

## **Brief Biographical Sketch**

**Reverend Geoffrey S. Ellis is a native of Louisville, KY where he was reared in the Shepherd Square housing projects located in the Smoketown neighborhood. Rev. Ellis attended Booker T. Washington Elementary School, Jackson Jr. High School and is a graduate of Central High School.**

**Reverend Ellis has been married to Reverend Deirdre Ellis for over 34 years and they have a total of six living children. Currently, Reverend Geoffrey serves as the pastor of Asbury Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Louisville, KY. Reverend Geoffrey has served as pastor of churches in the Louisville and Elizabethtown KY. He is currently serving in his twentieth-fifth year in the ministry of Jesus Christ.**

**Reverend Ellis was employed with state, county and metro governments for over 22 years. He served as special assistant to County Judge Executive Harvey Sloan and County Judge Executive and Mayor David Armstrong, as well as Mayor Jerry Abramson. He was also employed by the KY Human Rights Commission, and The Louisville Urban League. He is a past president of the local branch of the NAACP and the Interdenominational Ministerial Coalition of the NAACP as well as current President of the Greater Louisville AME Ministerial Fellowship. He is currently the President of the Board of West Louisville Community Ministries. Reverend Ellis has been a community activist every since he was Honorable discharged from the US Navy in 1961. He was the co-founder of Ervin House, the first owned and operated African American half way house for ex-offenders in the state of KY. Rev. Ellis was also founder/owner of the first black-owned shoe store, (The Boot Gallery) located in west Louisville. Rev Ellis has directed several youth employment projects for the Urban League and Presbyterian Community Center.**

**Reverend Ellis attended Jefferson Community College, Simmons College of Kentucky, University of Louisville and the Louisville Presbyterian Seminary. Rev Ellis has been presented many awards and recognitions for his service to the Louisville community that he humbly says are too numerous to name.**

**Reverend Ellis is extremely active in the African Methodist Episcopal Church and has served in many capacities and roles. In his 25 years of ministry he has overseen the sale of the 2 church buildings and movement of two congregations (St. John, Louisville and Greater St. James) to newer sanctuaries. While serving as pastor at Greater Saint James and along with Rev. David Chavous (pastor of Trinity) they were guided by God to merge their congregations into the new congregation of St. Mark A.M.E.Church. This was a first in the West KY Conference. Currently, Rev Ellis is serving as pastor of his home church, Asbury Chapel. Reverend Ellis lives by the creed "If I can help somebody, then my living has not been in vain".**