

THE DISPATCH

Newsletter for Georgia Deans

CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP SCHOOL DEANS



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

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From the Director's Pen by Dr. Roberta J. Hatcher *"Engaging the Culture through Transformational Love and Justice"*



Happy New Year and greetings to all GA Deans and others who may read this article. I am very grateful to greet you in the name of our dear Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. I thank each of you for your work in Christian Education.

I was afforded the opportunity to attend the 41st Annual SSPB Conference that convened on December 2-4, 2019, at the Gaylord Opryland Resort and Convention Center in beautiful Nashville, Tennessee. The conference attracted 1,772 participants from all over the United States. This premier Christian Education Conference is known for hosting a gathering of thousands of pastors, teachers, church leaders, and people with a passion for doing the work in Christian Education. Our powerful theme for this year is "The Prophetic Call of the Beloved Community: Engaging the Culture through Transformational Love and Justice." One key point I obtained from the classes, sermons, and seminars is that we must love the church

in order to love others and do the work of the church. Additionally, we must always strive to remember the Bible is our guidebook; and we must diligently follow its principles and precepts. The Bible teaches us how to love.

This year's SSPB theme admonishes us to continue equipping today's church with a strong call to the "Beloved Community"—the community of faith. According to the Bible, the Beloved Community is called to Love (John 13:35). The Beloved Community is called to Personal Transformation (Romans 12:1-2). The Beloved Community is called to Social Justice (Micah 6:8). Attendees of this Conference were provided three days of intense immersion into depts of Christian education that promoted faith with practice through an awesome group of plenary speakers, class and seminar instructors, exciting workshop presentations, and very powerful worship experiences. Those in attendance were challenged and inspired to keep the church relevant and relational as we work to connect and engage the culture through transformative love and justice. In closing, this Conference taught us to build up the body and maintain unity of the Spirit.

*The Faculty of GMBC
Church Leadership
Institute at the
Bryant-Harmon
Conference Center,
Fitzgerald, GA*



Reverend Dan Shealy

Rev. Dan Shealy currently serves as the senior Pastor of Lower Sardis Missionary Baptist Church of Richland, GA. He is married to Sandra Robertson-Shealy and they have nine children and seven grandchildren, and one great grandchild. Rev Shealy is a member of the Mt. Zion Webster Association. He is a certified Dean and Instructor through the Sunday School Publishing Board of the National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc. Rev. Shealy is pursuing a degree in Biblical Counseling. His hobbies are reading the Bible and working in the yard. Rev. Shealy is very passionate about sharing and talking about the word of God.



The Shinning Stars of GMBC of Georgia, Inc.

Again, we left Georgia on the minds of many at the December 2019 Annual Conference of the Sunday School Publishing Board in Nashville, Tennessee. CONGRATULATIONS to Georgia recipients: Rev. James L. Ramey for receiving the Southeast Region Outstanding Dean Award; Sis. Cynthia Hillery-Jackson for receiving the Southeast Region Outstanding Instructor of the Year Award, and Rev. Benjamin Lett for receiving the Southeast Region outstanding CLS Award on behalf of the GMBC of GA Congress of Christian Education. We thank God for your accomplishments in the area of Christian Education.



(Pictured L-R: Rev. James L. Ramey, Cynthia Hillery-Jackson, Dr. Roberta Hatcher and Rev. Benjamin Lett)

LOOK FOR THIS:



Updated SSPB Rosters for Certified GA Deans, Certified Instructors, and the new and current subscriptions for the SSPB Informer Journal of Christian Education have been emailed to all certified Georgia Deans.



PASS IT ON... 2020 VBS KITS ARE AVAILABLE!!

The 2020 Vacation Bible School Starter Kits and Resources are available now! The theme for this year is "Get On Board." The theme verse: "God destined us for adoption as His children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will" (Ephesians 1:5, NRSV). In this year's VBS, participants will...(1) Learn that it is in Christ that we have been adopted into God's family. And (2) Learn that in Christ we are free to live as God's children. Go online and order your VBS Kit today! Please plan to attend the Annual GMBC Vacation Bible School Workshop on March 7th at Lizzie Chapel Baptist Church in Macon, GA from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon. Rev. Ronald Toney is the Pastor.



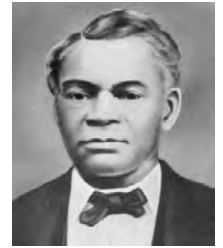
The Beginning of an Institution...Missionary Baptist Convention of Georgia 1870

In "Through the Looking Glass" book, Sis. Minnie W. Wimbish (2012) gave the explanation: **"Augusta, Georgia was the Black Citadel** in 1870, having at least ten churches in the city, that many if not more in Richmond County. The adjoining counties were well populated with churches also. There were at least two Associations, whose bounds covered this area, the Walker and Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Associations. Plus, one of the first denominational schools, Augusta

