



2023 GRADUATION CELEBRATION

Saturday, May 13, 2023 2:00 PM
First Baptist Church of Glenarden
Ministry Center


DENVER SEMINARY®
Washington DC



GRADUATION CELEBRATION SERVICE

DR. DON PAYNE PhD PRESIDING

Prelude

***Processional**

Welcome Rev. Debora Barr
DC Site Director

Invocation & Recognition of Denver Seminary Community Dr. Tim Koller

Dr. Don Payne, Vice President of Academic Affairs/Academic Dean
Rev. John Moreland, Director of Urban Initiatives
Rev. Iantha Brown, Recruiter/Urban Initiatives Community Liaison

Scripture Reading, Isaiah 43:1-2 Jacob Bigley
MDiv Chaplaincy Student

Address..... Pastor John K. Jenkins Sr.
Senior Pastor First Baptist Church of Glenarden

***Praise Song** Rev. Dr. Keith Brown

Recognition of Urban Initiatives Students Rev. Iantha Brown
Rev. John Moreland

Presentation of Graduates Dr. Tim Koller

Presentation of Degrees Dr. Don Payne

***>Prayer for Graduates & Benediction** Rev. Iantha Brown

Recessional

**Please stand.*
> Gentlemen, please remove your caps.
Please turn off all cell phones in the sanctuary.

PRAISE SONGS

TO GOD BE THE GLORY

To God be the glory
To God be the glory
To God be the glory
For the things He has done

ALPHA AND OMEGA

You are Alpha and Omega
We worship You our Lord
You are worthy to be praised

Bridge

We give You all the glory
We worship You our Lord
You are worthy to be praised

IN MEMORIAM

OF OUR BELOVED SISTER AND FRIEND

ADRIENNE BROWN



On this momentous occasion, we reflect and remember our sister-in-Christ, Adrienne Brown. When Adrienne passed away on March 24, 2023, Denver Seminary lost one of its dearest students. She began working toward her MDiv in 2018 after having earned her bachelor's degree in accounting from Norfolk State University. She served as a Christian educator and had a passion for advocating for child adoption, guardianship, and foster care.

COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER

PASTOR JOHN K. JENKINS, SR.

SENIOR PASTOR

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF GLENARDEN



Pastor John K. Jenkins, Sr. has been preaching the Good News since he was licensed as a minister in 1973 at 15 years old. From an early age, he developed a love for the Lord and felt a call to share the gospel of Jesus Christ.

In 1989, he became the pastor of First Baptist Church of Glenarden. The fruit of his biblically based teaching is demonstrated in the growth of its church membership between its two campuses located in Landover and Upper Marlboro, Maryland. He has also overseen the development of the church's thriving online campus.

With the support of his wife, Trina, and their loving family, Pastor Jenkins has also expanded his ministry beyond the walls of First Baptist. In addition to his role as senior pastor, he also serves as the board chairman for the National Association of Evangelicals, Project Bridges, the Greater Prince George's County Business Roundtable, and The Skinner Institute. Pastor Jenkins was also formerly on the boards of Bethel University, Denver Seminary, University of Maryland Capital Region Health, World Vision, Great Dads, Teen Challenge, and a local bank.

For two years, Pastor Jenkins served as vice president/executive director of National Ministries for Converge. Converge—a movement of over 1,700 churches that start and strengthen churches and spread the gospel worldwide. He made history when he was appointed as president of Converge in August 2022, making him the first African American to lead the 170-year-old organization.

In 2022, Pastor Jenkins received an honorary Doctorate of Divinity from Denver Seminary in Littleton, Colorado, and in 2001, he received an honorary Doctorate of Divinity from Southern California School of Ministry in Inglewood, California.

Pastor Jenkins has traveled the world preaching and teaching about the love of Jesus Christ. He remains steadfast in his quest to “develop dynamic disciples.” He is recognized as a catalyst for helping individuals develop into lifelong Christian disciples who follow the Lord.

INSTITUTE OF MINISTERIAL STUDIES PARTICIPANTS

Denver Seminary serves urban communities through the Urban Initiative's Institute of Ministerial Studies. This lay-level program is designed to equip adult men and women to serve more confidently in positions of leadership in their church, Christian organization, or place of work. The following students have satisfactorily completed the Lay Ministry Program.

