ARKANSAS BAPTIST COLLEGE

136th Commencement

Saturday, April 25, 2020
One O’clock p.m.

Arkansas Baptist College
1600 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive
Little Rock, AR 72202

***Please Note: Formal program cancelled due to Coronavirus (COVID-19).***
Every effort is made to make this printed program accurate with respect to
degrees awarded and honors conferred. Printing schedules, however, make
complete accuracy impossible. A certified transcript is the official proof of
graduation.
Order of the Procession

Grand Marshal  
Mace Bearer  
President of the College  
Commencement Speaker  
Chair of the Board of Trustees  
Provost  
Vice President of Academic Affairs  
Chairs  
Registrar  
Faculty Marshal  
Faculty  
Student Marshal  
Candidates

Academic Regalia

The design of the gown indicates the degree. The bachelor’s gown is simple with a full sleeve. The master’s gown is much like the bachelor’s, except for the long sleeves which hang loose. The doctor’s gown is fuller and more elaborate. It has velvet edging and three velvet stripes on the full sleeves. Usually, the color of the gown is black. Hoods, which are worn over the gowns, are similar for all degrees, although differing slightly in length. The candidates for bachelor’s degrees usually do not wear the hood. The hood has velvet edging that indicates the area of the degree, and the inside of the hood is satin in the colors of the college or university granting the degree. A partial list of the degree colors to be found on the edge of the hood or the trimming on the doctor’s gown is given below.

Agriculture……………………. Maize  
Arts, Letters, Humanities…………. White  
Business Administration…………. Drab  
Dentistry………………………. Lilac  
Economics……………………….. Lilac  
Education……………………….. Light Blue  
Engineering……………………. Orange  
Fine Arts, Architecture………..….. Brown  
Forestry……………………….. Russet  
Journalism……………………… Crimson  
Law…………………………….. Purple  
Library Science………………….. Lemon  
Music…………………………….. Pink  
Medicine……………………….. Green  
Oratory Speech……………… Silver Gray  
Philosophy……………………. Dark Blue  
Physical Education………… Sage Green  
Public Administration…….. Peacock Blue  
Public Health………………….. Salmon  
Science………………………. Golden Yellow  
Social Science……………….. Cream  
Social Services……………….. Citron  
Theology/Divinity……………… Scarlet  
Veterinary Science……………. Gray

THE MACE IS CARRIED BY  
Dr. Leonard Porter ’67  
2nd Vice President, National Alumni Association Board
PROGRAM

Dr. Carlos Clark, Provost, Presiding

Academic Processional (Audience Standing) .................................................................“Pomp and Circumstance”
by Edward Elgar

Posting of the Colors and the Anthems .................................................................Central High School ROTC Color Guard
(Audience Standing)

Invocation......................................................................................................................Dr. Clifton Conley ’81
Interim Chairperson, Department of Religious Studies

Welcome..........................................................................................................................President Regina Favors ’72
Interim President, Arkansas Baptist College

Greetings..........................................................................................................................Richards Mays, Sr., Esq.
Chairperson, Board of Trustees

Reflections.....................................................................................................................William Lamar ’20
President, 2020 Graduating Class

Music...............................................................................................................................Arkansas Baptist College Choir

Recognition of Guests ..................................................................................................President Regina Favors ’72

Introduction of Speaker ................................................................................................Dr. Carlos Clark, Provost

Music...............................................................................................................................Arkansas Baptist College Choir
“All in His Hands”

Commencement Speaker..............................................................................................Ms. Yolanda Moore
Motivational Speaker and Author

Presentation of Candidates for Degrees

Presentation of Department Chairpersons .................................................................... Dr. Carlos Clark

Presentation of Candidates for Degrees .................................................................Department Chairpersons

Conferring of Degrees..................................................................................................President Regina Favors ’72

Induction of Graduates into the Alumni Association..................................................Dr. Leonard Porter ‘67
2nd Vice President, National Alumni Association

Light to the World Ceremony

Singing of the Alma Mater .................. (Audience Standing).“Our Beacon Light”
by Mattie Booker Perry

Benediction .................................................................................................................. Dr. Clifton Conley ’81

Recessional .................................................. (Audience Standing).“Pomp & Circumstance”
by Edward Elgar
COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER

YOLANDA MOORE

Yolanda Moore is a former professional athlete and head women’s college basketball coach with more than 25 years of combined experience in leadership, team development, and high performance coaching.

