

## THE REVEREND DR. JOHN RICHARD WALTON, JR.

The Reverend Doctor John Richard Walton, Jr. accepted Jesus Christ as his personal Lord and Savior and was baptized in July, 1975 at the Avon Avenue Baptist Church of Cleveland, Ohio. He is licensed (1992) and ordained (1994) by the Mt. Zion Church of Oakwood in Cleveland.

Pastor Walton earned the Bachelor of Arts degree in Communications from the Cleveland State University (1992), the Master of Divinity degree from Howard University, Washington, D.C. (1995) where he received the pastoral leadership potential award and teaching excellence award. Upon graduation from Howard, he was hired as the first Assistant to the Senior Pastor in the history of the Israel Baptist Church of Washington, D.C. From 1998 – 2002, Dr. Walton served as Senior Pastor of the St. Mark Congregational Church of Boston, Massachusetts. While there, he was an active participant in the Black Ministerial Alliance of Boston.

On March 1, 2002, Dr. Walton became the sixteenth senior pastor of the historic Calvary Baptist Church of Milwaukee, Inc., the oldest African – American Baptist Church in the city, established in 1895. He is past Moderator and presently serves as a member of the Commission on the Ministry for the American Baptist Churches of Wisconsin. He serves on the Teen Pregnancy Prevention Oversight Committee for United Way of Greater Milwaukee, and was recently elected to the Board of Directors for the Milwaukee Christian Center and appointed to the Executive Board of the Interfaith Conference of Greater Milwaukee.

In June of 2010, Pastor Walton graduated from the Northern Baptist Theological Seminary in Chicago, Illinois. His dissertation is entitled, “Making and Equipping Disciples for Christ in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: A New Model Based on Restructuring Family Ministry at Calvary Baptist Church of Milwaukee, Wisconsin.” His area of research in transitional ministry focuses on how to effectively minister to older, historic and intergenerational churches in this new era. He is published in the African American Lectionary online ([www.theafricanamericanlectionary.org](http://www.theafricanamericanlectionary.org)). His latest article is entitled, “How Does a New (5 Years and Under) and Younger Pastor Balance Pastoring and Having a Family?” He is humbled and thankful to have been called and chosen as one of God’s preacher – pastors in the Kingdom for such a time as this.

Dr. Walton is happily married to the former Lorrie Grace Craig of Hyattsville, Maryland. They are the proud parents of three sons and one daughter.