

TURNER CHAPEL
AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
492 North Marietta Parkway • Marietta, GA 30060
www.turnerchapelame.org • (770) 422-6791

THE POWER WITHIN

¹⁷ In the last days, God says, "I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams. ¹⁸ Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy." ACTS 2:17-18 (NIV)

SUNDAY, MAY 24, 2015

Bishop Preston Warren Williams II, Presiding Prelate
Dr. Wilma D. Williams, Episcopal Supervisor
Reverend Dr. David B. Rhone, Jr., Presiding Elder
Reverend Dr. Kenneth E. Marcus, Senior Pastor
Reverend Cassandra Y. Marcus, Co-Pastor



2015

The Power Within

It has always been within you.

Primed for the possibility of who you might become.

You are the one who some have waited a life time for.

It's within you that we find the keys to unlock so many doors.

It's within you my young sister and brother that resides the answers.

It's within you that we may find the cure for incurable cancers.

By tapping the power within you'll discover just how far

And how bright your future really can be.

For I see the plans God has for you, do you see?

They are plans of hope and a future with prosperity.

Even if it might be the path less chosen by your peers,

Just remember you're never walking alone.

For within you are the dreams, the blood, the sweat and tears

Of those who have prayed for you to see a better day.

Within you is a Power greater than any power within the world.

So walk in it, be in it,

live in it and share what is within with those who are without.

~ Rev. Marques Harvey

We are deeply grateful that you took this opportunity to worship with us. If you have any questions or would like to share your experience, please contact our administrative office. Remember you are always welcome here and thank you for worshipping with us today.

We praise God and welcome all who made a life changing commitment by joining, rededicating, or giving their lives to the Lord. We rejoice with the angels and welcome you to Christ and the TCC family!

²⁷ *Then you will know that I am in Israel, that I am the LORD your God, and that there is no other; never again will my people be shamed. The Day of the LORD* ²⁸ *And afterward, “I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your old men will dream dreams, your young men will see visions.* ²⁹ *Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days.”*

— Joel 2:27-29 (NIV)

Pre-Worship Music

Processional of Graduates*African Dancers • Wallah Drummers • Boy Scouts*

Prayer..... *Christian Roney*

Remarks to the Class of 2015*Brianna Moses '11
Howard University, Bachelor of Science in Biology '15*

