

Rev. Dr. Lisa D. Jenkins

Dr. Lisa D. Jenkins is the tenth Pastor and first woman to lead the St. Matthew's Baptist Church located in Harlem, New York. Since assuming the pastorate in July 2013, Rev. Jenkins has implemented an AIDS/HIV program in partnership with the New York City Council Faith Based HIV/AIDS Initiative and the National Black Leadership Commission on AIDS of New York City. She has reorganized the church ministries to reflect the mission of equipping the community as service to our Lord, Jesus Christ and is placing emphasis on the importance of youth and young adult involvement. Rev. Jenkins is the first woman to address the Minister's Division of the Empire Baptist Missionary State Convention and was the first female to be appointed to the convention's Pastors Division. She was also the State Coordinator for the convention's newly formed Women in Ministry Division. In addition, she served as a 2015-2016 Faith & Justice Fellow for the Federation of Protestant Welfare Agencies, in partnership with New York Theological Seminary. She has also served as a member of Manhattan's Community Board 10 and on the Manhattan Borough President's Riker's Island Task Force Initiative.

Dr. Jenkins is the Principal and CEO of LDJ Global Connections, LLC, which is committed to empowering individuals and strengthening teams for increased productivity and compliance by achieving cultural competency through high-content workshops, seminars and keynote presentations.

Rev. Lisa received her Bachelor's Degree in Speech Communications from Pace University and attained the degree of Master of Divinity from New York Theological Seminary. She has also received her doctoral degree from McCormick Theology Seminary and studied organizational leadership at Boston University. Dr. Jenkins is currently an adjunct lecturer in the field of multicultural studies for the City University of New York and prior to entering ministry, she worked for Fortune 100 companies as a human resources professional.

Rev. Jenkins has taught New Testament Studies and Biblical Exegesis at New York Theological Seminary and is a facilitator for Fuller Theological Seminary's Doing Justice Initiative. Her writings have appeared in The Christian Century, the African American Lectionary, the National Baptist Convention's Sunday School Publishing Board's Lenten Journal and other publications. She is the author of 40 Days of Biblical & Cultural Insight into the Black Panther Movie and The Other Side of Through: Messages of Hope, Empowerment, Justice, and Faith.

Rev. Jenkins is a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., an advocate of both adults & children with ADHD, and is the mother of one adult son. Rev. Jenkins believes that ministry must be intricately interwoven with community involvement and that it is impossible to serve God without serving humanity.