

ETTA F. CARTER, PH.D.

Dr. Etta F. Carter is a proud native of Ivan, Arkansas where her education -- up until fifth grade -- began in a one-room school. Completing high school with honors at the age of 16, she enrolled at Philander Smith College where, at the age of 19, she earned a Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration. These early experiences ignited a zeal for learning that has spanned her life's journey. She holds a Master of Arts in Environmental Science, Master of Arts in Urban Teacher Education, New York State Certification in Educational Administration, Doctor of Ministry and Doctor of Philosophy in Christian Education.

A life-long career in teaching began in Chicago, Illinois, and continued in Queens, New York, with advancements to principal and deputy superintendent. During this time, she was called upon to settle and manage difficult school and community problems for the district's 28,000 student population. After 37 years of meritorious service, Dr. Carter retired in 2003, but because of her outstanding record of leadership, she was immediately called out of retirement to serve as assistant educational director of Bank Street College Principal's Institute.

Dr. Carter is a 40-year Diamond Life Member of the National Sorority of Phi Delta Kappa, Inc., an organization of professional women in the field of education. She currently serves as the 26th Supreme Basileus, the first in its 97 year history from the Southwest Region. The organization consists of 117 chapters, 5,000 members

and affiliates, and provides over \$100,000 in college scholarships each year.

Along with a stellar professional career, Dr. Carter has a heightened commitment to service. As a United Methodist clergy spouse for 47 years, she participated on mission trips to Zimbabwe, Kenya, Liberia, Brazil, Virgin Islands, Haiti and Israel. After relocating to Little Rock in 2009, she joined Theresa Hoover United Methodist Church where she serves as Vice President of the United Methodist Women and chair of Staff, Parish Relations. She is founding director of Project H.O.P.E. (Health, Opportunity, Peace and Empowerment), a United Methodist Women's mission project that provides weekend meals to Stephens Elementary students. Over 8,000 meals have been served in five years. She is also a Silver Life Member of the NAACP, as well as a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.



Dr. Carter has maintained an unwavering commitment to Philander Smith College: She is a life member of the PSC National Alumni Association; a seven-year member and former Vice President of the College's Board of Trustees; and a member of the 1877 Giving Society.

Dr. Carter considers herself blessed to have been called for HIS purpose; to be known as wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, sister, aunt, cousin, friend, and soror. But the most honored name is "Christian."

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