



2011 Distinguished Alumni Award

Rev. Dr. Fredrick Johnson, Sr.

Awarded at 2011 Conference on Ministry
Tuesday, June 7 – 3:30 p.m.

The *Distinguished Alumni Award* was established in 2009 to annually recognize a graduate of Northeastern Seminary who exemplifies faithful service in ministry. Recipients demonstrate such characteristics as innovative approaches to ministry, engagement of their cultural context, perseverance in the face of challenges, excellence in Biblical preaching and worship, equipping others to serve, and transformation of self and others through spiritual formation. Nominations are made by faculty, staff, trustees, and graduates of NES.

We are pleased to make the presentation at this particular conference as you in this audience value the same qualities recognized through this award. At this time I would like to call this year's Northeastern Seminary Distinguished Alumnus, the Rev. Dr. Fredrick Johnson, Sr., to the front to be recognized.

"Just serve and let God do the rest." This guiding principle has served as a compass for Fred Johnson throughout his life. I'd like to share with you some of the fruit that has resulted.

Dr. Fred Johnson is senior pastor at First Genesis Baptist Church, a growing and progressive ministry that has adopted the biblical themes "Making Disciples for the Kingdom" and "A Church on the Move with God's Vision in Hand." He has participated in every facet of church ministry as prophet, priest and leader with a passion for evangelism, teaching, preaching and community building. One colleague notes, "He is a man of prayer and study and is often called upon to share words of encouragement and spiritual insight to those who are struggling with the tribulations of life."

Under his pastoral leadership the First Genesis Baptist Church has experienced membership and spiritual growth. Fred is a visionary servant and Christ-like leader who believes in the authority of Scripture, power of the Holy Spirit, the sovereignty of God's eternal promises, and that Jesus is Lord.

In 2004 Fred was invited to teach a course on the *Fundamentals of Finance for Ministers and Churches* at Northeastern Seminary. His expertise in this area grew out of his first career of more than 20 years of experience in the private sector working for multinational corporations,

as well as his direction of the South West Area Development Corporation, a non-profit economic development ministry of Zion Hill Missionary Baptist Church.

Dr. Johnson serves as a board member of the Greater Rochester Housing Partnership (GRHP) and Anthony Jordan Health Center Community Council. Honors include recognition by the Rochester Business Journal "40 under 40," the Dr. Samuel McCree Community Service Award, the National Black Master Business Administration Association, and Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Inc. He serves on the Northeastern Seminary Clergy Council, the North East Area Community Council, and the Rochester City School District (RCSD) School #6 Reading Program. And he is the board chair of the Rochester Connection, a non-profit ministry that networks resources within and across denominational lines to facilitate church growth and Christian ministry.

Fred earned his Bachelor of Science from Delaware State University, a Master in Business Administration from Rochester Institute of Technology, and then *two more degrees from NES!* He earned both the Master of Divinity (2001) and Doctor of Ministry (2007), part of Northeastern's very first class of doctoral students. Fred's dissertation was entitled, "Economic Empowerment by an Urban African American Church: Individual and Community Transformation—A Model for the Twenty-First Century."

Fred is a native of Brooklyn, New York and he is married to Evangelina (Gail) Johnson, his childhood sweetheart, who is an educator in the Rochester City School District. They have three children, daughters Jasmine and Brandy, and son Fred Jr.

In light of Fred's love for God, his passion for people, and his commitment to service, we are pleased to present Fredrick Johnson, Sr. with the Northeastern Seminary 2011 Distinguished Alumni Award.