

Unity Fellowship Church Movement

# ES!2017

NATIONAL SPIRITUAL CONVOCATION

OCTOBER 1-8TH

NEWARK, NEW JERSEY



th 1982-2017 Anniversary Souvenir Book

Archbishop Garl Bean., D.Min, UFCM Founder & Presiding Prelate



# Honors our FRANSCENDER Brother & Sisters

in the service of our nation

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2017
RIBERT TREAT HOTEL
NEWARK, NEW JERSEY

The HOUSE OF BISHOPS announces a "National State of Emergency for the Transgender Community"

Family: We will continue to resist this authoritarian President/administration that ignores the rule of law and operates in a verpublic, dictatorial manner permitting racist, transphobic and other forms of divisive oppressive politics to rule in the public square. Standing with my Latino/Hispanic and transgender family members today and always.

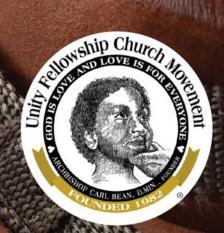
 Archbishop Carl Bean "Resist" (August 26, FB) "This year we (The House of Bishops) are declaring a State of Emergency for our trans community! We are asking for your assistance in creating a discussion and our First National Unified focus for our Tans Community."

-Senior Bishop Zackary G. Jones

**Bishop Jacquelyn Holland** 

**Bishop Harris Thomas** 

THANK YOUR FOR YOUR SERVICE!



### What We Believe

It is impossible to love each other without a sense of mutual (equal) worth and respect for each other.

Romans 13:10 Love worketh no ill to a neighbor: Therefore Love is the fulfilling of the law.

1 John 4:20 It is impossible to Love God, whom we've never seen and hate our brothers and sisters whom we see every day. God is neither male nor female; God is spirit and spirit has no gender.

Liberation Theology for all, a theology that frees the oppressed, therefore:

- Not a male-dominated hierarchy
- Not oppressive to women
- Not just European in scope
- Must relate to People of Color and their various cultures around the world
- Not oppressive to Lesbian, Gay, Transgender and Bisexual people
- Allows us to think and discern through human reason and experience
- Not oppressive to Native Americans or their spirituality or any other oppressive use of scripture.
- We believe in the teachings of Jesus but we do not dismiss all other faiths as wrong or second to our way of believing.

#### God is greater than any religion, denomination or school of thought.

God is spirit, alive and at work in the Moslem Mosque, the Jewish Synagogue, the Christian Church and the Tribal Ritual. God is everywhere present. We believe the Bible and all great spiritual writings or guides must be read taking into consideration the time of their writing, the traditions practiced at that time and the fact that we have the right to question and examine all interpretation.

A person's belief system:

- Must be supportive of healthy self-acceptance
- Must support spiritual growth
- Must encourage physical, psychic and mental health

Enlightenment and revelation are continuous and did not stop with the Bible Writers

### Unity Fellowship Church Movement

### **CHURCH HISTORY**

Unity Fellowship Church, Los Angeles (UFCLA) was founded in 1982 by Reverend Carl Bean for openly gay and lesbian African Americans. The first meetings were held in the private residence of Rev. Bean, on Cochran Avenue in Los Angeles. In 1984, a reorganization took place in the last residence of the late Archbishop William Morris O'Neill, located on South Burnside Avenue (also the ordination site of our founder).

Weekly Bible studies then moved to the home of Deacon Christine Tripp. UFCLA received its nonprofit status in 1985. The first UFCLA public worship service was at the Cockatoo Inn on Hawthorne Blvd in Inglewood. It was then decided by the membership to move the worship service to a more central location, so that it would be more accessible to those on public transportation. The new location was the Ebony Showcase Theatre on Washington Boulevard, which was an integral part of the culture of the black community. Public worship continued at the Ebony Showcase Theater until 1988. It was then that Unity Fellowship Church purchased its first property, and moved to West Jefferson Boulevard.

**The Unity Fellowship Church Movement** (UFCM) was registered in 1990 as a nonpartisan nonprofit organization, headquartered at the Jefferson Boulevard site. Presently, the UFCM network is far reaching with various national departments, urban outreach ministries, the national mass choir, periodicals and constituency-based programs nationwide.

### MISSION STATEMENT

The primary work of the UNITY FELLOWSHIP CHURCH MOVEMENT (UFCM) is to **PROCLAIM** the "<u>SACREDNESS OF ALL LIFE</u>", thus focusing on empowering those who have been oppressed and made to feel shame. Through an emerging international network, the UFCM works to facilitate social change and improve the life chances for those who have been rejected by society's institutions and systems. Although it's pivotal work focuses on the urban weak and powerless, the scope of its work is inclusive and has significance for all people.





### Unity Fellowship Church Movement

#### **National Headquarters**

9608 South Figueroa Street, Los Angeles, CA 90003 Mailing Address: P.O. Box 78342, Los Angeles, CA 90016 http://www.ufcmlife.org

From the Office of Archbishop Carl Bean, D. Min., Founder/Presiding Prelate

October 2 - 8, 2017



FOUNDER/PRESIDING PRELATE Archbishop Carl Bean, D.Min.

#### **House of Bishops**

Sr. Bishop Zachary G. Jones Bishop Jacquelyn Holland Bishop Harris Thomas

#### **Board of Elders**

Rev. Elder Gerald N. Green Rev. Elder Dorothy Harris Rev. Elder Benita Ramsey Rev. Elder Kevin E. Taylor Rev. Elder Russell E. Thornhill

#### **Board of Directors**

President Archbishop Carl Bean

Vice President Sr. Bishop Zachary G. Jones

Treasurer Rev. Elder Russell E. Thornhill

Secretary Rev. Elder Dorothy Harris

Board Members Bishop Jacquelyn Holland Minister Stephanie Phillips Rev. Elder Gerald N. Green Rev. Elder Benita Ramsey

### **YES,** ALL ARE WELCOME:

To the celebration of our 35th YEAR OF PROCLAIMING SPIRITUAL FREEDOM FOR ALL!!!

Freedom to say YES!!

**YES**, to your unique presence in the universe.....YES, to your continuous discovery and *growth*.....YES, to life and that more abundantly .....**YES**, to self-appreciation and love

**YES**, to financial freedom.....YES, to healthy love/intimate relationships .....**YES**, to wholeness in mind and body.....

YES, to facing doubt and fear; conquering and growing through. them.....YES, to your part in the ongoing fight for equality and social justice for ALL.....YES, to your gifts and talents.....YES, to INFINITE WISDOM AND DIVINITY in and through everything!

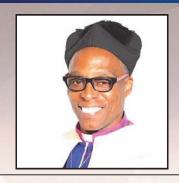
Most of all... .. YES, to the ROYAL LAW..... "THOU SHALL LOVE THY NEIGHBOR AS THYSELF"

Let us do all we can this week to create the atmosphere of GOD'S ...."YES!"

Happy 35th anniversary family!

**LOVE IS FOR EVERYONE!** 

Archbishop Carl Bean, D.Min. Founder / Presiding Prelate



### Senior Bishop Zachary Glenn Jones Presiding Prelate of Jurisdiction 2

Unity Fellowship of Christ Church New York City, NY- In Residence

"If you must say yes, say it with an open heart. If you must say no, say it without fear."

Paulo Celho -The Brazilian lyricist, and novelist.

Greetings Unity Fellowship family: Welcome to our 35th year anniversary, and Convocation. Our theme given to us by our Archbishop is, "Yes". Many of our churches that I attended this year have used this powerful theme for different occasions in their local church. As I think about this year's theme, "Yes", I reflect upon the quote by Paulo Coelho, that states our "Yes" requires an open heart. It takes an open heart to move our organization to the next level. It takes an open heart to work together in support of one another. It takes an open heart to love.

This year we will be asked to say "Yes" to many new ways of operating within our movement. We have made tremendous strides in our work and throughout the world over the past 35 years. Now we are at a pivotal point in the life cycle of our movement. We are seeking to shift our work load amongst the Laity in ways we haven't done in the past. We know that there is divine talent within our movement that needs to be tapped into for a global purpose. We are initiating a main presence for our young clergy under the age of forty five, known as the, "Game Changers." They will participate with a presence and a "Yes" that will change the world.

We are calling all of our Trans brothers and sisters to respond to our, "Yes" to support them, in ways that says to them, we know that you are qualified to serve your country and serve your denomination. We want to continue to place them in major leadership and in ambassador roles throughout our movement.

Saying Yes with an open heart is important because it helps the flow of new ideas. When God gives us new ideas he/she always seeks the heart to go with it. We know that God has big things in store for UFCM. I am constantly speaking with our co-leaders and clergy leaders who spiritually see and hear all that we as a movement can be. However, There is no way we can forge forward without saying "Yes."

Then there is the No's. Paulo Chelho says, " If you have to say No say it without fear." What a powerful statement to make. We don't have to worry about the No's, because we have love. Perfect love cast out fear. So if we do have to say No, it should not be taken as a negative but as an opportunity to ask the questions that will turn those No's into a Yeses. We do this by working together and growing together towards and for the justice in the world we would like to see. This year we welcome all of you to be apart of the next generation of people who understand that a willing heart and a willing "Yes." has made a difference in the past and will lead us into our future.

Sincerely yours, **Sr. Bishop Zachary Jones**,

Member of the House of Bishops



# Bishop Jacquelyn Holland Presiding Prelate of Jurisdiction 3 Unity Fellowship of Christ Church Charlotte, NC— In Residence

### **Greetings UFCM Family:**

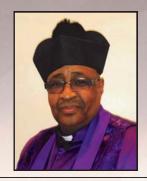
Welcome to another Holy Convocation. 35 years of walking in light, love and the power of social justice. We come together once again to worship God, honor each other and celebrate the incredible ministries that this great movement has created in and outside of the country.

The theme "Yes" has reverberated in our hearts and minds during 2017. It propels us forward and pushes us to march into 2018 with a determination to fight even harder against the injustices that plagues our people and continues to ravish our communities.

Embrace each opportunity this week to re-energize. Grab a bit of peace through the songs, grab a bit of knowledge and inspiration from the workshops, feast on the spoken word. Be sure to get all that you can and can all you get.

Remember to be the change you are looking for this week. Pray each day to bring a positive and loving spirit to each element of this amazing experience.

Yours In Faith, **Bishop Jacquelyn Holland,**Member of the UFCM House of Bishops



# Bishop Harris Thomas Presiding Prelate of Jurisdiction 4 Unity Fellowship Church of Baltimore, MD— In Residence

### Peace and many blessings!

I want to welcome you to this year's threefold celebration of the Unity Fellowship Church Movement. Our Founder and Presiding Prelate, the Archbishop Carl Bean, heard the voice of God and his "YES", saving countless lives of LGBTQQ people of faith in the United States and around the world. Hearing that "God Is Love and Love Is for Everyone" gave them the hope that so many needed to hear. As they begin believing that they were not an abomination and unworthy of God's love.

