

Rev. Dr. Christal LaShawn Williams is a Twenty-First Century trendsetter, Pastoral Pioneer, and Bridge-Builder, and leading voice, echoing through the airways of time, with a soul-stirring message of God's Love for all people. As an Inspirational Preacher, Rev. Christal Williams offers a grassroots way of asking one to dig deeper into their understanding of God, Faith and Life and Church. This is witnessed in her Life's work as of Regional Minister and President of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Tennessee. As an influential leader and relationship cultivator, Christal takes to heart her personal mission to love, equip and encourage all persons toward a reconciling relationship with God. Her tenure in ministry has been widespread throughout Illinois, Iowa, Ohio, and Indiana. Pastor Christal has engaged in ministry around the world; having traveled extensively to China, Guatemala, Puerto Rico, Israel-Palestine, Egypt, West and South Africa, Asia, India and Europe for Ministry and Cross-cultural exchanges. Christal is committed to ecumenism, accompaniment, hospitality and nurturing global partnerships.

A native of Cleveland, Ohio, Christal graduated from the Cleveland School of the Performing Arts, where she had a special emphasis on Vocal Music and Theory. She earned a bachelor's degree from Jarvis Christian College, Hawkins, Texas, a Master of Divinity Degree from Christian Theological Seminary in Indianapolis, Indiana. Christal holds a Doctoral degree from the United Theological Seminary in Dayton, Ohio. On June 20, 1998, Christal was ordained a minister in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) at Southport Christian Church in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Dr. Christal serves as one of the adjunct professors at Vanderbilt School of Divinity, and doctoral advisor at Lexington Theological Seminary. She is the proud Founder and President of Credo International Women's Ministries, Incorporated and A.W.O.K.E. (Anointed Women Overseeing Kingdom Endeavors) and is the author of three books, "*The Power of Asking; Unleashing God's Best for Your Life*," "*Moving from Endangerment to Empowerment: Rediscovering the Word of God*," and "*Beneath It All: A Conversation Specifically for Women*." Currently, serving as a member of the International Disciples Women's Ministries of Church (Disciples of Christ), this transformational leader is respected by her colleagues and admired by her friends. In her role as Discovery mentor, Christal offers a thought provoking, contagious leadership that transcends lines of age, ethnicity, culture, and theological boundaries. She has a host of trainings, multitudes of certifications and several awards. She is a proud member of The Delta Sigma Theta, Sorority, Inc., N.A.A.C.P and IMPACT Network Ministry. Christal L. Williams has an extensive background in community service, mission work, education and pro-reconciling-anti-racism training, conflict resolution and mediation and Parker Palmer's Circles of Trust Retreats. Christal has one sister Kim, two nieces and two nephews and, has five very special Godchildren. Pastor Christal's hobbies include Reading, Traveling, Music and photography. Her favorite scriptures are Isaiah 61, Ephesians 3:14-21, I John 4:7&8.

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