Reverend Solomon Jackson, Jr.
"...a caring and sharing philanthropist."
From Our President...

The front cover of this Winter-Spring edition of the Morris College Update takes on a design that is different from previous covers. It captures the image of the Reverend Solomon Jackson, Jr., a man who possesses a benevolent spirit and magnanimous heart. This “caring and sharing philanthropist,” during a special assembly held on the morning of January 7, 2010, announced to a packed auditorium that he was donating $10 million to Morris College. With the season of Advent ended and Christmas celebrated and faculty, staff, and students back for the first day of class, ready to move forward into the new year, this angelic announcement filled our hearts and minds with encouragement, joy, and inspiration. I will always remember that special assembly, because the presence and love of God were wonderfully present. “Awesome” as the young people would say.

THE GIFT, ACCORDING TO REVEREND JACKSON’S STIPULATIONS AND THE COLLEGE’S AGREEMENT, WILL FUND THE FOLLOWING CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS: DORMITORY; ADMINISTRATION BUILDING; MAINTENANCE BUILDING WITH A VEHICULAR SHED; AND AMMA HALL (ROOF REPLACEMENT).

THE GIFT WILL ALSO FUND ENDOWMENTS FOR THE PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLARSHIPS FOR OUTSTANDING FRESHMEN AND ATHLETIC SCHOLARSHIPS. INCOME FROM THE ENDOWMENT WILL BE USED TO AWARD RECIPIENTS.

A PORTION OF THE GIFT IS DESIGNATED ALSO TO THE COLLEGE’S GENERAL ENDOWMENT FUND, INCREASING IT TO MORE THAN $11 MILLION. THIS GIFT WILL ALSO FINANCE THE PURCHASE OF A NEW COACH BUS AND PROVIDE FOR CONTINUED CAMPUS LANDSCAPING AND BEAUTIFICATION. IT WILL ALSO HELP MATCH FUNDS TO BUILD A STUDENT HEALTH SERVICES CENTER.

THE COLLEGE WILL ADHERE TO THE BREADTH AND DEPTH OF ITS AGREEMENT WITH REVEREND JACKSON, AS HIS VERY SIGNIFICANT GIFT COMPLEMENTS MANY OF THE COLLEGE’S CONTINUING GOALS AND OBJECTIVES. NONE OF IT WILL BE USED FOR THE OPERATING BUDGET. THEREFORE, THE COLLEGE STILL NEEDS THE CONTINUED, FERVENT SUPPORT OF OUR BAPTIST FAMILY, ALUMNI, AND FRIENDS TO HELP KEEP MORRIS COLLEGE THE LEAST EXPENSIVE OF PRIVATE, FOUR YEAR COLLEGES IN SOUTH CAROLINA.

As difficult as it can sometimes be for one to part with one’s possessions, Reverend Jackson is keenly aware of the obligation and responsibility we have to give back. An extremely generous person, he shared with us that day how attending Morris College has been a blessing throughout his life, and how he always wanted to do something good for his alma mater. When the opportunity presented itself, he did not hesitate for a single moment. Never before in the history of South Carolina could I recall one of its black colleges receiving such a large individual gift in a lump sum. What makes us proud even more is that Reverend Jackson is one of us: an alumnum, a son of the institution.

Thanks to individuals like the Reverend Solomon Jackson, Jr. and all our supporters who share their enthusiasm and excitement for Morris College, our beloved institution continues to be an outstanding academic center of higher learning where students “enter to learn” and “depart to serve.” We trust that the philanthropic spirit of Reverend Jackson, and the good example he has shown will motivate us and inspire all of us to assume the responsibility of giving. We may not have millions to give, yet imagine the lives of so many students being transformed and blessed when we give of what we have.

Again, Reverend Jackson, on behalf of the entire Morris College community and all of its constituents, thank you for your strong demonstration of compassion and passion by making your alma mater the recipient of such a blessing.

Luns C. Richardson
President
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ON THE COVER:
Reverend Solomon Jackson, Jr., of Columbia, South Carolina, is a "caring and sharing philanthropist" who made Morris College history when he contributed $10M to the institution on January 7, 2010.

Morris College is a historically Black, co-educational, liberal arts college owned and operated by the Baptist Educational and Missionary Convention of South Carolina and accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, GA 30033-4097; telephone number 404-679-4501) to award baccalaureate degrees.
Morris College Receives $10M Contribution
Philanthropist makes history with largest individual gift to institution

Reverend Solomon Jackson (second from the right) presents his historical gift to President Richardson while (from left to right) Dr. Willie E. Givens, Jr., Morris College Board of Trustees Chairman; Attorney Thomas B. Levy, College Attorney; and Attorney I. S. Leevy Johnson, Jackson's Attorney, share in the presentation.

Morris College recently reached another milestone in its noble journey when the largest individual gift in the institution's history was presented in a check for $10 million by the Reverend Solomon Jackson, Jr. of Columbia, South Carolina.

As shared by Dr. Luns C. Richardson, who has served as college president since 1974, “The first milestone being the establishment of the institution by the founding fathers in 1908.”

“The second milestone is the accreditation of the college by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools in December 1978. Of course, in January 1992, the college was accepted into membership by the United Negro College Fund, the third milestone. And the fourth milestone is the giving to the college of the largest, most generous, and unprecedented gift by an individual — this day, January 7, 2010.”

The momentous announcement was made in the college’s Neal-Jones Auditorium to a standing room only crowd of students, faculty, staff, members of the Morris College Board of Trustees, alumni, other supporters, and individuals from the Sumter community.

Jackson had the “good fortune” of winning the August 2009 lottery. I. S. Leevy Johnson, Jackson’s attorney, during his presentation shared with the audience that before it was confirmed he won, he said, “...if I am the winner, I want to do something special for Morris College.” Johnson went on to say of his lifelong friend, “...because of his love, admiration, and support of this institution, the priority with paramount concern has been to do something to benefit the students of Morris College.”

When Jackson stood to deliver his remarks, he talked about the influence of his then pastor and mentor, the late Reverend Dr. William McKinley Bowman, Sr. He fondly recalled Bowman telling him, “You have got to attend Morris College.” Jackson later in the 1970s attended the college’s former School of Religion. “When I was aspiring to be a minister, I studied here at Morris College,” Jackson said. “The experience helped mold me. I thank God for the training I received here.”

In keeping with his first priority, the students, portions of Jackson’s gift will be used to provide endowed student scholarships, construct a new dormitory, and aid in the construction of a new Student Health Services Center. Other designated capital development projects include construction of a new administration building, the purchase of a new coach bus, the roof replacement of an existing dorm, continued landscaping and beautification of the campus; and adding to the college’s general endowment.

Plans also include the construction of a new maintenance building with vehicular shed. Jackson stated, “My father, Solomon Sr., worked as a custodian and that’s how we ate. I was a personal witness to how hard he worked and how well he did his job.”

