#### **CUMMINS MEMORIAL THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**



# The Flame

the fire of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost

September 8, 2023

Volume 1, Issue 1

Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

|| Timothy 2:15

# Bishop Willie J. Hill

Thank you, Mr. and Mrs. Willie and Gladys Hill, and Grace REC for the foundations (physical, mental, spiritual) you provided for Willie James. They made him the man he is today!

On Saturday, August 13, 2022, at Grace REC, Moncks Corner, S.C., the Rev. Willie James Hill, Jr. was concreated as the Bishop Coadjutor in the Diocese of the Southeast (REC). The spirited fill ceremony was attended by numerous Bishops (Bishop Hill specifically mentioned the Bishop from Germany), ministers, and well-wishers. Several comments were made about Hill. One specifically by his high

school classmate who recounted that all knew he would become a minister.



Bishop Willie J. Hill Jr

Hill's high school nickname

was Moses. Hill maintains this title, note his current email mosesjh@aol.com. His vision for the Diocese, among others, are restoration, reconciliation, and reenergizing the youth. As a testimony to Hill's spiritually, he states "I feel that issues negative in nature are not administrative issues or organizational, or necessarily a lack of vision---they are spiritual issues. I feel like if we get back to praying, to humbling ourselves, confessing, and repenting our sins, then God will heal our land. If we do that, then everything will fall into place. Seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness and all these things will follow". He currently serves as

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### **CALVARY'S MISSION WORK**

The Mission Field – Spiritually guided, Cummins' alumnus Rev. Mikell Jenkins and members of Calvary Church, organized a mission service to Mayfield, Kentucky, March 2022. Mayfield is one of the towns hit by tornados December 2021. Rev. Jenkins contacted a few leaders in Mayfield, and "Calvary's Mission Work" was operational. The missionaries were Rebecca Pettigrew, George Jefferson, Eliza Pinckney, Brelen White, and Rev.

Jenkins. Donations of funds and supplies came from churches, friends and organizations; and from Rev. Gregory Lingham of Miller Memorial Church, Philadelphia.

Following Commission Service, the group traveled to Kentucky with a van full to capacity. Upon arriving in Mayfield they learned that the structural lost was great; and 91 souls perished. Their supplies were greatly needed and appreciated. Calvary's mis-

sionary team made spiritual and personal friends. The team is planning a Part 2 mission service this summer. This will be a Bottle Water Mission. They will take bottled water to Mayfield and surrounding communities in Kentucky. Let us pray that the Lord continues to bless Rev. Jenkins and the "Calvary's Mission Work". To donate to this cause contact Rev. Jenkins at 843 708-1063

#### **ALUMNI HIGHLIGHTS**

ALUMNUS REV. ANTHONY THOMPSON has established "One New Humanity Charleston" an organization which aims to seek UNITY through REPENTENCE, FORGIVENESS, AND RACIAL RECONCILIATION in the low country. A unity event (prayer processional) is planned for November 30, 2022 in Charleston. Leading into this event, low country Pastors/Imams/Rabbis are asked to message on the following topics: October 23rd-Repentence; October 30th-

Forgiveness; November 6th-Reconciliation; November 13th unity. Please plan to have a representative from your church/mosque/synagogue attend the November 30th event. Search more information at onenewhumanitychas.org.

ALUMNUS REV. JOHN PRI-OLEAU has published a book, "If I Can Do It, You Can Do It, But Better." This is an autobiography of life's lessons focused to the youth. IN 2021, ALUMNI REV. GEORGE MCCRAY served as the spiritual leader on a mission on the Island of Roatan, Honduras. This was a medical and spiritual mission. He counseled and prayed with persons who attended the clinics. He also delivered the Sunday morning message at Flowers Bay Baptist Church, Flowers Bay, Honduras.



IN 2022, ALUMNA ELDER MARTHA Dixon was the spiritual leader for the Roatan mission. She commissioned the team, explaining duties and responsibilities based on spiritual life and works of Joshua.



DURING THE SUMMERS 2018-2022, alumna Dr. R. D. Gibbs was the lead physician on Roatan medical and spiritual missions. Four clinics are held during the week, the team consults with 250-300 patients at these clinics.

IN DECEMBER 2021, ALUMNA DR. Alvalene Rogers obtained her Doctorate of Ministry in Christian Humanities, from The School of the Great Commission, Columbia, S.C.

#### **Bishop Sanco K. Rembert Memorial Lecture**

Dr. Julius Barnes President/Dean

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President Julius Barnes is pleased to announce the establishment of the inaugural Bishop Sanco K.

