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THE REV. DR. J. SHERMAN

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Congratulations 2019 Recipients!

Category II - Liberty Baptist Church-Atlanta Students

Shana Brown:

Shana Brown was born in Rome, Georgia. Her family moved to Atlanta when she was 10. She graduated from Harper High School in Southwest Atlanta. After graduation, she started college but didn't finish. She began a family with her late husband. She's worked over 15 years in Healthcare and decided to go back to school after 30 years. She first pursued Business and Health Administration, but then decided to pursue Psychology. Shana enjoys people and serving others. Family is her life! She is an overcomer living with Lupus. Shana is mother to Sean and Alexandria and grandmother to 4 grandchildren and is expecting her 5th in 2020. She's a caregiver to her father and bonus mother. In the Fall, Shana will transfer to Valdosta State University to complete what she began 30 years ago! Her destiny awaits!

Startisha Gresham:

Startisha Gresham was born in Decatur, Georgia and was the only child until 2013. She is now a big sister to her five-year old sibling. She is a graduate of Southwest Dekalb High School in Decatur, Georgia. Currently, Startisha attends Atlanta Metropolitan State College, in Atlanta, Georgia, where she is studying Criminal Justice Law Enforcement and Child Psychology. Startisha has always had faith in Jesus Christ and always believed that God sees our true colors. She has recently joined Liberty Baptist Church and has been baptized to show that she has accepted Jesus Christ as her Lord and Savior. She believes that she is on her path to righteousness.

Journey Wilder:

Journey Wilder is a first-year student attending Kennesaw State University as an Anthropology major. She is an active member of Liberty Baptist Church where she is involved in the PA Ministry, the Praise Dance Team, the Youth Choir, the Youth Ministry, and the Praise and Worship Team. Journey graduated from DeKalb School of the Arts (DKA), majoring in Instrumental Music and minoring in Creative Writing. At her high school, she was a member of their Chamber Orchestra for two years, and was a very dedicated writer in the Creative Writing Department, in which she participated in a non-profit video production, was an editor for the school's literary magazine for two years, and had one of her plays go up in the school's Dark Knight program. Journey makes it a goal in her life to help others and treat people with kindness, love and compassion. She is a genuine lover of Christ who does not hesitate to spread the Word of God to others. She is always happy to bring a smile to people's faces. She further hopes that she can bring her strong Christian and family values in the pursuit of her career as a forensic anthropologist. Her ultimate goal is to bring closure and peace to families who have been a victim of crime.

2019-2020 J. Sherman Pelt Scholarship Recipients Final



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Congratulations 2018 Recipients!

Category I - Seminary Students

Minister Richard N. Stewart:

Richard N. Stewart was born in Kingston, Georgia but moved to Bronx, New York at an early age. Upon graduating from Christopher Columbus High School, he entered the U.S. Army and served as a Nuclear, Biological and Chemical Operations Specialist. His contribution to the United States Army and Chemical Corp has been numerous and can be seen through his previous assignments and deployments around the world. He also served as Operation Sergeant Major for the 525 Military Police Battalion GTMO, Cuba. Minister Stewart currently serves as Youth Director at Beulahland Bible Church. He also serves as a small group adult teacher and as a Bible study teacher for the Nexgen youth, middle school and teen groups. He has distinguished himself by consistently volunteering to reach back to the upcoming generation of youth in the spirit of Sankofa by volunteering as a Mentor with Communities in School (Augusta, GA); Big Brothers (Macon, GA); and E-cyber-Mission High School mentoring (Aberdeen, MD). Minister Stewart is also a certified teacher in the state of Georgia, a nationally certified Mathematic Tutor and currently mentors with Star-base 2.0 (STEM) in Warner Robins, GA.

Minister Stewart is a graduate of Georgia Military College and Mercer University. He is also a 2018 graduate of Morehouse School of Religion at the Interdenominational Theological Center (ITC) in Atlanta, GA where he received a Masters of Divinity in Christian Education. Currently, Minister Stewart is pursuing a Doctor of Divinity Degree.