“As I consider the work he did, I would like this facility to be constructed in my father’s memory and named in his honor.”

Describing Reverend Jackson as a “caring and sharing philanthropist,” President Richardson stated, “The entire Morris College Family expresses its most sincere thanks and lasting gratitude to you for giving to Morris College the sum of $10 million.” “We assure you the money will be used as announced and every dollar will be accounted for in a timely fashion. You have lavished your gifts upon Morris College and your benevolence will stand forever.”

Jackson’s gift is an abundant blessing and one that confirms the college’s fiscal stability. For the last thirty-four years, the institution has maintained a financially sound agenda in its day-to-day operations. Due to the fiscal astuteness of Dr. Richardson, the college has also been able to maintain the low cost tuition.
CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT

- Administration Building $2,500,000
- Maintenance Building with Vehicular Shed $747,000
- Dorm $3,000,000
- AMMA Hall Roof Replacement $435,000
- Endowed Freshman Scholarships $500,000
- Endowed Athletic Scholarships $1,000,000
- College's General Endowment $1,000,000
- Student Health Services Center $170,000
- Coach Bus $450,000
- Campus Landscape and Beautification $150,000
"...an institution of quality."

The good news story of the week took place right here in Sumter, more specifically on the campus of Morris College.

It was there that its president Luns Richardson announced on Thursday the largest amount ever donated to the college by a single donor: $10 million.

The donation came from the lucky winner last August of the state lottery’s Powerball jackpot, who netted about $88 million from the $129 million lump sum he won.

The Rev. Solomon Jackson Jr. of Columbia, pastor of Shiloh Baptist Church, who had studied at Morris in the 1970s, was the extraordinarily generous benefactor.

Unlike most lottery winners, Jackson had plans other than personal needs for part of his good luck, focusing instead on the institution that he regarded as having made a difference in his life.

He told the stunned audience in Neal-Jones Auditorium that his experience and studies at Morris’ Division of Religion and Humanities “helped make and mold me to be what I am and stand where I am today,” for which he gave thanks to God.

As Morris made a difference in his life, so Jackson will be making a difference in the lives of those who lead, work and study at Morris.

Thanks to him, there will be a new dormitory, a new administration building, a new roof for an existing dorm, additional improvements for the new student health center, a $1 million addition to the college’s general endowment, and many other pressing needs on Morris’ wish list that will be met.

As Richardson told the happy crowd at Thursday’s announcement, Jackson’s unprecedented gift was like “manna from heaven.”

It was a proud moment for Richardson, who has worked tirelessly to improve the 102-year-old college since he became president in 1974.

Richardson took over the reins following a period of upheaval and instability on the campus, and brought leadership and direction to Morris.

Like many historically black colleges and universities, Morris has had to work tirelessly to secure funding for its programs and physical facilities in order to attract and hold students striving for educational opportunities in their lives.

Richardson has been the institution’s champion and guiding light during his nearly 40 years at its helm.

Jackson’s donation says as much about his confidence in Richardson’s leadership as it does about his love for the college, and as such, is a tribute to him.

The Morris College family has much to be proud of as it moves into its second century.

Its campus will soon look better and provide better for its students and faculty. Solomon Jackson made sure of that.

As Richardson saw it, the donation was the fourth milestone in the college’s history: first, its founding in 1908; second, its accreditation by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools in 1978; third, its acceptance into membership by the United Negro College Fund in 1982, all leading up to the signal event last Thursday.

Not only should the Morris College family be bursting with pride but so should the Sumter community in having in its midst, in Richardson’s words, “an institution of quality.”

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Trustee Hines Honored for Service

Reverend Dr. Mack T. Hines (Class of 1980), along with his wife, Mrs. Gladys Jackson Hines, was honored by the Saint Paul Baptist Church family — Mullins, South Carolina — in celebration of his 25th Pastoral Anniversary. In addition to the spiritual and physical growth the church has experienced, Dr. Hines has led St. Paul in expanding its services to better meet the needs of the congregation and community. A Christian Life Center, an Adult Day Health Care, and Genesis 11, a 15 unit apartment complex to house the elderly, are just a few of the ministries the church is actively involved in.

A former member of the South Carolina House of Representatives, District 59, Dr. Hines is affiliated with numerous organizations. He is a member of the college’s Board of Trustees; Moderator of the Pee Dee Baptist Association; Vice Moderator of the Florence and Affiliated Counties Baptist Union; President of the Mullins Area Ministerial Alliance (MAMA); and he operates the Transitional Shelter for the homeless. The recipient of many honors and awards, the college conferred upon Dr. Hines the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity (May 1990).

Dr. Richardson, in his tribute, commended Dr. Hines for his “immeasurable loyalty” to the college.
Honoring the King Legacy

On Monday, January 18, 2010, the legacy of the late Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was honored in several ways. The day began with Dream Walk, an annual event sponsored by Central Carolina Technical College, Morris College, and USC-Sumter. Approximately 500 people representing each institution, as well as the Sumter community, participated in the three-mile walk. This year's grand marshal/speaker was Mrs. Ann August, Executive Director, Santee Wateree Regional Transportation Authority. Immediately following the walk, a special program was held in the USC-Sumter Nettles Auditorium. Morris College participants during the program included Mr. Alston Freeman, Student Activities Coordinator and Dream Walk Committee Member, and the Morris College Gospel Choir. Later that afternoon in the Morris College Neal-Jones Auditorium, the Student Government Association sponsored its annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Legacy Program. This year's program participants included SGA officers Zina Diaz, Student Representative to the Morris College Board of Trustees; Jessica Myers, Second Vice-President; and Antonio White, Chaplain. Special presentations and tributes were shared by Shamel Duncan, Senior Criminal Justice major; Melvin Howard, III, SGA President and Senior English major; and Christopher Pondexter, Senior Criminal Justice major. All three young men did phenomenally.
Morris College Grants

$1.5 Million Secured for Morris College

U.S. Representative John Spratt (D-SC) secured $1.5 million for Morris College in the Energy and Water Appropriations Act that the House passed on October 1. The funds will be used to construct a new wing to the Wilson-Booker Science Building with classroom and laboratory space to accommodate the large number of students majoring in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). The new wing will include a research lab with an animal and plant room and a greenhouse, and will accommodate some 20 students (the current research lab holds 10); a chemistry lab to support general chemistry and organic chemistry laboratory sessions simultaneously; a large classroom; two faculty offices; and a passenger/service elevator.

Sharp Health Promotion Project

In a partnership agreement with the University of South Carolina's School of Medicine, Morris College is engaged in a project designed to promote health education through the curriculum of the Health Science, Pastoral Ministry, and Christian Education programs. The total award amount is $182,000.