As a licensed and ordained Elder, I left my last church broken, scattered and deciding never to enter another church and specially to enter another pulpit. It was not until meeting Bishop Cheeks and attending Inner Light Unity Fellowship Church, that I began to discover God a new! My partner, Willie Hinton and I knew this family and assembly was where God was leading us. My comfort level heightens further after meeting with the Archbishop.

The first celebration is in recognition for the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Motown recording, "I Was Born This Way" sung by Carl Bean. Played by countless DJs in our favorite clubs, many remember how we screamed and danced as the beat of the music rang out behind the words, "I'm happy, I'm carefree and I'm gay, I was born this way"!

Secondly, we're celebrating the 35th Anniversary of Unity Fellowship Church Movement. Established in 1982 with the birth of Unity Fellowship of Christ Church founded in Los Angeles, California. The first Christian church whose outreach was primarily focused towards LGBTQQ faith community and people of color.

Finally, we are celebrating our 24<sup>th</sup> Holy Convocation. The annual gathering of all the churches in the Unity Fellowship Church Movement. All 14 churches, one ministry and two fellowships coming together to fellowship and honor the 35 years of working for freedom, liberation, and social justice.

Whether this is your first or your 24<sup>th</sup> convocation, I would like to welcome and invite you to take advantage of the many workshops, the morning plenary, evening worship services, our two lunches (one being the state of the movement address), the Saturday gala and above all the Sunday Ordination Services.

Love Always;

Bishop Harris Thomas,

Bushop Harris (homas

Member of the UFCM House of Bishops Founding Co-Pastor, Unity Fellowship Church of Baltimore

### Unity Fellowship Church Movement

### **BOARD OF ELDERS**











Elder Gerald N. Green
Elder Dorothy Harris
Elder Benita Ramsey
Elder Kevin E. Taylor
Elder Russell E. Thornhill

It is with great joy that we welcome you to Newark, New Jersey for the 35th anniversary of the Unity Fellowship Church Movement, founded by Archbishop Carl Bean. The Archbishop's journey of visiting those living with HIV and AIDS, pastoring the Mother Church, growing the denomination and living the motto, "God is love and love is for everyone" is a blessing to the world. God continues to bless us with churches and ministries around the country and in the Caribbean who "Proclaim the Sacredness of All Life!" UFCM spans from California, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Michigan, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Maryland, Washington, DC and Jamaica. Seeds are being sown for our future Unity Fellowship Church Movement Ministries where God is planting new work in service to our communities.

The Board of Elders is profoundly grateful to our Founder and Presiding Prelate, Archbishop Carl Bean, whose vision lives on in his off-spring. We honor his heart of compassion which brought forth the first message of unconditional love to the world for all of God's children. We also honor the House of Bishops, pastors and all who are a part of this great work. Join us as we welcome our newest Elder, Rev. Leslie Burke. Her years of service, love, compassion, and medical expertise will be a blessing to the leadership, people, and work of UFCM. WELCOME!

AS WE MOVE FORWARD, THE BOARD OF ELDERS SAYS, "YES" to the will of God as we purpose to grow in the vineyard.

As we enter this week and beyond, let us purpose to stand for and with all our family, including our Transgender sisters and brothers who are in the service for our nation, home, abroad, and in local communities. Family, join us in saying "YES" to life for everyone in a Trans-experience as we "Proclaim the Sacredness of ALL life".

Remember... "WE ARE THE MOVEMENT"

The National Board of Elders

### **Unity Fellowship Church Movement**

### National Pastor's Council

http://www.ufcmlife.org

October 2-8, 2017



**Jurisdiction One** FOUNDER/PRESIDING PRELATE Archbishop Carl Bean, D.Min Rev. Elder Benita Ramsey

(Riverside, CA)

Rev. Elder Gerald N. Green

(Los Angeles, CA)

Rev. Elder Russell E. Thornhill

(Los Angeles, CA) Rev. Leslie Burke

(Los Angeles, CA)

Rev. Nevin Powell (Jamaica)

Rev. RomieWilford (San Diego, CA)

**Jurisdiction Two** 

Sr. Bishop Zachary G. Jones (Harlem, NY)

Rev. Elder Kevin E. Taylor

(Newark, NJ)

Rev. Akousa McCray-Peters

(Washington, DC) Rev. Jeffrey Haskins

(Philadelphia, PA) Rev. Gerard Williams

(Buffalo, NY)

**Jurisdiction Three** 

Bishop Jacquelyn Holland Rev. Elder Dorothy Harris

(Columbia, MD)

Rev. Sonja Lee (Charlotte, NC)

Rev. Robert Arrington

(Charleston, SC)

Rev. Marissa Pendermon

(Atlanta, GA)

**Jurisdiction Four** 

Bishop Harris Thomas (Baltimore, MD)

Rev. Dr. Jamie Washington

(Baltimore, MD) Rev. Victoria Castillo

(Trenton, NJ)

35 years ago, because of your unparalleled spiritual integrity and character you said "Yes". Because of that "Yes" thousands of souls were set free. Through your spiritual nurturing and guidance, the face of the nation has been changed. You showed us real love that healed and transformed our very being. From that place of healing we were transformed because of the God in you, Archbishop! We joyfully declare "Yes", God is love and love is for everyone!

The current atmosphere appears to still be starving for that message. As your son's and daughter's, we followed your example and said "Yes" so that that message might be spread.

We gather today to honor the one who fathered this movement! There can never be enough words to describe our love for you and your sacrifice. We have only our lives dedicated to the vision that you gave to us that was given to you by God. That and our willingness to say

"Yes" is all we will need to transform the world.

Lovingly,

The UFCM Pastors Council

Sr. Bishop Zachary Jones

Bishop Harris Thomas

Elder Benita Ramsey

Elder Dorothy Harris

Elder Russell Thornhill

Rev. Dr. Jamie Washington

Rev. Gerard Williams

Rev. Leslie Burke Rev. Nevin Powell

Rev. Romie Wilford

Rev. Sonja Lee

Bishop Jacquelyn Holland

Elder Kevin Taylor

Elder Gerald Green

Rev. Akousa McCray-Peters

Rev. Jeffrey Haskins

Rev. Marissa Pendermon Rev. Robert Arrington

Rev. Victoria Castillo



# Unity Fellowship Church Movement LAY LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

### Kofi Afua Adoma, Ph.D.

As I meditate on this message to my fellow laity in the Movement, I am witnessing multiple reminders of why this year's theme, "Yes" is so essential, especially in 2017 and beyond. We are living in a world in which people are attacking those most vulnerable and marginalized at an increased rate. Every day, we are witnessing more violent hate crimes, trauma, harassment, assaults of all kinds, and injustice all around us. Too many of our youth are becoming numb to what is going on and have yet to comprehend the magnitude of our historic/herstoric struggles and sacrifices made on their behalf. Certainly, there is much to be critical of during these trying times. The powers that be challenge us to decide whether to stay engaged in those struggles and be a part of the resistance, or to give up. However, I know that God is BIGGER than all of the strife that we are experiencing. I know a God that is mightier and more powerful than the negative forces of the world. One of my favorite scriptures is within Luke 10:19 which stays engraved in my spirit: Behold, I have given you authority to tread on serpents and scorpions and over all the power of the enemy and nothing shall by any means hurt you. I invite you to join me in saying "Yes" to recognizing our power through God's deliverance and grace and acknowledging the greatness within us to stand firm against injustices that affect humanity. Your "Yes" to serving our Unity Fellowship Movement is key to the social change that is needed to heal the world from its wounds and turmoil. I encourage you to look inward and take a moment to say "Yes" to the God in you, and see for yourself how miracles happen. Let us look forward to a week of worship, fellowship, pride, exchanges of loving kindness and affirmation, and joyful celebration of the "Yes" that God has for us. Best wishes and blessings for a fruitful Holy Convocation.

Yours in the struggle,

**Kofi Afua Adoma, Ph.D.,** UFCM Lay Leadership Council







# The Witness of Trans Experience REV. DANI CALDERON, MSW

### **Greetings to all!**

I take this time to share my thoughts with you regarding the transgender community and the sad state of affairs in which we find ourselves, especially during the current administration. First and foremost, it makes my heart proud to see the Unity Fellowship Church Movement (UFCM) taking such a strong stand on issues relating to the transgender community; especially during these difficult times. Unfortunately, the transgender community is often the last letter in the LGBT acronym to be recognized or acknowledged in a positive light. Still, it is only when tragedy strikes that any attention is given to this marginalized community. Why is it that this group of individualized people is STILL marginalized, disregarded, ostracized, and the focus of the current administration? As a Hispanic transgendered man of faith, I struggle with my emotions, because this particular issue hits so close to home. It is impacting on a community of which I am so proud to be a part. We still have a long way to go!

On September 15, 2002, I arrived at Unity Fellowship of Christ Church, New York City (UFC-NYC) and I knew that I had found a place to call my home. Now 15 years later, I am more dedicated than ever to the UFCM! I want to take the time to give heartfelt thanks to Archbishop Carl Bean for his vision; also to Senior Bishop Zachary G. Jones, for your willingness to leave California, for your sacrifices all these years, and for meeting me in Brooklyn, NY, during a time where I was looking for answers and a new direction in my life. Thank you both for your "Yes."

In my mind, I too had a vision and a glimpse of who I was, but I could not articulate it, or even advocate for myself. I simply just knew that I had arrived at the right place! It all happened and clicked when I heard the message "God is Love and Love is for Everyone." I immediately began to believe that I too was loved, exactly the way that I was, unapologetically! I was worthy, and God loved me, a transgendered man! It was here in my home church, UFC-NYC, where I grew into and became the man that I am today! I am truly grateful to UFCM and to this work called Social Justice!

Before I can continue with "My Yes," I must say No--No to the injustices that are being done in and to my community. I must say No to the current administration and all those who feel that they have the right to dictate who can and cannot serve in the military, when these are positions that are strictly held on a volunteer basis. Such injustices are unacceptable and I will no longer be intimidated or silenced. I must continue to be a voice for the voiceless. I can no longer stand idle, while my transgendered brothers and sisters, Hispanic or not, are being murdered, or ostracized from fulfilling their fullest potential. I encourage you to be all that you can possibly be with Christ Jesus, because with God all things are possible!

Today, I have a Masters in Social Work (MSW), but I remember a time when I was recovering from active addiction. I was in a halfway house, and I noticed that there were no Hispanic social workers, in that local hospital where I was being treated.

