

Biography of

Reverend Dr. Larry Wayne Howard

Rev. Larry Wayne Howard is the second child born to the late Rev. and Mrs. Moses Howard, Sr. Born and raised in Oklahoma City; Rev. Howard was educated with honors in the Oklahoma City public system. He graduated from Bishop College in Dallas, Texas, in 1971 with a B.A. degree in Religion and Philosophy. On March 20, 1968, while matriculating at Bishop College, Rev. Howard accepted the call to preach the gospel. He was licensed and ordained shortly thereafter. Rev. Howard is a third generation preacher.

In 1972, Rev. Howard was called to serve as Senior Pastor of the Greater Friendship Church in Cleveland, Ohio. At the time, he was one the youngest African-American Baptist Pastors in the city. Under Pastor's Howard's leadership, the church became a historic landmark and is currently known as the Historic Grater Friendship Baptist Church (HGFBC). For 47 years, he has faithfully led the people of God in the ways of Christ. Pastor Howard is a renowned preacher and teacher of the gospel. He is an educator and counselor highly sought after throughout the country. As a respected clergyman and leader, his ministry has impacted many souls.

Throughout the years, Pastor Howard has been actively involved in the community. He greatly values education and participates regularly in meetings concerning the Cleveland Metropolitan Schools. In past years, HGFBC adopted the schools in the Glenville Area: Captain Arthur Roth, Patrick Henry, Glenville High School and Ginn Academy. As part of Pastor Howard's mission for education, he organized Student Excel, a tutoring program located in the church to promote literacy. Students can attend Student Excel for homework assistance and preparation for OGT exams. In addition, Pastor Howard established the LHW Scholarship fund to support higher education.

Under his leadership, the church serves as a site for Alcoholic Anonymous, Thanksgiving Food Basket giveaways in partnership with the Cleveland Cavaliers, blood drives in partnership with Red Cross, the Cleveland Browns and Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated, amnesty programs, town hall meetings, and many other social service events.

Pastor Howard has been married to Gwendolyn A. Ezekiel-Howard for the last 47 years. They are the proud parents of two sons, Eric Gibran Howard and Stephen Wayne Howard. Both sons are fourth generation ministers in the family's lineage. The Howard's also delight in their grandchildren Giovanni, Trinity and Jonathan.

Below are some of Pastor Howard's honors and appointments:

- Currently serves as Chaplain for the Cleveland Police Department (Appointed by Mayor Campbell and Mayor Jackson)
- Member of the Baptist Pastor's Council of Cleveland
- Guest preacher at the National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc. (NBCU)
- Guest preacher at the Late Night Services, National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc.

- Evangelist for countless revivals
- Evangelist for City-Wide and State-Wide Revival Services across the country
- Served as Chairman of the Advisory Board of the NBCU (1995-2001)
- Served as the 2nd Vice President of the United Missionary Baptist State Convention of Ohio
- White House delegate for African (Angola) rights under the administration of President Ronald Regan
- Advocate with government officials for various social justice causes on the federal, state and local levels
- Pastor received a Doctor of Divinity Degree from Saint Thomas Christian Seminary, in Jacksonville, Florida, September 28, 2008
- Graduation speaker for Ginn Academy, 2011
- Inducted into the Martin Luther King Jr., International Board of Preachers, Morehouse College, 2011
- Graduation speaker for Glenville High School, 2012
- Past member of the Kiwanis Club
- Chairman of Religious Affairs of the NAACP
- Community Assessment and Treatment Services (CATS) Board member