Her relentless will to succeed fueled her drive to overcome the stereotypes of being a teen mom to becoming a two-time WNBA Champion, Author, and Head Women’s College Basketball Coach at the JUCO, Division I, and Division II levels.

Yolanda engages audiences with her quick wit and they are inspired to transform their lives through encouraging and educational messages of hope and perseverance through workshops, keynote presentations, and multi-day trainings.

Drawing on her instructional background in secondary and higher education and her leadership skills developed as a high performance coach, Yolanda equips and empowers women at all levels with the tools and strategies they need to effect change in their own lives while adding maximum value to their teams, businesses, and organizations.
Candidate for Doctorate of Humane Letters

REGINA H. FAVORS

Regina H. Favors serves as the Interim President of Arkansas Baptist College. She is a proud graduate of the College with a Bachelor of Science degree and also holds a Master’s degree from Ouachita Baptist University with a focus in Education. She completed the Advanced Management Program at Duke University Fuqua School of Business Executive Education and is a Certified Health Insurance Executive and holds numerous certifications from other professional organizations.

Mrs. Favors previously worked for the Federal Bureau of Investigation in Washington, D. C. After leaving the FBI, she was employed with Blue Cross Blue Shield of Arkansas for 43 years and functioned in several management roles during her tenure. She served as President and CEO of Pinnacle Business Solutions, a subsidiary of Arkansas Blue Cross Blue Shield and had executive oversight for the “the effective operations and financial activities of Medicare Programs, including Medicare Part A and Part B in several states; private business and other government business. Mrs. Favors taught as an Adjunct Professor with her alma mater from 1986 to 2004, extending educational opportunities and careers to students of Arkansas Baptist College. She also taught at Philander Smith College, and Webster University.

Mrs. Favors served on the Board of Trustees for Arkansas Baptist College and has served on 32 other boards including the University of Arkansas Pine Bluff Foundation Board, Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of Arkansas Coordinating Council, the Quorum Court of the Pulaski County Public Facilities Board and Achieving Leadership Institute in Dallas, Texas. She is a member of the National Association of Professional Women and a former member of the North Little Rock Chamber of Commerce. She served on the Arkansas Lung Association board of directors where she received a national military guard award for her philanthropist work. Mrs. Favors received the Trailblazer 2011 Powerful Business Women Award and was featured in the AY About You Magazine.

Mrs. Regina H. Favors is the wife of Daniel Favors, the mother of one daughter, Javonne Jordan, and the grandmother of James and Nia. She is also the daughter of the late Dr. and Mrs. W. O. Lindsey, both graduates of Arkansas Baptist College.
Rachel Kremer is a graduate of the University of Arkansas and holds a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration with a major in Accounting and is a licensed Certified Public Accountant. Upon graduation, she went to work for Arthur Andersen as an audit staff member. After leaving Arthur Anderson, she joined her father’s accounting firm as a partner in charge of the audit and small business practice. Subsequently, she bought out her father from the accounting firm and merged the practice with Frost, PLLC located in Little Rock. She functioned in several roles at the firm including audit partner and expanded her practice to include consulting and public speaking. She led the nonprofit and governmental section, as well as the SEC practice. In addition, she served as Technical Director and was responsible for quality control and compliance while maintaining a client base which included private businesses, nonprofit and governmental clients, and SEC or publicly traded clients. She served as the Audit Director and was a member of the Executive Committee as well. She retired in 2012.

Ms. Kremer has served on numerous boards in the community which included Volunteers in Public Schools, Union Rescue Mission, Dorcas House, YMCA and Salvation Army. She was chairman of the Board for URM, Dorcas House and the YMCA, and currently serves as Vice Chairman and Treasurer for the Salvation Army.