It was then that I knew inside me that I wanted to become a social worker and represent my people. I thought deeply about those who got lost in the system because of the language barrier, or lack of education, and I wanted to help that community. After 8 years of college, I achieved exactly what I had wanted! I received my MSW and officially held the title of being a social worker. I knew that having this degree would open many doors for me, and allow me to be part of an arena which, without that degree, would be off limits to me. I now officially had access to a community which was poorly represented.

The message of hope and love gave me strength to step out on faith and to start my own process of transitioning. I thank God that I had a supportive church family who accepted me for who I was. It was important for me when I first came to UFC-NYC to be a part of the Men's Committee. I had many male role models who had qualities that I knew I wanted, as a man. Some of my role models include Senior Bishop Zachary G. Jones, Elder Sage Paul Darling, Reverend Jeffery Haskins, Reverend T. Gerard Williams, among many others. All these models and all the men at UFC-NYC accepted me as I was, and they never said I could not go to the annual men's retreats. I was simply accepted as one of the guys! I grew and transformed through the years into the man that you see before you today. Because of the love and support I received at my church home, I made the firm decision to start transitioning at my place of employment. I thank God that I was supported by my manager, who, when I went into her office and told her who I really was -- a transgendered man -- she immediately sent out a mass e-mail informing the entire staff on the proper pronoun to use when addressing me. She also provided me with a culture of acceptance. At that time, I worked in Greenwich Village. Perhaps this helped with the open reception that I received. I thank God that I was not terminated! They could have held the belief that it would cost them (insurance company) too much money to keep me. I thank God that gender did not really matter! What mattered so much was that I was treated like a human being, a person with professional and clinical skills, and valuable to the agency, and not like somebody from a freak show! I thank God that coming out as a transgendered male had absolutely no negative impact on me, or on my ability as a social worker.

Clinically speaking, I had a healthy transitioning process, to the point that it happened effort-lessly, and I almost forgot that I went through it. Also clinically speaking, I perform better as a social worker because I have more insight than most people with two degrees will ever have. I have lived two different lives in one lifetime: the first part of my life, the female, addictive life vs. the male, sober life. The past nine 9 years have been the best years of my life! I attribute this to being comfortable in my own skin, something that for many years I had despised!

I love myself today. There is no more self hate. I love my life, and I am ever so grateful for my wife and the life we continue to build together. I wonder how different my life could have been today, if for one minute my boss did not embrace me the way she did that afternoon when I came out to her! Imagine if she would have terminated me, denying me access to the medical insurance necessary to pay for all of my surgeries. Just imagine!

God knew exactly what I needed. God knew I needed a church home and a church family who was accepting of me just as I was. God knew I needed a place of employment where I would not be judged. God just simply knew! And it was all in divine order, and the rest is history. This is my story, this is my journey. I will continue to be informed and educate myself in areas that may not be familiar to me, so I can continue to be an advocate for those who do not have a voice or who cannot articulate their wants and needs.

I will continue to say "Yes" to social justice and may God continue to give me the strength to fight the good fight of faith. I pray that all of my transgendered brothers and sisters know in their hearts, that they are loved, accepted, and respected just the way they are! And no pope, no bishop, no president, etc. can ever separate you from the love of God. Or stop you from becoming or achieving everything your heart desires.

Que Dios Los Bendiga Siempre! El Reverendo Dani Calderón

### **BACK DOWN MEMORY LANE**

# Archbishop Carl Bean Ms. Dionne Warwick



During the Legendary

Minority AIDS Project Benefit

"Coming Home For Friends"

Congratulations my Friend on your 35th Anniversary.

Standing alongside you when you founded the Minority A.I.D.S. Project, right up to the first fundraiser "Coming Home For Friends" Concert in Los Angeles, gives me pride in saying our Friendship and work together in our fight against the A.I.D.S. Crisis within our communities has been my pleasure.

The Fight Isn't Over, and I do hope we ALL will continue to support Carl as he continues to raise awareness and support throughout OUR communities.

I am honored to accept this Award being given to me.





October 1, 2017



### Congratulations to

### Archbishop Carl Bean

It gives me great pleasure to congratulate you on the occasion of Unity Fellowship Church Movement's National Convocation and Gala in honor of your 35 years of dedicated service to the ministry as Founder and Presiding Prelate of UFCM.

During our friendship of more than 35 years, I have witnessed your tremendous courage in serving the Los Angeles community as an openly gay ordained minister who leads an inclusive ministry with a foundation of love and acceptance of people of different sexual orientations and walks of life. I also had the great fortune of working alongside you in the development of the Minority AIDS Project, the first community based HIV/AIDS organization established and managed by people of color in the United States. Under your dedicated leadership, Unity Fellowship Church Movement has worked diligently to help educate and serve communities of color who are disproportionately affected by the HIV/AIDS virus. Your legacy as a pioneer in the fight against minority AIDS will live on for generations in the many lives you have touched, both locally and internationally.

I appreciate your years of steadfast commitment to inspiring people to heal their community by showing love to their neighbor.

Your friend,

Maxine Waters

Member of Congress

43rd District, California

e Waters



# Certificate of Special Recognition presented to

# Archbishop Carl Bean

on the occasion of Unity Fellowship Movement's National Convocation and Gala; and in recognition of your 35 years of dedicated service to the ministry as Founder and Presiding Prelate; I appreciate your years of dedication in the fight against minority AIDS and your commitment to inspiring people to heal their community by showing love to their neighbor; congratulations and best wishes for continued success in service of others

Aufine Walus Maxine Waters

Member of Congress  $43^{r\delta}$  District, California on this  $1^{st}$  day of October, 2017





#### UNITED STATES SENATE WASHINGTON, D. G. 20510

October 7, 2017

Unity Fellowship Church Movement, Inc. 1030 Broad Street Newark, New Jersey 07102

Dear Friends,

It is a pleasure to extend my warmest greetings and congratulations as you gather to celebrate your 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary. I am also honored and grateful to be recognized tonight and receive the Spirited Ally Award.

For 35 years, the Unity Fellowship Church Movement, Inc. (UFCM) has been guided by the conviction that we must take care of each other. UFCM has demonstrated, in both word and action, the principles of compassion, fairness, and justice for LGBTQ people of color. Thank you for providing a space of spiritual enrichment for countless individuals across our nation through your community outreach initiatives, worship services, and ministries. As you gather to celebrate and prepare for the work ahead, please accept my gratitude for your tireless dedication to equality and for your remarkable work.

Again, congratulations on all that you have accomplished over the past 35 years. I look forward to celebrating your continued success in the years to come.

God Bless,

Cory A. Booker United States Senator



### Office of the MAYOR

City of Newark, New Jersey

### Proclamation

#### UNITY FELLOWSHIP CHURCH October 7, 2017

WHEREAS:

UNITY FELLOWSHIP CHURCH was founded in 1982 in Los Angeles, under the leadership of then-Rev. Carl Bean, to provide a ministry specifically for openly gay and lesbian African-Americans. The first meetings were held in Reverend Bean's private residence, and then at the Ebony Showcase Theater on Washington Boulevard. The church purchased its first property, on West Jefferson Boulevard; and

WHEREAS:

UNITY FELLOWSHIP CHURCH has become a major national spiritual movement, providing a safe place for minorities and the disenfranchised to express their spiritual beliefs. It advocates in the fields of HIV/AIDS, marriage equality, social justice, and protecting the rights of LGBTQ communities; and

WHEREAS:

UNITY FELLOWSHIP CHURCH enjoys outstanding leadership under Archbishop Carl Bean, who was ordained as a minister in 1982. He founded the Minority AIDS Project, the first community-based HIV/AIDS organization managed by people of color in the United States. He has won numerous awards for his work, including the 1987 NAACP Image Award; and

WHEREAS:

UNITY FELLOWSHIP CHURCH is one of America's great spiritual institutions. It provides its family with the timeless values of faith while battling in the present for the rights of its members, to secure their future. It truly serves its mission statement of "God Is Love and Love is for Everyone;" and

WHEREAS:

As Mayor of Newark, I salute UNITY FELLOWSHIP CHURCH as it celebrates 35 years of service to faith and community with its annual Holy Convocation at the Robert Treat Hotel today, and wish the entire UNITY FELLOWSHIP CHURCH family joy and happiness for the future.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RAS J. BARAKA, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NEWARK, NEW JERSEY, do hereby recognize:

#### UNITY FELLOWSHIP CHURCH

and I urge all residents, employees, and visitors in the City of Newark to join me in this special tribute to UNITY FELLOWSHIP CHURCH.

SIGNED:

RAS J. BARAKA, MAYOR



### **MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS**

Chairman of the Board Supervisor, Second District, County of Los Angeles 500 W. Temple Street, Rm. 866 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration Los Angeles, CA 90012



August 17, 2017

### **UNITY FELLOWSHIP CHURCH MOVEMENT**

### 35th Anniversary

Congratulations to Unity Fellowship Church Movement on the occasion of its 35th Anniversary.

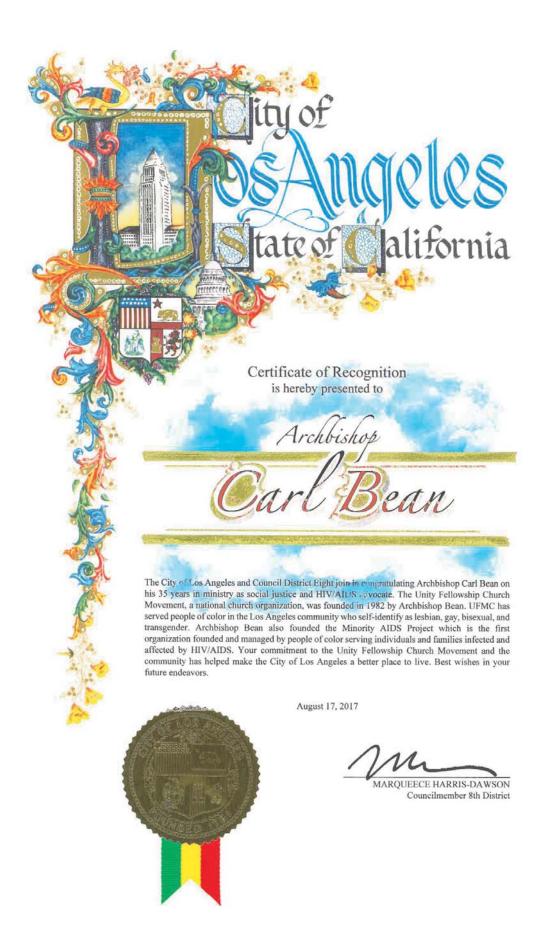
Since 1982, UFCM has been dedicated to empowering its congregation with resources for spiritual, social and economic growth. Year after year, the church continues to be a pillar in the community. I am pleased to commend Archbishop Carl Bean and the entire church congregation for their outstanding service to residents across the County of Los Angeles.

