Isha and I and the Elders and appointed in accordance with the Scriptural qualifications of this Church.

During the past several weeks, the believers who are joined to this Local Church family were asked to seriously consider these candidates for approval of them before installing them today to the Office of a Deacon. I now ask the partners of this Church, do you believe they will be faithful servants who will be rewarded by the respect of others and their trust in the Lord?

**THE CONGREGATION SAYS:** We do.

### PASTOR ISHA:

To the Deacon Candidates we the Presbytery and ministerial staff of this church invite you to come forward for public examination as a sign of your consent to receive installation into this Office of Deacon.



# The Examination

## **BISHOP AND PASTOR ISHA:**

We ask each Candidate to carefully and prayerfully consider the spiritual commitment and obligations which your office that you are appointed to fulfill carries. With a just appreciation of these, do you accept the Office of a Deacon, and with the help of the Holy Spirit, will you diligently seek to perform the responsibilities of whatever needs may be required of you, and also do those things which make for peace, purity and spiritual growth of this local Church family that you shall serve?

## **RESPONSE BY DEACON CANDIDATES:**

I will, and I solemnly declare that I desire to fulfill the office of a deacon and I solemnly engage to commit myself to this sacred trust.

## **ELDERS:**

Will you be loyal to your Pastors, The Elders, Ministers, and Church family?

## **RESPONSE BY DEACON CANDIDATES:**

I will be loyal and guard the responsibility of service to my Pastors, The Elders, Ministers and Church family.

## **MINISTERS GROUP 1:**

Will you accept this appointment and fulfill this trust in obedience to Christ?

## **RESPONSE BY DEACON CANDIDATES:**

I will obey Christ, and will serve in His Name.

## **MINISTERS GROUP 2:**

Will you endeavor to be a faithful servant in the Body of Christ?

## **RESPONSE BY DEACON CANDIDATES:**

With God's help, I will.

## **MINISTERS GROUP 3:**

Will you aid and assist the equipping of the saints of God for their ministry and mission?

## **RESPONSE BY DEACON CANDIDATES:**

With God's help, I will.

## **MINISTERS GROUP 4:**

Will you herald the Good News of Jesus Christ to those outside the community of faith, stand alongside those who suffer, and work for justice and peace in the world?

## **RESPONSE BY DEACON CANDIDATES:**

With God's help, I will.

## **MINISTERS GROUP 1:**

Will you rely on the power of the Holy Spirit? Will you be disciplined in the study of the Word of God and seek to live a holy and disciplined life?

## **RESPONSE BY DEACON CANDIDATES:**

With God's help, I will.

## **MINISTERS GROUP 2:**

Will you be faithful in praying for your Pastors, Elders, ministers and the Church family?

## **RESPONSE BY DEACON CANDIDATES:**

With God's help, I will.



## The Examination (cont.)

### MINISTERS GROUP 3:

Will you strive for peace and unity among all Christian people; especially among those whom you serve?

### RESPONSE BY DEACON CANDIDATES:

With God's help, I will.

### MINISTERS GROUP 4:

Do you accept and believe the doctrines, teachings and creeds within this local assembly as safeguards and witnesses to the faith of the Lord Jesus Christ?

### RESPONSE BY DEACON CANDIDATES:

I do.

### ELDERS:

Will you use these precious doctrines, teachings and creeds in worship and instruction for righteous living?

### RESPONSE BY DEACON CANDIDATES:

With God's help, I will.

### ELDERS:

Through these promises, you have committed yourself to God, to serve His Church in the Office of a Deacon, We therefore hold you accountable in the presence of God and all of these witness to fulfill this sacred trust established here today.

### RESPONSE BY DEACON CANDIDATES:

With God's help, I will.

### ELDERS:

Will you honor and guard the doctrine, discipline and worship of Christ as this Church has received them?

### RESPONSE BY DEACON CANDIDATES:

I will honor and guard the doctrine, discipline and worship of Christ as this Church has received them.



## The Consecration

(Installation Anointing)

### BISHOP:

Each candidate shall now kneel. Pastor Isha and I along with The Elders, will now anoint you with oil and laying of hands for service in the Church of Jesus Christ.

## The Consecration

(Installation Prayer)  
+ The Congregation Shall Stand.

### BISHOP:

My brothers and sisters, as you have been duly appointed and confirmed by the Presbytery and Church family to serve as deacons, we now install you to the Office of a Deacon in the church of our Lord Jesus Christ, which He purchased by His own blood.

## The Consecration

(Installation Directive)

### BISHOP:

Deacons, please rise and stand before us in your new Office of a Deacon.

### PASTOR ISHA:

Will the congregation please join me in saying the Lord's Prayer:

Our Father which art in heaven,  
Hallowed be thy name.  
Thy kingdom come.  
Thy will be done in earth, as [it is] in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.  
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil:  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power;  
And the glory, forever.  
  
Amen. (Matthew 6:9-13)



## The Giving of Credentials

The new Deacons shall now be presented their deacon credentials (which include certificate of Installation and deacon card).

## The Presentation of New Deacons

+ The Congregation Shall Stand.

### **BISHOP AND PASTOR ISHA SAY IN INTERVAL:**

Will the congregation please stand. Deacons, please turn and face the congregation.

In as much as you have declared your willingness to accept your appointment to the Office of a Deacon, and you have expressed your sincere desire to discharge its responsibilities faithfully, and you have received the laying on of hands for the attendant blessing of God, you are now formally accepted in your installation and declared to be deacons in this local church expression.

May you show yourselves to be men and women of God, thoroughly furnished unto all good works. May the Spirit of Christ, who came “not to be ministered unto, but to minister,” dwell in you richly, make you always faithful in the performance of the servant responsibilities you now assume, and cause you to serve in godly wisdom and Christ loving care to the flock of God.

Victory In Christ Christian Center Family, let us welcome the New Installed Deacons with an ovation of praise to the Lord for the great things He has done in our midst!

+ The People offer their acclamation and applause in response to the installation.

## The Eucharist Celebration

The Congregation shall be seated.

### **BISHOP AND PASTOR ISHA:**

Prayer and blessing of the sacraments.

Communion is served by the Elders, as the Presbytery, Ministerial Staff and Deacons partake in the covenant meal together.

## The Closing Prayer

## The Benediction

Grace, Mercy and Peace, from God our Father, through our Lord Jesus Christ be with each of you Amen!



# Anointed

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he has sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised.

—Luke 4:18





## VICTORY IN CHRIST

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