



Reverend Matthew W. Jeffcoat

Matthew W. Jeffcoat was born in Charleston, SC on August 14, 1954, the eldest child of nine siblings born to Mr. James W. Jeffcoat and The Late Mrs. Catherine A. Alston. He was educated in the Charleston County Public School System where he obtained his High School Diploma from Burke High School in 1972. He furthered his education and obtained an Associate Degree in Management and Information Systems from Trident Technical College. Matthew also obtained a Bachelors in Theology from Alpha & Omega Bible College and a Master of Divinity from Cummins Memorial Theological Seminary.

Matthew enjoyed a successful tenure of twenty-seven (27) years with the Federal government as an employee of the Department of the Navy. He later served as Head Administrator for Agape Ministries of Charleston, Inc., where he was responsible for the daily management and financial coordination of five non-profit entities under the umbrella of Agape Ministries of Charleston, Inc.

After years of living without a sense of urgency for Christ, on March 26, 1982, Matthew accepted Jesus Christ as his personal Savior and Lord. From that time, he faithfully attended Ebenezer AME Church under the leadership of Pastor Lee L. Seawood. During his growth process, the Lord connected him to the Late Elder Joseph L. Young under whose mentorship Matthew continued to grow spiritually and to develop a richer understanding of the Word of God. He was able also to gain a greater knowledge of his commitment to his family and to souls the Lord would cause to cross his path. His walk with the Lord caused a deeper yearning for greater fulfillment in ministry and a need to see souls prospering in their individual relationships with the Lord as he saw in his own life. Early in 1988, Matthew acknowledged a call to the ministry and was one of twelve co-founders of Agape Innercity Christian Assembly, Inc. He served as the Elder in charge of property and facilities and administration. As the years progressed, under the guidance of his Pastor and friend, Dr. Dallas H. Wilson, Jr. ThD, Matthew was encouraged and assigned to teach several Bible Studies including 'The Life of Christ' Series, a Ministerial Class for Leaders and 'Who is Jesus?' Series, a Bible Class for New Converts. He is also a regular Adult Sunday School Teacher. He recently enrolled into the Peninsula Biblical Counseling Ministries "Introduction to Biblical Counseling" with the hopes of becoming a Certified Biblical Counselor accredited by the ACBC.



In 2023, Matthew was ordained as a Deacon under the Southeast Diocese of the Reformed Episcopal Church and currently serves as the Interim Pastor for St. John's Reformed Episcopal Church in Charleston, SC.

Matthew is the husband of one wife, Suzette D. Jeffcoat and the father of eight children, five girls and three boys. He is also the proud grandfather of six granddaughters, five grandsons and three great-grands (two boys and one girl).

Family is a significant factor in Matthew's life, he spends hours of his personal time teaching and imparting into young families the priority that family must have in one's life. His philosophy is this: *"Always take care of your mother and grandmothers, support and encourage your siblings, visit the elderly as often as possible, so that if the patriarch of a family is removed then the family still has a sense of support, one towards the other"*. As a result, the children will teach and establish these sentiments within their own families." Simply put, family supports one another, family loves one another, family encourages one another, and family never abandons one another. *Matthew lives his life based upon Micah 6:8, "He hath shown thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?"*