

# Biography: Rev. Dr. Bernice Belt

## **FAMILY**

- ✦ Married to Harold Belt, (US Army Retired).
- ✦ 3 Children by birth and 9 in Christ: Minister Tiffany (Joseph) Benberry/Paducah, Elder Stephanie (Joseph) Sullivan/Texas, Martin Luther Cook (Deborah) Paducah, Angela (Brian) Addison/Florida, Doretha (Joseph) Walker, and Jolisha Wharton (Brian) James. 15 grands, 3 great-grands.

## **MINISTRY**

- ✦ Accepted Christ as Lord and Savior at 9 years of age.
- ✦ Called to the Gospel before her 10<sup>th</sup> birthday.
- ✦ Currently a member, as of MARCH 17, 2013: Mt. Horeb-Metropolis, Illinois, having served as a Life Coach, on the Praise Team, and Ministerial.
- ✦ Previous Member Service: Washington Street MB Church: Senior Associate, Facilitator-- 10-week New Members Orientation Class, Director--Performing Arts, Overseer-- several in-house ministries, stints in choral ministry, facilitated Bible Study and the restructured New Members/Prospective Members Orientation, and F.A.I.T.H ministry until God reassigned her to more concentrated efforts in current community/faith-based service and leadership, and diverse ministry whenever and wherever God assigns.
- ✦ First Woman Ordained in the history of Washington Street Baptist Church, and the Pastor's first ordainment.

## **EDUCATION**

- ✦ Bachelor of Science—Forensics and Public Address, Minor-Journalism: Austin Peay State University, Clarksville, Tennessee.
- ✦ Master of Science--Human Development and Leadership for Non-Profit Organizations, Murray State University, Murray, Kentucky.
- ✦ Certified Christian Counselor, through The American Association of Christian Counselors.
- ✦ Former Adjunct Professor with West Kentucky Community and Technical College.
- ✦ Doctorate of Theology--Newburgh Theological Seminary and College of the Bible, in July of 2008. Dissertation title: "The Spiritual and Social Relevance of the Christian Counseling Ministry in the Local Church for Both Adults and Youth, Saved and Unsaved".
- ✦ Distinguished Alumnus--July 2010--Newburgh Theological Seminary and College of the Bible. Member-NTS Graduation Gospel Choir.
- ✦ Second Doctorate--Currently enrolled to pursue PhD in Christian Education. Dissertation Title: "CHRISTIAN EDUCATION: Development of Faith and Wisdom through Biblical Knowledge and Application".

## **COMMUNITY SERVICE includes:**

Community Clergy Fellowship, Golden Echoes Gospel Ensemble, Interracial Women's Group, Chairperson-Paducah Human Rights Commission, Paducah/McCracken County Chapter of the NAACP, 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Class of Leadership Paducah, Paducah Area Chamber of Commerce Membership & Marketing Committee, City of Paducah Anti-Bullying Task Force, Paducah Philanthropic Committee, as a McCracken County Elections Officer, Board Member Paducah Lifeline Ministries.

**Occasional preaching and/or teaching and singing in transitional facilities, low-income venues, and senior/disabled citizens.**

+She preaches, teaches, counsels, sings and conducts workshops near and far, on both Biblical and secular issues.

+Whenever blessed to do so-assists others in carrying out their callings/tasks.

**NON-LOCAL affiliations include:** 'Preaching Woman', and American Association of Christian Counselors.

**LOCAL to NATIONAL Missions Affiliation:** Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union (WMU).

**PREVIOUS SERVICE:** Board of Directors-Paducah/McCracken County Senior Citizens Center, Mayor Bill Paxton's 'Community Unity' emphasis, Board of Directors-Market House Theater/performer/director/co-director, Christian Women United, Board Member-Habitat for Humanity, Board Co-Chair-Merryman House Domestic Crisis Center, Friends of the Library, and Paducah Police Department Committee for Diversity.

**PADUCAH POLICE CITIZEN'S ACADEMY:** Graduate--Class #1.

**FOUNDER/OVERSEER-Collaborative Women's Conference. EST 2008 (Member-Paducah Area Chamber of Commerce).** Community/faith based/not-for-profit, ninth year in Continued development. God is the Visionary, and she 'gets to serve Him and His people in the capacity in which He called her'. CWC membership-in-Unity exceeds 160 Women (and daughters 06-17), representing more than 37 churches, and various organizations, near and far.

**TELEVISION: Host/Producer** "The Heart of Collaboration". [www.paducah2.org](http://www.paducah2.org) and Youtube.

**RADIO: Host/Producer** "Iron Sharpens Iron". Saturday 10:30—11:00. WDXR 1450 AM, and 102.5 FM, through Bristol Broadcasting Studios, Paducah, KY.

**AWARDS/HONORS INCLUDE:** International Who's Who of Public Service, Duchess of Paducah, and NAACP March 22, 2014 "The Power of One" Rosa Parks Honoree, Community Coming Together 2016 "Role Model" Award, Just By Faith Ministries 02/2016 African-American Accomplishment Award/Pathfinder and Role Model.

**WOMAN of ACHIEVEMENT 2011 Finalist:** The Paducah/River City Business & Professional Women, & Four Rivers Business Journal.

**POSH MAGAZINE: Debut Article,** Sept/Oct 2012, "A Portrait of The Rev. Bernice Belt, Th.D."

**VICTOR!!!** Last stage rare cancer/domestic violence/homelessness/job loss/failing college level grades/low self-esteem/slander/libel. Neither had the last word!!!

Rev. 03.22.15

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