

Rev. Anthony B. Thompson

The Rev. Anthony Batiste Thompson, was born in Charleston, SC where he graduated from Bishop England High School. He received a B.A. degree in secondary education at Benedict College, served six years in the U.S. Navy and received a Master of Divinity from Cummins Theological Seminary in Summerville, SC.

Rev. Thompson's adulthood has been dedicated to the shepherding care and assistance to his fellowman. After 27 years of service, he retired from the SC Department of Probation, Parole and Pardon Services as an Adult Probation-Parole Agent. He was also employed with Carolina Youth Development Center; the SC Department of Mental Health; the Charleston County Substance Abuse Commission; the John G. Richard's Institution for Boys and has voluntarily mentored young people in Charleston, Berkeley and Dorchester counties for forty years.

Rev. Thompson was ordained into the Holy Order of Deacons of the Reformed Episcopal Church in 1997 and the Holy Order of Presbyters of the Reformed Episcopal Church in 1998. He was the pastor of St. Stephen's Reformed Episcopal Church of Summerville from 1995 until 2010 and is presently Vicar of Holy Trinity Reformed Episcopal Church in downtown Charleston. He is affiliated with the National Board of Foreign Missions of the Reformed Episcopal Church; the Examining Chaplains of the Reformed Episcopal Diocese of the Southeast; chairman of the Drug and Substance Abuse Prevention Committee of the Reformed Episcopal Diocese of the Southeast; the Community Advisory Board of Mother Emanuel AME Church Empowerment Center; the Clergy Advisory Council under Mayor John Tecklenburg of Charleston. and the Board of Visitors of Charleston Southern University.

Since the ***Emanuel Nine*** massacre, Rev. Thompson's mission is to spread the gospel of forgiveness. He has spoken at many churches, organizations and radio broadcasting stations abroad and across the United States. He is an advocate for gun control and in 2016 was featured in the documentary by PBS entitled "Armed in America: Faith and Guns." In 2017, he was featured in the Showtime documentary entitled "Active Shooter America under Fire." In 2018, he was featured in the CNN Special Report: "Spreading Hate: The Dark Side of the Internet" and in the documentary "Emanuel" to be released on June 17, 2019. He is author of the book entitled "Called to Forgive..." to be released on June 4, 2019.

He is a published poet and was acknowledged by the American Poetry Association as one of the Best Poets of 1980 and 1985. His publications can be found in the Library of Congress. He was also published by the Journal of Preachers in Volume XLI Number 2 for Lent of 2018.

Rev. Thompson was married to the late Myra Singleton of Charleston, SC. They have three children and five grandchildren.

Rev. Thompson strongly believes that "Without God we can do nothing but with God all things are possible." His favorite Bible verse is taken from St. Matthew 25:40(b): "...*Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.*"