Morris College QEP Grant

Recently, Morris College received a $15,000 grant from the Southern Education Foundation, Incorporated to assist in the development of the Morris College Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP). The grant will be used to explore topics that promote student learning and meet the approval of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges, which is the college's regional accrediting body. Since every institution is unique, Morris College will explore issues of student learning that are specific to the college. The grant was awarded in response to a proposal that was written in August 2009.

Morris College Forensics Center Project

Morris College has received a two-year grant from the U.S. Department of Education under the College Cost Reduction Access Act (CCRAA) of 2007. The award for the first year is $500,000. These funds will be used to assist with the construction of a Forensics Center. The mission of the Morris College Forensics Center project is to improve the quality of the Criminal Justice degree program at Morris College through the development of laboratory facilities and related resources that allow students to receive more extensive instruction in forensic techniques as they are applied in criminal investigations and other facets of Criminal Justice practices. The Forensics Center will house a multipurpose classroom, a fingerprint analysis laboratory, a DNA analysis laboratory, a ballistics laboratory, and a drug analysis laboratory. Training in the use of the scientific and technological equipment in these laboratories will help criminal justice students gain a competitive advantage in the job market through enhancing their knowledge of and ability to use up-to-date forensic technology and methods. This project is also funded through resources provided by $500,000 from the US Department of Justice and $500,000 from the Higher Education Excellence Enhancement Program (HEEEP), which is funded by the South Carolina State Lottery. The projected date of completion is scheduled for September 2010.

Social Sciences Update

The Division of Social Sciences began the 2009-10 academic year with a renewed resolve to continue making substantive advancements in its various program offerings as well as intensify efforts to enhance the personal development of its students. On the academic side, after conducting a year-long internal assessment that included surveys of current students and alumni, the Division unveiled two new course offerings. The first is a quantitative methods course that is custom-tailored to help students aspiring to pursue graduate study to better prepare for professional research in the social and behavioral sciences. The second, a course in community politics and social change, is aimed at addressing a desire expressed by a number of students for their courses to include more opportunities to engage in community service.

Insofar as student co-curricular activity is concerned, after a period of limited activity, the Criminal Justice Student Association was reorganized during this past semester. Under the leadership of a new president and executive committee, the Association conducted fund-raising for the college’s 2009 Fall Harvest, and also donated gifts to a needy family as part of its social action efforts for the Christmas holiday season.

Alongside the above, recent Social Sciences alumni also reached significant milestones this past semester. Three May 2009 graduates, Darrell Holland, Teshawn Moses and Kayla Scott, began study for advanced degrees. The three have concluded their first semesters of study at East Tennessee State, Troy and Nova Southeastern universities, respectively. These students continue a tradition whereby the Division of Social Sciences has been among the highest producers of students attending graduate and professional schools after completing their undergraduate studies at Morris.

Encouraged by these efforts, the Division of Social Sciences looks forward to continued progress in the rest of this academic year and beyond.
“A Journey to Excellence”

Representative Bakari T. Sellers challenges students to “dream big”

On October 15, 2009, several students were recognized for their high achieving academic performance during the 2009 Spring semester. In addition to the accolades expressed toward the honorees throughout the program, the campus community was “blessed” to hear a motivating call-to-action message delivered by the Honorable Bakari T. Sellers.

Sellers, State Representative, District 90 (Bamberg, Barnwell, and Orangeburg Counties), is a graduate of Morehouse College and the University of South Carolina School of Law. At the age of 25, Sellers is an example of what can manifest with a blend of determination, hard work, and an appreciation for the sacrifices of others.

In his message, Sellers indicated, “My purpose here, on this morning, is to issue a challenge.” As he outlined the purpose, he referred to the challenge as “A Journey to Excellence.” “There are two questions although simplistic are necessary to be answered to navigate the journey to excellence,” he said. “First, how far have we come; and secondly, where do we go from here?”

Within a matter of minutes, the audience was attentive to the manner in which, Sellers shared information regarding the cases of Briggs v. Elliot and Brown v. the Board of Education of Topeka, Kansas. However, the audience was captivated by the vivid glimpse into the details of the life of a young college student in 1968 who, as proclaimed by many, has gone down in history as “the one man riot.” The stories surrounding this young man’s “journey to excellence” confirmed the importance of being steadfast in one’s convictions and how persistence can charter a path to great opportunities. The young man he so passionately spoke of was his father; Dr. Cleveland L. Sellers, Jr. Dr. Sellers, a pioneer in many regards, currently serves as President of Voorhees College in Denmark, SC.

As Representative Sellers continued to encourage the audience, he told students, “The answer to the question ‘where do we go from here,’ lies in the ability simply for our generation not only to work hard, but to dream big. When I talk about dream big, I also mean dream with your eyes open because anything you can possibly dream of, you can possibly pursue.”

In his closing remarks, President Richardson told Sellers, “You have been a blessing and have given us a great challenge.” He told students, “You should remember this challenge and apply it to your studies as you prepare yourselves for excellence.”
Michigan Pastor Presents Gift to Morris College

Dr. Drew E. Marshall, senior pastor of Trinity Missionary Baptist Church in Pontiac, Michigan, came to Sumter, SC for the first time with one thing on his mind - Morris College. He joined hundreds of others for the college's Fall Harvest Worship Service and Rally, which took place on November 21, 2009. The speaker for this occasion was Reverend Clarence Moore, pastor of Good Shepherd Baptist Church, Augusta, GA.

In addition to Rev. Moore's dynamic message, Dr. Marshall shared expressions and presented to President Richardson a check for $16,085 on behalf of his congregation's observance of "Black College Sunday."
2010 Religious Emphasis Week
February 23-26

The Morris College Religious Emphasis Week, now more than ever, continues to be a much anticipated time for the campus community. Returning to the campus, for now the tenth, will be the Reverend Dr. Charles B. Jackson, Sr., senior pastor of West Columbia’s Brookland Baptist Church.

Worship services will take place in the college’s Neal-Jones Auditorium twice daily (10 a.m. and 7 p.m.) on Tuesday through Thursday. The final message will be delivered on Friday morning at 10 a.m.

A graduate of Benedict College, Dr. Jackson has a Master of Divinity degree from the Morehouse School of Religion of the Interdenominational Theological Center (ITC) in Atlanta, Georgia. He was awarded an honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity from Morris College.

Dr. Jackson’s capability as a preacher, pastor, administrator and leader is known throughout South Carolina and the nation. A past president of the South Carolina Baptist Congress of Christian Education and immediate past moderator of the Gethsemane Baptist Association, he holds membership in numerous denominational, civic and community organizations.

Morris College is honored to have Dr. Jackson return to the campus as this year’s Religious Emphasis Week preacher. His timely and relevant sermons help the entire campus community reflect on the meaning of our lives and our connection with God.

Dr. Jackson is a member of the college’s Board of Trustees and is married to the former Robin Hoefer. They have two adult children and three grandchildren.