Welcome.....*Elena Williams*

Praise & Worship..... *VOP Choir*

Salute to 2015 Graduates *Bro. Mychal Wynn*

The Pastoral Staff

Senior Pastors, Rev. Dr. Kenneth E. Marcus • Rev. Cassandra Y. Marcus

Youth Pastor, Rev. Don Ezell

Youth Ministry Leaders, Rev. Dr. Yolanda Davis • Rev. Marques Harvey

Sermonic Selection..... *VOP/First Steppers*

Sermon*Rev. Dr. Kenneth E. Marcus*

Invitation

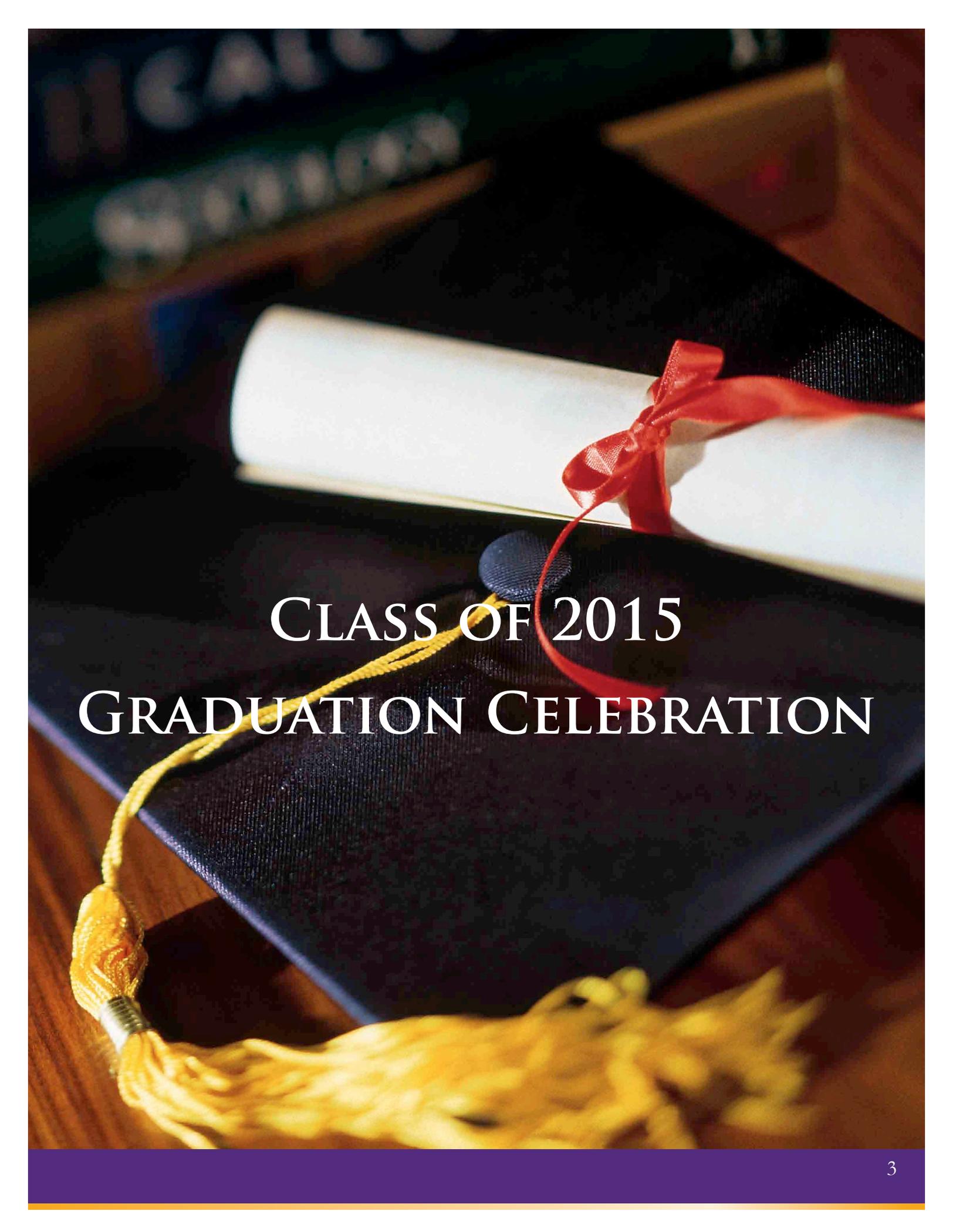
Offering *Hampton Clark • Candice Cook • Mia Griffiths • Sean Mitchell*

.....*Nia Reed • Douglas Richardson, Jr. • Déja Turner • Henry White*

Benediction

Recessional of Graduates

*Graduate Reception in the Fellowship Hall immediately following service
(Graduates and their families)*

A close-up photograph of a black graduation cap with a yellow tassel. A rolled-up white diploma is tied with a red ribbon and rests on the cap. The background is a wooden surface with a blurred keyboard.

CLASS OF 2015
GRADUATION CELEBRATION

2015

A GRADUATE'S PRAYER

*Father, we thank you so much for our time here together
For all the friends we have made
For all the days of laughter and fun
And for all the times of great discovery and learning.
We thank You for all who have given of their energy and skill
So that we can graduate today.
Our teachers and mentors
Our family and loved ones
We thank You for them and give them all to You in prayer.*

*As this chapter on our lives closes, so a new one begins.
We present ourselves like an open book before You.
Come and scribe Your words of life into our lives -
Fill our minds with Your thoughts
Fill our bodies with Your strength
Fill our hearts with Your dreams
That we might eternally love and serve You
This day and every day.*

*We ask all this in the glorious name of Jesus
Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit
World without end.*

Amen.



