

Baccalaureate Service

2009



Philander Smith College
Little Rock, Arkansas

Celebrate the Renaissance

History and Mission

PHILANDER SMITH COLLEGE

Officially founded in 1877, Philander Smith College is the result of the first attempt west of the Mississippi River to make education available to freedmen (former African-American slaves). The forerunner of the College was Walden Seminary, named in honor of Dr. J. M. Walden, one of the originators and the first Corresponding Secretary of the Freedmen's Aid Society.

In 1882, Dr. G. W. Gray, president of Little Rock University, the institution for the Arkansas Annual Conference, met Mrs. Adeline Smith, widow of Mr. Philander Smith of Oak Park, Illinois, while soliciting funds. The late Mr. Philander Smith had been a liberal donor to Asiatic Missions and had developed an interest in the work of the church in the South. In making her gift to Dr. Gray, Mrs. Smith designated \$10,500 for Walden Seminary. The trustees accepted the gift and gave it special recognition by changing the name of the struggling Walden Seminary to Philander Smith College. A new site for the school had already been purchased at Eleventh and IZard Streets. The gift made by Mrs. Smith was a significant contribution toward the construction of Budlong Hall, the first brick building on the new site.

Philander Smith College was chartered as a four-year college on March 3, 1883. The first baccalaureate degree was conferred in 1888. The first president, the Reverend Thomas Mason resigned in 1896. He was succeeded by a member of the faculty of the College, the Reverend James Monroe Cox, Professor of Ancient Languages. Dr. Cox retired from the presidency of the College in 1924, and was succeeded by the Reverend George Collins Taylor, a graduate of the College. Dr. Taylor served as president from 1924 to 1936. In May, 1936, Dr. Marquis LaFayette Harris succeeded Dr. Taylor as president of the College. During the administration of Dr. Harris, the campus area was greatly enlarged. In July, 1948, the site of the Little Rock Junior College, adjacent to the south end of Philander Smith's campus, was purchased. On March 30, 1949, after an extensive program of academic improvement, Philander Smith College was fully accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. Dr. Harris was succeeded by Dr. Roosevelt David Crockett, a graduate of the institution on June 1, 1961. Dr. Dixon, Philander Smith's sixth president, took office January 1, 1965. Dr. Dixon was succeeded by Dr. Walter R. Hazzard who took office as the seventh president of the College on July 1, 1969. Dr. Hazzard was succeeded by Dr. Grant S. Shockley. Dr. Grant S. Shockley took office as the eighth president of Philander Smith College on January 1, 1980. Dr. Shockley was succeeded by Dr. Hazo W. Carter, Jr. Dr. Hazo W. Carter, Jr., elected unanimously July 19, 1983 by the Board of Trustees, took office August 20, 1983. Dr. Carter resigned the presidency of Philander Smith College in August 1987. He was succeeded by Dr. Myer L. Titus, a 1954 graduate of the institution. Dr. Titus retired as President on June 30, 1998. Dr. Trudie Kibbe Reed was elected by the Board of Trustees in February, 1998 as the eleventh and first female President of Philander Smith College. In the summer of 2004, Dr. Julius Scott was appointed by the Board of Trustees to serve as the interim president while the College completed a national search for the next president. In October of 2004, the Board announced the selection of Dr. Walter M. Kimbrough as the 12th president of Philander Smith College. He took office on December 13, 2004.

Philander Smith College has a rich Christian heritage. It has maintained a close relationship with the church across the years. It acknowledges a definite obligation to The United Methodist Church. The College receives funding from The General Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministry of The United Methodist Church. Philander Smith College strives to instill the desire to serve in its faculty and students. This desire is at the core of its educational philosophy.

MISSION:

Philander Smith College is a small, privately supported, historically Black four-year liberal arts institution related to the Board of Higher Education and Ministry of the United Methodist Church. Currently offering four degrees including the Bachelor of Arts, the Bachelor of Science, the Bachelor of Business Administration, and the Bachelor of Social Work, **the college's mission is to graduate academically accomplished students, grounded as advocates for social justice, intentionally changing the world for the better.** Philander Smith College, the only United Negro College Fund member institution in Arkansas, strives to provide a quality college education for all regardless of race, religion, sex, national origin or ethnic background.

