**Biographical Sketch for Deacon George F. Francis III**

Deacon George Francis, III is a native Texan, born in San Angelo, Texas. The eldest son of George, Jr. and Veora Francis, Deacon Francis was an early scholar and community leader. He was well known for his strong academic ability and outstanding service to the community. After high school, Mr. Francis entered Prairie View A & M University to study Business Administration. A member of the Prairie View A & M University ROTC, Mr. Francis graduated with honor as a distinguished military graduate, commissioned 2nd Lieutenant in the U.S. Army Quartermaster Corp. Following graduation, 2nd Lieutenant Francis entered the army and served three years in active duty and twelve years in the US Army reserves. This proud Viet Nam veteran received two army commendation metals before his discharge with a rank of Major.

Deacon Francis’ consummate military career was followed by an equally exemplary legacy in corporate leadership as a member of the executive leadership teams for Blue Cross/Blue Shield (Michigan), Saturn Corporation (Michigan), General Motors Corporation (Texas, Georgia, and Michigan), as well as Business Manager for Texas State Technical College (Amarillo, Texas). He is a graduate of the Program for Management Development (Graduate School of Business—Harvard University).

Deacon Francis is also no stranger to community service, having served on numerous boards, including Olivet College, The Henry Ford, Detroit Area Council, Detroit Zoological Society (appointed Commissioner), and Boy Scouts of America (National Executive Board). Additionally, Mr. Francis has served as an active member in a host of professional organizations, including Blue Cross/Blue Shield Foundation, Rotary International, NAACP, Inc., Detroit Empowerment Board, Detroit Institute of the Arts, Big Brothers/Big Sisters, Inc., First Baptist Institutional Church of Detroit, Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity, Inc., The Detroit Guardsmen, Inc., and the Detroit Society of Clubs (Skyline Club).

Deacon Francis was the loving husband, of 54 years, to Elaine Francis until her death, and is the proud father of three outstanding children, who carry on their father’s legacy of servant leadership and service to the community. Deacon Francis’ life goal is to “love God, live fully, lead honorably, and leave life without regret.” Please welcome Kingdom Man, Deacon George F. Francis, III.