

## **Dr. Edward O. Williamson, B.A., M.A., D. Min.**

Dr. Edward O. Williamson currently serves as the pastor-teacher of the Bethel Baptist Church of White Plains, New York. He is a native of East St. Louis, Illinois. Dr. Williamson has been married to Rev. Deborah A. Williamson for the last 38 years. They have two daughters: Stefanie (Michael, Jr.) Powell and Jennifer (Oliver, Jr.) Vigille, and they are the proud grandparents of two grandsons, Oliver III and Michael III.

Dr. Williamson was educated in the public school system of East St. Louis, IL. He received his BA degree from Western Illinois University, Macomb, IL and his MA Degree from Covenant Theological Seminary in St. Louis, MO. He received the Doctor of Ministry Degree with an emphasis in Christian Education from United Theological Seminary in Dayton, OH.

Dr. Williamson was licensed and ordained by the Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church in East St. Louis, IL. Dr. Williamson served as the pastor of the Southern Missionary Baptist Church in Madison, IL for 9 years. He served as the pastor of Beautiful Plain Baptist Church in Binghamton, NY for 5 years.

Dr. Williamson's greatest love is preaching and teaching in the church and community. He is a certified instructor and a certified dean of Christian education for the Sunday School Publishing Board of the National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc. He has formerly served as the Dean of Christian Education, Congress President and Vice Moderator for the Central Hudson Baptist Association. He also formerly served as the Northeast Regional Coordinator for the Sunday School Publishing Board. He presently serves as Moderator of the Central Hudson Baptist Association and the Dean and State Director of Christian Education for the Empire Missionary Baptist State Convention of New York. He is a workshop/seminar leader, lecturer, guest preacher/speaker and church consultant.

Dr. Williamson has held several occupations including serving as a social worker, a district executive for the Boy Scouts of America, an intensive drug abuse probation officer, and a clinical interventionist in a mental health and chemical dependency treatment center.

Dr. Williamson currently is a member of the Ministers Fellowship Council of White Plains, Vice-Chairman of the board of directors for the Thomas H. Slater Community Center, a member of the White Plains-Greenburgh Branch NAACP, chaplain for the White Plains Public Safety Department, and a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity. He has received numerous awards and recognitions for his service to the church and community. His motto for life, ministry, church, and community is: ***"We're all in this together, being the church God has called us to be."***