Dr. Tisdale to Deliver 2010 Mid-Winter Banquet Address February 26

Dr. Henry N. Tisdale will deliver the keynote address during the Annual Mid-Winter Banquet and Rally on Friday, February 26, 2010 in the college’s Garrick-Boykin Human Development Center. Dr. Tisdale—the eighth president and 1965 magna cum laude graduate of Claflin University—provides dynamic leadership to this progressive UNCF member institution. Elected to the presidency in 1994, he brings to the Office of President leadership that is experienced and energetic, well-rounded and broad-minded.

The trajectory of Dr. Tisdale’s educational pursuit and professional career, traced from his native home of Kingstree, South Carolina, opens a window for all to see the opportunities he took advantage of in preparing himself as an educator and administrator. From a classroom math teacher in the Philadelphia School System to Senior Vice President and Chief Academic Officer at Delaware State University, Dover Delaware, they were roads that would eventually bring him back to an institution of higher learning, his alma mater, he now serves as president with honor, commitment, and distinction.

During his tenure as President of Claflin University, this high energy president has accomplished the following: committed to a vision of Claflin as one of the premier liberal arts institutions in the Southeast; moved the University to “TOP TIER” and “TOP TEN” rankings among comprehensive baccalaureate granting institutions in the South, according to U.S. News and World Report’s “Guidebook to America’s Best Colleges;” enhanced and increased enrollment approximately 70%; added a number of new academic majors to include Mass Communications, Digital Art, Computer Science, Computer Engineering, Biochemistry, Biotechnology, Bioinformatics, the Master of Science in Biotechnology, the Master of Business Administration and Master of Education in Educational Studies; achieved national accreditation for Business Administration, Teacher Education, Music and Chemistry; transformed the campus with the new Living and Learning Center, Legacy Plaza, award winning entrances, the Student Residential Center, the Music Center and expanded the campus through property acquisitions including the Russell Street Campus. Throughout the campus, numerous buildings have been totally renovated or restored. Construction of the new James and Dorothy Z. Elmore Chapel was completed in spring 2007.

Dr. Tisdale has been the recipient of numerous awards and honors. The 2008 CASE (Council for Advancement and Support of Education) District III Chief Executive Leadership Award; the 2007 Milliken Medal of Quality Award; 2007 BellSouth Honoree, I. DeQuincey Newman Humanitarian Award; the NAFEO (National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education) Distinguished Alumni Award; Who’s Who Among Black Americans; the NAACP Educator of the Year Award, and an Honorary Doctorate degree from South Carolina State University (2004) are but a few.

Over the years, Dr. Tisdale served on many Committees, Councils, Boards and Task Forces at both the state and national levels. Additionally, he has published and presented widely in areas of probability theory and issues in higher education.

He is president of the UNCF Council of Presidents and the University Senate of The United Methodist Church. He is a member of the UNCF Board of Directors; the Executive Council of the Commission on Colleges of SACSC (Southern Association of Colleges and Schools); the National Association of Schools and Colleges of The United Methodist Church; the Claflin University National Alumni Association; Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity; Omega Psi Phi Fraternity; the Orangeburg Rotary Club; the Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges, and Trinity United Methodist Church.

Henry N. Tisdale and his wife Alice Carson-Tisdale are residents of Orangeburg, South Carolina. They have two children, Danica Camille (Emory University and Miss Georgia 2004) and Brandon Keith (Tennessee State University Graduate and employed by Monroe Harding Incorporated, Nashville, Tennessee.)

The banquet will start at 7:30 p.m.
Dr. Carter to Deliver Closing Convocation Address for Ministerial Extension Centers

Dr. James L. Carter will be the speaker for this year’s Closing Exercise of the Ministerial Extension Certificate Centers at Morris College on Wednesday, April 28, 2010 in the auditorium of the Neal-Jones Fine Arts Center.

The pastor of Ark Church in Baltimore, MD since 1987, Dr. Carter brings to his more than 800 member congregation a wide array of educational preparation, preaching experiences, skill, as well as honors and special services. He has a Bachelor of Science degree (1979) from Morgan State University, Baltimore, MD; Master of Divinity degree (1984) from the Samuel DeWitt Proctor School of Theology, Virginia Union University, Richmond, VA; Doctor of Ministry degree (1992) from the United Theological Seminary, Dayton OH and the Samuel DeWitt Proctor Fellows Program; and studied further in an Ecumenical Study Program (2006-2008) University of Boston, Boston, MA; and a honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity (2003).

In addition to duties and responsibilities as a pastor, Dr. Carter serves as Regional Coordinator for Disaster Relief, National Baptist Convention/ National Red Cross. He has served as Chairman of the Family Enrichment Commission, National Baptist Convention (2006-2009); President of the Baptist Ministers Conference of Baltimore and Vicinity (1995-1997) and as First Vice-President (1992-1994); and Vice President of Clergy United to Reclaim East Baltimore (CURE) (1988-1992).

Dr. Carter has traveled extensively around the world on preaching, mission, and on study tours.

Morris College is pleased to have Dr. Carter as one of its outstanding friends and supporters. Each year through his coordinating efforts and fundraising abilities, Dr. Carter, through the Maryland area churches and the Baptist Ministers Conference of Baltimore and Maryland Vicinity, gives generously to the college. This work is important in creating awareness of the mission and goals of Morris College and in building the member donor base.

Students who have completed studies from extension centers throughout the state will convene on the campus, along with family members, to receive certificates during graduation ceremonies. The event will begin at 8:00 P.M.

SAVE THE DATES

Religious Emphasis Week - February 23-26, 2010

Closing Convocation - Ministerial Extension Center

April 28, 2010

Annual Commencement Convocation

May 8, 2010

Alumnus Appreciative of Morris College Experience

The Morris College Career Services Center coordinates a trip for graduating seniors to attend a graduate school visitation at the Ohio State University. As a result of their visit, many Morris College graduates have gone on to pursue graduate studies at the University.

During the annual visits, Ms. Margaret A. Bailey, Director of the Career Services Center, coordinates networking opportunities for the students with other Morris College graduates who are currently enrolled at Ohio State University or have already obtained their graduate degree.

The following is a letter Ms. Bailey received upon returning from the 2009 visit.

Dear Ms. Bailey:

Thank you and as always it is great to see students from Morris College who are interested in pursuing graduate education. Those of us who attended graduate school at the Ohio State University would say unequivocally that we were well trained to handle the academic rigor at OSU. In many ways, we were better prepared than some of our peers because Morris instructors invested in our intellectual and personal development. Intellectually, we were provided with the technical information needed to develop proficiency and a high level of understanding for our respective area of study as well as taught how to become critical thinkers, analyzers, and problem solvers. These have been key tools for me personally as I pursued a graduate degree and subsequently made the transition to the work environment. Our personal development was framed in the context of maintaining good character, morals, and conviction to a purpose and cause. We are richer because of our Morris College experiences.

