INTERFAITH LEADERSHIP AWARDS DINNER

Bishop Dr. H. Bernard Alex

Senior Pastor, Victory Temple Fellowship Church

Bishop Dr. H. Bernard Alex, Senior Pastor and Teacher of Victory Temple Fellowship Church and Chief Executive Officer of Ministries of Victory/Ministries Outside the Walls, has devoted his life to faith, servant leadership, and community transformation. A native of Syracuse, Bishop Alex attended Tuskegee Institute University, where he majored in English Education and Language Arts, followed by post-baccalaureate studies in Curriculum Development and Program Design at Syracuse University. He earned an Honorary Doctor of Divinity from St. Thomas College and Seminary and continued his theological education through the National Sunday School Publishing Board and the Fellowship for Emerging Leaders in Ministry, a collaborative program of Syracuse University, Le Moyne College, and Harvard University.

Bishop Alex's commitment to service extends well beyond the walls of his church. He serves on the Board of the Salvation Army, chairs the Onondaga County Human Rights Commission, is a Trustee of the Everson Museum of Art, and serves as a Commissioner with the Town of DeWitt Police. He is President of the Syracuse Chapter of the National Action Network, Moderator of the Northeastern District Baptist Association of the Empire Missionary Baptist Convention, and most recently accepted the role of Interfaith Council Liaison for Onondaga County with the New York State Office of Faith and Nonprofit Development Services.

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In 2024, Bishop Alex made Central New York history when he became the first African American and first person of color elected to the Town of DeWitt Board. He views the milestone not simply as a personal achievement, but as an opportunity to open doors for those who will follow.

His relationship with InterFaith Works reaches back decades, and he is drawn to its commitment to bringing people of different faith traditions together in service. As he explains, InterFaith Works "puts feet to your faith"—turning belief into action and translating compassion into service.

That philosophy is at the heart of Bishop Alex's own leadership. Guided by the belief that "to whom much is given, much is required," he sees service as both an obligation and an honor: "I'm obligated to give, to give back and to do it while I have the ability to do it. Some people wait too late, and I'm giving it all while I can. Just like they did for me."

A gifted vocalist who has performed with organizations including the Syracuse Symphony, Syracuse Opera, Hartford Opera, and Buffalo Philharmonic, Bishop Alex brings the same passion and authenticity to his community leadership. He is committed to mentoring emerging leaders, building bridges across differences, and creating opportunities for others to discover their own capacity to serve.

Bishop Alex is the proud husband of Pastor Jahnjae E. Alex, and together they are parents of four children and grandparents to three grandsons.