On behalf of the Board of Supervisors and the more than 10 million people who reside in the County, I extend my best wishes for continued success and a most memorable event.

With hope,

MARK RIDLEY- THOMAS
Chairman of the Board

made Ridling- thrown





### City of Baltimore

Mayor 250 City Hall, 100 North Holliday Street Baltimore, Maryland 21202



September 8, 2017

To whom it may concern:

On behalf of the citizens of Baltimore, I am happy to congratulate Bishop Harris Thomas, Presiding Prelate of the Unity Fellowship Church Movement Jurisdiction 4 and all of the Unity Fellowship Church Movement churches and leaders from around the nation on the occasion of your national 35th Church Anniversary.

Since its founding in 1982 by Baltimore's own Archbishop Carl Bean, the Unity Fellowship Church Movement has been a valued and inspirational member of our nation's faith community for the African American LGBTQ community and its allies. On this momentous occasion, I salute you for empowering and uplifting all people of faith.

Again, congratulations to Unity Fellowship Church Movement for 35 years of exemplary service. May you continue to grow and fulfill your mission of faith and service for many years to come.

Best wishes for a joyous and well-deserved celebration!

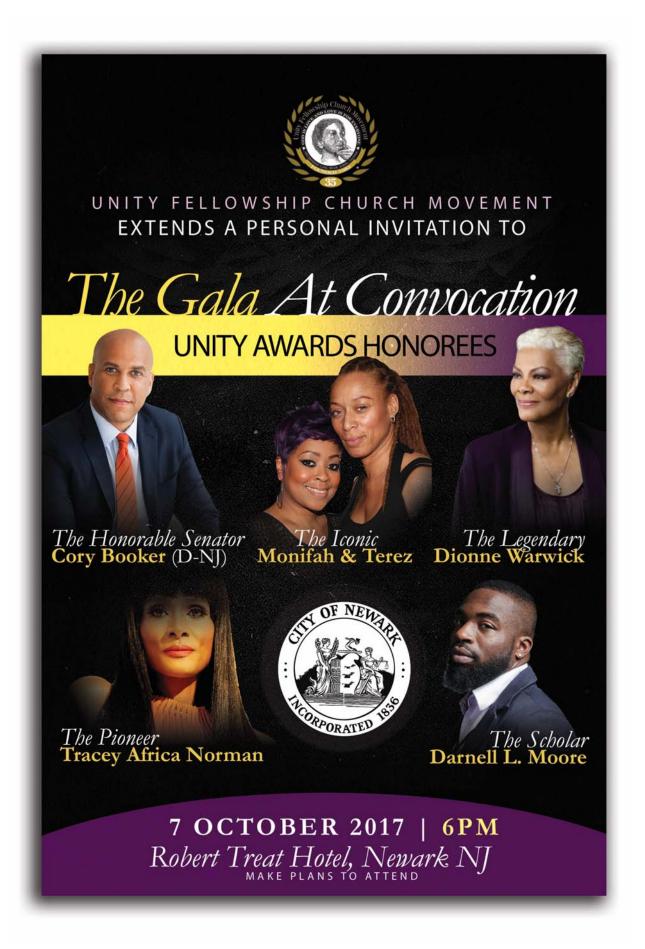
Sincerely,

Mayor Catherine E. Pugh

Catherine E. Righ

City of Baltimore

Phone: 410.396.3835 Fax: 410.576.9425 E-mail: mayor@baltimorecity.gov



### Tributes & Honors



Archbishop Carl Bean, D.Min,

Founder & Presiding Prelate,
Unity Fellowship Church Movement

### THE MINORITY AIDS PROJECT FIRST ANNUAL BENEFIT



A GOSPEL CONCERT

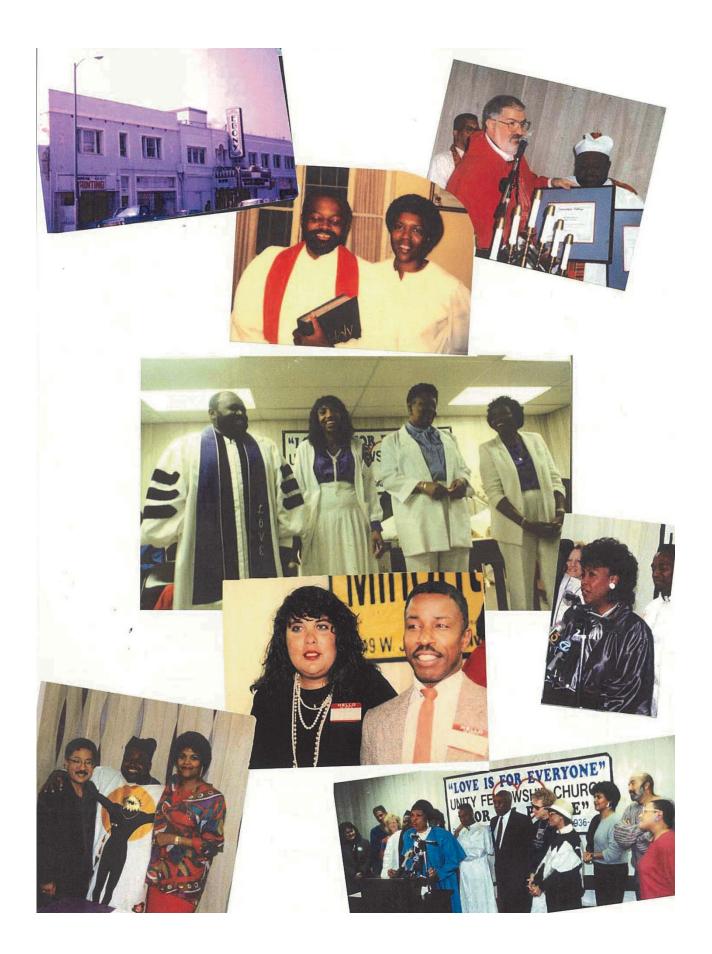
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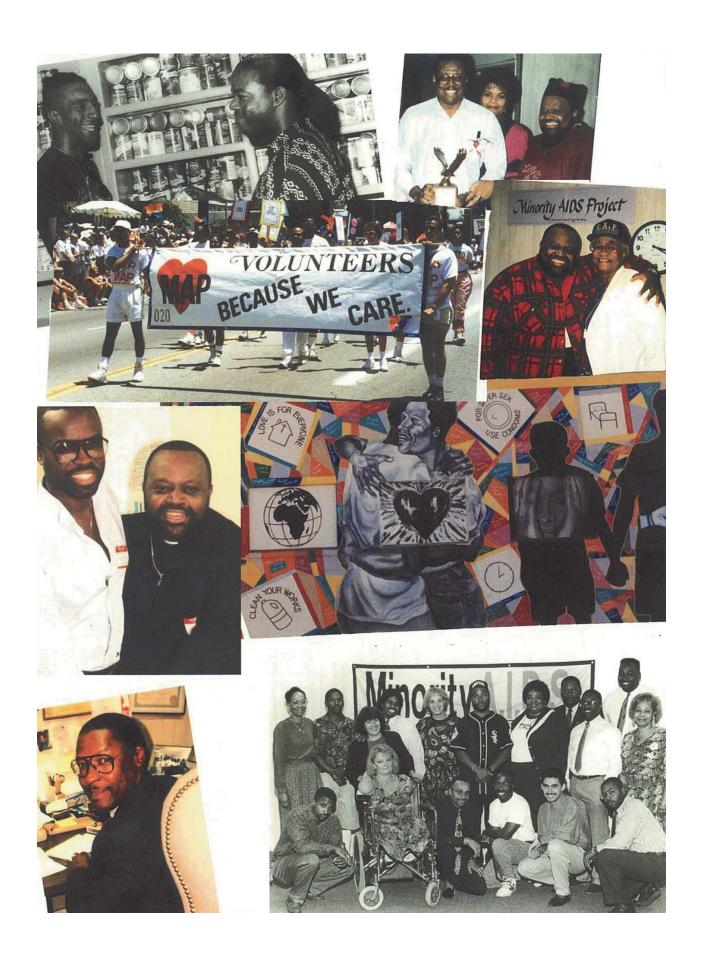
### **DIONNE WARWICK**

and FRIENDS

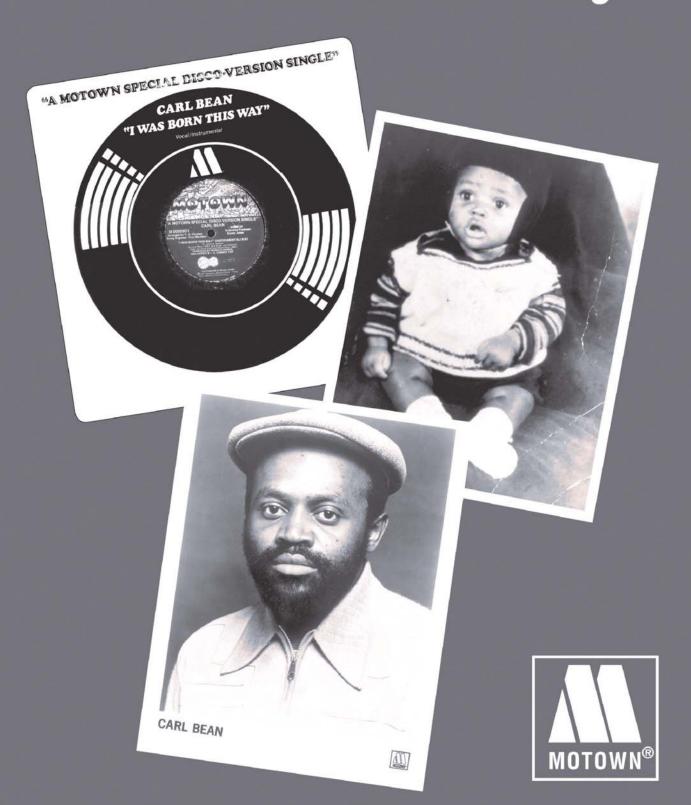
Thursday August 4, 1988 7:45 p.m.

**Shrine Auditorium** 





# 40th Anniversary of the Release of "I Was Born This Way"





Unity Fellowship of Christ Church Los Angeles
9608 S. Figueroa Street, Los Angeles, CA 90003

### Salutes Our Beloved

Archbishop Carl Bean, D.Min, Founder & Presiding Prelate

### FOR 35 YEARS OF DEMONSTRATING THAT GOD IS LOVE AND LOVE IS FOR EVERYONE!

We Join Our International Family In Celebrating UFCC L.A. Candidates!



