

# THE DISPATCH

## Newsletter for Georgia Deans

CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP SCHOOL DEANS



SUMMER 2019

### Christian Education Leadership Structure of the National Baptist Convention

- Sunday School Publishing Board
- Division of Christian Education Accreditation and Credentials
- Christian Education Advisory Committee
- Regional Coordinators
- State Conventions
- State Directors
- Deans
- Christian Leadership Schools

**Volume 6, Issue 5**

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*From the Director's Pen by Dr. Roberta J. Hatcher*  
*"Sending Disciples to Share Their Faith"*



Greetings to you in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus the Christ. He is worthy to be praised!

Many from Georgia attended the 114th Annual Session of the National Baptist Congress of Christian Education in Baltimore, MD on June 17-21, 2019. The Congress theme was **"Envisioning the Future Exceptionally as We Send Disciples for Christ."** The Congress courses, sermons, seminars and activities emphasized the need for the church to equip and send disciples to the mission field. I enjoyed the Congress as a whole, however, the greatest highlight for me was to attend the Oratorical Contest and to witness the phenomenal speech delivered by Rachel Henderson, a member of

Antioch North Baptist Church in Atlanta, where the Rev. Kenneth Alexander is the pastor. Please join me in congratulating Ms. Henderson on her outstanding accomplishment.

I continue to thank the Deans of Georgia for the work you do throughout our great state. As you continue the work of equipping disciples through Christian Leadership Schools, your leadership contributes to the church for growing Christian character, fruitfulness, and sound doctrine. The Lord has declared that "the harvest is truly plentiful, but the laborers are few" (Matthew 9:37, NKJV). The goal of evangelism and discipleship is to share the good news of the Gospel. Therefore, the church must continue to equip and send disciples to be about our Father's business and share their faith with others. In closing, I urge you to continue the great because God honors Excellence.

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Street Baptist CLS: A History-Making School

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Street Baptist Church Christian Leadership School of Dallas, GA held its first session on Saturday, May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019, where the Rev. Dr. E. Leroy Brown is Pastor. The school was hosted by the Shiloh Baptist Church of Dallas, GA where Rev. Dr. Johnny McBorrows is Pastor. This school was birthed through the coordinated efforts of Certified Dean, the Rev. James L. Ramey, Rev. Dr. E. Leroy Brown, Dean of the Friendship Baptist Association, the Congress of Christian Education, and Rev. A. L. Zollicoffer, Moderator and staff. The first school faculty included Dr. Carol Rich, Rev. A.L. Zollicoffer, and Rev. Phillip Armstead, and began with 18 students. Thanks be to God for Rev. Dr. E. Leroy Brown for providing the needed financial support for the school. Although Christian Leadership Schools are operating in the Atlanta area, this will prove to be the very first Christian Leadership School to operate in this area of Northern GA. The school opened its doors to very positive support from the community and plans to operate it again in October of 2019.





## Rev. Dr. Johnny H. Flakes, III ... SSPB Southeast Regional Coordinator



Rev. Dr. J.H. Flakes III is the second child of three siblings, born to the late Rev. Dr. and Mrs. J.H. Flakes, Jr. He is married to the lovely Jacqueline Denise Flakes; and they are the parents of two children; a daughter Braya and son Kevin.

Educationally, Rev. Flakes received his Doctor of Ministry from Mercer University, McAfee School of Theology, Atlanta, GA. Master degree from the University of Iowa, Iowa City, His Master of Divinity degree from the Interdenominational Theological Center, Morehouse School of Religion. He earned his Bachelor of Science degree from Tuskegee University, Tuskegee, Ala., and elementary and high school education from Muscogee County School System.

Rev. Flakes earned distinction of being one of twenty-one (21) students chosen by the Interdenominational Theological center, Morehouse School of Religion, for inclusion in Who's Who among Students in American Universities across the United States. In 2011, Rev. Flakes was inducted into the Tuskegee University Athletic Hall of Fame. Prior to becoming Senior Pastor of the Fourth Street Missionary Baptist Church, Rev. Flakes served as Pastor of the Mount Gilead Missionary Baptist Church (S.E.) Atlanta, GA.; additionally, he served as Co-Pastor of both Fourth Street Missionary Baptist Church of Columbus, GA. and Good hope Missionary Baptist Church of Phenix City, AL.