Regardless of her many accomplishments, Ms. Kremer considers her two beautiful, intelligent, and independent daughters as her best work.
Department of Religious Studies
Dr. Clifton A. Conley, Chairperson

Bachelor of Arts in Religious Studies
Janie M. Fillmore

Department of Business Administration
Mrs. Roberta Clark, Chairperson

Bachelor of Business Administration – Accounting
Mariah Morris

Bachelor of Business Administration – Sports Management
Braylyn Bernard Smith ·
Mikal Dache Walters

Bachelor of Business Administration
Darrian Shaw
Adrienne Danielle Starks*** ·
Dolores Diane Thigpen*** ·

Associate of Arts in Business Administration
Brennen McKinnley Johnson

****Summa Cum Laude ***Magna Cum Laude **Cum Laude *Distinction in Field
Summa Cum Laude 3.75-4.00 Magna Cum Laude 3.50-3.74 Cum Laude 3.25-3.49 Distinction in Field 3.00-3.24
Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences
Mrs. Shaye Bearden, Chairperson

Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice

Courtney Patrice Greenlee
Alonda Michelle Kendrick
William Anthony Lamar**
Kymmisha Imari Sykes
Shante’ Simone Smith
Tamara LaTesa Williams**
Morgan Alexander Williams

Bachelor of Arts in Human Services

Sha El’Treecx Andrews****
Kristian Adia Brock****
Darlana McDonald Phillips****

****Summa Cum Laude ***Magna Cum Laude **Cum Laude *Distinction in Field
Summa Cum Laude 3.75-4.00 Magna Cum Laude 3.50-3.74 Cum Laude 3.25-3.49 Distinction in Field 3.00-3.24
Department of Public Administration
Dr. Leonard Williams, Chairperson

Bachelor of Arts in Public Administration
Antwain De’Von Vernon

Associate of Arts in Public Administration
James Michael Bridges •
Desjuan Jamare Kearse •
Desmond Deshawn Newton •
Fabbian Dontae Scott •

Department of Fine and Performing Arts
Rev. Henry Parker, Chairperson

Bachelor of Arts in Music Performance

Associate of Arts in Music Business

****Summa Cum Laude ***Magna Cum Laude **Cum Laude *Distinction in Field
Summa Cum Laude 3.75-4.00 Magna Cum Laude 3.50-3.74 Cum Laude 3.25-3.49 Distinction in Field 3.00-3.24
Department of General Studies
Ms. Philis Taylor, Chairperson

Associate of Arts in General Studies

Tyler Davion Bell
Keirria LaShontae Brice
Adrian Demetrius Brown
La Toni Shikella Conway
Tyler Stephen Cubit
Shane Dalcour
Rogay Granston
Devonta Harkless-Jackson
Tymia Kal Renae Howell
Randy Odun Johnson
Devin Charles Miles
Derrion La’Mont Miller
Caleb Deshun Parker
Rashaun Preston
Lynderica Jenell Scott
Tavion Briajon Shaw
Carl A.D.L Smith, Jr.
Cedric Dewayne Smith
Tony Lamarr Starks
Jeremy Wayne Steele
Corlan Deshun Taylor

****Summa Cum Laude ****Magna Cum Laude **Cum Laude *Distinction in Field
Summa Cum Laude 3.75-4.00 Magna Cum Laude 3.50-3.74 Cum Laude 3.25-3.49 Distinction in Field 3.00-3.24
2019-2020 Arkansas Baptist College Board of Trustees

- Richard Mays, Sr., Esq., Chairman
- Alicia Ferguson Smith, Secretary
- Regina Favors, Interim President
- Kenneth Harris, Jr., Ed. D., Trustee
- Pamela S. Mobley, Trustee
- George Parks, Jr. Ph. D., Trustee
- Merlin Kamgue, Faculty Senate Representative
- Brenda Hill, Alumni Representative
- Cory Anderson, MTS, Vice-Chairman
- William Walker, Treasurer
- Robert Handley, Trustee
- Steven Lee, Ed. D., Trustee
- Bob J. Nash, Trustee
- Maurice Watson, D. Min., Trustee
- Desha Farmer, Staff Senate Representative