The
Baccalaureate Service
of
Philander Smith College

Friday, May 1, 2009

7 p.m.

M. L. Harris Auditorium

Little Rock, Arkansas

Senior Theme:

"Taking the World By Charge"

Baccalaureate Service

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Dr. Phyllis Ruocco
Chairperson, Music Department

+PROCESSIONAL

War March of the Priest
Dr. Phyllis Ruocco

Felix Mendelssohn

(Acolytes)

Carmen Brown, Tonnesse Harmon, LeJuan Washington, Charlotte Washington

ANTHEM

My Hope Is Built
Philander Smith Collegiate Choir
Directed by Professor Karliss Chapple

Dr. Rosephanye Powell

+INVOCATION

The Reverend C. J. Duvall
Senior Pastor, Theresa Hoover United Methodist Church

THE GREETING

Dr. Walter M. Kimbrough
President, Philander Smith College

+PSALTER

Psalm 25:1-2, 4-12 (UMH #821)

Dinah Mande, Senior Class

Response: Rejoice, rejoice, rejoice, give thanks and sing!

Leader: To thee O Lord I lift up my soul. O my God, in thee I trust!

People: Let me not be put to shame; let not my enemies triumph over me.

Leader: Make me to know thy ways, O Lord; teach me thy ways.

People: Lead me in thy truth, and teach me, for thou art the God of my salvation; for thee I wait all the day long. (R)

Leader: Remember not the sins of my youth, or my transgressions;

People: According to thy steadfast love remember me, for thy goodness sake, O Lord.

Leader: Good and upright is the Lord; therefore God instructs sinners in The Way.

People: God leads the humble in what is right and teaches the humble God's Way. (R)

+RESPONSE

Lift Every Voice and Sing

James W. Johnson/J. Rosamond

Lift every voice and sing till earth and heaven ring,
ring with the harmonies of Liberty; let our rejoicing rise
High as the listening skies, let it resound loud as the rolling sea.
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us,
Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us,
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun, let us march on till victory is won.

Stony the road we trod, bitter the chastening rod, Felt in the days when hope unborn had died; Yet with a steady beat,
have not our weary feet, come to the place for which our fathers sighed?

We have come over a way that with tears have been watered,
We have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered,
Out from the gloomy past, till now we stand at last,
where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

+ *All who are able, please stand.*

Baccalaureate Service

God of our weary years, God of our silent tears, Thou who has brought us thus far on the way;
Thou who has by Thy might, led us into the light, keep us forever in the path, we pray.
Lest our feet stray from the places, Our God, where we met Thee;
Lest, our heart drunk with the wine of the world, we forget Thee;
Shadowed beneath Thy hand, may we forever stand.
True to our GOD, true to our native land.

ANTHEM

Even Me

Patrick Lundy

Philander Smith Collegiate Choir

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:

Joshua 1:1-9

LaTasha Robinson, Senior Class Treasurer

RESPONSE: Thanks be to God.

+GOSPEL LESSON:

St. John 14:6-14

Thomas Stone, Mr. Senior

RESPONSE: Thanks be to God.

PRAYER

Gabrielle Shanks, Senior Class Chaplain

PRAYER RESPONSE

Total Praise

Richard Smallwood

Chosen Generation

Directed by Mr. Jeremy Carter

INTRODUCTION OF SPEAKER

The Reverend Ronnie Miller Yow, Chaplain, Philander Smith College

SERMONIC SELECTION

There Is No Way

Ricky Dillard

Chosen Generation

THE BACCALAUREATE SERMON

The Reverend Dwight Townsend
Senior Pastor, Longley Baptist Church

THE GRADUATE'S BLESSING

The Reverend Ronnie Miller Yow

+ALMA MATER

Dear Alma Mater, tried and true, We'll win respect and love for you,
We pledge our hearts to you each day, To do our best, at work, at play.

Dear P.S.C., when from your fold, We'll lift the dear old Green and God.
O'er Alma Mater vigil keep, Her high ideals we'll strive to meet.

When college days are at an end, Our hearts will ever toward you bend.
With loyalty, we'll always be, A part of you, Dear P.S.C.

