

## **The Reverend Dr. Melvin T. Blackwell**

Dr. Blackwell is the Senior Pastor of the Little Zion Baptist Church, Smithfield, Virginia, whose ministry focus is "Kingdom Living". He currently resides in Chesapeake, Virginia with his lovely wife Jackie. They have four children: Alexandria, Melvin II, Marcus and Nijeria.

Pastor Blackwell holds a Doctor of Ministry degree from Virginia University of Lynchburg. His doctoral dissertation was entitled, "Body Shift: A Model to Shift Church Members into Lifetime Kingdom Disciples", which is now made available in book form for pastors and churches desiring a Kingdom Shift.

Before moving into full-time pastoral ministry, He served as the Founder and CEO of the SoSoft Corporation, a computer software solutions and development company. His company served the Hampton Roads and the Richmond, Virginia community for ten fruitful years. He has numerous software certificates of registration in the United States Copyright Office.

Pastor Blackwell has served as an Adjunct Instructor of Religion at Norfolk State University and the Richmond Virginia Seminary.

Pastor Blackwell is a member of the following organizations: The Tidewater Board of Directors for the Virginia Center for Inclusive Communities, formerly the Virginia Conference of Christians and Jews, where he serves as Secretary, The Board of Trustees for the Richmond Virginia Seminary, Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Incorporated, The Historical Tidewater Metro Baptist Ministers' Conference of Virginia, where he serves as the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, and The Executive Board of the Hampton University Ministers' Conference. A former member of The Executive Board of the Virginia Baptist State Convention, Inc., where he also served as the State Director of the Young Pastors and Ministers Department, and as Assistant Dean of the Congress of Christian Education.

Pastor Blackwell is the CEO of Kingdom Reach, Inc., a 501(c)(3) non-profit community development corporation and a ministry affiliate of Little Zion Baptist Church, whose vision is to serve as an empowering hand throughout the community, providing opportunities to promote economic, emotional, and physical well-being.

Dr. Blackwell is the founder of Back Home Ministries, where the focus is kingdom teaching, training, technology, and publishing. He is the executor of the Pastor's U Lectures and Forward Leadership Conferences for Pastors and Church Leaders. He is a sought-after lecturer and workshop facilitator. Dr. Blackwell fulfills his missionary calling through his support and periodic trips to the people of Kenya, Africa.

Dr. Blackwell hearts' desire is to be obedient to what God commanded unto him one early September morning in 1998; **"Walk in My ways, Follow My commandments, Feed the Flock"**.

**AMEN!**