Baptist College was domiciled there. This city was accessible from any part of the state by rail; it was a transportation center of that day. No wonder it was chosen for the convening place for Black Baptist pastors and delegates from their churches to assemble on May 13, 1870, at the Central Baptist Church, Rev. Henry Jackson, Pastor. Their purpose was to organize a state convention. The name Missionary Baptist Convention of Georgia was chosen. Rev. E. B. Rucker of Columbus, Georgia preached the Convention sermon, selecting II Peter 2:1-3 as his text. The message burned into their hearts with such deep conviction. The Convention's main objective would be to establish churches and Sunday Schools throughout the state and promised theological education. Therefore, they drew up the constitution to read:

1. To employ missionaries to travel through the waste places of our State and gather the people and preach the gospel to them, and aid them in every way possible, especially in organizing churches and Sunday Schools.
2. To establish a Theological Institute, for the purpose of educating young men and those who are preaching the gospel and have the ministry view, or any of our brethren's sons that sustain a good moral character, and to procure immediately, some central place in Georgia, for the establishment of same.

Rev. Frank Quarles, Pastor of Friendship Baptist Church in Atlanta, Georgia was chosen as the first President. Rev. George H. Dwelle of Augusta was the first Corresponding Secretary. President Quarles and others fulfilled their commitment of organizing churches. No less than five were organized by him during his eleven years as the leader of this organization in the Atlanta area."



Rev. Frank Quarles
1819 – 1881



- ✚ No later than thirty days after the closing of the Christian Leadership School the Dean is required by the Division of Christian Education Accreditation and Credentials to submit their final report package to the Division and a copy to the State Director.
- ✚ The current address for the Sunday School Publishing Board is Post Office Box 70990 Nashville, TN 37207-0990.
- ✚ The Division of Christian Education Accreditation and Credentials is updating the Certified Instructors' and Deans' Databases. Notify the State Director of deceased GA Instructors or Deans.

**The Church Leadership Institute at the GMBC of GA, Inc. Bryant-Harmon Conference Center
Fitzgerald, GA**



The Church Leadership Institute was initiated in Fitzgerald, GA on October 19, 2019 under the leadership of President Kenneth B. Martin. Dr. Roberta J. Hatcher, Dr. Ralph Huling, Rev. Benjamin Lett, and Dr. Brenda Eason served as the steering committee. Additionally, Rev. Lett and Dr. Huling served as instructors, along with Min. Joice Tinsley, Rev. Todd Rhodes, Pastor William Morgan, and Dea. George Hatcher. Additionally, Sis. Sylvia Lockett served as the administrative assistant. The first session of the Institute was a great success. We give God glory for what He has done. The next session is scheduled for February 15th.

The Job of the State Director

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 Deans of Christian Education, the Regional Coordinator, and the DCEAC and the NBC, USA, Inc.




New Leadership for the National Congress of Christian Education:
Dr. Elliot Cuff, Congress President ♦ Dr. Carl Washington, Congress Dean

2020 Coming Events for Deans

- March 7 GMBC State-wide VBS Workshop
Lizzie Chapel Baptist Church
Macon, GA - 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon
- June 22-26 NBCCE St. Louis, Missouri
Visit the NBC, USA, Inc. Website
for registration information

Christian Leadership Schools

- 03/01/20 – 05/24/20**
Dr. Roberta J. Hatcher, Dean
Good Shepherd Baptist Church Bible Academy
1714 Olive Road
Augusta, GA 30904
- 03/11/20 – 03/13/20**
Dr. Mary Williams Scruggs, Dean
Camillia Baptist Leadership School
Silver Hill M. B. Baptist Church
23280 US Hwy. 319
Coolidge, GA, 31738
- 03/28/20 - 03/28/20**
Dr. Leon Ward, Dean
New Birth M. B. Church Leadership Institute
1830 Williamson Road
Macon, GA 31206
- 04/11/20 - 11/11/20**
Susie J. Reed, Dean
2nd Annual Session Pilgrim Congress of C. E.
Pilgrim M. B. Association Center
810 Central Blvd.
Guyton, GA 31312
- 04/25/20 – 04/26/20**
Angereen Rainey, Dean
3rd Kiokee M. B. C.
521 Carver Avenue
Albany, GA 31705



**Adjourned Session Christian Leadership School Courses
(Part 1)**

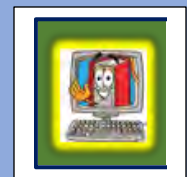
February 17-18, 2020
First African Baptist Church
405 Telfair Street
Dublin, Georgia 31021
Rev. James L. Ramey, Dean

Certified Courses Offered During the Adjourned Session:

- 1007- Survey of the Old Testament (COPP)
- 2007- Christian Stewardship (COPP)
- 6013 - Organizing the Church for Christian Education (COPP)
- 7022 - Developing Christian Morals in an Immoral World
- 8057-The Church's Ministry to Seniors
- 8062- Ministry to the Family of the Deceased

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

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Unclaimed Course Cards may be picked up from the Dean's Office at the Adjourned Session in Dublin, GA