RAVEN ANTHONY

Parent(s): Wardell and Doris Anthony
River Ridge High School
College: Georgia Regents University
Major: Psychology



JORDAN BETHEA

Parent(s): Lorenzo and Jacqueline Bethea
Kennesaw Mountain High School
College: Georgia Institute of Technology
Major: Chemical Engineering



KIRBE BOSTICK

Parent(s): Keith & Roslyn (deceased) Bostick
Marietta High School
College: Wesleyan College
Major: Advertising/Communications



MCKENZIE BRIDGES

Parent(s): Warren and Venetta Bridges
Roswell High School
College: Florida State University
Major: Exercise Science



HAMPTON CLARK

Parent(s): Sean Clark and Marsha Jones
Kennesaw Mountain High School
College: Georgia State University
Major: Film and Video



CONGRATULATIONS



CAMERON COLEMAN

Parent(s): Brandon and LaShunda Burrage
Lassiter High School
College: Kennesaw State University
Major: History



CANDICE COOK

Parent(s): Doug and Lelise Cook
Hillgrove High School
College: University of Georgia
Major: Animal Science



MYLES DAUGHERTY

Parent(s): Alton and Rosie Daugherty
Marietta High School
College: Undecided



KELSEY DAVIS

Parent(s): Kelvin Davis and Darlene Green
North Cobb High School
College: Syracuse University
Major: Film



ASHLEY DEAN

Parent(s): Kenneth Dean and Ruth Washington-Dean
Walton High School
College: Jacksonville University
Major: Kinesiology



BAKARI GARVIN

Parent(s): Jeffrey and Twanda Garvin
Tri-Cities High School
College: Young Harris College
Major: Theatre Performance



MIA GRIFFITHS

Parent(s): Pablo and Linnet Griffiths
Kennesaw Mountain High School
College: Howard University
Major: Economics



AARON HALL

Parent(s): Peter and Claudette Hall
Hillgrove High School
College: Georgia Southern University
Major: Biology



MIKAYLA HANNA

Parent(s): Leatha Hanna
Lake City High School (SC)
College: University of Maryland-Baltimore County
Major: Biochemistry and Molecular Biology



LEAH HARRIS

Parent(s): Lonie and Linda Harris
Hillgrove High School
College: University of West Georgia
Major: History



CONGRATULATIONS



ROBERT HARRIS

Parent(s): Robert Harris and Gilda Dozier
Osborne High School
United States Army



PEYTON JONES

Parent(s): Dr. Paul and Dr. Nicole Jones
Ben Franklin Academy
College: Lees-McRae College
Major: Wildlife Rehabilitation



CORBIN JOSEPH

Parent(s): Randy and Debra Joseph
Harrison High School
College: Louisiana State University
Major: Petroleum Engineering



ARIA LESTER

Parent(s): George, Jr. and Cynthia Lester
Pebblebrook High School
College: Undecided



SIMONE MAXWELL

Parent(s): Colin and Barbara Maxwell
North Cobb High School
College: University of Montevallo
Major: Business



SEAN MITCHELL

Parent(s): Sean and Darlene Mitchell
North Cobb High School
College: Valdosta State University
Major: Sports Journalism



REGGIE PRUITT, JR.

Parent(s): Reggie and Peggy Pruitt
Kennesaw Mountain High School
College: Vanderbilt University
Major: Communications Studies



NIA REED

Parent(s): John and Angela Reed
Harrison High School
College: Valdosta State University
Major: Public Relations



DOUGLAS RICHARDSON, JR.