Category II - Liberty Baptist Church-Atlanta Students

Startisha Gresham:

Startisha Gresham was born in Decatur, Georgia and was the only child until 2013. She is now a big sister to her four-year-old sibling. She is a recent graduate of Southwest Dekalb High School in Decatur, Georgia. Currently, Startisha attends Atlanta Metropolitan State College, in Atlanta, Georgia, where she is studying in Criminal Justice Law Enforcement and Child Psychology. Startisha has always had faith in Jesus Christ and always believed that God sees our true colors. She has recently joined Liberty Baptist Church and has been baptized to show that she has accepted Jesus Christ as her Lord and Savior. She believes that she is on her path to righteousness.



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Sean-Tyler Thomas Walton:

Sean-Tyler Thomas Walton, a native of Atlanta is the oldest child of Melvin and Tomeka Walton. He is currently pursuing a Bachelor's Degree in Graphic Arts at Watkins College of Art, Design & Film in Nashville, Tennessee. He was dedicated and led to Christ by the late Dr. J. Sherman Pelt and has been active in many ministries at Liberty over the years. Sean is a natural born artist who has pursued his God given talent since he was a little boy. He knows that he can do all things through Christ who empowers him!

Freeman Wilder:

Freeman Wilder was born in Decatur, Georgia. He is currently attending Kennesaw State College in Marietta, Georgia where he is pursuing a degree in Computer Science and Video Game Design. Freeman has attended Liberty Baptist Church-Atlanta all of his life and has been active in several ministries. He accepted Jesus as his Savior and was baptized by the late Rev. Dr. J. Sherman Pelt.

2018-2019 J. Sherman Pelt Scholarship Recipients-F 8-10-18



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Congratulations 2017 Recipients!

Category I - Seminary Students

Minister Richard N. Stewart:

Richard N. Stewart was born in Kingston, Georgia but moved to Bronx, New York at an early age. Upon graduating from Christopher Columbus High School, he entered the U.S. Army and served as a Nuclear, Biological and Chemical Operations Specialist. His contribution to the United States Army and Chemical Corp has been numerous and can be seen through his previous assignments and deployments around the world in Cuba, Korea, Germany and England to name a few. He also served as Operation Sergeant Major for the 525 Military Police Battalion GTMO, Cuba. Minister Stewart currently serves as Youth Director at Beulahland Bible Church. He also serves as a small group adult teacher and as a Bible study teacher for the Nexgen youth, middle school and teen groups. He has distinguished himself by consistently volunteering to reach back to the upcoming generation of youth in the spirit of Sankofa by volunteering as a Mentor with Communities in School (August, GA); Big Brothers (Macon, GA); and E-cyber-Mission High School mentoring (Aberdeen, MD). Minister Stewart is also a certified teacher in the state of Georgia, a nationally certified Mathematic Tutor and currently mentors with Star-base 2.0 (STEM) in Warner Robins, GA.

A graduate of Georgia Military College and Mercer University, Minister Stewart is currently pursuing a Masters of Divinity in Christian Education at Morehouse School of Religion at the Interdenominational Theological Center (ITC) in Atlanta, GA.

Category II - Liberty Baptist Church-Atlanta Students

John Tysinger:

John Tysinger, a graduate of Norcross High School in Norcross, Georgia currently attends Georgia State University in Atlanta, Georgia, where he is majoring in Computer and Information Systems. He has a passion for computers and information systems and he believes the Lord has blessed him with this special gift. He is a current member of Liberty Baptist Church in Atlanta, Georgia. John Tysinger is proud to accept the J. Sherman Pelt Scholarship as both a member of Liberty Baptist Church-Atlanta and the Tysinger household.



