

Alonzo Johnson, Ph.D.

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LEADERSHIP SUMMARY

A self-starter, builder and visionary, who is also a consummate team player. In the course of my career in academia, the church, and the business world, I have enjoyed both the pleasure and the awesome responsibility of facing the challenges that come with establishing, nurturing and directing institutions that serve the public good. My experiences in graduate and undergraduate academic institutions have helped me to fully understand the challenges that public and private institutions face as they seek to serve their students and meet the demands of accrediting agencies. I have served on the Board of Trustees of the Interdenominational Theological Center for nearly two decades. During much of this time I have served on and chaired the Academic Affairs Committee of the Board; working up close with two cycles of our SACS & Association of Theological Schools 10-year Accreditation Reaffirmation preparation. Moreover, I am an experienced team builder, working within institutions and with building partnerships with outside community-based entities.

PERSONAL & PROFESSIONAL STRENGTHS

- Team building
- Effective communicator
- Strategic Planning & implementation of vision
- Knowledge of accreditation processes
- Experience at all levels of academic leadership and administration
- Practical, spiritually-grounded world-view
- Lifelong personal and professional commitment to students at all academic levels in various settings
- Vision casting

EDUCATION

UNION THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY, New York, NY

- Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.), 1990
- Master of Philosophy (M.Phil.), 1985
- Master of Sacred Theology (S.T.M.), 1984
- Master of Divinity (M.Div.), 1982

CLAFLIN COLLEGE, Orangeburg, SC

- Bachelor of Arts (B.A.), 1979. Major: Religious Studies Minor: Philosophy

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCES

Religious: Pastoral, Ordained Elder in the Church of God in Christ: 1982

Local & State

Leadership

2003 - Present

Founder & Pastor, Universal Outreach Church – Irmo, SC

Successfully led the church in the growth of its membership, ministries, programs and budget, culminating in August, 2016 with the purchase of the multi-million dollar campus in Irmo, SC. The church is strongly community-focused in vision and ministry.

Religious Experience cont'd 2004 - Present
Assistant Bishop, Church of God in Christ – South Carolina Jurisdiction – Goose Creek, SC
Responsible for training of clergy and laity, supervision of pastors, overseeing church planting and administration for sixty-five congregations in South Carolina.

1986 – 2012
Pastor, Bowman Temple Church of God in Christ – Bowman, SC
Led the congregation in building and paying for a new edifice, growing the membership and developing an innovative campus ministry on the campuses of South Carolina State and Claflin Universities. At its height, the ministry was reaching more than 75-students per week.

Secular: Leadership & Administrative 2004/2017
Owner, Agape Health Services, LLC – Irmo, SC
A provider for Medicaid Adult Day Care and Home Health Services; Agape has served clients throughout the State. At our peak, we had an active staff of more than 75 full and part-time nurses, aides and staff persons employed, serving more than 100-persons with 24/7 care.

Higher Education: Educational Leadership, Teaching, & Consulting 2019---
Associate Professor of Theology, Dickerson-Green Theological Seminary (Allen University)– Columbia, SC
Primary area of responsibility is in teaching core and upper-level courses in theology and ethics, participation in student advisement, doing scholarly research and participation in public service events within and outside of the university community.

1991 – 2002
Professor of Religious Studies, The University of South Carolina – Columbia, SC
Responsible for the development and teaching of all courses on African American, Caribbean, Latin American, and African Religions. Taught graduate and undergraduate courses and taught in the Honors College, African American Studies Programs, in the USC degree programs for incarcerated men, as well as core curriculum classes.

2000 – 2003
Executive Consultant & Commissioner, The Church of God in Christ – Memphis, TN
Developed unified system for the delivery of training for clergy and laity throughout the world, serving 5-million members, 25,000 congregations, and 12,000 pastors. In this role I was responsible for developing the curriculum for the training of clergy throughout the denomination; led in the establishment of the denomination’s school, All Saints Bible College, Memphis, TN; **reorganized the denomination’s system of Bible Colleges**; developed the structure for the online delivery of ministry training programs.

1990 – 1991
Assistant Professor & Department Chairman, Claflin College – Orangeburg, SC
Chaired the department and taught all religion and philosophy courses; taught core curriculum classes.

1986 – 1990
Assistant Professor, Benedict College – Columbia, SC
Taught core religion and philosophy courses for the core curriculum.

**Higher Education
Experience cont'd**

1997 – 1999

Executive Educational Consultant & Adjunct Professor, W. L. Bonner College – Columbia, SC
Responsibilities included leading the institution into full accreditation with the International Christian Accrediting Association and the Accrediting Association of Bible Colleges.
Established a strong distance learning program that brought students in from more than 20-states.

1990s

Adjunct Professor

McCormick Theological Seminary – Chicago, IL
Coker College – Columbia, SC

PROFESSIONAL & PUBLIC AFFILIATIONS (PRESENT & PAST)

1997-Present: **The Board of Trustees of the Charles Harrison Mason Theological Seminary**, Atlanta, GA.
Leadership and participation on two Presidential Search Committees.

2015-Present: **Member of the African American Religious Leadership Initiative on the Subject of: Religious Freedom, with the Seymour Institute, Boston, MA, hosted at Princeton Theological Seminary, Princeton, NJ.**

1997-2019: **The Board of Trustees of the Interdenominational Theological Center**, Atlanta, GA. Past member of the Executive Committee, Secretary of the Board and Chair of the Academic Affairs Committee.
Leadership and participation on three Presidential Search Committees.