Parent(s): Douglas and Culbrinia Richardson
Pope High School
College: Mercer University
Major: Biomedical Engineering



CHRISTIAN RONEY

Parent(s): Claude and Amy Roney
Allatoona High School
College: Jackson State University
Major: Mathematical Education



CONGRATULATIONS



JANEIL SAVAGE

Parent(s): Corneilus and Janet Savage
 McEachern High School
 College: Wake Forest University
 Major: Biology



NILE SCHOFIELD

Parent(s): Jock Schofield and Jahmele Betterson
 Kennesaw Mountain High School
 College: University of Maryland-Eastern Shore
 Major: Graphic Design



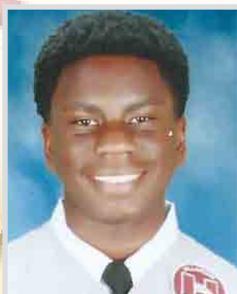
CARRINGTON SCHULER

Parent(s): Tommy and Tiffanie Stucky
 Sprayberry High School
 College: Spelman College
 Major: Economics



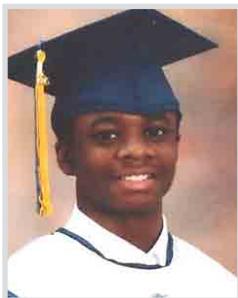
JORDAN SEE

Parent(s): Terry and Linda See
 Walton High School
 College: East Carolina University
 Major: Public Health



CYRUS SIMMONS

Parent(s): Cyrus and Alta Simmons
 Hillgrove High School
 College: Georgia Highlands College (pending)
 Major: Business



DEVIN SMITH

Parent(s): Kimberly Smith and Oskey Smith
Wheeler High School
College: Alabama State University
Major: Business Management



LINDSEY SQUIREWELL

Parent(s): Dennis and Cynthia Squirewell
Wheeler High School
College: Howard University
Major: Architecture



TENE THOMPSON

Parent(s): Troy and Nichole Thompson
Hillgrove High School
College: Tulane University
Major: Undecided



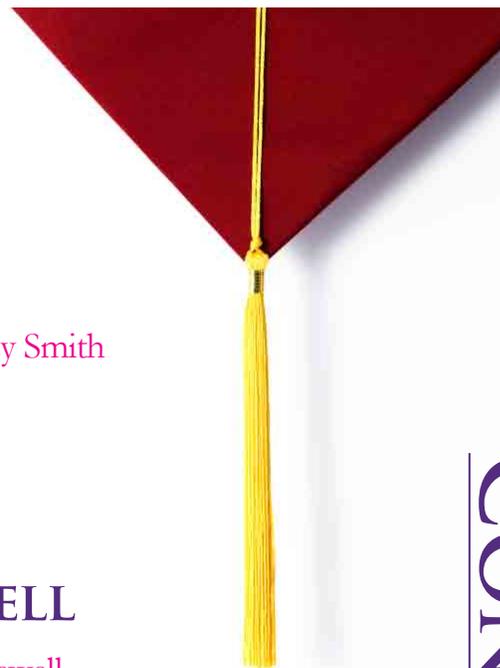
DÉJA TURNER

Parent(s): Andrew and Danese Turner
Pebblebrook High School
College: Xavier University of Louisiana
Major: Biology



KAKUDJI UMBA

Parent(s): Patrick Kisula and Angela Dambingo
North Paulding High School
College: University of West Georgia
Major: Biology



CONGRATULATIONS



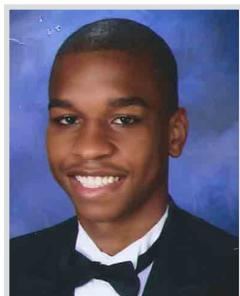
TYLON WALKER

Parent(s): Timothy and Sylvia Walker
Lassiter High School
College: Georgia State University
Major: Business Marketing



CHANDLER WARREN

Parent(s): Johnny and Tracy Warren
Marietta High School
College: Georgia Southern University
Major: Biology



ALEXANDER WHITE

Parent(s): Dr. George and Kimberly White
Kennesaw Mountain High School
College: Valdosta State University
Major: Sports Medicine



BREYONA WHITE

Parent(s): Daniel and Wanda White
Woodland High School
College: University of Southern California
Major: Biochemistry



HENRY WHITE, IV

Parent(s): Henry and Terra White
South Cobb High School
College: Morehouse College
Major: Computer Science



ELENA WILLIAMS

Parent(s): Melvin and Elena Sheldon Williams
Harrison High School
College: Undecided
Major: Mass Communications



Remarks to the Class of 2015

Brianna Moses is a member of the South Cobb High School Class of 2011; 2011 Gates Millennium Scholar; and 2011 Marcus Award recipient. Brianna is now a proud member of the Howard University Class of 2015 (BS Biology). Brianna will be entering graduate school pursuing a master's degree in Genetic Counseling.

