

Biographical Sketch of

THE REVEREND DOCTOR CURTIS THEODORE WALKER, SR.

The Rev. Dr. Curtis Theodore Walker, Sr., an ordained elder in the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church. He received his early education from the public schools of Hartford, CT and graduated from the University of Connecticut in 1976 with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Psychology. He received his Masters of Divinity Degree from Livingstone College/Hood Theological Seminary in Salisbury, NC in 1979. He continued his education at Emory University/Candler School of Theology in Atlanta, GA where he received his Doctorate of Ministry Degree in 1990; his dissertation was titled "*Empowering Clergy through Education to be Advocates against Spouse Abuse*."

Rev. Walker had a challenging and varied ministry. It began at Metropolitan A.M.E. Zion Church in Hartford, CT under the leadership of the later Rev. Dr. Alfred White, who was later consecrated a Bishop in our church. Rev. Walker preached his Local Preacher's sermon and was licensed a Local Preacher on March 7, 1975; he was admitted into the New England Annual Conference on June 8, 1975 at Columbus Avenue A.M.E. Zion Church in Boston, MA. He has served as Pastor of Elm Street A.M.E. Zion Church in Charlotte, NC, Varick Metropolitan A.M.E. Zion Church in Buffalo, NY, Old Ship A.M.E. Zion Church in Montgomery, AL, Wesley Temple A.M.E. Zion Church in Akron, OH, St. Paul A.M.E. Zion Church in Dayton, OH and currently serves at Beth-El A.M.E. Zion Church where he was appointed in August, 2010.

Rev. Walker is a member Emeritus of the Board of Trustees for Hood Theological Seminary. He has served in various capacities including Presiding Elder of the Akron District of the Ohio Annual Conference; Dean of Education for Mid-Atlantic I of the A.M.E Zion Church; Treasurer of the Akron District and Annual Conferences; Alternate and Voting Delegate to several General Conferences; President of the Ministers and Lay Association; and currently serves as Instructor for first and second year studies of the Ohio Conference. He has served as host of many committees and frequently presents workshops for several organizations with varied topics that range from Family Violence to Leadership and Church Administration. He has also received the E. Franklin Jackson Award from the Minister's and Lay Association,

An author of several articles, **Rev. Walker** has also contributed to numerous publications, including an article titled, "*Suffering*" for the Church School Herald Journal. He is a contributor for the Lenten Booklet devotional message and a devotional writer for the African-American Devotional Bible (KJV).

Rev. Walker is very active in the Akron Community. He is a member of the Akron Board of Education (serving in his fifth 4-year term). He has served three times as President. He also currently serves on the Ohio School Board Association Board of Trustees; Urban School District Advisory Network and Northeast Regional Executive Committee. He has served on the Board of Trustees for the Girl Scouts of the Western Reserve, Summit Chapter of the American Red Cross, NAACP, Summit County Housing Trust Fund, and many others. He is also a member of the Ethics Committee of Akron General Medical Center and has served on the United Way of Summit County's Board. He received the Ohio School Board Association Northeast Ohio Outstanding

Board Member Award and the National School Board Association Council on Urban School Boards Benjamin E. Mays Lifetime Achievement Award. Additional committees include; Co-Chair Instructional Policy Committee; Summit County Public Health Community Advisory Committee; Steering Committee College and Career Academics; and Akron School Counselor Advisory Board – Personal/Social Committee.

Rev. Walker is married to the former Vanessa Dale Jones. They have five adult children; Will A. Oliver, Tracie Oliver McCormick, Rashara D. Walker, Dr. Vanessa J. Walker Harris and Dr. Curtis T. Walker, Jr.; two sons-in law: Dr. Timothy Harris; and Ralph, (Ray), McCormick; daughter-in-law; Elizabeth, (Betsy) Walker; and fourteen grandchildren: William Aaron Oliver Mackowski; Gabrielle Jeanette Harris; Briana Renee Oliver Mackowski; Elijah Oliver Kozloff; Savannah Rae McCormick; Zachary Jahan Harris; Mya Vanessa Oliver; Nevaeh London McCormick; Matthew Jonah Harris; Bennett Micah Walker; Kaelynn Elise Walker; Braylon John Oliver; Aria Gianna Oliver and Evan Alexander Walker. They also have two adopted grandchildren; Taylor Anthony Mackowski and Mikayla Renee Mackowski.