LAY MINISTRY PROGRAM

CANDIDATE

Connie Alexander Brown
Kimberly Bryant-Green
Donald Corbin
Brenda Gurley
Sylvester Harvey
Keith Hinds
Glenda Magruder

Veronica Pratt
Tanti Rowland
Judy Simmons
Norman Simms
Sharon Stowe
Valarie White
Teddy Yesudasan

GRADUATES

CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION

CANDIDATE

Adrienne Brown

Patricia DuPree-Lacy

CONCENTRATION

Biblical and Theological Studies

Posthumously awarded

Professional Chaplaincy

MASTER OF ARTS DEGREE

CANDIDATE

Roseline Felix
George Floyd
Jewel Morton*
Sherreill Myers

DEGREE (MAJOR)

Leadership
Leadership
Leadership
Leadership

MASTER OF DIVINITY DEGREE

CANDIDATE

Daisy DeWitt
Karen Hayes

CONCENTRATION

Chaplaincy

* *Graduating with honors*

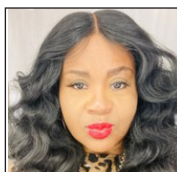
This program was accurate at the time it went to press. However, it is not intended to be an official list of graduates. Degree conferral is subject to the satisfactory completion of any remaining requirements.

STUDENT BIOGRAPHIES



Connie Alexander-Brown

Connie was born in Washington, DC but has been a Maryland resident for over thirty years. She is a member of First Baptist Church of Glenarden, where she serves on the Evangelism Ministry and is a Certified Altar Counselor. After completing Sisters in Discipleship, she is now a facilitator in training. Through her non-profit “All Blessing Hands,” Connie and her family provide for the less fortunate. Connie and Lawrence, her husband of thirty-three years, are the proud parents of three children and one granddaughter.



Kimberly Bryant-Green

Over the past thirteen years, Kim has served on the leadership team of First Baptist Church of Glenarden. Her innovative leadership and commitment to ensuring children and youth are nurtured holistically led to her appointment as director of Children’s Ministries in 2022. As part of FBCG’s charge to “Develop Dynamic Disciples,” she has completed several discipleship programs and serves as a facilitator in the Sisters for Your Journey program.



Donald Corbin

Donald is a native of Prince George’s County, Maryland. He accepted Christ at his childhood church, Springfield Baptist Church, in Washington, DC in 1993. In 2002, Donald became a faithful member of First Baptist Church of Glenarden, where he serves in various ministries. He looks forward to what’s next on his educational journey.



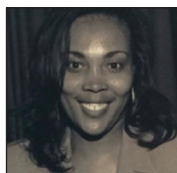
Daisy DeWitt

Daisy has a bachelor of science degree in biology and a master of business administration. She is a member of First Baptist Church of Glenarden. She completed four Bible Institute programs. She serves as a chaplain intern at the University of Maryland Regional Medical Center. Daisy participates in Evangelism, Missions, and Education Ministries. She preaches every first Sunday at the Aspenwood Senior Resident Community. Ryan is her only child, and she reared her nephew.



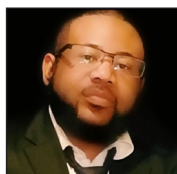
Patricia DuPree-Lacy

Patricia was born in Greene County, North Carolina, and now resides in Lanham, Maryland. She joined First Baptist Church of Glenarden in 2010. She is a member of Senior Wednesday, Healing, Transition and Bereavement, Griefshare, Divine Daughters of Sisterhood, Grace Girls, and Life Builders. Patricia completed the Denver Seminary Professional Chaplaincy Certificate and is working toward her Master of Divinity.



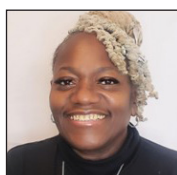
Roseline Felix

Roseline was born and raised in Haiti. She works as a school-based licensed clinical social worker in Washington, DC, providing mental health services, advocating, and implementing programs to support students and their families to make changes in their lives. She is a member of First Baptist Church of Glenarden and works as a volunteer in the Legal Ministry. As part of her response to God's call, Roseline will work on advocating and promoting the integration of mental health and spirituality in her field of practice.