It is our hope and desire that the students’ interest level was raised enough for them to further pursue admittance to the Ohio State University. Attending and graduating from the Ohio State University would further solidify their intellectual development and provide countless opportunities for them in the future.

We look forward to the next visit and hopefully seeing some if not all of the students who were here enrolled at the Ohio State University next fall.

Regards,

Troy Glover
Morris College Class of 1986

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Weeks to Deliver 2010 Commencement Address

The Annual Commencement Convocation for the Class of 2010 will be held at the Sumter County Exhibition Center on May 8. In addition to the conferring of baccalaureate degrees, graduates will hear a much anticipated address by the Honorable J. David Weeks, State Representative, District 51.

Aside from serving in the South Carolina House of Representatives, Weeks is a distinguished alumnus who serves as Vice Chairman to the Morris College Board of Trustees and as an attorney.

When he reflects on his Morris College experiences, he fondly shares many stories of his days as a student and an employee, and why he ultimately loves his alma mater. From the board member perspective, Weeks states, “My perspective as a board member is enhanced by the fact that I was not only observing the positive transition Morris was making, but I was (and still is) a part of it.”

At the close of the upcoming commencement address, Weeks indicates what he hopes the graduates will absorb from his message is, “I want them to remember they are standing on the shoulder of giants. I want them to understand they have received a good education from a quality institution.”

A 1975 graduate of Morris College, he furthered his education at Howard University where he earned a Master of Education degree, the Juris Doctor of Law degree from the University of South Carolina School of Law, and the Bachelor of Divinity degree from the former Morris College School of Religion. In 2009, the college conferred upon him the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws.
College Participates in White House Conference Call About H1N1

The White House's Office of Intergovernmental Affairs and Public Engagement, the US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), and the Center for Disease Control and Prevention sponsored a conference call targeted for HBCU institutions throughout the country. The featured speakers were: HHS Secretary, Mrs. Kathleen Sebelius; Deputy Assistant Secretary for Minority Health, Dr. Garth Graham; and Associate Director for Science with the CDC, Dr. Christa Singleton.

The speakers shared vital information and statistics about the H1N1 virus and its impact upon different segments of the population. According to their reports, the H1N1 virus is widespread in 48 states. It was estimated that there may be several waves of the flu throughout the world. They referred to H1N1 as a young person's pandemic because one half of the patients that have been hospitalized with this virus are under the age of 25 and had no underlying health condition.

They further shared that 540 children and teenagers have already died as a result of having this virus. Other categories of individuals who are at high risk are pregnant mothers, health-care workers, and people who work with children. They are advised to get vaccinated immediately.

College representatives participating in the conference call were informed that communities of color had higher rates of contracting communicable illnesses, mainly because they have a lower rate of vaccinations. Statistics show that African American have a lower probability of getting children vaccinated for various reasons, including lack of knowledge, lack of accessibility, and lack of advocates. Dr. Graham stated that 33% of H1N1 incidents occurred in the African American community. In addition, there is a disproportionate death rate in the African American and Hispanic communities. These groups also tend to have more underlying issues which complicate their illnesses.

Given this information, they stressed the urgency and importance of educating college students about the virus and encouraging them to get vaccinated. It was shared that this is a very aggressive virus and not getting vaccinated carries its own risks. Participants were urged to do everything possible to get the word out to students about H1N1. Dr. Graham addressed the concerns of not having sufficient supply of the vaccine. He stated that they are making progress with production and the vaccine is very safe. Secretary Sebelius also assured everyone that the vaccine was not rushed through production and it works fine. After their respective presentations, a brief question and answer session took place.

The following websites provide more information and statistics about the H1N1 virus: www.flu.gov, www.cdc.gov/H1N1, and www.minorityhealth.hhs.gov.

SCICU Hosts Pandemic Crisis Management Workshop

Houck Rogers

On September 22, 2009 South Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities (SCICU) sponsored a Pandemic Crisis Management workshop in Columbia, SC. Representatives from each of the organization's member-institutions were in attendance. Mr. Clarence Houck, Athletic Director; and Ms. Johnnell Rogers, Director of the Health Services Center; represented Morris College.

In an effort to address the varied concerns pertaining to fighting H1N1 and other flu viruses, the workshop was facilitated by experts from DHEC, SLED, and the private sector. In addition to the vital information obtained, attendees shared their experiences and best practices.

As an effort to ensure the campus community is aware of ways to prevent the spread of flu viruses, Morris College has taken several steps to share literature and install sanitizer dispensers throughout the campus.

For more information about the college's initiatives, contact the Health Services Center.

ANNUAL MID-WINTER BANQUET AND RALLY
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2010
7:30 P.M.

Speaker:
Dr. Henry N. Tisdale
President, Claflin University

This event is sponsored by the Baptist Educational and Missionary Convention of South Carolina.

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Participants in the Morris College Study Abroad Program and Johnnie Moore (right) with a priest at St. Patrick’s Cathedral in Dublin, Ireland.

Morris College Students Participate in Inaugural Study Abroad Program

On November 1, 2009, twenty-six students and four faculty and staff members departed for a short-term educational tour of Europe to study international business and modern drama. The students were enrolled in two Study Abroad courses. The first destination was Dublin, Ireland where they visited Trinity College and viewed the famous “Book of Kells” from the Middle Ages. Then it was on to North Wales for a visit to a Medieval castle. The next destination was London, England to tour businesses and theatres, as well as Buckingham Palace, London Bridge, and the House of Parliament. Finally, they traveled through “The Channel” to Paris, France. The last leg of the journey took them to the exciting “City of Lights” where they were able to view great masterpieces of fine art at “The Louvre,” absorb the amazing architecture of The Eiffel Tower, and Arch du Triompe.

Also, as a major part of the travel, students visited Hult International Business School in London to compare the business climates in the United States and Europe. While in London, students visited Bloomberg Institute.

The group returned on November 10th and on December 2nd students presented the exciting reports and journals of their study abroad experiences.