### The Mother Church's 2017 Patrons

Elder Russell E. Thornhill Co-Pastors
Elder Elect Leslie Burke Co-Pastors
Elder Gerald N. Green
Rev. Dr. Roger Culberson, 1st
Rev. Elect Pam Simmons

M.Div, MPH, JD RN

Min. Janetta Johnson Min. Li and Mrs. Joy Arnee and family Deacon Amir Noir Soulkin

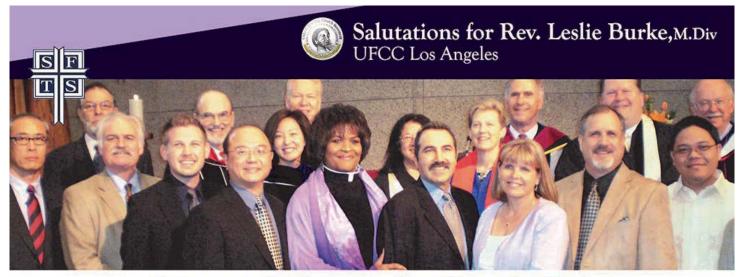
Deacon Candidate Zarion "Ise" Wooden Amoke
Art Miller Winnie

Anita Guerrero Carl Rogers Mark Jackson

Winnie Blacknell

Oliver Morgan Daisy Lewis Paula Searcy

Kimbra Wallace



### Congratulations to Our Sister in Christ!

Colleagues at San Francisco Theological Seminary

On your elevation to the position of Elder in your denomination. As fellow seminarians we were charged to go forth and spread the good word with a challenge to become **Agents of Change in the world today**; To go boldly forth in ministry and proclaim the God's matchless love! Continue to work for God using the gifts bestowed upon you.

### We Thank You For Your Unconditional Love Continued Spiritual Counsel & Truth

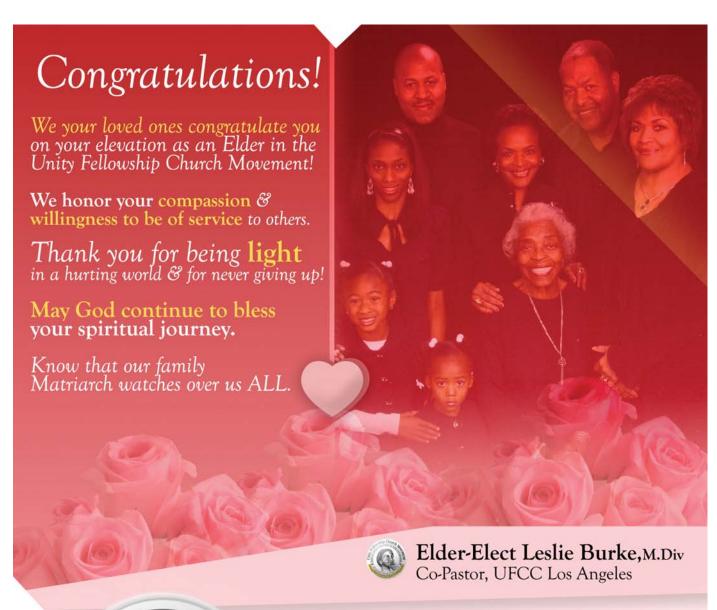
We love ...honor and support you as you continue to walk in the light as...

Elder Leslie Burke

Continued Blessings,

Michelle Palmer & Lynette Singleton





Rev. Leslie Burke joined the UFCC near its beginning in 1984 and has served as an ordained clergy for the past 20 years. Currently she is Co-Pastor of UFCCLA and has been active in the outreach ministries for over 25 years. Rev. Leslie was an original board member of Minority AIDS Project the first outreach ministry of UFCC and the first AIDS agency in the nation run by people of color targeting services to black, brown, LBGT and the underserved. Giving honor and thanks to her spiritual father Archbishop Carl Bean whose life changing message of Gods unconditional love for all people manifested in his words and actions. Unity brought the enlightenment of Liberation Theology and Progressive thought. "I am excited and humbled for the next stage of my spiritual journey to help grow the mission, give a word of enlightenment and stand in the gap advocating for the rights and freedom for all of God's creation."



First giving all praises and honor to the most high my beloved Divine Spirit (God). It's been a journey and I wouldn't trade it. Because I am the person that I am because of it.

I would like to thank Archbishop Carl Bean for your, "Yes". You have been very instrumental for the person I turned out to be. Thank you Minster Sandra Hudson-Carr your spiritual guidance has truly nourished my development ( your the mother God sent). Ms. Annie Wooden-Shaw thank you for all the early morning and late night talks and all the encouragement when I second guess myself ( my birth mother).

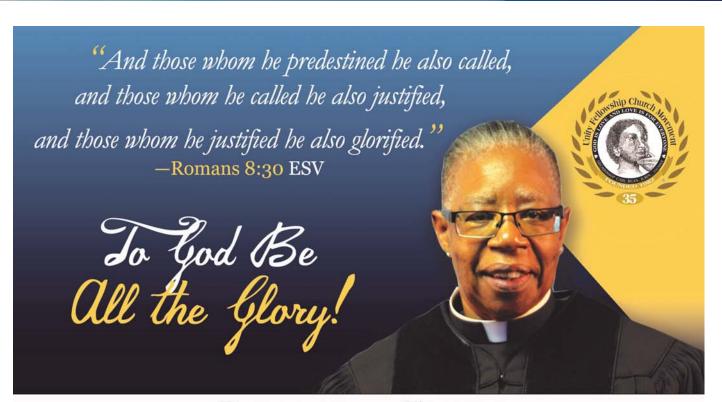
Today I stand tall and walk with my head hold up and I know Divine Spirit loves me. I am truly humbled to serve such an amazing God. I pray the remain humble, grateful and willing as I spread the great news of your unconditional love. I stand in my truth strong but humble black transman that proudly loves God.

### Sincerely,

#### **Deacon- Elect Zarion Ashton Wooden**

#### **CONGRATULATIONS FROM:**

Annie Wooden-Shaw (mother)
Eddie C. Shaw (grandmother)
Min. Sandra Hudson (spiritual mom)
Linda Carr (dad)
Debra Howard (aunt)
Betty LuVert (aunt)
Sherry Craig (aunt)
Ka'Drienn Green (great-nephew)
KieMarri Green (great-nephew)



### REVEREND-ELECT, MIN.PAMELA R. SIMMONS

### Allow Me To Speak From My Heart

I must admit in 1989 when I was invited by Deacon Candidate Zarione "Ise" Wooden to visit UFC Los Angeles (Mother Church) My first reaction was, "I am not going to that 'gay' church and God strike me down.'" But D.C. Zarione would not give up, finally I gave in only because my sister Minister Sandy wanted to go and I told her that I would go with her once, and only once.

The service that we attended that Sunday that Assistant Pastor at that time was the Rev. Zachary G. Jones who now is the Senior Bishop and he delivered a message that Ministered to my soul and my spirit. I said if the Assistant Pastor is that powerful the Pastor is Got to be off the chain and the rest is history. I want to take this time to thank my Archbishop for his yes because it was his dedication to serving God and being a good shepherd to his people, which help me with my Yes and finding my total spiritual freedom in God.

In 1998 is when my journey really begin, I became an Usher. In 2007, I was ordained a Deacon. In 2013, I was ordained in a Minister. By the grace of God, on October 8, 2017, I will embrace a greater depth of service as a Reverend. Never in my wildest dream did I ever think I would become a Reverend.

I am truly humbled to receive this honor and I give all praises to my God.

Congratulations to Archbishop Carl Bean and Unity Fellowship Church Movement on 35 years of Light, Love, Service, and full inclusion for all the Creator's Children!



### Thank you from Unity Fellowship Church San Diego, California.

The Unity Fellowship Church Members, and Pastors, Rev Cecelia Caldwell & Rev Romie Wilford. Light, Love, & Blessings! Ashe and Amen."

### **Congratulations Minister Charles Nelson**



from your

Unity Fellowship Church Family, San Diego









The Youth/ Young Adult Ministries Honors ArchBishop Carl Bean



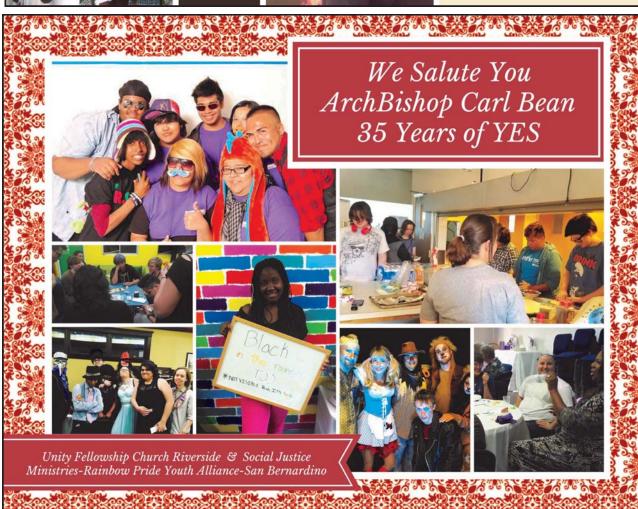




BECAUSE OF YOU

WE CAN!





2017 Impact Report

# Unity Fellowship

unityfellowshipjamaicaministries.org





CORE MISSION

Rev. Nevin Powell, Pastor

Established to profess God's love for everyone. It will never discriminate against anyone due to race, age, sexual orientation, gender, religious or politic affiliation. It will work tirelessly to improve health, economic and social conditions of the homeless and disenfranchised men and women in Jamaica. Unity Fellowship Jamaica Ministries provides teachings of liberation theology and exemplies tolerance to all of God's people.

#### **HOMELESS MINISTRIES**

We provide immediate and pratical resources to those in need. Our outreach team serves the poor, homeless and LGBT youth, offering meals, clothing, self-care supplies and spiritual guidance.

#### HEALTH CARE MINISTRIES

As the health care system struggles to provide basic consistent services to citizens, HIV/AIDS, Diabetes, Hypertension, Breast Cancer, Stroke, Lung disease, influenza and pneumonia have become the leading causes of death in Jamaica.

#### PRAISE REPORT

We were able to provide Cancer screenings (pap smear and prostate exams), HIV/AIDS counseling and testing, Optical Service (FREE prescription glasses) dental exams (Cleanings and extractions), Psychiatric Services, Pediatric and Adult Medical Exams. We provided 45 blood pressure machines for free as well as CPR training and certification for teachers and community residents. Our Homeless Ministry continues to provide 70 hot meals and beverages weekly.

