



# PASTORAL CANDIDATE WEEK



# Pastoral Candidate Recommendation

We are filled with joy to announce that the Pulpit Search Committee has completed its diligent quest and is honored to recommend a distinguished pastoral candidate for the role of Senior Pastor at The Abyssinian Baptist Church in the City of New York..

It is our privilege to introduce.

**Rev. Dr. Kevin R. Johnson**, a servant leader with a heart for ministry and a vision for our congregation's future.

Dr. Johnson brings with him a wealth of spiritual insight and an unwavering commitment to shepherd our community with grace and wisdom. We eagerly anticipate the blessings and growth that his leadership will usher into our church family.

**Dana Fleming**

*Chair*





## Dr. Kevin R. Johnson



A visionary leader, believer, and builder, Dr. Kevin R. Johnson is a proven executive in transforming organizations into innovative, high-performing, fiscally-sound, and pioneering institutions.

Committed to holistic ministry and community development, Dr. Johnson is the founding Lead Pastor of Dare to Imagine Church, Inc. In nine years, he has built a ministry that started with 20 people in his home and has grown into a congregation of over 1,500 members on a \$2.2 million, 6.8-acre campus in the Mt. Airy section of Philadelphia. To date, the church has donated over \$750,000 to support area organizations that provide services for citizens in need.

Dr. Johnson also serves as the founder and President & CEO of Dare to Imagine Community Development Corporation. Prior to his current positions, he served as President & CEO of Bridge of Hope Community Development Corporation, which, with The Goldenberg Group, built a \$100 million, 14-story student apartment tower for Temple University.





As President and CEO of the Philadelphia Opportunities Industrialization Center (OIC), Dr. Johnson developed a new workforce-training vision and launched career-sustaining programs in banking, energy, construction, and technology. Under his leadership, OIC and its affiliates' budget increased from \$2M to over \$5M. In 2017, he secured a \$6.6M alternative school contract from The School District of Philadelphia, making OIC the first to provide over-aged and under-credited youth a pathway to earning a high school diploma and a direct pipeline to life-sustaining careers.

Additionally, he launched BankWork\$, the first bank training program in the US Northeast for young adults from low-income communities. While expanding OIC's workforce programs, he successfully maintained a nearly 80 percent job placement rate for jobs in the hospitality industry.

A lifelong ordained Baptist minister, he is a nationally-known speaker who regularly delivers messages of inspiration. He has delivered speeches in distinguished arenas including the largest Protestant church in the world, Yoido Full Gospel Church, Seoul, South Korea. Dr. Johnson was also the first African-American in 200 years to speak at Africa's oldest Baptist church, Regent Road Baptist in Freetown, Sierra Leone, and later was inspired to raise funds, build, and establish a new church in West Africa— "Bright Hope Baptist Church in Moyamba, Sierra Leone."



Additionally, by invitation of the American Jewish Committee, Dr. Johnson traveled to Israel and Palestine and met government leaders to discuss the challenges that exist between the nations. An avid and respected writer, he is a frequent columnist for the oldest continually-running African-American newspaper, The Philadelphia Tribune, and is heard by 400,000 listeners every Sunday morning on WDAS-FM 105.3.

Previously, he served on the boards of the Greater Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce, City of Philadelphia Workforce Steering Committee, PHL Diversity, the Forum for a Better Pennsylvania, African-American Leadership Forum and previously served as Vice-Chair of the Board of Trustees of Lincoln University. A recipient of numerous awards and citations, Newsweek featured him as one of the “up-and-coming” national post-Civil Rights ministers, The Philadelphia Tribune identified him as a “mover-and-shaker” in the City, and Morehouse College inducted him into the prestigious Board of Preachers. Dr. Johnson has been a guest on CNN, NBC, MSNBC, ABC, FOX NEWS, and other national media. He is member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity (Alpha Boulé), and lifetime membership in the Morehouse College National Alumni Association.

A Phi Beta Kappa and Magna Cum Laude graduate of Morehouse College, Dr. Johnson was awarded the Martin Luther King Jr. and Oprah Winfrey scholarships. He earned a Master of Divinity degree as a Union Scholar from Union Theological Seminary, and later earned the Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) degree in Organizational Leadership and Transformational Learning from Columbia University.

He is married to Mrs. Kimya S. P. Johnson, Esq., a corporate diversity professional and employment attorney. They are Philadelphia residents and are proud parents of three children—a son who is a recent graduate of Morehouse and now a graduate student at New York University; and two daughters – one at Spelman College and one in Philadelphia Public Schools.

# Our First Year

*Pastor & People Growing Together*



2024 Proposal  
**REVIVING THE ABYSSINIAN SPIRIT**

<b>Vision</b>	United by a vibrant, evolving faith, we love, uplift, empower, and inspire.
<b>Mission</b>	To lead all people to Christ through love, service, community transformation, and global impact.

## OUR FIRST YEAR

	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter
<b>Missional Focus</b>	<b>WE UNITE</b>	<b>WE LOVE</b>	<b>WE SERVE</b>	<b>WE WITNESS</b>
<b>Quarterly Focus</b>	<b>ONE GOD, ONE CHURCH</b>	<b>LOVE ONE ANOTHER</b>	<b>SERVE ONE ANOTHER</b>	<b>EVANGELIZE &amp; IMPACT COMMUNITY</b>
<b>Goals</b>	Increase worship attendance within 12-months	Increase intentional acts of kindness per month	Increase service to Harlem/NYC community	Increase Salvations/Baptism and New Members

# Our Vision Strategy:

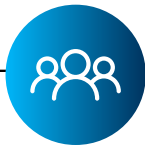
## 4 Key Focus Areas of the Church



### Know God

Encounter God  
Experience God  
Love God  
Worship God

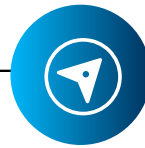
Step 1



### Find Community

Find Family  
Build Connections  
Find Freedom  
Grow Together

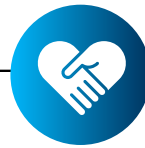
Step 2



### Discover Purpose

Discover Your "Why"?  
Pursue Your Purpose  
Grow Together  
Grow Stronger

Step 3



### Make a Difference

Make an Impact  
Live for More  
Empower Others  
Live a Legacy

Step 4

God gets excited when the Church has a passion for Christ. That's why having a clear vision strategy is important to growing the church.

There are four ways to accomplish this. First, we must **know God** and the Lord wholeheartedly. Second, we must **find community**; life is better together. Third, we must **discover our purpose**: Why are we here? What impact does God want us to make in the world? And lastly, we are called to **make a Difference**—to impact many lives for God.



# THE ABYSSINIAN SPIRIT

Embracing the Moment,  
Reimagining Our Future

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**2024**

**DR. KEVIN R. JOHNSON  
PRESENTS A COMPELLING  
VISION FOR ABYSSINIAN**

**READ IT NOW!**

SCAN ME