The Occasion

Each of our students has had a formal high school graduation ceremony at his or her respective high school where the names of hundreds of students may have been called. Students may have been recognized for their involvement in extracurricular activities or other contributions to their school community over the course of their four years of high school. High school commencement exercises are frequently marked by parents who scream and shout and dance in the aisles with cameras and balloons as a show of their joy for their child's graduation from high school and preparation for the next phase of their lives.

The annual Turner Chapel AME Church Education Ministry High School Graduation Celebration is part of a worship service. A service devoted to giving thanks to God for his grace and mercy during our children's journey and prayer for God's continued blessings and protection over the lives of our children as they continue to fulfill His purpose for their lives. Students are further recognized for their ministry involvement and contributions to the church.

Relatives, neighbors, teachers, counselors, coaches, School Board Members, and Superintendent of Schools in the respective schools and school districts attended by our children are invited to share in the worship experience. While the vast majority of students being recognized are members of the Turner Chapel AME Church, each year, we invite a select group of students and their families who participate in our *Annual College Planning Cohort Outreach Ministry* to participate in the ceremony and join us in the worship service.

Follow us on Facebook®: www.facebook.com/tcceducationministry



The Ceremony

As each graduate's name is called, he or she will enter the pulpit and receive a personally engraved Bible, on behalf of the church; a copy of *Campus Voices: A Student to Student Guide to Campus Life*, on behalf of the Comfort and Care Ministry; a copy of *Don't Quit—Inspirational Poetry*, written by Education Ministry Leader, Mychal Wynn; a Kenté Cloth, on behalf of the YPD Village Youth Ministry; and a framed certificate, representing any ministry awards or scholarships.

Each graduate will stand in front of the pulpit until the last name has been called, at which time all graduates will be presented to the church and receive a word of prayer and encouragement from our Senior Pastor, Rev. Dr. Kenneth Marcus.

The Kenté Cloth

The Kenté Cloth has its historic origin in West African Kingdoms that flourished between 300 A.D. and 1600 A.D. Today, Kenté Cloth is still regarded as a symbol of social prestige, nobility and a sense of cultural sophistication.

The colors of the strips that our graduates receive are:

GREEN, which is symbolic of growth, prosperity, fruitfulness, abundant health and spiritual rejuvenation.

PURPLE, which is symbolic of the royalty that is the inheritance of our children as children of Christ.

MAROON, which is symbolic of the earth from which God formed Adam, the first man and is associated with clay and its healing properties.

GOLD, which is symbolic of royalty, wealth, elegance, high status, supreme quality, glory and spiritual purity.

This year's Kenté Cloth strips were brought to the church from Ghana by our member and Sunday School Teacher, Kingsley Sackey, a native of Ghana, West Africa.

Turner Chapel AME Church

We are a church “Destined to Make a Difference” in the lives of God’s people. Our mission at Turner Chapel is simply, “To Connect Persons To Jesus Christ.” We strive to be a place where people can experience God’s transforming power; a place where people can discover their purpose, their place, and their calling. A place where people can be trained and empowered to love and to serve their neighbor, their community, and their world.

At Turner Chapel we are sensitive to the needs of our congregation and community. We have a ministry for anyone and offer a plethora of outreach programs, such as parenting classes for teen mothers, blood drives for the American Red Cross, bible study, mentoring for Cobb’s incarcerated men and women, and the Education Ministry supporting leadership, service, and academic achievement of our youth.