## CONGRATULATIONS

### ARCHBISHOP CARL BEAN, DMIN &

UNITY FELLOWSHIP CHURCH MOVEMENT



The

Family

ANNIVERSARY

Social Justice, Self Sacrifice and Love has been the backbone of our Movement. You have unselfishly given to so many who society had cast out due to illness and who they are. We take this opportunity to salute you on the phenomenal ministry that was birthed through Love & Dedication.

Congratulations Elder Leslie Burke! We stand with you and support your labor of love ministry. You have been a consistent bundle of love, hard work, commitment and a safe place here in the movement and our community. We are excited for your ministry as you embark on your ordination as Elder.

Congratulations Rev. Pam Simmons! It is with gladness and excitement that we congratulate you on your ordination as Reverend. We admire your determination, perseverance and faithful loyalty to the calling of our savior and his flock.

Congratulations to Deacon Zarion A. Wooden! It's been a pleasure watching you find your journey and mentoring you as your Minister & Alpha Brother.

You are amazing and magnificent, our prayer is for God to continue to bless you all in your ministry. We look forward to how the Lord is going to use you and your gifts. The journey is not given to the swiftest but to those that endureth to the end.

Love, Minister & Mrs. Li Arnee and family



God Said "Will You Go?" Archbishop Said "Yes, I Will Go." We Said "So Will We."

Senior Bishop Zachary Glenn Jones

THANK YOU ARCHBISHOP, FOR YOUR YES TO JESUS CHRIST & GOD!

# CONCROTULATIONS



Congratulations to ARCHBISHOP CARL BEAN, on 35 years of Empowering, Transforming and Creating new lives, because of your "Yes of 35 years", UFC-NYC could say, "Yes to 25 years"

> SPECIAL CONGRATULATIONS TO REVEREND ELECT JERMAINE GREEN DEACON ELECT DEIRDRE SMITH

> > 521 WEST 126TH STREET - HARLEM NY 10027

# CONGRATULATIONS

to ARCHBISHOP CARL BEAN and UFC, on 35 years of

#### **Deacon-Elect Deirdre Smith**

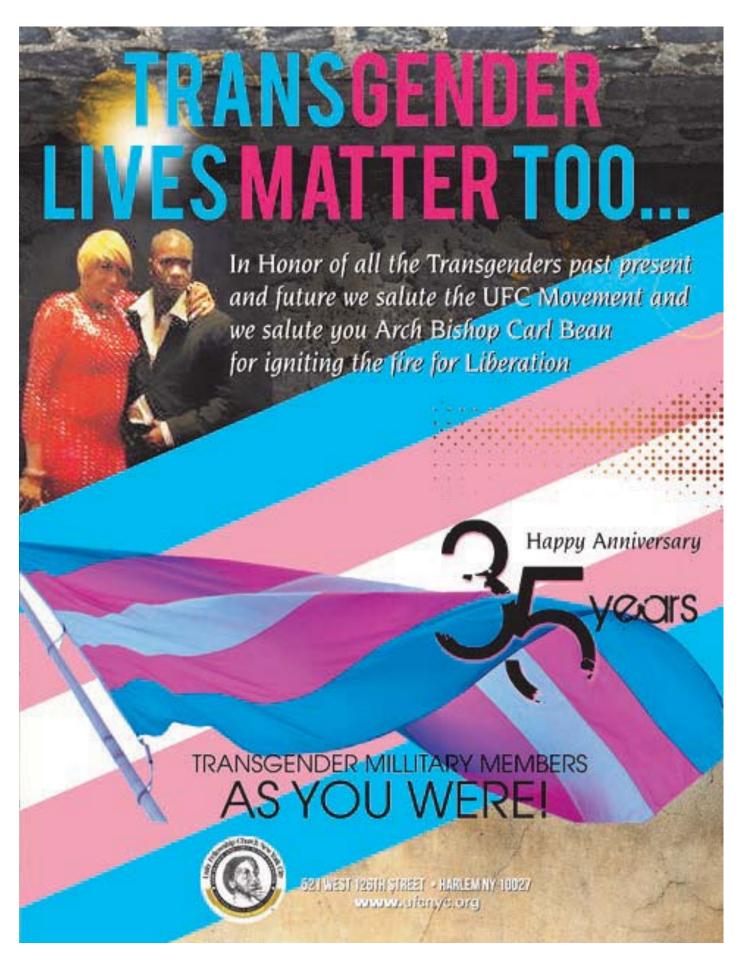
Hello, I am Deacon Deirdre Elaine Smith, from Unity Fellowship of Christ Church, New York City. Unity has given me a place where I can worship the God of my understanding in my authenticity. Unity is a church where God is love, and love is for everyone. Everyone is welcome to the table; it does not matter what your race, sex, or identity is, all are welcome here. Unity has shown me that agape love is unconditional and that I can be loved, shown love, and that I am worthy of Love.

#### **Reverend-Elect Jermaine DMR Green**

I stand before you as someone saying "yes" to being made perfectly imperfect. I have had countless learning experiences over my journey in life and with my family at Unity Fellowship Church Movement (UFCM). I have come to know the Divine/the "IT" factor, for myself. In this relationship, I have become aware of the whole me in regards to the "IT" factor, who truly met me where I was and used me in my infancy, up until the present time. This journey has allowed me to cultivate a personal theology that challenges me daily to become more loving, so that I can be more lovable and more forgiving, in order to be forgiven more. These milestones that I have embarked on at Unity for over a decade now will culminate this ordination season in 2017 as I am elevated from Minister to Reverend. My journey to this point was nurtured, supported, loved, challenged and a whole lot more by UFCM. I am humbled to be a part of who Unity was, is, and will be. I am truly excited to recommit, recharge, rejuvenate, reconnect, and seek my "Yes" for then, now and what is to come. Thank you UFCM for letting me learn, grow, and become what I am, even when it was not clear where my path was going. Ashé



521 WEST 126TH STREET • HARLEM NY 10027
www.ufcnyc.org



# UNITY FELLOWSHIP CHURCH of WASHINGTON, DC

Founding Pastor, Reverend Dyan Akousa McCray-Peters, ABA, BS, M.Div. 474 RIDGE ST NW DC 20001 | UFCDC.ORG | 202.380.9596

**UFCDC** celebrates the

35 years

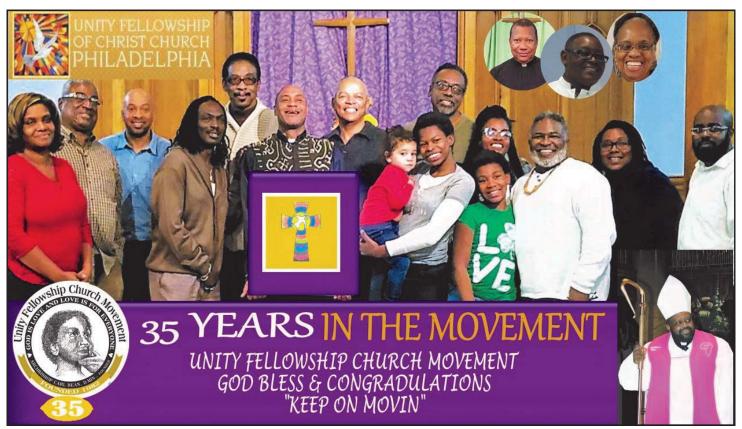
of UFCM's social justice work around the country.

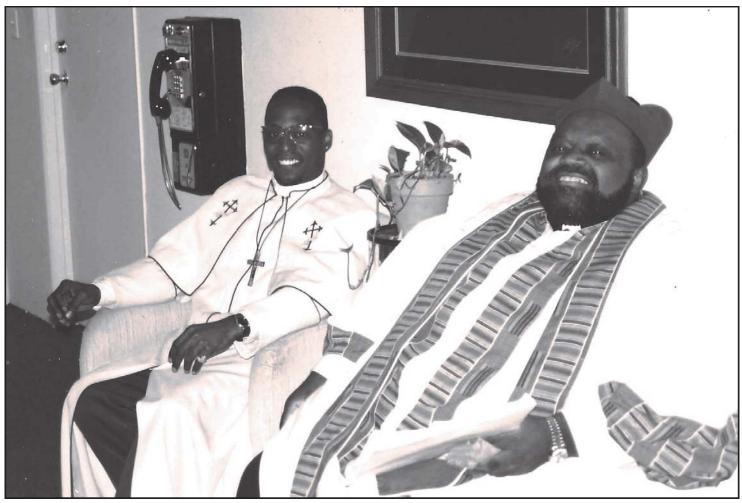
### KOINONIA

Christian fellowship or communion, with God or, more commonly, with fellow Christians.



GOD IS ABLE.





Congratulations to
Our Beloved Archbishop Carl Bean
for Thirty-Five Years
of Inspired and Liberating Ministry!



-104 With Lave and Best Wishes 161-

CLERGY, CONGREGANTS, AND FRIENDS OF UFC BUFFALO

REV. T. GERARD WILLIAMS, PASTOR

# CONGRATULATIONS! FROM MEMBERS & FRIENDS OF UNITY FELLOWSHIP CHURCH, BUFFALO



Rev. Gerard Williams
Min. Stephanie Phillips
Trustee Ari Moore
Trustee John Vines
Trustee Jim Wolfe
Isaiah Works
Tia Williams
Black Men Talking

Happy 35th Anniversary from

PILGRIM

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INCLUSIVE
COMMITTED

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Rev. Adrienne Phillips
Deacon Paulette Hall
Dr. Kelly Clark
Dr. Gabrie'l Atchison
Professor Athena Mutua

Professor Michael Boucai Professor Mateo Taussig-Rubbo Barbara Turner



CELEBRATING THE UNITY FELLOWSHIP CHURCH MOVEMENT
35 YEARS OF SOCIAL JUSTICE MINISTRY!!



# Unity Fellowship Chunch New Ank is proud to honor

### **MINISTER ELNORA SIMPSON**

on the occasion of her elevation from Deacon to Minister within UFCM, Inc.







Whether you are sending out inspirational messages, delivering powerful affirmations, serving or supporting, you are a blessing to us ALL!

We Congnatulate you and Thank God from YOU!



