

## **Ivan Williams, Sr.**

**Ivan**, class of 1981, serves as the director of the Ministerial Department for the North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists. The NAD ministerial team serves and supports more than 4,200 pastors, and more than 100 ministerial directors and associates in Bermuda, Canada, the United States, and the Guam-Micronesia Mission. Prior to this, he served as the ministerial director for the Northern California Conference.

Ivan was born in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, and grew up in Atlanta, Georgia. At the age of 13 while working in an evangelistic meeting, Ivan sensed God's call to ministerial service through the preaching of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

In preparation for full-time ministry, he enrolled at Oakwood University and pursued degrees in communications and theology. He then went on to attend Andrews University where he obtained a master's degree and Claremont School of Theology, in Claremont, California, where he completed a doctoral degree in ministry. His dissertation dealt with pastoral burnout and renewal in Seventh-day Adventist ministry.

His pastoral ministry has spanned more than 24 years and has included many churches in the South Atlantic, Southeastern California, and Northern California conferences. Ivan serves on numerous boards and committees inside and outside of the church. His goal in all that he does is to make a difference for Christ.

In addition to pastoral ministry, Ivan also served eight years as a chaplain for the California State Assembly in Sacramento, California. He currently serves as a United States Air Force chaplain (lieutenant colonel) in the Maryland Air National Guard, and is the president of Brighter Hope Ministries Inc., which can be seen and heard on various radio and television stations.

Ivan is married to Kathleen, and they have two children, Imani and Ivan II.