The following was shared by Johnnie Moore, a student enrolled in the Morris College Management Institute - Advance Program:

Wow! A trip to Ireland, London, and Paris with all accommodations provided and all I needed to do was show up to enjoy the experience. Words cannot explain the richness in the experience of this trip. I was so excited about the thought of traveling to another country to meet new people and experience different cultures. Nothing could have prepared me for this experience though, it was breath taking to say the least, from the beautiful planes of deep green life-like grass and the beautiful white sheep in Ireland, to the House where Shakespeare grew up, the Book of Kells at Trinity College, the visit to “The Louvre,” the Eiffel Tower, and the ride on the Euro Star, which is the fastest train in the world and is known to travel 180 miles per hour. The experience was life changing, dynamic, self rewarding, self fulfilling and enriching, as well as humbling. I made some new friends in each place we visited, also with another touring group from a high school in Indiana who was enjoying the beauty of the experience as well. There was something godly about this trip hat neither I or anyone else who took the journey could ignore. It was beautiful; there was a mixture of students that took the journey, the evening students who were a little older and already pretty much career oriented with families and jobs, and a mixture of day students that were quite a bit younger and are just getting their feet ready to hit the world running. Prior to the trip we all went about our business on campus passing each other in our haste not taking the time to get to know each other, but during the trip magic happened. We began to get to know each other and bonds took place that seemed to be contagious and very much loving. I and most of the older students became like surrogate mothers, aunts, uncles, and even big sisters and brothers to the younger students. We learned to live, laugh, and love together on this journey. To me this was history being made in my family, because I was the first and I want this experience to trickle down to my children and to their children so that they can feel the fulfillment of traveling abroad and sharing their culture with others as well as learning other cultures. Travel abroad, in my opinion, should be offered at every institution possible in order to expose students, as well as others, to the beautiful exchange of cultural richness. I was proud, overwhelmed and grateful to be a part of such a historical experience at Morris College. I thank Dr. Richardson, our college president, for allowing us to participate in this experience.
Theirse Crowned Miss Morris College

The Student Government Association presented the Coronation of Miss Morris College 2009-2010 on Friday, October 23, 2009, in the college's Garrick-Boykin Human Development Center. This year's reigning queen is Shakara Lynese Theirse.

Theirse, a twenty-one year old native of Pineville, SC, is the daughter of O'Toole and Linnea Theirse.

She became a member of the Morris College family in the fall semester of 2006. She is currently a senior majoring in Mass Communications. Throughout her years at Morris, she has been on the Dean's List, recognized as Who's Who Among American Colleges and Universities; and is a member of the Cheerleading Squad, Indoor Track team, the Morris College Players, the college's drama club; and Media Club. In the fall of 2007, she became a member of the Nu Gamma Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Theirse is a dedicated member of Day Dawn Baptist Church, where she is a member of the Youth Choir and served as the director. She is also a member of the Youth Ministry Praise and Worship group. In the community of Pineville, SC, she is a volunteer for the Tri-City Outreach Support Group.

She anticipates graduating in May 2010 and plans to pursue a master's degree in Fine Arts at the University of South Carolina. Her career goal is to become an anchor for CNN Headline News.

During coronation, several classes, clubs, and organizational queens and escorts along with the Ladies-In-Waiting, a flower girl, a bell ringer, and the attendants to Miss Morris College, Sontoria Felder and Corrie Smith, participated as a part of the royal court.
Leadership Students Travel to DC

Three students in the Morris College Leadership Program, along with program coordinator, Mr. Robert Zalimas, attended the National Conference on Student Leadership held November 21-24, 2009 in Washington, D.C. The students were Shamel Duncan, Ivan T. Sanders, and Isaac Wilson.

The conference was attended by over seven hundred students representing over one hundred colleges and universities from across the country. The theme of the conference was “The Power of a Student Group.” In it, students explored how to harness the passion and drive that student leaders bring to their organizations. To do so, Morris College student-leaders attended workshops that built their skills in the following areas: team building, delegation, time management, strategic planning, inclusion, conflict resolution, meeting management, and group dynamics. In addition to attending workshops, the students were allowed to explore Washington, D.C., which informed their experience as student leaders.

Morris College guard Tyneshia Eaddy (pictured right with Mr. Roy Graham) needed two points to eclipse 1,000 career points as a Lady Hornet. In the first 78 seconds of the December 2, 2009 game against Coker College, Eaddy drove to the basket for a layup. Eaddy, a 5'10" junior from Marion, SC, currently sits at 1,017 points and 518 rebounds.

Coach Gilbert states, “Eaddy has an uncanny ability to find ways to score. She is a threat from all areas of the court: from the 3-point line, posting up, and driving to the basket. She has even added a nice pull-up to her game this year. Besides being an aggressive player on the floor, she is a captain, an excellent leader of our young team, and an excellent academic student. She epitomizes the term student-athlete, is a great role model, and sets a fine example for what it takes to be a successful student-athlete.”

Eaddy was named the Association of Independent Institutions Female Athlete of the Week for the week of November 18 and she has set a goal to be an NAIA All-American.

Presidential Scholars

Nineteen students in the 2009-2010 Freshman class have been designated as Presidential Scholar Award recipients.

These students are: Jasmine Bowers, Newberry, SC; Keyawn Brooks, Hollywood, SC; Trevor Brown, St. Stephen, SC; Alexander Cannon, Greenville, SC; Taneifa Evans, North Plainfield, NJ; Rhonda Hook, Orangeburg, SC; Samone Hooper, Summerton, SC; Quintilian Jones, Rainbridge, GA; Felicia Kinlock, Hollywood, SC; Shavon Lawson, Summerton, SC; Libryan Lockhart, Lancaster, SC; Saridia Morgan, Brooklyn, NY; Jasmine Shuler, Bowman, SC; Karissa Smalls, Ravenel, SC; Quanesha Smalls, Hollywood, SC; Brittany Stanley, Loris, SC; Shakara White, North Charleston, SC; Derrick Williams, Wildwood, FL; and LaQuanda Williams, Rowesville, SC.

Quiz Bowl Televised

The Morris College Honda Campus All-Star team traveled to Chicago, IL and represented Morris College at the Fourth Annual Black College Quiz Bowl. The students were Marquise Clark, Mansuetta Harris, team captain; Delonte’ Jackson, Jacques McCoy, Jr., and James Newman.

The 2009 competition was recorded for the televised show, Know Your Heritage Black College Quiz. The show, which is a production of Central City Productions, will air throughout the month of February. The Morris College team is coached by Mr. Robert Zalimas.
KANSAS CITY, Mo. - The National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) announced that Morris College was one of 231 colleges and universities to be listed as a Champions of Character institution.

The mission of Champions of Character is to restore character values and raise a generation of students who understand and demonstrate in everyday decisions integrity, respect, responsibility, sportsmanship and servant leadership. The NAIA and member institutions use the Champions of Character program to instill an understanding of character values in sport, and provide student-athletes, coaches and parents the training to help them know and do the right things, inside and outside the sports setting. The program is dedicated to the principle that character is a choice and that being a champion is not just about winning, but making good decisions consistently in daily life.

“The Champions of Character program supports performance-driven athletics while defining expectations and standards that drive successful teams and athletic departments,” said Rob Haworth, NAIA Vice President of Champions of Character. “I congratulate these fine institutions and thank the administrators, coaches and student-athletes for playing a role in advancing character-driven intercollegiate athletics.”