**WE ARE WORKING ON A BUILDING AND BUILDING ON A WORK!** 

#### **OUR DEAR**

### DEACON EL

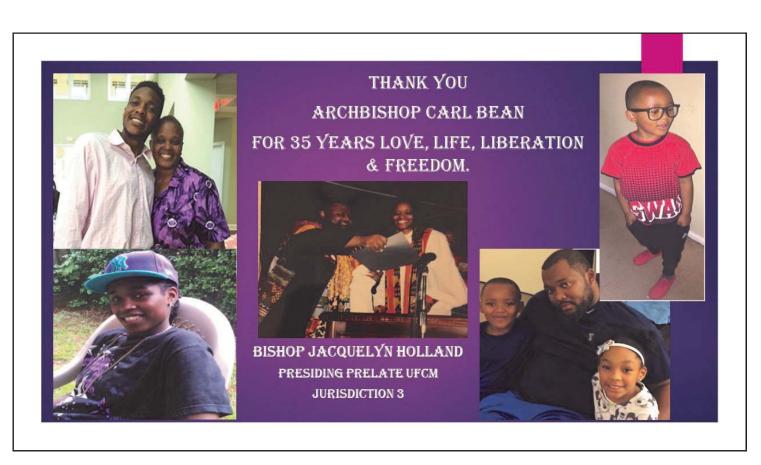


GOD HAS CHOSEN YOU TO BE A SPECIAL BLESSING TO US ALL...

AND WE THANK GOD FOR ORDERING YOUR STEPS AND PROVIDING YOU WITH THE SWEET SPIRIT, THE COMPASSION, AND THE STRENGTH OF FAITH THAT INSPIRES US EACH DAY.

WE ARE PROUD OF YOU, AND LOVE YOU SO VERY MUCH.

YOUR FAMILY, FRIENDS, AND RECIEVERS OF YOUR DAILY MESSAGE OF INSPIRATION. ©



### UNITY FELLOWSHIP GREATER ATLANTA

"Pastor Maressa Pendermon and the UFC, Greater Atlanta Family sends Archbishop Carl Bean and The UFCM Congratulations on our 35th anniversary! We are proud to be a part of the UFCM Family! YES!"

GREATER ATLANTA

con Candidate

Everything I needed to succeed was installed in my DNA long before I came into existence.

God assigned me to parents, and a family that guided me and instill in me good values, morals and the love for my fellow man. This was done though learning the Bible and the teachings of Jesus. I was taught to always have faith in God, and in the power of prayer. Although my travels took me all over the world and I sometimes lost my way, I never stopped believing in the power of prayer. I kept the faith "In he who Strengthens me".

In December 2004, I heard "God is Love, and Love is for everyone" at UFC Charlotte and it changed my life! My journey to transformation began when I began walking in my truth. In May of 2005, I became clear about my call to ministry and to deeper service. I served and studied from that time forward at UFC, Charlotte and there began to fully understand how to live, "God is Love and Love is for Everyone."

Early in 2017 God redirected me to the leadership of Pastor Pendermon, and UFC, Greater Atlanta. She is helping to refine my skills in understanding the word, leadership, and deepening my social justice work in the community. I thank you, the staff and my awesome church for encouraging me. I am ready to take my service to the next level and pass along what I have received. So! "When I look back over my life, and think things over." I am so grateful, for the change in my life. "My dark days will not outweigh my good days, "For yes Jesus loves me"!!!

THANK YOU PATRON

D.C Sandy Williams Family & Friends Mr. & Mrs. Rudolph & Monteray Frazier

hop Tanya & Gwendolyn Rawls

Deacon Annette Johnson Mr. & Mrs. Nathaniel & Leatrice Williams & Family

Mr. & Mrs. Hubert & Rose Joyner Ms. Rochell Dixon

Mrs. Shelia Houser - Jarrett Ms. Lucretia Little

Deacon Arous & Sabrina Jones & Family

ilv Nieces & Nep

Mr. & Mrs. Van B. Sullivan

Janet Reeves

Cathy D. Welch

LaNita & Tauwana Carey & Family

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sam.offer@comcast.net (410) 504-9701 (cell)

dr.jamiewashington@comcast.net (443) 794-1547 (cell)

(410) 655-9556 (office) (410) 655-9793 (fax)



Reverend-elect Sean Robinson

Minister-elect Clif Butler

Minister-elect Hilda Lloyd

Minister-elect Johnetta (Renee) Melvin

Deacon-elect Lorice Rogers

# Happy 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Archbishop Carl Bean & UFCM





# Unity Fellowship Church Of Baltimore

# Congratulates

Deacon Lorice Rodgers
Minister Clifton Butler
Minister Johnetta Melvin
Minister Hilda Lloyd

Reverend Sean Robinson

On their elevation to the next level of ministry

4007 Old York Road Baltimore MD 21218 Dr. Rev. Jamie Washington & Bishop Harris Thomas, Co-Pastors

"God Love You and So Do I"

Unity Fellowship Church Of Baltimore



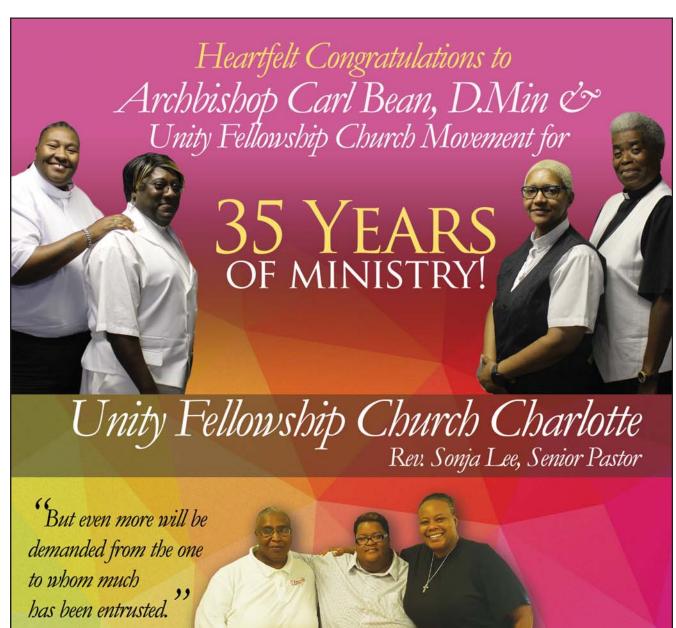
# Congratulation Unity Fellowship Movement



4007 Old York Road Baltimore MD 21218

Dr. Rev Jamie Washington & Bishop Harris Thomas, Co-Pastors

"God Is Love, And Love Is For Everyone"



Luke 12:48 ISV



Minister L'Tricia Chandler





WEARE

www.ufccc.org







REV. VICTORIA CASTILLO- FOUNDER & PASTOR REV. BRIAN ROBINSON – ASSITANT PASTOR

Congratulations

Archbishop Carl Bean &

UNITY FELLOWSHIP CHURCH MOVEMENT

HAPPY 35TH ANNIVERSARY!

"GOD IS LOVE AND LOVE IS FOR EVERYONE"

## Special Thanks & Commendations



Unity Fellowship NewArk
The Washington Consulting Group
Convocation Volunteers



Rev. Clarence Edwards

**Dynamic Essentials Productions** 

Ondrena Clyburn, Founder & Manager

Chunteau Abney, D.E.P. Management

Seychelle Else

Lynne Summers

Farrah Roshay

Khalil Folson, Producer/Engineer - Capture Life Music

Recording Artist Rowin Khan

Mike Jones

Minuteman Press

Michelle Bryant, Harvey Judkins and Judkins Funeral Home (Plainfield, NJ)

Michelle Ooh LaLa Bryant- cases of water

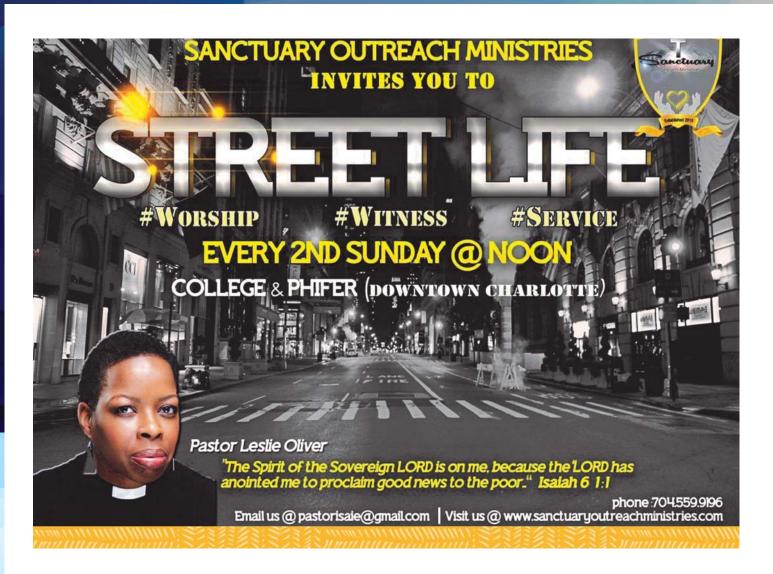
Joi James

SewWhat Bag Lady

Janine Ivey

In Memory of Annette Washington and The American Cancer Society

(donations made and matched)



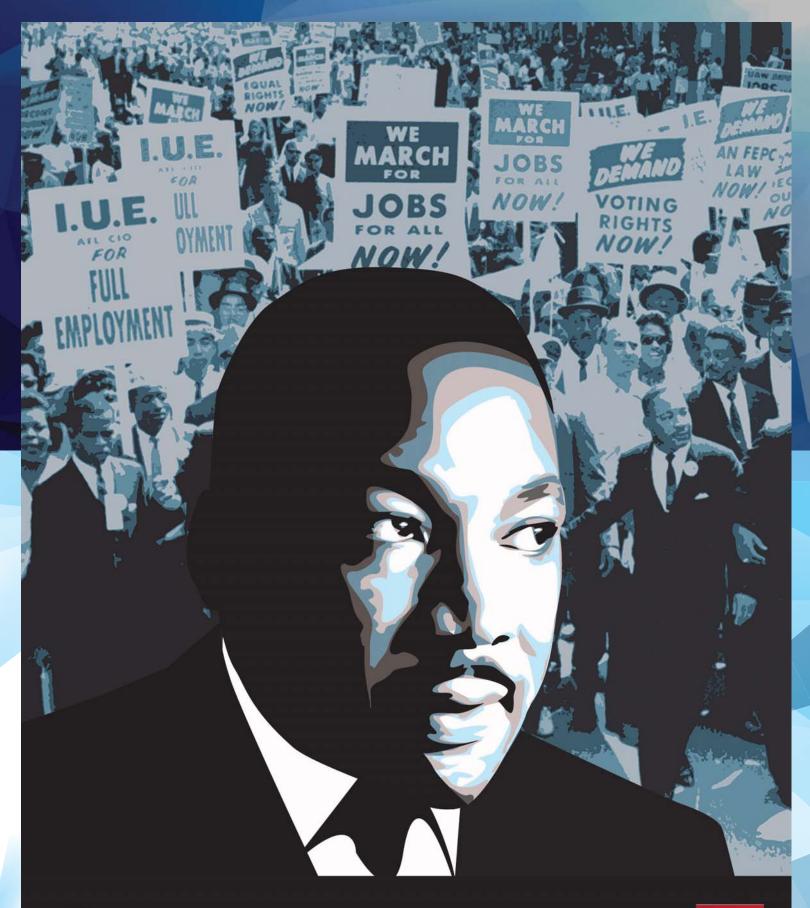


The National Black Leadership
Commission on AIDS, Inc.
congratulates
Unity Fellowship of Christ Church
and Archbishop Carl Bean, Founder
as it celebrates 35 years