BENEDICTION

Dr. James Rush

+RECESSIONAL

My Name Is Victory

Jonathan Nelson

Chosen Generation

+ *All who are able, please stand.*

Baccalaureate Speaker

Pastor Dwight Demone Townsend

Pastor Dwight Demone Townsend is pastor of the Longley Baptist Church of Little Rock where he has served since May 2005. At the age of eighteen he accepted his ministry calling and, in 1996, he was called to serve as pastor of Macedonia Baptist Church in Little Rock. After four years, he went on to pastor the Greater Pilgrim Rest Baptist Church in Van Buren, Ark.

A 1993 graduate of Sylvan Hills High School, Pastor Townsend holds both an associate's degree and a bachelor's degree in theology from Slidell Baptist Seminary in Slidell, La. He is currently pursuing a master's degree in theology from Andersonville Theological Seminary in Camilla, Ga.

Pastor Townsend is a gifted preacher and dedicated community servant. He is actively involved in the Union District Baptist Association, where he serves as 2nd vice moderator. He is past president of the Four Church Fellowship, a local fellowship of churches purposed to strengthen the community through outreach services.

Under Rev. Townsend's leadership, Longley has grown from a membership of 600 to 2000 and is steadily growing in the southwest Little Rock area. He is married to the former Glomicha Perkins and they are the parents of two children, Dacimber and D.J.



Commencement and Regalia

COMMENCEMENT

The term "Commencement" derives from a practice in the Medieval University where it was customary for a candidate for an academic degree to present a public lecture or disputation to the faculty and other scholars gathered to hear it. If the disputation was successfully defended and accepted, the candidate was "Admitted" to the degree "with all the rights, privileges and responsibilities thereunto appertaining." This first public lecture or disputation was originally called an "Inception." It signified the beginning or "Commencement" of the scholar's academic career in the degree to which he had been admitted. The ceremony surrounding this inception or "graduation" has subsequently come to be called Commencement. Today, Philander Smith College celebrates its 132nd Commencement.

ACADEMIC REGALIA

The distinctive dress associated with academic processions and convocations dates from the Middle Ages, when long-sleeved, hooded gowns were necessary for warmth in the unheated stone colleges. Most of the scholars were clerics in holy orders, and they wore cloaks to which were attached hoods that could be pulled up to cover their tonsured heads. Over the centuries, much diversity occurred in academic costumes. To bring some order to this diversity, in 1894 in the United States, the Intercollegiate Commission met in New York and agreed on a code of academic dress which has become the standard for most colleges and universities. According to this code, both the styling and color of the regalia have significance. The design of the gown indicates the degree. The bachelor's gown is simple, with a full sleeve. The master's gown is much like the bachelor's, except for the long sleeves, which hang loose. The doctor's gown is fuller and more elaborate. It has velvet edging and three velvet stripes on the full sleeves. Usually, the color of the gown is black. Hoods, which are worn over the gowns, are similar for all degrees, although differing slightly in length. The candidates for the bachelor's degree usually do not wear the hood. The hood has a velvet edging which indicates the area of the degree, and the inside or lining of the hood is satin in the colors of the college or university granting the degree. A partial list of the degree colors to be found on the edge of the hood or the trimming on the doctor's gown is given below. The usual cap, proper for all degrees, is the black mortarboard, although some colleges use the beret. Tassels, usually black, are worn over the left front quarter of the cap for a degree holder and on the right for a candidate for a degree. Holders of the doctorate may wear tassels of gold thread. Holders may also wear tassels in the colors of the college or university granting the degree.

Agriculture.....Maize
Arts, Letters, Humanities.....White
Business Administration.....Drab
Dentistry.....Lilac
Economics.....Copper
Education.....Light Blue
Engineering.....Orange
Fine Arts, Architecture.....Brown
Forestry.....Russet
Journalism.....Crimson
Law.....Purple
Library Science.....Lemon

MusicPink
Medicine.....Green
Oratory Speech.....Silver Gray
Philosophy.....Dark Blue
Physical Education.....Sage Green
Public Administration.....Peacock Blue
Public Health.....Salmon
Science.....Golden Yellow
Social Science.....Cream
Social Services.....Citron
Theology/Divinity.....Scarlet
Veterinary Science.....Gray



T H I N K J U S T I C E

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