

Dr. Clifford A. Jones, Sr. was born in Philadelphia and reared in New Jersey. He received his Bachelor of Science degree from Maryland State College (Princess Ann, MD); the Master of Divinity and Master of Theology degrees from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary (Wake Forest, NC); and of Doctor of Ministry from Boston School of Theology (Boston, MA). He has studied at Regents Park College in Oxford, England and Baptist Theological Seminary, in Ruschlikon, Switzerland. He has served as the Senior Pastor of Friendship Missionary Baptist Church in Charlotte, North Carolina since October 1982.

Dr. Jones led a delegation to form a solid partnership with the Winterveldt School in Mabopane, South Africa for Friendship to partner in the purchase and building of a fully equipped Christian educational center for grades Kindergarten through High School. In addition to the school in Mabopane, under Dr. Jones' leadership, a farm was purchased, and three greenhouses were built to grow vegetables for sale; as well as a brick making machine for building houses and business offices, to create economic interdependence.

Dr. Jones has organized and led numerous medical and religious mission teams of preachers, doctors, nurses, technicians and teachers to provide needed healthcare, medical supplies and educational training in Jamaica, Africa, and Guyana, South America for children and families struggling in poverty. God's blessings have truly been manifested upon Dr. Jones' gifts and talents and the Friendship family with the ownership of 115 acres. This land is also being developed to provide an Intergenerational Day Care, Commercial Block, Assisted Living for Seniors, Alzheimer's Center, Hospice, Single Family Dwellings, Park Shelter, Amphitheater, Offices and more.

He has been a dedicated supporter of senior citizen programs; and under his leadership, Friendship provided the first satellite center for the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Senior Centers, offering exercise and other classes for older citizens living in the area.

He is married to the former Carolyn Brenda Reynolds. Dr. and Mrs. Jones are the proud parents of Mrs. E. Renee Darity, Reverend Michelle A. Jones, Pastor C. Anthony Jones, Jr. (Courtney) and Miss Alexa Mariah Fortune Jones. He is also the gratified and honored grandfather to Miss Michelle A. Jones (Jr), born June 25, 2018.

Leadership Positions

Board of Directors, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Housing Partnership, Inc. (The Housing Partnership), 2018 -

Commission Chair, Peace and Reconciliation Commission, Baptist World Alliance, Falls Church, VA, 2015 - present

Board of Trustees, Morris College, 2013-present

Board of Directors, National USA Foundation, Inc., Nashville, TN, 2012-present

Board of Directors, Faith Partnerships Inc., Raleigh, NC, 2011-present

Chairman of the Governance Committee, National Baptist Convention of USA, Inc. Nashville, TN, 2009-2014

Board of Trustees, Hood Theological Seminary, Salisbury, NC, 2006-2015

Host Chairperson, 133rd Annual Session of National Baptist Convention of USA, Inc., 2013

Vice President, Baptist World Alliance, Falls Virginia, VA, 2005-2010

Corporate Advisory Committee, New York Boys Choir, 1994-2001

Host Chairman, National Baptist Congress of Christian Education's 96th Annual Session, 2001

President, Lott Carey Foreign Mission Convention, Washington, DC, 1994-1997

Former Community Advisory Council Member, Mint Museum, Charlotte, NC

Former Advisory Board Member, Mechanics and Farmers Bank, Charlotte, NC

President, General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc., Raleigh, NC, 1993-1997

Former Moderator, Mecklenburg General Baptist Association, 1989-1993

Civic and Community Affiliations

Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.

Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity

Life Member, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People

Awards and Recognitions

Senior Father of the Year, Black Fathers Rock!, 2019

The Made Man Award, The Made Man Foundation, 2018

Beautiful Are the Feet Award, Samuel DeWitt Proctor Conference, 2018

UNCF Masked Award, UNCF North Carolina, 2017

Proclamation from the City of Pine Bluff, Arkansas, 2016

Religious Award, My Veteran's Keeper, 2016

Hatch Legacy Award, John Hatch Foundation, 2016

Proclamation for the City of Charlotte, NC 2015

Lifetime Achievement Award, Leadership Charlotte, 2015

Aggrey-Small Leadership Award, Aggrey-Small Transformational Leadership Symposium, Western West Africa Episcopal District, 2014

Nelson Mandela Award Recipient, National Baptist Convention USA, Inc., 2013

Keynote for the National Political Black Caucus Prayer Breakfast, 2007

City of Charlotte King Medallion Award Recipient, 2005

Charlotte Senior Centers Lifetime Achievement Award Recipient, 2001

Duke Divinity School-Gardner C. Taylor Lecturer, 2000

North Carolina NAACP Humanitarian Award Recipient, 1997

Recipient, NC Governor's the Order of the Long Leaf Pine, 1995

Published Works

The Star Book of Stewardship, Judson Press, 2012

Becoming and Practicing What It Means To Be A Christian, AK Classics, 2011

Consuming Passion: Christianity and the Consumer Culture, InterVarsity Press, Downers Grove, Illinois, 1998

From Brother to Brother, Judson Press, Valley Forge, PA, 1997

How Can I Find God?, Triumph Books, Liguori, Missouri, 1997

From Proclamation to Practice: A Unique African American Approach To Stewardship, Judson Press, Valley Forge, PA, 1997