Rembert Memorial Lecture at Cummins Memorial Theological Seminary. We are greatly honored to welcome Dr. Bonnie Thurston as our first lecturer. She is an internationally known New Testament scholar and poet.

Dr. Thurston earned her Ph.D. in English and Religious Studies from

the University of Virginia. She did Post-Doctoral Studies at Harvard Divinity School, Eberhard Karls University at Tuedingen, and the Ecole Biblique in Jerusalem. Dr Thurston is a widely sought speaker, and has lectured worldwide. She has published more than thirty books and scholarly



articles. Her teaching professorships included the University of Virginia, Bethany Col-

> lege, Wheeling Jesuit University, and Pittsburg Theological Seminary.

The lecture is scheduled for 7pm, Thursday, March 23, 2023, in the historic sanctuary of St. Paul's Anglican Church, Summerville, South Carolina.

The late Bishop Sanko King Rembert was a prominent figure and trailblazer at Cummins Seminary and the Reformed Episcopal Diocese of the Southeast. He was the first African American Bishop of the Reformed Episcopal Church. He also served as President, Dean, and Professor at Cummins Seminary.



#### **2021-2022 ACTIVITIES**

A new program, THE COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT, was initiated. This project began October 2022 and is ongoing. Community leaders from Truth Tabernacle, Wesley United Methodist, Moncks Corner Baptist, Good Shepard RE, and The Pineville Community, were trained in project development, implementation, evaluation, and fund raising. Various community projects have been initiated: consisting of a community garden; a food bank drive; girls empowerment camp; youth swimming lessons; revitalization of two rural

community parks with the establishment of historical markers, physical exercises and other activities in the parks; and the interviewing and video taping of Berkeley County African American Educators.

The Certificate of Deaconess Program was initiated August 2022. Cummins has partnered with Cramer House Seminary, Dallas, TX for this program. Seven women from churches are enrolled.

Graduation Ceremony was held May 14, Dr. Ronnie

Hopkins, President of Voorhees University, delivered the message. New Masters of Divinity alumni are: Kyle Simmons, Harrison Price, and Matthew Jeffcoat. Rose Delores Gibbs received a Certificate of Biblical Studies. Mr. Simmons received the Cummins Alumni Award; this award is given to the student having high academic and pastoral achievements.

The Alumni Banquet was held on May 13, 2022. Pastor Henry Dixon of Truth Tabernacle delivered the message.

## **2022-2023 ACTIVITIES**

A new course of studies, African American Theological Education will begin August 2022, taught by Dr. Omar Dykes. Cummins is excited about this program which will teach and explore African and African American theology. Presently this course offers a certificate. In the future the course will offer a Bachelors of Theology, and Masters of Divin-

ity degrees. You are invited to register for this exciting course of studies.

The Seminary Rally will be held October, 23 2022, 3pm at Nazareth REC, Moncks Corner, S.C. We are asking all Alumni to attend and support this program.

The Alumni Association is

planning an on-campus drive through school supplies give away, school year 2022-2023; and a 3K run the fall of 2023.

A marketing consultant has been contracted to provide marketing strategies which will help with fund raising, redesigning of the webpage, and advertisement of the Seminary.

# Alumni Association Committee

Rev. Cornelius White Rev. Alfred Addison Dr. Avelene Rogers Mr. Matthew Jeffcoat Dr. Rose Delores Gibbs

## **MORE ALUMNI HIGHLIGHTS**







# Cummins Memorial Theological Seminary

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### **PLEAS TO ALUMNI**

PLEA for Alumni and Friends to tithe your time, skills and services to Cummins, call Ms. Dixon at 843 873-3451 for further discussions.

PLEA for those who shop Amazon.com to join smile amazon, and list Cummins as your charity organization; Cummins will receive a monetary percentage of your purchase. PLEA for alumni to join the Alumni Association, and for non-Alumni to become Friends of Cummins (see enclosed membership card).



#### **ENDOWMENT AND SCHOLARSHIPS**

The Seminary has the Blessed Hope endowment, we are asking that you help us increase the endowment with your donations. The Reverend Frank Crawford Ferguson

Scholarship was established in 2020. This is an umbrella scholarship which allows donors to establish personally named scholarships. This scholarship provides funds for students in fi-

nancial need. The Alumni Association is asking you to establish a scholarship under Rev. Ferguson's umbrella. Contact Ms. Martha Dixon for details telephone number 843-873-3451