George Floyd

George grew up in Sumter, South Carolina and lived in Columbia, while attending the University of South Carolina. He now resides in the DMV. George faithfully serves at First Baptist Church of Glenarden in the Unashamed, Redeemed & Restored, Film, and Vision Magazine Ministries. As a minister in training, George engages the community with the redemptive power of Christ through Be U Ministry, featuring national recording artists who use music, arts, and mentoring to evangelize.



Brenda Gurley

Brenda is a native of Pittsburg, Pennsylvania and is a proud mother of six children and grandmother of fifteen grandchildren. She has served alongside various pastors for nineteen years and has been mentored by Pastor Marie Kelly. Brenda was licensed to preach the gospel in 2013. Today she lives in Maryland, where her pastor is John K. Jenkins. She serves in UV choir, is a DDS student, and Denver Seminary co-host prayer call lead.



Sylvester Harvey

Minister Harvey, a devoted man of God, is happily married to Valerie for over thirty years. They have four children—Tiffany, Sylvester II, Crystal, and Christopher—and a beautiful granddaughter named Zoe. He is a member of First Baptist Church of Glenarden, serving in the Ministerial Ministry. He served in the US Navy for twenty years, before founding a thriving security communications consulting business.



Karen Hayes

Karen is the wife of Michael and the mother of four children. She is a graduate of Delaware State University and Pensacola Christian College, and holds a master's in elementary education. Karen has been ministering to youth for over thirty years as a teacher in Christian and public schools. She is a member of Refuge Church Ministries II, where she has been given an opportunity to preach and teach. Her favorite Scripture is Psalm 123.



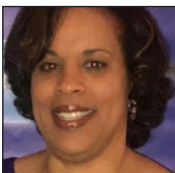
Keith E. Hinds

Keith was born and raised in Bridgetown, Barbados, and currently resides in Springdale, Maryland. Keith and his wife, Marilan, have been members of First Baptist Church of Glenarden since 1995, where he has served faithfully as a deacon for more than twenty years. Keith has a passion for prison ministry and has been teaching and preaching the gospel to the incarcerated for over 25 years. He is also a national and international missionary.



Glenda Magruder

Glenda was born in Westminster, Maryland but was raised in Washington, DC. She resides in Upper Marlboro, Maryland, and is a First Baptist Church of Glenarden member. After completing the Queen Esther Ministry in 2015, God called her to return to the ministry that transformed her life as a facilitator. Her only real contribution request was that God would give her the tools to become the best facilitator He created her to be.



Jewel Morton

Jewel is employed with the Department of Defense, Office of the Inspector General. As a program analyst, she leads external peer reviews and provides policy and oversight for nearly 3,000 auditors in twenty-one defense audit organizations. She holds a bachelor of science in business administration (Marymount University), and a master of science in human resource management and development (National-Louis University). She completed the Executive Potential Program (Graduate School USA); the New Leaders, and the Career Connections Mentoring programs (Inspector General). Jewel attends Mt. Ennon Baptist Church and volunteers with Unified 7 Homeless Initiative.



Veronica Pratt

Veronica is a Virginia native who resides in Maryland. She's an ordained minister, cancer survivor, and author of *From a Mess to A Miracle My Testimony* (autobiography). She is a member and employee of First Baptist Church of Glenarden and a graduate of DDS, Queen Esther, and SID women's discipleship ministries. She currently serves on the women's focus studies pastoral care and creative teams. In 2015 she founded Positive Women of Power and Purpose.



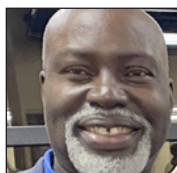
Tanti Rowland

Tanti Rowland is a native of Roanoke, Virginia and currently resides in Maryland. She proudly served in the U.S. Army for over ten years. She is a member of First Baptist Church of Glenarden, where she serves as a facilitator for the Queen Esther Ministry.



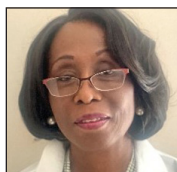
Judy Simmons

Judy became a member of First Baptist Church of Glenarden in 2002 and serves in the Epistles Ministry, writing letters of encouragement to all people. Her passion is helping people, being an ear during times of need, and sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ from her personal experience. Judy is the daughter of Richard and Permilla Carthon of Dothan, Alabama and wife to Dennies Simmons, mother of two and grandmother of two.