The NAIA is the governing body for athletics programs at its nearly 300 colleges and universities throughout the United States and Canada. The long-held mission of the NAIA is to promote the education and development of well-rounded students and productive citizens through intercollegiate athletics. The association offers equitable access and opportunities for participation in its 23 national championship events held annually throughout the country.
Morris College National Alumni Association

2010 Alumni Weekend
Atlanta, Georgia

APRIL 15-18

Crowne Plaza Hotel Atlanta Perimeter at Ravinia
4355 Ashford Dunwoody
Atlanta, Georgia 30346

Reserve your room(s) by March 25, 2010
Telephone: 770-935-7700
Toll Free: 1-800-554-0055

EVENTS INCLUDE:
Alumni Panel Luncheon
All White Affair
Awards Ceremony
Luau
Worship Service
...and much more

EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION $175
Deadline for advance registration is March 8, 2010

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL THE OFFICE OF ALUMNI AFFAIRS AT 803-934-3268
Morris College National Alumni Association
Post Office Box 1736
Sumter, South Carolina 29151-1746

Dear Alumnus:

The Morris College National Alumni Association (MCNAA) has established a goal to raise more than $200,000 over the next two years. The past few drives have been pulled together through the efforts of committed alumni. However, to meet our new goal, we must really have more alumni join with us toward achieving our goal. To assist this effort, contributions may now be made directly to the college on-line via the web. The online link to give to Morris College is www.morris.edu; then click “Giving to Morris”, it is fast and exciting.

With the tremendous efforts of the Office of Alumni Affairs, we still must pick up the proper momentum for getting more alumni interested and involved. This can happen only if the alumni chapters across the country become stronger advocates for the College through energizing their current members and soliciting new members.

It is important for our alumni to recognize, that their support of the alumni association allows the College to be provided the much needed additional financial support to Morris College students. As you know, the cost of a college education is escalating at a rapid pace, and many of our students need the financial aid. In addition to financial support for students, your financial resource also supports other activities at the College, including:

- Alumni and Homecoming Activities
- The Choir
- Recruitment of New Students
- Special Projects for the College
- Support of Chapter & Class Activities
- Office Supplies / Equipment

We can support the College in all of these areas. As you can see, then, our lofty fundraising goal can go a long way in supporting these efforts. We therefore encourage all alumni chapters to reinvigorate, bring in additional members from the immediate area and commit to becoming more active in the National Alumni Association. By simply having each alumnus pay his/her membership dues will go a long way in helping us reach our goal.

Shortly, you will be hearing from a member of Alumni Association’s newly formed “Alumni Leadership Initiative Team” urging you to commit to having your chapter assist us in meeting this challenge. Thanking you in advance, and we look forward to your positive response.

Sincerely,

MCNAA-Alumni Leadership Team

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Sumter Alumni Chapter Sponsors Annual Pageant

The Morris College Sumter Alumni Chapter sponsored its annual Little Miss/Master Pageant on October 25, 2009 in the college’s Neal-Jones Auditorium. The annual pageant serves as the chapter’s major fundraiser from which this year’s proceeds of $8,303.32 were donated to the college for the Fall Harvest Rally.

This year’s winner was Kendra Alise Black, the daughter of Mrs. Alisa Black and the late Mr. Kenneth Black. First-runner-up was Brianna Shardae Allen, the daughter of Mr. Edward and Mrs. Lynette Allen. Second runner-up was Ra’Shidah G. Muhammad, the daughter of Mr. Rodrick and Mrs. Gwen Muhammad. Third runner-up was Jaelenn Washington, son of Mr. Leonard Grisett and Ms. Clarissa Washington.

Ms. Bevin A. Y. Collier served as Chairperson for the program and Mr. Napoleon Bradford serves as chapter president.

Class Notes

’60s

Roy Dukes, Class of 1965, was appointed Director of Schools on October 5, 2009 by the Marshall County Board of Education. In 2001, he was selected as the Assistant Director of Schools. He has also taught science and coached football and basketball. He earned his masters in education from Middle Tennessee State University. He served as the assistant principal and principal of Marshall County High School before moving to the Central Office to be the district’s Accountability Coordinator. In 2001, he was selected as the Assistant Director of Schools. He has also taught science and coached football and basketball. Mr. Dukes was a TSSAA official for 17 years earning a place in the TSSAA 2005 Hall of Fame. In his new role, Mr. Dukes encourages the teachers, staff, school board, and community to focus on Marshall County’s most important resource - the children.
'80s

Jerry Hannah, Class of 1981, is featured in the 2010 South Carolina State University National Alumni Association’s calendar of Stellar Alumni. The unveiling ceremony was held on October 30, 2009 at the Barbara Vaughan Recital Hall of the Fine Arts Center on the campus of SC State University.

During the annual international conference of The Council of Educational Facility Planners (CEFPI), Troy Glover, Class of 1986, was installed as president of the Midwest Great Lakes Region of CEFPI. This Region includes the states of Illinois, Iowa, Indiana, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota and Wisconsin and the province of Ontario, Canada.

'90s

Shelley A. Samon, Class of 1992, received his Doctorate in Education degree from Georgia Southern University of Statesboro, GA. Dr. Samon is a fifth grade Math and Science teacher at Louisville Academy Elementary School in Louisville, GA. He has worked in the Jefferson County school district for over 18 years. He is currently President of the Louisville Academy Elementary Parent-Teacher Council and a member of the Jefferson County Professional Development Committee. After graduation from Morris College, he attended Central Michigan University where he completed his Master of Arts in Education degree in 2001 and one year later completed his Specialist degree in Educational Leadership and Supervision from Lincoln Memorial University.

Gus A. Brown, Class of 2005, received a Master of Divinity degree from Shaw University in Raleigh, NC on May 9, 2009.


Yvette Taylor, Class of 2006, completed professional certification training at the South Carolina Criminal Justice academy.

'00s

Ryacus Dean, Class of 2003, has been appointed as assistant principal at Lake Carolina Elementary School in Richland County School District Two. Prior to this appointment, he worked in education for seven years. He has also worked in the Adult Education Program in Lexington Richland School District Five instructing inmates at Campbell Prerelease Detention Center. He has also served as the interim assistant principal at Harbison West Elementary.

Jennifer Grant Reed, Class of 2003, graduated from University of Phoenix with Honors in March of 2009 with a Masters of Science degree in Psychology. She is currently employed as a child care learning center director where she supervises six employees and thirty-four students. On September 26, 2009, she married Charles L. Reed in Allendale, SC.

IN MEMORIAM

Alease Myers Boynton, Class of 1945, of Allendale, SC, passed away on Thursday, April 2, 2009. A lover and supporter of her alma mater, Mrs. Boynton earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Education and launched her career as a public school teacher in the Allendale County School District.

In addition to her four decades of positively impacting and influencing countless children, Mrs. Boynton was a dedicated church woman, community leader, and affiliated with many organizations.

