

The Role of the Church

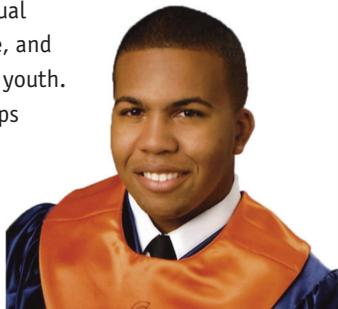
The church has accepted a longstanding role in educating African Americans, particularly the AME church. David Childs, in *The Black Church and African American Education: The African Methodist Episcopal Church Educating for Liberation, 1816-1893*, writes:

“Many Americans in the nineteenth century argued for limited education for blacks—or no education at all for African Americans in the south. As a result, black churches took up the role and pushed for education as a means to liberate African Americans. The African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church stands as a good exemplar for a black denomination that explicitly expressed in their policies that they understood the connection of education to African American liberation.”

The AME Church mission states:

“The Mission of the African Methodist Episcopal Church is to minister to the spiritual, intellectual, physical, emotional, and environmental needs of all people by spreading Christ’s liberating gospel through word and deed.”

Through the leadership and support of Senior Pastor, Reverend Dr. Kenneth Edward Marcus, Youth Pastor, Reverend Don Ezell, and Education Ministry Leaders, Mychal and Nina Wynn, the Turner Chapel AME Education Ministry has developed a broad range of initiatives and engaged in collaboration with local organizations to meet the many and diverse educational needs of our youth. These initiatives encourage, support, recognize, and celebrate academic achievement, intellectual development, community service, and creative accomplishments of our youth. They also strengthen relationships between families and share vital information to close the widely researched college knowledge and achievement gaps.



The Christian Church is called in the Name, to expand the Kingdom, and to fulfill the Will of the God we serve. We believe that our skills, expertise, experiences, and positions must be used accordingly.

The Education Ministry of Turner Chapel AME Church is using the skills and expertise of our volunteers to provide support for families by encouraging, supporting, and celebrating the intellectual pursuits, service, and call to leadership of our youth. Through our many initiatives we are expanding the wisdom, knowledge, and understanding of our youth as we are instructed to do in the book of Proverbs.

If you are interested in serving in the Education Ministry, please contact Mychal and Nina Wynn, Ministry Leaders of the Turner Chapel AME Church Education Ministry:

E-mail tcceducationministry@accessandequity.org
ph (770) 518-0369 | FAX (770) 587- 0862.

You may also serve by making a tax deductible contribution to Turner Chapel AME Church on behalf of the Turner Chapel AME Church Education Ministry.

For information pertaining to college planning information, scholarships, summer programs, and student achievement data.

EDUCATION MINISTRY



The proverbs of Solomon, the son of David, king of Israel; to know wisdom and instruction; to perceive the words of understanding; to receive the instruction of wisdom, justice, and judgment, and equity; to give subtlety to the simple, to the young man knowledge and discretion. A wise man will hear, and will increase learning; and a man of understanding shall attain unto wise counsels.

Proverbs 1:1-5



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Overview

The initiatives of the Education Ministry are designed to encourage academic achievement during the primary grades; provide support for superior academic achievement through tutoring and test prep; close the college knowledge gap through workshops; expose the community to college opportunities through an annual college fair; and support the college and career aspirations of students through hands-on support and enrichment opportunities.

Academic Celebrations & Marcus Awards

Youth in grades K – 11 are recognized in September for the previous year’s semester grades and in February for first semester grades of the current school year. Students who achieve a GPA of 3.0 or higher are publicly recognized during worship service and are celebrated at a reception in their honor. The Kenneth Edward Marcus and Cassandra Young Marcus Awards for Academic Excellence are presented to the male and female students with the highest overall GPA for the school year in grades 6 - 11.



Georgia Assessments

Georgia assessment prep sessions for grades 3 – 8 are offered over the course of several weeks preceding the Spring testing dates.



Tutoring and SAT Prep

We ensure that students who are inspired to pursue academic excellence and college admissions are provided tutorial and SAT prep support. Contact Phillip Norris at pnorris57@yahoo.com regarding tutoring and Tyrone Smith at tyrone.smith81@yahoo.com regarding SAT prep. The sessions provide study skills, test-taking approaches, and are designed to assist students in becoming self-directed in their approach to learning.

College-Planning Workshops

College-planning workshops are presented throughout the year to assist students and parents in expanding their knowledge in such areas as:

- Course planning
 - Essay writing
 - Résumé writing
 - Interviewing
 - College admissions
 - Scholarships and financial aid
 - Summer Programs
 - Completing the FAFSA
- (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)

College Discussion Panel

Students return during the college break to share their experiences at a broad range of institutions, e.g., Ivy League, HBCUs, public, private, liberal arts, research institutions, and Military Service Academies.

College Fair

The annual Turner Chapel AME Church Education Ministry College Fair attracts over 50 colleges, universities, and trade schools (e.g., Morehouse, Spelman, Harvard, Stanford, University of Georgia, Georgia Tech, Emory, Hampton, and the Military Service Academies). The fair is free to the public and offers a variety of workshops pertaining to college planning, admissions, scholarships, and financial aid.

College Tour

An annual tour of colleges and universities in the southeast and northeast during Spring Break week introduces students to public, private, liberal arts, and research institutions. Contact Tyrone Smith at tyrone.smith81@yahoo.com.

Education Ministry Youth Ambassadors

Community service and leadership development program for high school youth. Prepares students to serve and to qualify for competitive college scholarships and admissions.



College Planning Cohort

We work hands-on with high school seniors to guide them through the college admissions, scholarship, and financial aid processes. Students engage in college/scholarship research, essay writing, and interviewing with a focus on getting admitted into the right colleges and acquiring the necessary financial aid to pay for college.

The Next Episode

A combination teen Bible study and college planning session for high school juniors and seniors is held on the second Sunday of each month during the worship service. The purpose is to assist students in navigating the challenges of high school, middle adolescence, spiritual development, and college planning.

High School Senior Graduation Celebration

All of our programming culminates with the high school graduation of our students. The Turner Chapel AME Church graduating high school seniors are celebrated on “Graduation Celebration Sunday,” hosted on the last weekend in May. All graduating seniors and their parents are recognized in the graduation program; seniors qualify for ministry awards and book scholarships; each senior receives a personally engraved Bible; and a reception is hosted in their honor.

For further information:

Visit the YPD Village at www.turnerchapelame.org

Visit the Education Ministry Facebook® Page at

www.facebook.com/tcceducationministry

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