Dr. James E. Shannon, Pastor

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BIOGRAPHY

Dr. Shannon grew up in Dexter Avenue Baptist Church. He was baptized at twelve years of age by Dr. Martin Luther King, and as a teenager at Dexter he served as President of the "Crusaders."

Dr. Shannon is a graduate of Booker T. Washington High School. After graduating from college he and his wife relocated to Chicago, Illinois. After teaching in the Public School System, he worked in management for several large corporations. He served for twenty-five (25) years for the largest fair housing organization in the country, the "Leadership Council for Metropolitan Open Communities." The Council was the organization that was started after Dr. King came to Chicago to lead a fair housing march.

During his tenure at the Council, Dr. Shannon kept Dr. King's dream alive by the following:

- Trained over 4,000 Realtors on Fair Housing Laws and Practices
- Directed over 500 Homebuyer Workshops
- Participated in approximately 50 lawsuits against realtors, bankers and appraisers in violation of fair housing laws
- Keynote speaker for many Fair Housing Conferences across America
- Brought Coretta Scott King and Martin L. King III to Chicago to speak on fair housing
- In 2006, he became the Executive Director of the Regional Fair Housing Center where he helped black and brown families make open housing moves
- In 2007, he planted the Peoples Community Church in Glen Ellyn, IL. (Bi-Vocational Pastor)
- In 2013, he became the full-time Pastor at Peoples Community Church
- As Pastor, Dr. Shannon has developed the following ministries:
 - 1. Grief Ministry
 - 2. Substance Abuse-Recovery
 - 3. Day-Site for the Homeless
 - 4. Food Pantry
 - 5. Domestic Violence-Awareness
 - 6. 3 on 3 Basketball Fellowship

Dr. Shannon was recently appointed to the Milton Township Commission of Mental Health.

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Science	Tennessee State University	Nashville, TN
Masters Public Administration	Roosevelt University	Chicago, IL
Masters Divinity	Northern Seminary	Lombard, IL
Doctorate Ministry	Northern Seminary	Lombard, IL

FAMILY

- Wife: Evelyn (53 years) Retired Chicago, Illinois Public School Teacher
- Son: Jarius, 2021 graduate of St. Ambrose University, Davenport, Iowa
- Daughter: Ashley, 2018 graduate of Illinois State University, Normal, Illinois.
- Master of Law University of Illinois
- 2nd year law school student at the University of Illinois at Chicago