



*“...so that your faith might not rest on human wisdom,  
but on God’s power.”  
(1 Corinthians 2:5)*

**Reverend Omar L. Dykes** is a native of Chester, Pennsylvania. He is the youngest son born to Millie and the late Bobby Dykes. He holds a B.A. degree in History from Miles College in Birmingham, Alabama and a Master of Divinity from Phillips School of Theology at the Interdenominational Theological Center in Atlanta, Georgia. He is a candidate for the Master of Sacred Theology degree at the Untied Lutheran Seminary at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He has served as Pastor of Martin

Temple Christian Methodist Episcopal Church in Estill, South Carolina, Vanderhorst Memorial Christian Methodist Church in Charleston, South Carolina. St. John Christian Methodist Episcopal Church in Winston Salem, North Carolina, and Hopps Memorial Christian Methodist Episcopal Church, Syracuse, New York. Greenwood Christian Methodist Episcopal Church in Memphis, Tennessee. His most recent pastoral appointment was the Senior Pastor of Bunton CME Church, Spartanburg, South Carolina.

At the tender age of eleven, Rev. Dykes accepted Jesus the Christ as His Lord and Savior at St. Matthew Christian Methodist Episcopal Church in Twin Oaks, Pennsylvania. At the age of thirteen, he answered his call and was licensed to the ministry of preaching God's Word. He was nurtured and trained by his grandmother, the late Reverend Amy E. Dixon. He was later ordained into the ministry by the late Senior Bishop Thomas L. Hoyt, Jr.

Rev. Dykes loves the hymns of the church; his favorite hymn is “*Draw Me Nearer*”. His favorite scripture is 1 Timothy 4:12 “Don’t let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity.”

Rev Dykes has been the keynote speaker at many meetings, banquets, conferences and retreats, on the local, state, and national level. He has received numerous awards from religious, community, and other organizations. He has served as the Young Adult Steward for the C.M.E. Church, and the National Council of Churches and Churches United in Christ. His previous community service included 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President of the Ministers Conference of Winston Salem and Vicinity, and Pastoral Facilitator and Mentor at the Wake Forest School of Divinity, Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem, NC. His recent appointments are a delegate to the World Methodist Council 2016-2021

Rev. Dykes’ areas of interest include Homiletics and Preaching, African American Religious studies, Hip-Hop Culture, Prophetic Witness, and Psychology.

# **CURRICULUM VITAE OF**

## *Reverend Omar L. Dykes*

Greenwood Christian Methodist Episcopal Church Senior Pastor with years of experience in increasing responsibility for the Congregational leadership and development. Develops and implements an overall strategy to provide care, counseling, and support to group ministries. Proven success in advancing church goals and increasing community engagement in the congregation.

### **RELIGIOUS AFFLIATION**

The Christian Methodist Episcopal Church  
West Tennessee Annual Conference, Ordained Elder Full Connection

### **EDUCATION**

Candidate for Master of Sacred Theology, Lutheran Theological Seminary,  
Philadelphia, PA  
Thesis: “Resuscitation of Prophetic Preaching in Response to Donald  
Trump’s Presidency”

Master of Divinity, Phillips School of Theology, Atlanta, GA  
Major areas of study: Theology, Homiletics, African American Religious Studies

Bachelor of Arts, Miles College, Birmingham, AL, Major: History;  
Minor: Religious Studies

### **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

2016 Charles E. Booth Preaching Conference  
2018 National Council of Black Churches Conference  
2018 Once Church One School  
2019 Hampton Ministers Conference  
2020 Phillips School of Theology Pastor Conference  
2020 Backstory Preaching Easter Intensive  
2020, 2021 Festival of Homiletics

### **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

*Senior Pastor- Greenwood CME, Memphis, TN July 2018- Present*

Visionary senior administrator, providing strategic and operational leadership for church. Oversees a portfolio of institutional responsibilities that focus on strategic planning, institutional assessment, integrative learning processes and programs. Developed Villages of Greenwood 501C3, CDC.

*Senior Pastor- Hopps Memorial CME, Syracuse, NY July 2017-2018*

Lead church through revitalizing vision strategy. Implemented electronic financial structures, secured financial stability. Create ministries for a multigenerational congregation.

*Senior Pastor -St. John CME Church, Winston Salem, NC –Senior Pastor July 2014- July 2017*

Preacher and worship leader; assumed responsibility for the church, staff, and congregational members, as well as resolved issues that may have arisen. Provided leadership in the church burning its mortgage. Special ministry area included Youth and Young Adult, giving special emphasis to high school and college age youth and their families. Responsible for recruiting and training advisors for youth ministry groups and worked to plan adequate and effective programs and activities. Assisted in the development of programs, which deepened the ties of the congregation to the local community and promoted ministries that focused on active service to others.

*Senior Pastor –Vanderhorst Memorial CME Church, Charleston, SC. July 2012 – July 2014*

Senior Administrator provided full leadership, management, supervisory, administrative, and operational and program development. Lead the church body in refinancing church loan, securing financial commitments. Planned services and overall strategy for community engagement.

*Senior Pastor- Martin Temple CME Church, Estill, SC July 2010 – July 2012*

Lead church through transition of leadership. Created ministries that addressed the church attendance decline.

#### **DISSERTATIONS AND DIRECTED STUDIES**

- **Preaching Critique of Gardner C. Taylor**
- **Prophetic Witness through Negro Spirituals**

#### **SELECTED LEADERSHIP, SERVICE, AND COMMITTEES**

- Black Church Studies Committee,
- Ministers Conference of Winston Salem 2nd Vice President, Social Justice Committee member, Theology and Ethics Chair,
- West Tennessee Region CME Church Minister examination committee member,
- Carolina Region CME Church Board of trustee's member,
- Compilation Committee 2014 Book of Discipline,
- World Methodist Council Committee member.  
West Tennessee Region Treasurer CME Church

#### **SELECTED PRESENTATIONS**

- Evangelism and Millennials,
- Next Generation Ministry with Mainline Denomination,
- African American Preaching for the 21<sup>st</sup> century
- Preacher for Alumni service Philips School of Theology.