Through the power of the Holy Spirit, we believe it is possible to transform people into loving and compassionate individuals who can positively impact the community, the society and ultimately the world. We welcome and encourage you to join us on this journey!

Servants in Christ,
Pastors, Dr. Kenneth & Cassandra Marcus

The YPD Village Youth Ministry

Reverend Don Ezell is the leader of the Turner Chapel AME Church Youth Ministry known as “The Village.” Reverend Ezell (most frequently referred to as ‘Rev. Don’) believes the African proverb, “It takes a village to raise a child” continues to hold true today! Rev. Don and the leadership team offer creative and exciting opportunities to enhance the holistic growth of children and youth. One of the fundamental beliefs of *The Village* is recognizing the importance of building relationships and understanding that youth provide “current value” to ministry; not merely “future value.”

The Turner AME Church Education Ministry

The Turner Chapel AME Church Education Ministry is one of the ministries of “The Village.” The many initiatives of the Education Ministry are guided by the longstanding role of the church 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 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 Turner Chapel AME Church Education Ministry 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.



5 Scholarship Pathways

In addition to the bi-annual academic celebrations, quarterly college planning workshops, annual college fair, annual college tour, and SAT/ACT prep classes offered by, or through, the Turner Chapel AME Church Education Ministry, we offer 5 clear pathways for students to earn financial blessings.

First, through *The Next Episode*, which meets on the second Sunday of each month during the regular worship service, we provide a teen Bible Study and college planning guidance for high school juniors and seniors. *Second*, through our senior year *College Planning Cohort*, we provide FREE college planning guidance into top colleges and thousands of dollars in scholarships and financial aid. *Third*, we provide opportunities for students to demonstrate leadership and service through various church ministries where they may be blessed with hundreds of dollars in ministry awards for their service to God and His church. *Fourth*, we share local and national scholarship information through e-mails and our *College Planning Blog* (www.accessandequity.org/blog). *Finally*, church members, professional organizations, and local businesses provide a variety of leadership and community service scholarships.

Crimson and Cream Scholarship

The *Crimson and Cream Scholarship* was established in 2013 by members of Turner Chapel AME Church who are also members of the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. This need-based scholarship is awarded annually to a Turner Chapel youth member who is a graduating senior, accepted into a college or university, and active in ministry service, school, and the community.

Anita Ransom Graduate Award

The *Anita Ransom Graduate Award*, established in 2014, is a financial award presented to select graduating high school seniors by the Discipleship Purpose Ministry. The award is so named for Mrs. Anita Marie Ransom, who served faithfully in Sunday School as a teacher, Assistant Superintendent, and Sunday School Superintendent from 2002 until February 2006, when the Lord called her home. The award is presented to students demonstrating commitment to their spiritual growth through active participation in Church School.



Ivy & Pearls Scholarship

The *Turner Chapel Ladies of AKA Scholarship* was established in 2014 by members of Turner Chapel AME Church who are also members of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. This need-based scholarship is awarded annually to a male and female Turner Chapel youth member who are graduating seniors, accepted into a college or university, and active in ministry service, school, and the community.

Men of Alpha Scholarship

This scholarship is provided by the Turner Chapel AME members of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. “Our desire is to provide a deserving high school graduating male senior at Turner Chapel AME Church a scholarship to help defray their postsecondary educational expenses.”

Annual Turner Chapel AME Golf Tournament Fundraiser

The Turner Chapel AME Church annual golf tournament is the primary source of funding for the Turner Chapel AME Church Ministry and Marcus Awards. These awards assist in defraying the cost of attendance at the many colleges and universities where our students attend.

Rev. Dr. Kenneth E. Marcus and Rev. Cassandra Young Marcus Awards for Academic Excellence and Ministry Service

The *Marcus Awards*, named in honor of our Pastor and Co-pastor, reflect our highest recognition and are presented to a male and a female graduate who most embody the spirit of academic excellence and ministry service.

