

DR. JOSHUA L. MITCHELL

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Innovative Millennial leader dedicated to the development of the Emergent Church and the “Beloved Community” through preaching, teaching, writing, consulting and parish ministry.

EDUCATION

DMin	Virginia Union University Doctor of Ministry Dissertation: ““Bid Them To Come: Engaging Black Millennials In Discipleship Development”	May 2017
MDiv	Virginia Union University Master of Divinity	May 2012
BA	Howard University Bachelor of Arts in Communications Major: Radio, Television & Film; Minor: Entrepreneurship	May 2009

WORK EXPERIENCE

Senior Pastor 2020-Present
31st Street Baptist Church, Richmond VA

Elected as the seventh Senior Pastor of the 31st Street Baptist Church in Richmond, VA. Responsible for preaching, teaching, providing pastoral care and counseling, and leading ordinances and other sacred ceremonies for members of the congregation. Responsible for providing leadership and training for church officers and ministries. Responsible for being the chief executive officer of the church and providing oversight and direction for the faithful stewardship of the church’s financial resources.

Adjunct Professor 2020-Present
Samuel DeWitt Proctor School of Theology at Virginia Union University, Richmond, VA

Adjunct faculty in the Doctor of Ministry program for the School of Theology at Virginia Union University. Currently serving as a Scholar-Practitioner responsible for assisting doctoral students who are doing research in the area of Intergenerational Engagement. Responsible for creating and presenting lectures to Doctoral students, being an additional reader for doctoral projects, and serving on doctoral committees for students in my cohort.

Adjunct Professor
University of Houston, Houston TX

2019-Present

Adjunct faculty in the African American Studies department at the University of Houston in Houston, Texas. Currently responsible for the online course creation and teaching of AAS 4330- “The Black Church in America”. Responsible for creating and presenting compelling online lectures and discussion forums for students and for evaluation the development of students through the semester. “The Black Church” course seeks to provide a survey of the history, theology, work, figures and future of the Black Church in the United States

Minister of Christian Education and College Students
Wheeler Avenue Baptist Church, Houston TX

2019-2020

Responsible for providing leadership and oversight for all Christian education opportunities on the campus of Wheeler Avenue Baptist Church including Sunday School, Vacation Bible School, Discipleship Training and Bible Study opportunities. Provides leadership and pastoral care for college students between the ages of 13-23 years old.

Responsible for developing and teaching weekly midweek bible studies on the main campus while managing the staffing, content creation, and execution of weekly satellite bible studies across the greater Houston area. Responsible for volunteer recruitment and training, calendaring and oversight for the annual budgets for the ministries. Part of Senior Staff Leadership Team responsible for facilitating church-wide events and initiatives.

Founder/CEO
Digital Discipleship LLC, Houston TX

2017-Present

Providing organizational leadership while consulting with churches and non-profits on effective Millennial engagement strategies. Developing online discipleship resources for Millennials of color.

Minister to Youth & College Students
Wheeler Avenue Baptist Church, Houston TX

2013-2018

Responsible for the spiritual development for youth and college students between the ages of 13-23 years old. Responsible for facilitating weekly bible study sessions with youth and college students, planning and executing the annual calendar for the ministries, providing pastoral care support for students, parents, and volunteers and stewarding the annual budgets for the ministries. Part of Senior Staff Leadership Team responsible for facilitating church-wide events and initiatives.

Chaplain Resident 2012-2013
Houston Methodist Hospital, Houston TX

Responsible for providing daily pastoral care and counseling services to the patients and families at the Methodist Hospital as part of the Clinical Pastoral Education residency program.

Youth Pastor 2009-2012
New Life Empowerment Temple, Richmond VA

Responsible for planning, creating, and leading weekly bible study. Preaching during monthly youth-led worship services and retreats. Leading/organizing monthly fellowships and service opportunities for the youth.

Chaplain Intern 2011
Medical College of Virginia Health System, Richmond VA

Responsible for providing pastoral care and counseling services to the patients and trauma victims at MCV Medical Hospital as part of the Clinical Pastoral Education program at Virginia Commonwealth University.

Youth Minister 2006-2012
Rising Sun Baptist Church, Washington DC

Organize and facilitate monthly "Friday Night Fire" Youth Services. Preaching during monthly youth worship services. Leading/organizing monthly fellowships and service opportunities for the youth.

UNIVERSITY AND CONFERENCE LECTURES

Hampton University, Hampton VA 2019, 2018
Guest Lecturer, Hampton Ministers' Conference
"Netflix and Church: Critical Conversations on Discipleship In The Digital Age" (2019)
"Black Millennials and the Church" (2018)

Lipscomb University, Nashville TN 2019
Guest Lecturer, "Emerging Adults: Millennials and Faith"

Dillard University, New Orleans LA 2019
Guest Lecturer, "Black Millennials and The Church"

Samuel DeWitt Proctor Conference, Birmingham Alabama 2019, 2016
Guest Lecturer,
"Movement for Black Lives: Millennial Activism" (2019)

“Millennials: Re-Imagining Ministry, Re-Energizing The Movement” (2016)

Houston Graduate School of Theology , Houston TX 2018
Guest Lecturer, “Millennials, Preaching & Ecclesiology”

Virginia Union University, Richmond VA 2016
Guest Lecturer, “Who Moved My Church?”

PUBLICATIONS

Black Millennials and The Church: Meet Me Where I Am

Author: Judson Press, 2018.

2019-2020 Precepts for Living Bible Commentary & Pastors’ Edition

Contributing Writer: Urban Ministries, Inc. 2019.

2018-2019 Precepts for Living Bible Commentary & Pastors’ Edition

Contributing Writer: Urban Ministries, Inc. 2018.

Published Articles

Mitchell, Joshua, “‘Me Too’: The Silence of Good Men,” *The Christian Citizen*, 2017.

Mitchell Joshua, “#HarveyTaughtMe: Storm and Skeptics” *Urban Faith Magazine*, 2017.

Conference Papers

Mitchell, Joshua, “50 Shades of Faith: On Race, Relevance, and Reclaiming Millennial Disciples in Local Congregations,” *Proceedings of the 2019 Integenerate Conference*, May 22-23.