2011-Present: **The Advisory Board of the South Carolina Small Business Development Center**, Columbia, SC

2002-Present: **COGIC Scholars**

1991-Present: **The American Academy of Religion**

Past: **The Society for the Study of Black Religion**

Past: **The South Carolina Coalition of Black Church Leaders**

Past: **The National Association of Professional Geriatric Care Managers**

Past: **The National Home and Hospice Care Association**

Past: **The South Carolina Association of Personal Care Providers**

1997-2000, **The Board of the International Christian Accrediting Association**, Tulsa, OK. Responsibilities included serving on the review board for new and recurring applicants for accreditation.

Past: **Board of Directors of the Eau Claire Cooperative Health Centers**, Columbia, SC

Past: **Board of Directors of the St. Andrews Kiwanis Club**, Columbia, SC

ACADEMIC & PROFESSIONAL SCHOLARSHIP & SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

In-Process: A Book Review of Frederick L. Ware, Antonia Michelle Daymond, Eric Lewis Williams, Editors: *T&T Clark Handbook of African American Theology*, (T&T Clark).

In-Process: Co-Author with Dr. David D. Daniels: "Political and Theological Reflections on Race: A Black Pentecostal Perspective," for Pneuma.

Virtual Lecture Presentation: "Equipping Clergy for Ministry During the Pandemic & Beyond." Ontario Jurisdiction, *Church Of God In Christ*, October 25, 2021.

Chief Editor and Contributing Author, *Church Of God In Christ: Ordination and Licensure Textbook*, Church Of God In Christ Publishing House, Memphis, TN., November 2019.

Chief Editor and Contributing Author, *Church Of God In Christ: Ordination and Licensure Textbook, Teachers' Edition*. Church Of God In Christ Publishing House, Memphis, TN.

Presentation: COGIC Scholars & O. T. Jones Institute, *Church Of God In Christ: Ordination and Licensure Textbook, Teacher's Edition*. November 7 & 9, 2019, St. Louis, MO.

Presentation: COGIC Scholars & O. T. Jones Institute: *Understanding Spiritual Formation in the New Age, Social Media Era*. November 10, 2018, St. Louis, MO.

Presentation (Seminar Led): COGIC Scholars & O. T. Jones Institute: *Gender Identity, Transgender, & Human Sexuality: The New Moral, Legal, & Theological Landscape, What Religious Organizations Should Know and Why!* November 6-8, 2015, St. Louis, MO.

Current Editor & Contributor: Revised Standardized Ordination Curriculum, Church of God in Christ.

Co-Author of the Chapter on "The Church of God in Christ Statement of Faith," Standardized Ordination Curriculum, Church of God in Christ, Church of God in Christ Publishing House, Memphis, TN., 2015.

Author, Good News for the Disinherited. University Press of America, Washington DC, 1997.

Author of the lead Chapter & Co-Editor, Ain't Gonna Lay My 'Liqion Down. The University of South Carolina Press, Columbia, SC, 1997.

Author, Thought You Knew Everything About Church? Think Again! Universal Publications & Media, Inc., 2005.

Author, The Pastor's Helper. Provider's House Publishing, 2004.

Co-Author: Powe, B.D., & Johnson, Alonzo. "Fatalism Among African Americans: A Philosophical Perspective." Journal of Religion and Health (Summer 1995)

Chapter Author: "Researching the Church of God in Christ". African-American Religion: Research Problems and Resources for the 1990s. Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, New York City, NY.

Series Compiler & Editor: Church of God in Christ Doctrine & Theology: Student Book. Church of God in Christ Publishing House, Memphis, TN, 2002

Series Compiler & Editor: Church of God in Christ Doctrine & Theology: Teacher's Manual. Church of God in Christ Publishing House, Memphis, TN, 2002

Series Compiler & Editor: Women in the Ministry: Church of God in Christ Doctrine: Student Book. Church of God in Christ Publishing House, Memphis, TN, 2002

Series Compiler & Editor: Women in the Ministry: Church of God in Christ Doctrine: Teacher's Manual. Church of God in Christ Publishing House, Memphis, TN, 2002

Series Compiler & Editor: Church of God in Christ: Preaching: Principles & Practices: Student Book. Church of God in Christ Publishing House, Memphis, TN, 2002

Series Compiler & Editor: Church of God in Christ: Preaching: Principles & Practices: Teacher's Manual. Church of God in Christ Publishing House, Memphis, TN, 2002

Lilly Foundation Sabbatical Year Research Grant Recipient, 1997. *Perspectives on Folk Religiosity, Folk Medicine, Fatalism, Suicide & Nihilism in the African American Community.*

COMMUNITY SERVICE:

CO-ORGANIZER: THE IRMO YOUTH ZONE, Irmo, SC. January 2021, in Partnership with the Town of Irmo & HeartEd, Inc. This is a community-based program that works to provide mentorship, academic enrichment, social and emotional support, and life skills for all Irmo area children between the ages of 5—17.

ORGANIZER: UNIVERSAL COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT ORGANIZATION & UNIVERSAL LEADERSHIP & STEAM ACADEMY, January 2021.