### Rev. Flakes' Ministerial and Civic affiliations

- Served as executive board member of the Metro-Atlanta Baptist Minister's Union Served as First Vice President of the Fifth District of the Congress of Christian Education
- Served as Executive board member of the Atlanta Chapter NAACP
- Served as President of the Muscogee County Clergy Association
- Served as the Chairman of the publicity committee for the 2005 National Baptist convention U.S.A., Inc., GMBC host committee, Atlanta, GA.
- A member of the John B. Amos Cancer Center Advisory Board
- He serves as First Vice President of the Congress of Christian Education State of Georgia
- He serves as Moderator of the Mount Calvary Association
- He serves as Faculty member of the National Baptist Congress of Christian Education & SSPB, NBC, USA, Inc.
- He serves as Chair of Social Action Committee of the Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance
- He serves as a member of the Turner Ministry Resource Center Advisory Board of the Pastoral Institute, Columbus
- Serves as the Senior Pastor of the Fourth Street Missionary Baptist Church, where his father the late Rev. Dr. J. J. Flakes, Jr. served as pastor for fifty (50) years.

Rev. Dr. J. H. Flakes, III is a sound teacher and preacher of the Gospel of Jesus the Christ. **A Servant of God!**

### Highlights of the President's Address of the National Congress of Christian Education

The Reverend Dr. James H. Cokley, President of the National Baptist Congress of Christian Education rendered an inspirational annual address to more than 8,300 delegates from across our great nation in the beautiful harbor city of Baltimore, MD, the birthplace of the *Star-Spangled Banner*, on June 20, 2019. President Cokley is the pastor of the Cherry Hill Missionary Baptist Church in Conway, SC. Dr. Cokley presided over the 114<sup>th</sup> Annual Session of the National Baptist Congress and championed the mission of the National Baptist Congress through highlights of goals, needs, and accomplishments. This year's Congress offered 229 courses and workshops to children, youth and adult delegates. He highlighted the Congress theme, "*Envisioning the Future Exceptionally as We Send Disciples*," supported by Luke 24:46-47; Mark 16:15-16; and Matthew 28:19-20. President Cokley thanked the delegates for attending this year's session and emphasized that discipleship is the purpose for which the Congress exists. He urged delegates to recognize that sending disciples is vital to the success of the church. Furthermore, President Cokley stressed that we must be about the Lord's work and send disciples into the world, the mission field, to do the work that God has ordained.



## Rachel Henderson Wins National Baptist Convention Oratorical Contest



Rachel Henderson, daughter of Bro. Eric and Sis. Yvonna Henderson, won First Place in the National Baptist Convention USA, Inc. Oratorical Contest. The contest was held on Wednesday, July 19, 2019, during the Congress of Christian Education held in Baltimore, MD. Rachel competed against sixteen very accomplished and poised young people from a variety of states. As the winner, she received a \$5,000 scholarship and a tablet to assist in her college matriculation.

Rachel will attend the University of Missouri and plans to major in Broadcast Journalism. Her major is well chosen. Excelling as a student at Roswell High School, Rachel was a member of the State of Georgia Gold Chapter of Distinction SkillsUSA program, winning both state and regional in Broadcast News. SkillsUSA is a partnership of students, teachers and industry working together to help students develop personal, workplace and technical skills

grounded in academics as they prepare a skilled workforce. Rachel was recently recognized with a SkillsUSA Award by the Fulton County Board of Education.

From a very young age, she and her brothers, Michael and James, have been very active members of Antioch. Rachel has frequently presented the Sunday morning announcements, introduced guest speakers and given greetings and welcomes in her unique, precisely well-articulated, expressive style. Rev. Kenneth L. Alexander, pastor stated, "This is the first time I have attended the NBC Congress as pastor of Antioch; I have to thank Rachel and her parents for a phenomenal beginning—first in the entire country!!"

