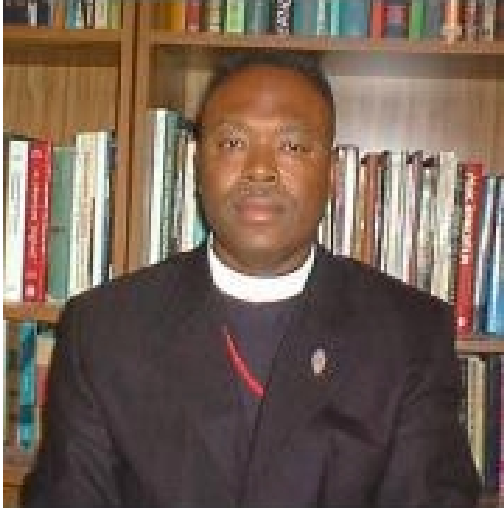


Suffragan Bishop Brian S. Garner, Sr. Biographical Sketch



Bishop-Elect Garner was born and raised in Camden, New Jersey to mother Gwendolyn Holmes Garner and father Sylvester Johnson in 1958. He began attending church at an early age at Kaighn Avenue Baptist Church. Upon graduation from Woodrow Wilson High School in 1976, he entered the U. S. Marine Corps, where he served honorably and retired after 23 years of service in February 2000. While in the Marine Corps, he accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as his personal Saviour in 1978. It was also during his tenure in the Marine Corps that he became a professional counselor. He has since served in various positions, working in the areas of substance abuse, mental health, domestic violence, criminal justice, community outreach, and case management.

As a minister of the gospel, he has held a myriad of positions. He has served as a Bible Study and Sunday School Teacher, Church Administrator, New Members Orientation Coordinator, member of the church Board of Directors, and Church Counselor. He presently serves as the International Overseer of Social Action for The Fellowship of Independent and Global Churches & Ministries, Inc. (F.I.G.) and serves as First Assistant to Presiding Bishop William P. Brown.

He is married to the former Robin Thailour Preston, and they have two sons, Brian Jr. and Phillip. He is also the grandfather of Natalia Brianna Garner. His favorite scripture is Romans 8:38, 39 which reads, "For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature shall be able to separate me from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

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