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Sean-Tyler Thomas Walton:

Sean-Tyler Thomas Walton, a native of Atlanta is the oldest child of Melvin and Tomeka Walton. He is currently pursuing a Bachelor's Degree in Graphic Arts at Watkins College of Art, Design & Film in Nashville, Tennessee. He was dedicated and led to Christ by the late Dr. J. Sherman Pelt and has been active in many ministries at Liberty over the years. Sean is a natural born artist who has pursued his God given talent since he was a little boy. He knows that he can do all things through Christ who empowers him!

Freeman Wilder:

Freeman Wilder was born in Decatur, Georgia. He is a recent graduate and Salutatorian of The Wilson Academy in Lithonia, Georgia. Freeman has attended Liberty Baptist Church-Atlanta all of his life and has been active in several ministries. He accepted Jesus as his Savior and was baptized by the late Rev. Dr. J. Sherman Pelt. In the fall of 2017, Freeman will be attending Kennesaw State University at the S.T.E.M Campus in Marietta, Georgia. While at Kennesaw, he will be pursuing a degree in Mechatronics or Computer Science and Video Game Design.



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Congratulations 2016 Recipients!

Category I - Seminary Students

Keilah Johnson:

Keilah Johnson is a bold Christian who desires to lead her generation to not conform to the destructive patterns of the world but instead renew their minds to the greatness and fullness God has prepared in advance for them! She was born and raised in Lithonia, Georgia to two amazing and dedicated parents, John and Stephanie Johnson and she is the youngest of five children. Keilah attended a summer internship in New York City where she discovered her purpose. Her heart began to break and burden for the young girls, boys and teens who were becoming mere products of their environments. Upon returning to school, Keilah changed her major and started an after-school program for high school girls and later founded a 501(c)(3) organization in 2013 called The Truth in Chaos Foundation. She also has a YouTube Ministry. Keilah is overjoyed that she will be pursuing a Master of Divinity Degree in Christian Leadership at the Columbia Theological Seminary in September 2016. She knows God has her in Atlanta for a specific purpose - to shift the culture, to shift her generation and to speak the truth with compassion and love. Words cannot express how thankful she is for receiving the J. Sherman Pelt Scholarship, as she was blessed by Dr. Pelt's ministry during the intentional time God used him on this earth.

Minister Jokeda L. Nelson:

Min. Jokeda L. Nelson is a native of Jackson, Mississippi and the youngest of three daughters to the Rev. and Mrs. Hubie J. Nelson. She received her Bachelor's in Agricultural Economics from Alcorn State University and her Master's Degree in Agricultural Economics with a concentration in Food Science from the University of Arkansas. While residing in Athens, Georgia, she accepted her call in the ministry on December 9, 2012 and was licensed by Dr. Wilson Lattimore at Chestnut Grove Baptist Church. Minister Nelson is currently pursuing a Master of Divinity degree at the Interdenominational Theological Center (ITC) - Morehouse School of Religion. Overall, her heart's desire is to be pleasing in the eyesight of God. Minister Nelson finds no greater joy than to see the Lord be manifested through the people of God. She counts it an honor and a privilege to be one of God's chosen vessels. To sum it all up in the words of Tasha Cobbs, she wants to make God smile.

Rev. Marcus Jerkins:

Rev. Marcus Jerkins is native of Atlanta, Georgia. He received his secondary education at the Science and Math Academy of the Benjamin Elijah Mays High School. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Religion from Emory University. After receiving his degree in Religion he, matriculated at Emory's Candler School



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of Theology. During his matriculation, he obtained a Master of Divinity and a Master of Theology with a concentration in New Testament Studies, Classical Hebrew, and Classical Greek. He is the former Assistant Pastor of the Historic Mount Moriah Baptist Church and shared ministerial duties as an Associate Minister of East Friendship Baptist Church in Athens, Georgia and Greater Fellowship Baptist Church in Decatur, Georgia. Rev. Jerkins is the former Executive Secretary of Convention Operations for the New Era Baptist Convention of Georgia. He was also the Executive Chair of the Mt. Hermon Baptist Association of Atlanta. Currently, Rev. Jerkins, his wife, Courtney, and three children, Nathaniel, Naomi and Joanna, reside in Waco, Texas, where he is pursuing his Ph.D. in Religion in the area of New Testament studies at Baylor University.