Norman Simms

Norman was born on the island of Jamaica. Early in life, he emigrated to Brooklyn, New York. He served as a Marine in theaters such as Japan, Korea, and Norway. Norman is married to Danielle, a graduate of Long Island University and McDaniel College. They are proud parents of two sons and two grandchildren. Norman is a deacon at First Baptist Church of Glenarden. He also serves the Greensboro, North Carolina community as a chaplain with Chaplains International.



Sharon D. Stowe

Sharon resides in Upper Marlboro, Maryland. She has been a First Baptist Church of Glenarden member since 1994. She currently serves on the pastor's aid ministry. Her desire is to teach and encourage young people to apply biblical Scriptures and principles to their daily lives, so that they will learn to love and serve the Lord. Sharon is the mother of four children, eleven grandchildren, and two great-grandsons.

**Valarie White**

Valarie is an educator for Prince Georges County Maryland Public Schools. She serves as a Sunday school teacher at Shiloh Baptist Church (Landover), and leads Bible studies and in-house women's ministries. She has been a member of First Baptist Church of Glenarden since 1989, serving in the Hospitality Ministry, Security Ministry, United Voices Choir, Bereavement Ministry, and as the Children's Ministry chaplain. She is a graduate of Sisters in Discipleship (2003), Divine Discipleship for Sisters (2006), Bible Institute, and is a FBCG Altar Counselor.

**Teddy Yesudasan**

Teddy was born and raised in southern India. He came to the United States as an international graduate student in Ithaca, New York. Teddy currently serves as an elder at his local church. Additionally, he and his wife minister to international students and scholars in the area. He also serves the broader community as a volunteer firefighter.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Rev. Tracey Bianchi
Mr. Chris Binkley
Mr. Chris Brock
Mr. Eddie Broussard
Mrs. Linda Foote Brown
Mr. Lorin Claney
Mr. Ian Colle
Dr. Eugene (Gene) Habecker
Mr. David Hazelton
Mr. Matt LaMarche
Dr. Ryan Lee
Mr. Andy Limes

Mr. F. Lee Maes
Mrs. Vivian Mabuni
Mr. Arlen Nordhagen
Mr. Derrick O'Neal
Rev. Rodney Patterson
Mrs. Chong-Ae Shah
Mr. Patrick Sobers
Mrs. Sarah Vander Neut
Rev. Brandon Washington
Rev. Bryan Wilkerson
Mrs. Patricia Wolf

FACULTY & ADMINISTRATION

Debra Anderson, MA
Eva Bleeker, EdD
Josh Bleeker, DEDMin
David Buschart, PhD
Sung Wook Chung, DPhil
Jeff Cook, PhD
Hélène Dallaire, PhD
Dusty DiSanto, MBA
Joey Dodson, PhD
Teri Elliott-Hart, PhD
Elodie Emig, MA
Douglas Groothuis, PhD
Mark Harden, PhD
Knut Heim, PhD
Richard Hess, PhD
Chris Johnson, MBA
Debbie Kellar, MBA
Tim Koller, PhD
David Mathewson, PhD
Janet McCormack, DMin
Elizabeth Meier Thornton, PhD

Reggie Moore, PhD
Kathleen Mulhern, PhD
Dieumeme Noelliste, PhD
Elizabeth Norris, PhD
Don Payne, PhD
Patty Pell, PhD
Wilmer Ramirez, PhD
Nathan Scherrer, MA
Darlene Seal, PhD
Cheryl Smith, PhD
Eric Suddeath, PhD
Ryan Tafilowski, PhD
Michell Temple, PhD
Paula Tipton, PhD
Ron Welch, PsyD
Scott Wenig, PhD
Bradley Widstrom, EdD
Adam Wilson, PhD
Mark Young, PhD

PROFESSORS EMERITI

Howard Baker, DMin
James Beck, PhD
Craig Blomberg, PhD
Monte Hasz, PsyD
William Klein, PhD
Larry Lindquist, EdD

Randy MacFarland, DMin
James Means, PhD
Sarah Miller, MA
David Osborn, DMin
Joan Burgess Wells, PhD
Keith Wells, DMin




DENVER SEMINARY®
Washington DC

First Baptist Church of Glenarden
Ministry Center
3600 Brightseat Road
Landover, MD 20785