

Reverend Doctor Curtis Theodore Walker, Sr.

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Education

- **Doctor of Ministry Degree**, Emory University/Candler School of Theology, Magna Cum Laude, 1990
Dissertation – *“Empowering Clergy Through Education To Be Advocates Against Spouse Abuse.”*
- **Master of Divinity Degree**, Livingstone College/Hood Theological Seminary, Summa Cum Laude, 1979
- **Bachelor of Arts Degree** in Psychology, The University of Connecticut, 1976
- Graduate, Hartford Public High School, Hartford, Connecticut, 1972

Professional Experience

Seasoned Senior Pastor with 40 years’ experience of increasing responsibility in congregational leadership. Dedicated community leader with expertise in spiritual counseling, education, advocacy, social justice, and mentorship. Proven success in advocating for individuals, advancing church goals, and increasing community engagement.

1975 – Present

African Methodist Episcopal Zion (AMEZ) Church

Serving as a senior pastor by assignment from the Bishops of AMEZ Church.

- *Guided Church in discovery and fulfillment of its calling and mission, including casting God’s vision, encouraging spiritual development, leading congregation, and expanding congregation’s participation in mission activities.*
- *Planned and delivered weekly sermons, prepared long-term preaching plans, and oversaw Sunday school.*
- *Strengthened and oversaw faith life by creating inviting community of faith, empowering leadership, coordinating and supervising staff meetings, and leading weekly gatherings such as Bible study.*
- *Collaborated with Finance and Stewardship Ministry Group to manage Church’s finances and devise strategies to grow stewardship.*
- *Community outreach including weekly feeding ministry, utility assistance, and other social advocacy.*
- *Provided pastoral care, including hospital, shut-in, bereavement, and funeral visitation; guided and counseled congregation.*
- *Served in various leadership positions in the AMEZ Church, including Presiding Elder and on numerous connectional committees.*
- *Regional Vice President, Vice President, President of Ministers and Lay Association*
- *Delegate to AME Zion General Conference many times*

Senior Pastor	Beth-El A.M.E. Zion Church, Cleveland, Ohio	2010 to present
Senior Pastor	St. Paul A.M.E. Zion Church, Dayton, Ohio	2009 to 2010
Senior Pastor	Wesley Temple A.M.E. Zion Church, Akron, Ohio	1992 to 2009
Senior Pastor	Old Ship A.M.E. Zion Church, Montgomery, Alabama	1984 to 1992
Senior Pastor	Varick Metropolitan A.M.E. Zion Church, Buffalo, New York	1980 to 1984
Senior Pastor	Elm Street A.M.E. Zion Church, Charlotte, North Carolina	1978 to 1979
Minister	Metropolitan A.M.E. Zion Church, Hartford, Connecticut	1975 to 1978

1999 – Present

Akron School Board Member, Akron, Ohio

Serving as an elected official for the Akron Board of Education.

- *Implementing policy and responsible for maintaining a balance budget and establishing a long-term vision for the Akron Public Schools.*
- *Establishing and maintaining a basic organizational structure for the school system, including hiring the superintendent and the treasurer, adopting an annual budget and governance policies, and creating a climate that promotes excellence.*
- *Establishing systems and processes to ensure accountability to the community, including fiscal accountability, accountability for programs and student performance, staff accountability and collective bargaining.*
- *Advocacy on behalf of children and public education at the community, state and national levels.*
 - Board President 3 years
 - Vice President 2 years
 - Co-Chair Instructional Policy Committee, Akron School Board
 - Co-Chair, Finance Committee, Akron School Board
 - Co-Chair, Policy Committee, Akron School Board
 - Vice President, President Ohio School Board Association Black Caucus
 - Trustee, Ohio School Board Association

Community Involvement *(partial listing of past and present)*

Workshop Presenter on topics, including Domestic Violence, Church Leadership, Church Administration, Christian Education, and Police Community Relations
Board of Directors, Catholic Social Service
Metro Montgomery NAACP
Montgomery Improvement Association
Past President, One Church, One Child, State of Alabama
Board of Trustees, Hood Theological Seminary – (Emeritus)
Girl Scouts of Western Reserve, Past Board Member
Summit Chapter of American Red Cross, Past Board Member
Akron NAACP
Summit County Housing Trust Fund, Past Board Member
Akron General Medical Center Ethics Committee, Past Board Member
United Way of Summit County, Past Board Member
Nominating Committee, Council of Urban Boards of Education
North East Regional Executive Committee Ohio School Board Association (OSBA)
Urban School District Advisory Network
Summit County Public Health Advisory Board
Steering Committee, College and Career Academies
Counselor Advisory Board, Akron School Board
Ohio School Boards Association (OSBA) Board of Trustees
Education Motivation Success Pastor's Association
Ohio Annual Conference Chair, Investigating Committee
Joint Board of Review Member – City of Akron and Akron School Board

Publications

Authored article on "Suffering" – Church School Herald
Contributor – Lenten Booklet Devotional Message
Contributor – African American Devotional Bible (KJV)

Awards, Honors, and Recognitions (partial listing)

National School Board Association Council on Urban School Boards, Benjamin E. Mays Lifetime Achievement Award, 2015
North East Region Ohio School Board Association, (OSBA),
Board Member of the Year 2015
OSBA North East Ohio Outstanding Board Member Award, 2015
OSBA Black Caucus Exemplary Service to Education Award 2014
Ohio School Boards Association (OSBA) Outstanding Service as a Board Trustee, 2013
Certification of Appreciation, Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority INC, 2012
OSBA Exemplary Service as President, Akron School Board, 2006
Judge Harold K. Stubbs Humanitarian Award for Ministerial Leadership
Akron Black Women's Leadership Caucus, 1995
National Association of Social Workers – Alabama Chapter, Montgomery Unit Citizen of the Year – 1991
Certificate of Honor, Central Alabama Conference of the AME Zion Church -- May 26, 1990
Versatility and Dedication for Volunteer Service, Montgomery Area Family Violence Program INC, 1989
National Council of Churches of Churches of Christ in the USA Burned Churches Program, Achievement Award in Racial Justice and Domestic Tranquility
Life Member Certificate of Girl Scouts of United States
Dedicated Service Educational Leadership Award, Summit County Educational Service Center
E. Franklin Jackson Leadership Award, International Ministers Lay Association, AME Zion Church
Hartford Police Department Citizen Award, 1976

Memberships

Life Member NAACP
Life Member Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc.
Life Member Girl Scouts of the United States
Life Member Council, W.H. & O. M. Society, Life Patron
Heart for Overseas Mission, W.H. & O.M. Society
Adults in Christian Education, Christian Education Department
Connectional Lay Council

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; Aariah Gianna Oliver and Evan Alexander Walker. They also have two adopted grandchildren; Taylor Anthony Mackowski and Mikayla Renee Mackowski.