Rachel won the General Missionary Baptist Convention of Georgia, Inc. Oratorical Contest last July during the Congress of Christian Education. She had won first place previously in younger age groups, but her win last year as a rising high school senior placed her in position to compete on the national level. Dea. Gregory Bailey of Salem Missionary Baptist Church, Lithonia, serves as Coordinator of the GMBC Oratorical. He stated when Rachel won first place in the state, "We will do everything possible to ensure that Rachel is able to compete on national level because I know that she will bring first place home to Georgia." His prophecy was fulfilled as he, Rachel's family and approximately 30 Antioch members silently prayed and cheered her on. As first place winner, she delivered her speech to an audience of thousands between the Children's and Youth Rallies on Friday, July 21<sup>st</sup>, in the Royal Farms Arena.

Not only her style, but the content of her speech, kept the judges and the crowd riveted. Speaking on the theme, "Envisioning the Future Exceptionally as we Send Disciples for Christ," Rachel had to pause several times to wait for the applause and cheers to quiet down as she delivered her speech in the arena. At the beginning of her speech she asked, "What have you done as Christian disciples to change this mean world?" Her closing presented a challenge: "In today's technologically-driven society, it seems as if everything is going viral: videos, pictures, and especially memes. What our goal as disciples should be is to make Christianity and salvation just as viral and far-reaching as any online trend that the world sees and learns from, but the difference is, we want the impact to be permanent. ...God wants disciples who have gone through "editing" and "spell check" and who know the grave responsibility of being a disciple. The reality of what's happening in the world today must define our paths as Christians and must dictate our destiny. To be a Christian is to be a change agent and carry the knowledge that no matter what, the journey is not over until all of God's sheep know and find their way home."



Submitted by Karen McKinney Holley

*Congratulations to Rachel Henderson!!*



The role of the State Director of Christian Education is diverse and its aim is to enhance the state’s Christian Education Program. The director is one of the links between the state and the Division of Christian Education Accreditation and Credentials (DCEAC) under the NBC, USA, Inc. leadership programs. The director is responsible to the State Convention and is involved in Christian activities held under the auspices of the Convention. Therefore, the director is a servant of the Convention and its constituency, and will assist, as needed, throughout the state. The director of Christian Education works in the interest of the State Body, District Association Leaders, volunteer workers, certified Dean of Christian Education, the Regional Coordinator, and the DCEAC and the NBC, USA, Inc.



**COPP: Certificate of Progress Program Changes (Reminders for Students)**

- Elective Courses are no longer required under the new CLS Procedures.
- Phases should be completed in sequential order.
- Upon completion of Phases 1, 2, and 3, students will receive a certificate.
- COPP Diploma will be issued upon completion of Phase 4.

**Coming Events**

**Christian Leadership Schools**

**July 22-26, 2019**  
**57<sup>th</sup> Annual Congress of Christian Education** GMBC of GA  
 Northside High School, Main Campus  
 2002 American Way  
 Columbus, GA 31907

**Thursday July 25<sup>th</sup> at 4:15 p.m.**  
 Annual Dean's Meeting

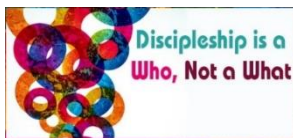
SSPB Annual Conference  
 December 2-4, 2019  
 Opryland Conference Center  
 Nashville, TN

**08/06/19 – 08/09/19**  
 GMBC 5<sup>th</sup> District Christian Leadership School  
 First Corinth Baptist Church  
 2165 Donald Lee Hollowell Parkway  
 Atlanta, Georgia 30318  
**Dr. Albertine Marshall, Dean**

**09/01/19 – 09/17/19**  
 FMBC Christian Leadership School  
 Savannah, Georgia  
**Pastor Michael C. Smith, Dean**

**09/01/10 – 10/01/19**  
 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Pilgrim Congress of Christian Education  
 Pilgrim Missionary Baptist Association  
 810 Central Blvd.  
 Guyton, Georgia 31312  
**Kathy Morgan, Dean**

**10/20/19 – 02/02/20**  
 Good Shepherd Bible Academy  
 Good Shepherd Baptist Church  
 1714 Olive Road  
 Augusta, Georgia 30906  
**Dr. Roberta J. Hatcher, Dean**



**Check the GMBC Website for other notices regarding training opportunities and Information for Georgia Deans and Instructors – <http://gmbcogeorgia.org>**



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Grow up in Christ through  
Christian Education