Robert E. Dennis, a Morris College Trustee Board member and pastor of Cedar Grove Baptist Church, Simpsonville, SC, passed away on October 23, 2009. Heavily involved in the life of his congregation and community, his whose 40 years of progressive, pastoral leadership helped influence and envision various ministries to better serve the needs of humanity.

Deeply rooted in his theological training, religious convictions, and faith, Dr. Dennis received the Bachelor of Theology degree from the former Morris College School of Religion. He also studied at the American Baptist Theological Seminary Greenville Extension, Greenville, SC.

His legacy of empowerment and involvement serve as a valuable example for all who seek to improve communities and provide opportunities for education and uplift, and address the contemporary social and political issues humanity face. Dr. Dennis was affiliated with numerous organizations. Included among the many honors and awards received for his efforts to help improve the quality of life for others are the key to the City of Simpsonville (1980); a Presidential Citation (May 1998) the college presented him for strong leadership and distinguished service; the Reverend Robert E. Dennis Day Proclamation,Continued on page 24

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Greenville County Council (2008); and the Order of the Palmetto signed by Governor Mark Sanford (June 2009).

Dr. Luns C. Richardson, in a tribute to Dr. Dennis, expressed appreciation for his commitment and loyalty to Morris College and the support he gave. His memory will live on in the impressions left on the lives of those he encountered as a denominational leader, alumnus, member of the board, and as pastor of Cedar Grove Baptist Church.

Daisy E. B. Gadson, Class of 1944, a very supportive alumna who gave continuously to the college, was funeralized on May 14, 2009.

Elder Gadson received her Bachelor of Science degree in English from Morris College and the Master's degree in English from Ohio State University, Columbus, OH. She was a librarian and worked 25 years in the public school system in Hardeeville, SC. Upon retiring, she founded The Great Expectation Church in the Summerside neighborhood of Savannah, GA.

The life Elder Gadson can be summed up in these words: “If I could help somebody, then my living would not have been in vain.”

J. W. Henderson of Greenville, SC passed away on December 30, 2009. Dr. Henderson received the Bachelor of Theology degree from the J. J. Starks School of Religion, Benedict College. He received an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree from the James W. Teamer School of Religion, Charlotte, NC and a Presidential Citation and a honorary degree Doctor of Laws from Morris College.

A longtime preacher and icon among SC Baptists, Dr. Henderson was a well known pastor and denominational leader on local, state, and national levels.

Marvin C. McAllister, Class of 1958, of Effingham, SC, passed away on Friday, January 8, 2010. Dr. McAllister earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Science from his alma mater and a Bachelor of Divinity degree from the former Morris College School of Religion. He also received the Master of Sacred Theology degree from the Interdenominational Theological Center (ITC) in Atlanta, GA and the Doctor of Ministry degree from the Baptist College and Seminary of Kokomo, Indiana in 2005.

In 1953, Dr. McAllister served his country for two years of service in the United States Army as a medical technician. In 1971, he entered the United States Air Force Chaplaincy Program until retirement in 1991 with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. Dr. McAllister also served the Chaplaincy Program with the SC Department of Corrections.

A strong supporter and contributor, Dr. McAllister was serving president of the Morris College Alumni Chapter and secretary of the Goodland Masonic Lodge #7. He has served as pastor of the following congregations: Olive Grove Baptist Church, Coward, SC; Rafting Creek Baptist Church, Rembert, SC; and The Greater Baptist Church, Washington, DC. He also served the college as Director of Recruitment and Field Services.

John Frederick Miller, Class of 1968, of Newark, NJ, passed away on Friday, November 12, 2009. Mr. Miller earned a Bachelor of Science degree in History and worked on achieving the masters degree from Kean University.

After moving to New Jersey following graduation from college, Mr. Miller taught in the Newark School System for a while. He later retired from the New Jersey Transit system in January 2009.

Corrie Belle McRae Peterkin, of Blenheim, SC, passed away on Wednesday, December 16, 2009. Mrs. Peterkin, following her graduation from Morris College where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree, spent her career as a teacher in the Marlboro County School System and the Marlboro County Adult Education program.

A supporter of the college and a faithful, active churchwoman, Mrs. Peterkin taught for 36 years and touched the lives of many young children and adults.

Lewis Walker, Sr., Class of 1959, of Sumter, SC, passed away on Wednesday, November 18, 2009. Dr. Walker, an excellent ambassador and fundraiser for the college, served with brilliance and grandeur the pastorate of many churches since beginning his career in 1947: Tiverton Baptist Church, Wedgefield, SC; Morris Chapel Baptist Church, Sumter, SC; St. Mark Baptist Church, Silver, SC; Mt. Carmel Baptist Church, Timmonsville, SC; Trinity Baptist Church, Sumter, SC; New Hopewell Baptist Church, Dalzell, SC; and finally New Fellowship Baptist Church, Sumter, SC.

In addition to the pastorate, Dr. Walker served as Vice President of the Sunday School Convention and the Wateree Union; Vice Moderator, and Executive Board Member, of the Sumter Association and the Wateree Baptist Association, Lower Division; and Moderator of the Wateree Baptist Association, Lower Division. He was a former member of the Morris College Board of Trustees and former instructor in Morris College Ministerial Pineville Extension Center.

The recipient of numerous awards and recognitions, the college conferred upon Dr. Walker the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws (May 1992) for “exemplary labor as a Christian servant” and “loyal support of Christian education” and presented him with the Presidential Citation (May 1987). He has also been honored as Moderator Emeritus, for 20 years of distinguished service, of the Wateree Baptist Association, Lower Division. He retired in 2002 as pastor of Hopewell and New Fellowship Baptist Churches, but continued to serve as Pastor Emeritus. Among his affiliation with many civic and fraternal organizations, Dr. Walker was staff president and part owner of James Funeral Home, Inc. of Sumter, SC.

Dr. Luns C. Richardson, in eulogizing Dr. Walker, praised him for his strong support and contributions to the college, church, community, and his family.

Morris College UPDATE
Upcoming Events

RELIGIOUS EMPHASIS WEEK
FEBRUARY 23-26, 2010

MID-WINTER BANQUET
FEBRUARY 26, 2010
7:30 PM

FINE ARTS FESTIVAL WEEK
MARCH 29 - APRIL 2, 2010

NATIONAL ALUMNI WEEKEND
APRIL 15-18, 2010
ATLANTA, GEORGIA

CLOSING CONVOCATION - MINISTERIAL EXTENSION CENTERS
APRIL 28, 2010

ANNUAL COMMENCEMENT CONVOCATION
MAY 8, 2010
10:00 AM
SUMTER COUNTY EXHIBITION CENTER
INVEST IN MORRIS TODAY
FOR THE NEXT GENERATION

For more information on ways to give:
Office of Institutional Advancement
803-934-3260
www.morris.edu/Giving.aspx

"I chose to give to Morris College because I thank God for the training I received here."
Reverend Solomon Jackson, Jr.