

**Rev. Dr. Thomas L. Brown** is currently retired as the Senior Pastor of Ebenezer M.B. Church in Indianapolis, Indiana. With 33 years of dedicated service through the fulfillment of pastoral duties, providing spiritual guidance and delivering a leadership that placed Ebenezer as a Church “active in community”; initiating programs providing various services to empower people. As a part of his commission at Ebenezer he served as CEO of the church and of the Ebenezer Church Foundation. He sought to teach that the Church is as a means of serving God- through service and serving others and to move the church to an “ultimate” and “operative paradigm” of a wholistic ministry model. A model that is not traditional “brick and mortar” of the “Church of Programs” that is sustained maximally in services and minimally in buildings.

He can be heard across Central Indiana on a variety of topics every Saturday as he hosts the historic talk radio show “Operation Breadbasket *Presents* HARAMBEE” on AM-1310 WTLC. He also serves as the President of the Indiana Christian Leadership Conference and was the Director of the Institute of Urban Ministry and Professor of Religious Studies (Grad and Undergrad) at Martin University for twenty five years.

Dr. Brown is a graduate of Bishop College, with BA and BS degrees in Religion, Philosophy and Social Science; The Martin Luther King, Jr. School of Social Change at Crozier Theological Seminary, with a MA degree in Ethics; The School of Religion at Northwestern University, with a Masters of Divinity and Doctorate of Sacred Theology in Theology, Church and Community; and The School of Urban Affairs at Northwestern University, with a Doctorate of Philosophy-Post Grad Studies in Urban Affairs and Economics.

Dr. Brown’s life work and ministry has been deeply rooted in the Civil Rights Movement and remains deeply rooted in social change. He has worked with the Student Non-violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), where he participated in Freedom Rides and sit-ins in the southern United States. He has led voter education drives in the South, where he was arrested many times for his works. He also aided in organizing the Black Panther Party in Lowndes County, Alabama.

Dr. Brown has shown a commitment to education in his work and ministry. He has served as a successful Director of Admissions at Bishop College and as a special recruitment consultant to Black Colleges of the South where his combined track record spans 19,500 black students who received an opportunity to attend college.

Dr. Brown has applied his academic training; interests in economics, education and community health; and his faith in God to his work. He has served as a special consultant to the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, to

CSA and to his father, the late Rev. Andrew J. Brown. He has served on the school board of Indianapolis Public Schools.

Dr. Brown has studied extensively abroad. South Africa called him to study intensively the Apartheid and “change” that was enveloping. Additionally, he made a special visit South Africa, where he interviewed Nelson Mandela following his release from prison. His international studies in India and Asia were focused on researching the Missing Years of Jesus to reveal the hidden truths of Jesus’ life and teachings. His studies have also included Eastern religions, Medicine of the Spiritual Path and applying Yoga to Christian lifestyles.

Among Dr. Brown’s works through the Ebenezer Church Foundation is a specialized prevention education program that addresses HIV/AIDS/STD’s and substance abuse in the Black community. The “Bridging the Gap Project” is a faith-based health initiative that seeks to close the divide between Black people and wellness by offering HIV/AIDS prevention, intervention, education and counseling.

One of Dr. Brown’s greatest accomplishments was created in memory of and named in dedication to his father; the late Reverend Dr. Andrew J. Brown. In the fall of September 2003, the Andrew J. Brown Charter Academy was founded and organized with the assistance of his good friend; the late Reverend Charles Williams, president of Indiana Black Expo. The Andrew J Brown Charter Academy is located on the far Eastside of Indianapolis, Indiana where Dr. Brown serves as the president of the Board of Directors. His active participation and presence continues to directly impact educational opportunities and learning experiences for the students and community.

Dr. Brown’s experiences and internal wisdom led him in to the creation of the L.O.V. E. Project (Let Our Violence End), a concept and training method based on “Kingian Non-violence that provides the techniques and responsibility of self that will essentially create LOVE based communities.

Under Dr. Brown’s leadership the Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church (EMBC) stood proud as a church of service and dedicated to people and causes that impact community. Initiating a model that was not the traditional “brick and mortar” of “Church of Programs”, provided a concept for Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church to purchase 64 acres of campground and facilities and named that project site Ebenezer Retreat & Camping Institute (ERCI). The ERCI initiative served as means to bridge the gap between the “haves and the have not’s” as it relates to nature education, exposure, nature’s benefits and the creation of harmony within self and one’s surroundings. For seven years the ERCI project was a unique site that serviced thousands; inspiring and impacting individuals, families and communities across the states and country.

Dedicated to service for individuals, communities and the environment, Dr. Brown's journey continues with servant leadership, in order to provide educational experiences and opportunity to those considered the "least, lost and the forgotten".