

# Cameron R. Thomas, M.Div.

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## Professional Summary

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Dedicated and aspiring homiletician and church historian positioned to excel, providing the opportunity to grow in teaching and furthering black church history.

## Education

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### Doctor of Philosophy, In Progress

*Baylor University, Waco, TX*

### Master of Divinity, 2018

*Beeson Divinity School, Samford University, Birmingham, AL*

### Bachelor of Science, Religion, 2014

*Samford University, Birmingham, AL*

## Work Experience

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### Higher Education

#### Talladega College, Talladega, AL

*Assistant Vice President for Student Success and Dean of Chapel, January 2023-present*

- Visionary of weekly chapel services
- Oversight of worship planning process that respects all community members
- Facilitates campus pastoral care initiatives
- Responsibility and vision for Baccalaureate service
- Oversight of the Chapel Assistant program
- Strategic planning and assessment of spiritual formation activities
- Oversight of Religious Emphasis Week
- Oversight of religious-affiliated student organizations
- Oversee and be responsible for DeForest Chapel space and its furnishings
- Steward Office of Spiritual Life budget
- Member of Presidential Leadership Council
- Member of Ceremonial Occasions Committee
- Advisor for Omicron Delta Kappa Leadership Society
- Advisor for Honda Campus All-Star Challenge Team

#### Samford University, Birmingham, AL

*Director of Diversity Enrichment and Relations, August 2020-January 2023*

- Develop, execute, and manage Ragland Scholars Program
- Recruit and engage students for Ragland Scholars Program
- Develop and advocate for strategic Diversity, Equity and Inclusion hiring principles
- Facilitate DEI academic programming for all schools and colleges
- Facilitate grant application process
- Manage Diversity Development Grant fund for students and faculty

*Multicultural Recruiter and Admissions Counselor, May 2014-July 2020*

- Managed and implemented minority recruitment for undergraduate admissions
- Planned and developed strategic communication for minority demographic
- Led effort for record minority enrollment in Samford history
- Organized on campus events for prospective minority students

*Instructor, Howard College of Arts and Sciences*

- Instruct Biblical Foundations class FA2019
- Instruct Rhetoric course beginning FA2022

- Instruct Foundations course each Spring Semester
- Develop and teach curriculum
- Mentor and manage students in each course

### Stillman College

Online Instructor (2020-2023)

- Introduction to Old Testament
- Introduction to New Testament

### Pastoral Experience

**Hutchinson Missionary Baptist Church, Montgomery, AL**

Senior Pastor

Responsibilities include preaching, teaching, administration, pastoral care, and counseling. Oversight includes the management of the annual budget and the supervision of staff members.

**Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church, Cropwell, AL**

*Pastor*, 2013-March 2023

Responsibilities included preaching, teaching, administration, pastoral care, and counseling. Oversight included the management of the annual budget and the supervision of staff members. Led the church in burning of church mortgage in eight years.

### Publications and Presentations

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- Conference Presentation: Comparing Homiletical Expressions from the Ivory Tower to the Ghetto. Academy of Homiletics 2023 Annual Conference. Forthcoming FA23.
- Book Review: The Journal of the Evangelical Homiletics Society on *Eavesdropping on the Most Segregated Hour: A City's Clergy Reflect on Racial Reconciliation*, by Andrew Manis and Sandy Dwayne Martin. (forthcoming).
- Book Review: The Journal of the Academy of Homiletics on *The Divided Mind of the Black Church: Theology, Piety, and Public Witness*, by Raphael Warnock. (forthcoming).
- Book Review: The Journal of the Evangelical Homiletics Society on *Preaching and the Thirty-Second Commercial: Lessons from Advertisement for the Pulpit*, by O. Wesley Allen and Carrie La Ferle. (2022).
- Book Review: The Journal of the Evangelical Homiletics Society on *Say It! Celebrating Expository Preaching in the African American Tradition*, by Eric C. Redmond. (2021).
- \_\_\_\_\_, "To Be the Lamb of God" Advent 2020: Jesus Christ is Born (He Reads Truth: Tennessee): Day 18 December 2020
- \_\_\_\_\_, "Daniel in the Lions' Den" Daniel Reading Plan (Nashville, He Reads Truth, 2020): Day 10.
- Thomas, Cameron. "Preaching through 1 Peter." 2020 ASMBC Northeast District Christian Education Conference. Lafayette, AL.
- Thomas, Cameron. "Race, Class and the Kingdom of God." Animate 2019. Samford University Center for the Worship and the Arts, Birmingham, AL.
- Thomas, Cameron. "Rethinking Reconciliation Sunday." 2019 Samford University Center for the Worship and the Arts, Birmingham, AL.
- Thomas, Cameron. "Knowing Where You Serve: Rural Church Ministry." 2018 ASMBC Northeast District Annual Session. Lanett, AL
- Thomas, Cameron. "Implementing Effective Youth Ministry Practices." 2017. ASMBC Northeast District Christian Education Conference. Sylacauga, AL.
- Thomas, Cameron. "Baptist Doctrine: Preference or Doctrine." 2018. Rushing Springs District Missionary Baptist Association Annual Session. Sylacauga, AL
- Thomas, Cameron. "Introduction to Expository Preaching." 2018 ASMBC Northeast District Christian Education Conference. Alexander City, AL
- Thomas, Cameron. "Preaching the Miracles of Jesus." 2018 ASMBC Northeast District Christian Education Conference. Anniston, AL.
- Thomas, Cameron. "Fasting as Spiritual Discipline." 2013 Fall Lecture Series. St. Mary Missionary Baptist Church. Lincoln, AL

## **Awards, Honors and Grants**

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*Christian Leadership in a Multifaith World*, Council for Christian Colleges and Universities and Interfaith Youth Core, 2021  
Omicron Delta Kappa National Leadership Honor Society  
NextGen BHM: Education and Workforce Development Award, Birmingham Business Journal: (2021)  
*Career Achievement Award*, Samford University Student Government Association, 2014  
Samford University Mann Center for Ethics and Leadership, 2014  
Samford University Mann Center's Joe McDade Scholarship (Inaugural Recipient), 2014  
Samford University Howard College of Arts and Sciences Dean's List, 2013

## **Membership**

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Evangelical Homiletical Society (2019-present)  
Academy of Homiletics (2021-present)  
General Secretary, Northeast District of Alabama State Missionary Baptist Convention (2014-17)  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President, Northeast District of Alabama State Missionary Baptist Convention (2017-2020)  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President, Northeast District of Alabama State Missionary Baptist Convention (2020-2023)  
General Editor, *The Baptist Leader* (2019-present)

## **Leadership and Volunteer Experiences**

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### **Samford University Black Alumni Association**

- Board Member (2016-present)
- Secretary (2020-present)

### **Alpha Phi Alpha District Education Foundation**

Financial Secretary/Treasurer (2015-present)

### **Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. District of Alabama**

- College Brothers Affairs Chair (2014-2020)
- Retention and Reclamation (2020-present)

### **Empowered to Conquer, Inc.**

- Board of Directors (2014-2015)