The Bernard C. McNair, Jr. Award

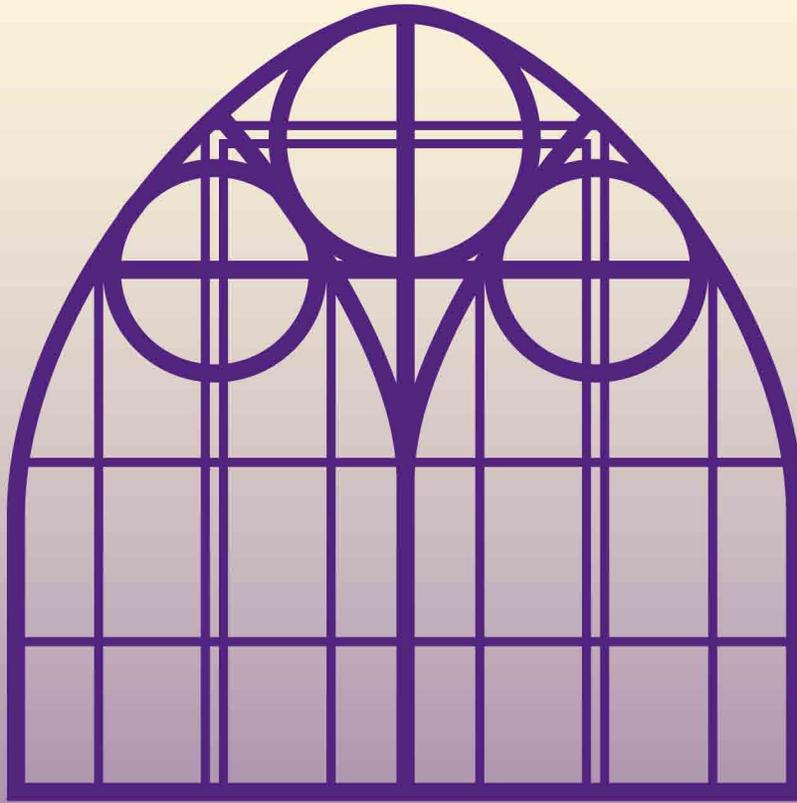
The Echelon Young Adult and Adopt-A-Grad Ministries, proudly presents the Bernard Charles McNair, Jr. Award. Bernard C. McNair, Jr was a young adult who made an impact on those who knew him and knew of him. He possessed a great gift for encouraging others and had the character, heart and soul for service. He was a young adult who not only shared his faith, but also lived it in spite of a number of health concerns. A laptop computer is presented in memory of Bernard C. McNair, Jr to a graduating senior who has exemplified this same attitude towards service within their church, school and community. It is our prayer that this young adult continues to use their God-given gifts and talents to further impact the world and create a legacy of servanthood that is pleasing to the kingdom of God.

Turner Chapel AME Church Ministry Awards

The 2015 Turner Chapel AME Church Ministry Awards being presented to students based on ministry involvement and service to the church.

- Angelic Dance
- Debutante and Masters Commission
- Dramatic Arts
- Girl Scouts
- MP3 Mission
- Pee Wee Church
- Nursery
- Usher Board
- Portraits of Praise
- Reflections of Him
- STOMP
- Video
- Voices of Praise
- YPD Officers
- YDK
- Wallah





Our 2015 graduates (41 students) were offered over \$4 million in financial aid:

- 22 students participated in the *2015 College Planning Cohort*.
- Among those students participating in the *2015 College Planning Cohort*, we were blessed with our 5th Gates Millennium Scholar, 1st Meyerhoff Scholar, and 1st Questbridge Finalist.
- 19 of our graduates will be attending college in Georgia.
- 7 of our graduates will be attending Historically Black Colleges and Universities.

Students will be enrolling into college as far west as the University of Southern California, as far east as Syracuse University (NY), and as far south as Florida State University.

Education Ministry Leaders: *Mychal and Nina Wynn*

Graduation Chairperson: *Katrina Richard* • Hospitality Chairperson: *Kimberly Pope*

Photography Chairperson: *Lugenia Sanders*

E-mail: tcceducationministry@accessandequity.org

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