

The most valuable things I've carried forward with me from seminary are the relationships I formed.



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## REV. DR. JERRY CANNON

The roots of faith at C.N. Jenkins Memorial Presbyterian Church in Charlotte run more than a century deep, with a ministry that has grown with the surrounding community. As the church has matured, so has the ministry of Rev. Dr. Jerry Cannon.

Cannon has led the church to create programs that serve and include the community, like hosting meetings for community groups, creating Bible and arts ministries, and much, much more. The year 2017 marked his 25th anniversary of service at C.N. Jenkins.

The basis for his life's work is the education he received at Johnson C. Smith Theological Seminary in Atlanta. He earned a Master of Divinity degree there, and went on to earn his Doctor of Ministry from United Theological Seminary in Dayton, Ohio. "I sought out Johnson C. Smith Theological Seminary for the primary purpose of learning how to do ministry in an ecumenical setting based in the African-American community," Cannon says. "I certainly learned that, and much more. Seminary also jump-started me to 'fast-tracked maturity.' I was much younger than the people I was going to serve, so I had to grow up quickly in seminary to be relevant or current to them."

Today, Cannon is a widely respected leader and mentor in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), encouraging many who are led to seminary to pursue God's call to ministry. His work has influenced generations of church leaders. "Seminary matured me faith-wise as well as emotionally and academically," Cannon says. "The most valuable things I've carried forward with me are the relationships I formed: relationships with God, relationships with people, relationships to the church. That has helped undergird ministries I'm involved with here."

For more information

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