Past Presidents of Arkansas Baptist College

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>President</th>
<th>Years</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dr. J. A. Booker</td>
<td>1887-1926</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rev. S. P. Nelson</td>
<td>1926-1934</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. R. C. Woods</td>
<td>1934-1936</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rev. S. R. Tillinghast</td>
<td>1936-1937</td>
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<td>Dr. Tandy W. Coggs</td>
<td>1937-1955</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr. Howard L. Johnson</td>
<td>1955-1956</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Oscar Allan Rogers, Jr.</td>
<td>1956-1960</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Charles E. Johnson</td>
<td>1960-1961</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. P. L. Rowe</td>
<td>1961-1962</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. James C. Oliver</td>
<td>1962-1982</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. R. C. Davis (Interim)</td>
<td>1982-1985</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. W. Thomas Keaton</td>
<td>1985-2001</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs. Mary R. Jarrett (Interim)</td>
<td>2001-2002</td>
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<td>Dr. Israel R. Dunn, Jr.</td>
<td>2002-2005</td>
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<td>Mrs. Mary R. Jarrett (Acting)</td>
<td>2005-2006</td>
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<td>Dr. O. Fitzgerald Hill</td>
<td>2006-2016</td>
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<td>Dr. Joseph Jones</td>
<td>2016-2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Howard O. Gibson (Interim)</td>
<td>2017-2018</td>
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Arkansas Baptist College originally named the Minister’s Institute was founded in 1884 by the Colored Baptists of Arkansas during their annual convention at Mount Zion Baptist Church in Little Rock. The primary objective of the institute was to raise the educational level within the Negro ministry. The secondary objective was to aid the state in making higher education available to young Negro men and women. Most of the school’s students were trained in the ministry; and, today, Religious Studies continues to be one of the College’s major areas of matriculation.

In April 1885, the College’s name was changed to Arkansas Baptist College, and the school moved to 16th and High Street, where the campus is currently located. However, the formal address is now 1600 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Drive.

Fourteen presidents have served as institutional leaders of Arkansas Baptist College from 1887 through 2017. The Board of Trustees appointed Dr. Howard O. Gibson, Interim President in December 2017. In August 2018, Regina H. Favors was appointed Interim President.

Arkansas Baptist College is a four-year historically black liberal arts institution that offers two- and four-year degree programs. It is the only black Baptist higher education institution west of the Mississippi River. The College is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools and affiliated with the Consolidated Missionary Baptist State Convention of Arkansas.

Mission

Arkansas Baptist College prepares students for a life of service grounded in academic scholarship, the liberal arts tradition, social responsibility, Christian development and preparation for employment in a global community.

Purpose of the Light to the World Ceremony

The Light to the World Ceremony is a tradition linked to Arkansas Baptist College’s historic heritage of Truth and Light. Implemented by the College’s 13th President, Dr. O. Fitzgerald Hill, the president “transfers the Light” from the College to the graduating class. Each student lights an individual candle symbolizing the knowledge of Truth received and the igniting of their Light to the world.
Alma Mater
“OUR BEACON LIGHT”

Stalwart, brave and true is our Alma Mater dear,
With outstretched arms to draw our children near, pointing out to them, The Way, The Truth, The Light, guide them ever onward to the upward heights.

(Refrain)
A.B.C, A.B.C., calling thee so reverently,
Our eyes are filled: our hearts are thrilled, moved by love so deep for thee.

Beacon light, pride and joy, for the dear state, Arkansas, loyalty, eternally, Alma Mater dear to thee.

By Ms. Mattie Booker Perry
“LIFT EVERY VOICE AND SING”
(The Negro National Anthem)

Lift every voice and sing, Till earth and heaven ring,
   Ring with the harmonies of liberty.
Let our rejoicing rise high as the list'ning skies,
   Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us,
Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us;
   Facing the rising sun of our new day begun,
   Let us march on till the victory is won!

Stony the road we trod, bitter the chast'ning rod,
   Felt in the days when hope unborn had died;
   Yet with a steady beat, have not our weary feet
   Come to the place for which our fathers sighed?
   We have come over a way that with tears has been water; we
   have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered;
   Out from the gloomy past, till now we stand at last
   Where the bright gleam of our bright star is cast.

   God of our weary years, God of our silent tears,
   Thou who hast brought us thus far on the way,
   Thou who hast by thy might, Lead us into the light,
   Keep us forever in the path, we pray.
   Least our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met Thee,
   Lest our hearts, drunk with the wine of the world we forget Thee;
   Shadowed beneath Thy hand, may we forever stand,
   True to our God, true to our native land.