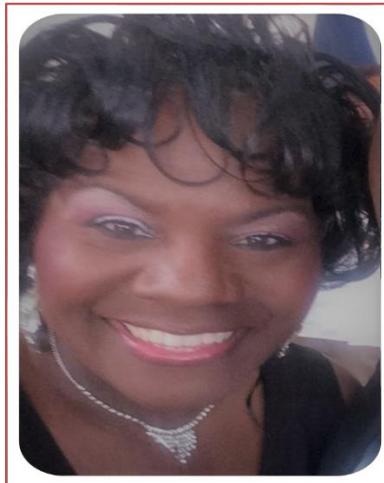


Alicia Saunders



President Music and Worship Arts Auxiliary

It is my privilege and delight to greet you with musical delight as the President of the Music & Worship Arts Auxiliary. I consider it a great honor, a joy, and an assignment from Our Lord Jesus Christ to have been this opportunity of leadership for the musical ministry of our National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc. During my tenure of leadership, I pray that God allows this auxiliary to advance the kingdom of God through the demonstration of faithful and committed service from the local churches, develop leadership qualities with values that will Glorify God. We desire to raise the bar of genuine service and this illustrate our desire follow the scriptural command found in 2 Timothy 2:15, "*Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.*"

It is my intentional purpose to continue, as I am blessed, to render service in the Music Auxiliary. I believe it is critical and vitally important to always position ourselves with the gifts and talents that come to us from God. We can never forget Acts 17:28, "*It is in Him that we live and move and have our being*".

I believed God has prepared me for such a time as this. For the past 20 years, God has blessed me to give musical services through leadership as Director of Music Ministry in the Eighth Street Baptist Church, in Kansas City, Kansas. Over this course of time, I have been blessed to give personal leadership choirs, which include The Youth Choir, The Teenage Choir, The Adult Choir, The Imperial Choir (55+), The Women's Chorus, The Masters Men's Chorus, and established The Handbells Choir. Furthermore, I have served the Strangers Rest Baptist Church, in Kansas City, Kansas (for seven year), helping to establish their Young Adult Gospel Choir.

Upon completion of high school, I went to Kansas State University (Manhattan, KS) and received a Bachelor of Science in Home Economics, an emphasis in Fashion Merchandising. I have provided leadership to a host of choirs, such as, the Sumner High School Gospel Choir (my high school alma mater), the Annual City-Wide Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration Choir. I also initiated the City-Wide Fellowship of churches Good Friday Services. I have found it a great privilege to serve as clinician for many Mass Choirs, in the State of Kansas and across the county. My other accomplishments include, writing a Black History musical drama, "We've Come A Long Way" which depicts the struggles of the Negro in America and recognizes Black American accomplishments. This production has been performed in churches and schools throughout Kansas.



Currently, I serve as a Director in the Lucie E. Campbell Church Music Workshop of the National Baptist Congress of Christian Education. During my 30 years of affiliation, I have been honored to serve as an instructor. I was tutored by God's best and most sincere church music instructors, the late Dr. Joyce Marie Davis and the late Rev. Dr. Ronald Terry.

I have been afforded the opportunity to host several City-Wide Gospel Fellowship Workshops with noted recording artists, such as, James Bignon (He Made the Difference) and Rev. Norman Hutchins (Battlefield). I have also had the great opportunity to record with such artist as, the Rev. James Cleveland and the Salem Inspirational Choir (I Don't Feel No Ways Tired). Furthermore, I have been blessed to share the stage with such notable gospel artists like, Kirk Franklin, Richard Smallwood, Rev. Darryl Coley, Vickie Winans, Dottie Peoples, The Williams Brothers, and Stevie Wonder. God has also blessed me to travel internationally with artists such as, Lynda Randle and Guy Penrod, southern gospel artists.

I am blessed to be married to Paul Saunders. This holy matrimony has blessed us with five adult children: daughter, Reina and husband, Brandon Barnett; daughter, Paula; son, Anthony and wife, Courtney; son, Michael and wife Sara; and son, Jonathan. Our joys are more complete with the blessings of grandchildren: granddaughters, Jordyn Symone, Kynnedi Sheree, Addison McKinley, Zoey Elyse; and grandsons, Michael Paul II, and Caleb Louis.