NBLCA.ORG INFO@NBLCA.ORG

f/NBLCA ☑/NBLCA In/NBLCA ☑/NBLCAONLINE ☑/NBLCAONLINE
AVERY T. BATES, NBLCA PROGRAM COORDINATOR ABATES@NBLCA.ORG 716-986-9199 EXT 6400





AIDS IS A CIVIL RIGHTS ISSUE



# BLACK AIDS INSTITUTE congratulates



Founder and Presiding Prelate
Unity Fellowship Church Movement



### DRIVE OUT AIDS

Get tested and win a 2017 Kia Optima LX from Car Pros Kia Carson www.blackaids.org



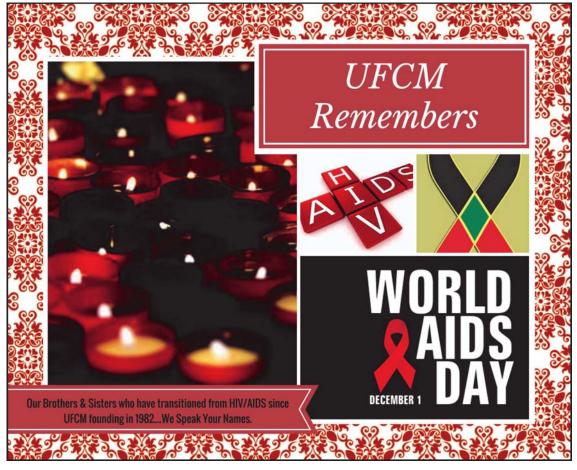












Congratulations Archbishop Carl Bean, D.Min for 35 Years of Ministry!



#### UNITY FELLOWSHIP CHURCH MOVEMENT LEADERS

After the shout is over, and the emotions come down, what is left?

How do we reach folk that have been hurt by the Black Church?

How do we make space for intellectual work beyond the Bible?

How do we draw and engage young people?

These are a few of our questions. We're shifting our energy beyond the collars, beyond Bible quotes and beyond every human fear and limitation. We work on the margins; on the streets, the web; places where people are hurting, often in silence. We Are The Movement!

In Love & Solidarity,

Rev. Carla Johnson, Baltimore
Rev. -Elect Jermaine Green, New York City
Min.-Elect L'tricia Chandler, Charlotte
Deacon Brittany R. Bennet, Charleston
Pay Flort Soan Pobinson, Baltimore

Rev.-Elect Sean Robinson, Baltimore

Rev. Jae Quinlan, NewArk Rev. Brian Robinson, Trenton

Deacon Amir Noir Soulkin, Los Angeles





### From the Movement Archives MOMENTS IN OUR RICH HISTORY

#### The Activist Liberator

### Outfront in the Pages of History

Upon these verses, this denomination has been built and our doctrine structured. Bishop Carl Bean



#### **UFCM Denomination Doctrine**

"God ain't interested in whether we're male or female, whether we're Gay or Lesbian. God sees us as whole creatures."

- Bishop Carl Bean

#### Matthew 22:36-40

"Teacher, which is the great commandm in the law?" and he said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart. and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the great and first command-ment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the law and the

#### Matthew 25:34-40

"Then the King will say to those on his right, Come, O blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food. I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you nakea and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me. Then the righteous will answer him. 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feel you, or thisty and give you drink? And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit was "And the Times". you?' And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say, as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me."

#### 3. 1 John 4:7-8

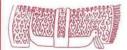
Beloved, let us love one another; for love is of God, and he who loves is born of God and knows God. He who does not love does not know God; for God is love.

#### 4. 1 John 4:20-21

If any one says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother, whom he has seen, cannot love God, whom he has not seen. And he has given us this commandment: Whoever loves God must also love his brother.

#### 5. Mark 10:42-45

And Jesus called them together and said, Tou know that those who are regarded as rulers of the Gentiles lond it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all. For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and



#### MPACT OF AIDS

#### 6 who made a difference

peals attorney and partner Tim Tyner housing discrimination and continues to do heard a social verker appeal for volunteers most of his work for free.



By Beb RNa J. USA TOON

IN THE REV. CARL BEAN,
41 Los Angleise misister.
Bean became alarmed
when he realized the black
and Hispanic communities
were not being reached by exlating AIDS organizations.
And he was even entageton revealed "rampart ignorrance," including widespread
myths such as "if you don't
sleep with a white man, you
won't get AIDS."
Armed with stallstics that
show an even greater incicommunities with the stall of the communities
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■ CHARLES W. HENDER-SON, 36, newsletter publisher,

Atlanta.
When the news is AIDS,
Henderson covers it.

Atlanta.

When the news is AIDS, Henderson covers it has been covers it has been controlled to the his section of the He's editing COTC AIDS.

Weekly, the USA's most comprehensive AIDS newstetsr.

He isn't a spokesman for AIDS, he inisits. But he'd al-ways been interested in the Centers for Disease Centrol and Allanta, the hab of the USA's spring he started an intomastion service about the COC. But he found "such a thirst for information among people sill over the world" that the focus soon became AIDS alone.

Now he writes for AIDS area.

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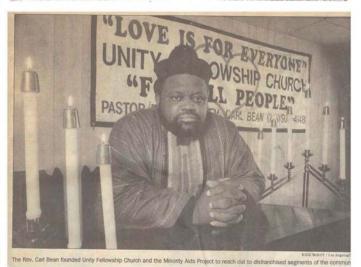
Allond and a sill and



HELEN KUSHNICK, 40,



BISHOP CARL BEAN



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# From the Movement Archives MOMENTS IN OUR RICH HISTORY

#### National Awards

#### SCLC to Honor Founder of Church for Minority Gays

■ Award: Group says that recognition for Unity Fellowship should signal mainstream black denominations to recognize people who lead alternative lifestyles.

By LARRY B. STAMMER TIMES RELIGION WRITER

The Unity Fellowship Church and its founder and pastor, Bishop Carl Bean, are to be honored Mondayfor their ministry to gays and lesbians in minority communities.

The church, which was founded



tions—to recognize the work of Unity Fellowship is saying the... the African-American church needs to recognize there are persons in our community that represent alternative lifestyles. We have to move forward."

With a reported 700 members in Los Angeles and 450 in Detroit and New York, Unity Fellowship churches are unique in ministering to the needs of gays and lesbians in what Spears calls "communities of color." The Los Angeles church is on Jefferson Boulevard near Culver City.

ver City.

In an interview, Bean, 48, said he organized the church because as a gay man he was concerned about "the beating and oppression I had



DR. DOROTHY HEIGHT PRESENTS—In the area of Public Service Awards Dr. Dorothy Height, National President of NCNW took great pride in presenting awards to community leaders who were active during the Black Family conference. Award is presented to Rev. Carl Bean, in the area of religious leadership. GUYCROWGER Bridge

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President's Award Ella Fitzgerald

Entertainer of the Year Lionel Richie

Leonard H. Carter Humanitarian Award Eugene M. Lang, Chairman "I Have A Dream Foundation"

Key of Life Award
Dorothy Height
National President
National Council of Negro Women

Hall of Jame Award
Maya Angelou
Linda Hopkins
Bob Marley (Posthumously)
Esther Rolle

Corporate Award
Coca Cola Bottling Company
of Philadelphia

J. Bruce Llewellyn, Chairman of the Board

Special Awards
Reverend Carl Bean
Founder/Executive Director
Minority AIDS Project

Spike Lee Independent Producer Topper & Alyce Carew

Jackie Robinson Sports Award
Curt Flood

Roy Wilkins Civil Rights Award TBA

20th Anniversary Award-Special Achievement



# From the Movement Archives MOMENTS IN OUR RICH HISTORY

Standing for Justice







Rev. Carl Bean. founder/pastor, Unity Fellowship Church, Los Angeles, Calif.; founder/executive director, Minority A.I.D.S. Project; opened Dignity House for homeless PWA's; recipient, NAACP Image Award; advisor to former Surgeon General C. Everett Koop and advisor to numerous national health organizations.



Bean hugs Shelia Burt as she sorts dinners prepared in the Minority Aids Project meal program to be taken to people with AIDS.

## Minority AIDS Project May Fold, Appeals for Cash

■ Health: The Rev. Carl Beam says the outlook is bleak for his organization. He vows to fast until enough money is raised.

By CHARISSE JONES

A minister who founded what is believed to be the nation's first organization to serve AIDS sufferers in the black community announced Tuesday he may soon have to close its doors for lack of money and, in a broad appeal for financial assistance, vowed to fast until the resources are found to stay open.

Speaking from the pulpit of the

Speaking from the pulpit of the small church that also serves as headquarters for the Minority AIDS Project, the Rev. Carl Bean appealed to the private sector—from corporate sponsors, to local residents, to Hollywood entertainers—for money, saying that—if the organization does not receive between \$300,000 and \$400,000 soon—the project will have difficulty staying open beyond the next 30 days.

"We need it like yesterday," said Bean, who was surrounded at the morning press conference by the organization's staff and board of directors. " . . . When somebody's knocking on the door with AIDS and they weigh 98 pounds and they're hungry, you can't say, 'God loves you.' You've got to give them a piece of bread."

And until the money comes in



LORI SHEPLER / Los Angeles Times Rev. Carl Bean, of Minority AIDS Project, at news conference from Unity Fellowship Church:

to buy it, Bean said, "I will be on

Founded in 1985 to provide services to African-Americans and other people of color suffering from acquired immune deficiency syndrome, the project serves between 500 and 700 clients and has an annual operating budget of \$1.6 million, Bean said.

The organization services include a home for AIDS sufferers and weekly support groups. It also gives more than \$5,000 a month to more than 40 clients who do not have the money to meet their basic needs. And the organization needs hundreds of thousands of dollars to pay overdue bills and its day -to-day operating costs, Bean said.

Although much of the project's funding comes from government Please see AIDS, B4

### God is Love and Love Is For Everyone



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# Unity Fellowship Church Movement

Archbishop Garl Bean., D.Min, Founder & Presiding Prelate

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in the South under the direction of: Bishop Jacquelyn Holland, Elder Dorothy Harris, Rev. Sonja Lee, Rev. Robert Arrington, and Rev. Maressa Pendermon.

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