Category II - Liberty Baptist Church-Atlanta Members

Bryan Nikolas Harris:

Bryan Nikolas Harris was born in Decatur, Georgia and is the youngest of four siblings. He is a recent graduate of Southwest DeKalb High School in Decatur, Georgia. He has been accepted to Gordon State College, in Barnesville, Georgia, where he will be pursuing a Bachelor of Science Degree in Biology. At an early age, he accepted Christ as his personal Savior, and he joined Liberty Baptist Church in Atlanta, Georgia under the leadership of the late Rev. Dr. J. Sherman Pelt. Bryan's favorite Bible verse is Matthew 5:16 "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven." He knows and understands that he must continue to let his light shine through his good works!

John Tysinger:

John Tysinger is a recent graduate of Norcross High School in Norcross, Georgia. He currently attends Georgia State University in Atlanta, Georgia, where he is majoring in Computer and Information Systems. He has a passion for computers and information systems and he believes the Lord has blessed him with this special gift. He is a current member of Liberty Baptist Church in Atlanta, Georgia. John Tysinger is proud to accept the J. Sherman Pelt Scholarship as both a member of Liberty Baptist Church-Atlanta and the Tysinger household.

Charlene Denise Farmer-Harris:

Charlene Denise Farmer-Harris was born and raised in Chicago, Illinois. In 1991, she took a leap of faith, (Hebrews 11:1 Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen) and moved to Decatur, Georgia with her three small children. She always had a desire to further her education, but with so many obstacles in her way, that desire was placed on hold until 2005 when she received a Technical Certification in Business Technology/Legal Secretary Specialist from DeKalb Technical College in Covington, Georgia. After finishing the program at DeKalb Technical College, she



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went back to school in the Fall of 2013, taking night and Saturday classes to continue her education at Georgia State University-Perimeter in Decatur, Georgia. She is currently pursuing an Associate's Degree in Criminal Justice. Her favorite song is "We've Come This Far by Faith."

Sean-Tyler Thomas Walton:

Sean-Tyler Thomas Walton, a native of Atlanta is the oldest child of Melvin and Tomeka Walton. He is currently pursuing a Bachelor's Degree in Graphic Arts at Watkins College of Art, Design & Film in Nashville, Tennessee. He was dedicated and led to Christ by the late Dr. J. Sherman Pelt and has been active in many ministries at Liberty over the years. Sean is a natural born artist who has pursued his God given talent since he was a little boy. He knows that he can do all things through Christ who empowers him!

Rev. Warren J. Brown, Sr.:

Rev. Warren Johnson Brown Sr. is the sixth child of seven children by the late Rev. Marvin and Mrs. Rosebud Brown. He is the fourth of his siblings to answer the call to the ministry. He is a recent graduate from Point University and is currently working towards a Master of Divinity Degree from Liberty University. He is currently serving as Assistant Pastor in Wedowee, Alabama under the leadership of Rev. A. J. Sims and serves on the Ministerial staff at Liberty Baptist Church as a Sunday School teacher. He is most proud of knowing that he is redeemed, washed by the blood of Jesus who has changed his whole life.



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Congratulations 2015 Recipients!

Category I - Seminary Students

Minister Jokeda L. Nelson:

Min. Jokeda L. Nelson is a native of Jackson, Mississippi and the youngest of three daughters to the Rev. and Mrs. Hubie J. Nelson. She received her Bachelor's and Master's Degrees in Agricultural Economics from Alcorn State University. While residing in Athens, GA, she accepted her call in the ministry on December 9, 2012 and was licensed by Dr. Wilson Lattimore at Chestnut Grove Baptist Church. Minister Nelson is currently pursuing a Master of Divinity degree at the Interdenominational Theological Center (ITC) - Morehouse School of Religion. Overall, her heart's desire is to be pleasing in the eyesight of God. Minister Nelson finds no greater joy than to see the Lord be manifested through the people of God. She counts it a honor and a privilege to be one of God's chosen vessels. To sum it all up in the words of Tasha Cobbs, she wants to make God smile.

Minister Jerrie'Me K. Wright:

Min. Jerrie'Me K. Wright is a native of Tarboro, South Carolina. He is the youngest of four siblings. He is a graduate of Columbia High School in Columbia, SC. In 2009, he received his Bachelor of Science in Biology and Bachelor of Business Administration in Management from Francis Marion University in Florence, SC. After receiving his undergraduate degree in 2009, he enrolled in the Interdenominational Theological Center (ITC) - Morehouse School of Religion in Atlanta, GA. During his graduate career, he joined Liberty Baptist Church in Atlanta, GA under the leadership of Rev. Dr. J. Sherman Pelt. Under his pastor's leadership and guidance, Min. Wright preached his initial sermon. He graduated from ITC - Morehouse School of Religion in May 2012 with a Master of Divinity Degree. Min. Wright has been accepted to the Howard University School of Divinity, in Washington, DC, where he will pursue a Doctor of Ministry degree.

Rev. Marcus Jerkins:

Rev. Marcus Jerkins is native of Atlanta, Georgia. He received his secondary education at the Science and Math Academy of the Benjamin Elijah Mays High School. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Religion from Emory University. After receiving his degree in Religion he, matriculated at Emory's Candler School of Theology. During his matriculation, he obtained a Master of Divinity and a Master of Theology with a concentration in New Testament Studies, Classical Hebrew, and Classical Greek. He is the former Assistant Pastor of the Historic Mount Moriah Baptist Church and shared ministerial duties as an Associate Minister of East Friendship Baptist Church in Athens, GA and Greater Fellowship Baptist Church in Decatur, GA. Rev. Jerkins is the former Executive Secretary of Convention Operations for the



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New Era Baptist Convention of Georgia. He was also the Executive Chair of the Mt. Hermon Baptist Association of Atlanta. Currently, Rev. Jerkins, his wife, Courtney, and two children, Nathaniel and Naomi, reside in Waco, TX, where he is pursuing his Ph.D. in Religion in the area of New Testament studies at Baylor University.

Category II - Liberty Baptist Church-Atlanta Members

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Ratasha J. Collier:

Ratasha Collier is a native of Barnesville, GA and is a member of Liberty Baptist Church-Atlanta. As a current graduate student, she is pursuing a Master's degree in Social Work at The University of Georgia (UGA). Prior to attending UGA, Ratasha obtained a Bachelor's in Social Work from Georgia State University. Ratasha plans to become a Licensed Clinical Social Worker. One of Ratasha's favorite scriptures that has helped her persevere to obtain her goals is Philippians 4:13, I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

Rev. Barbara Mitchell:

Rev. Barbara Mitchell is a native of Shreveport, Louisiana. She has served in Christian ministry for over forty years. Rev. Mitchell is currently serving as the Teachable Moment class instructor at Liberty Baptist Church-Atlanta. She has provided Christian services in a plethora of ministries since becoming a servant of God. To enhance the utilization of her unique skills and spiritual gifts for God's kingdom work, Rev. Mitchell has attained a Bachelor of Science in Education from Henderson State University and a Master of Divinity Degree from Mercer University. She was officially ordained as a Preacher/Teacher of the Gospel at Liberty Baptist church in 2013 under the pastoral leadership of Dr. J. Sherman Pelt. Rev. Mitchell is presently pursuing a Doctorate Degree in Ministry at Mercer University-Atlanta.

Inaugural J. Sherman Pelt Scholarship Recipients 2015