



APOSTLE SHERRI ETHERIDGE

DEAN, ABUNDANT JOURNEY UNIVERSITY

President Amber Keys appointed Bishop Sherri Y. Etheridge as Dean of Abundant Journey University. She assumed her role as Dean on January 26th 2019. She plays a pivotal role in helping the University achieve primitive objectives - educating the whole student - through a series of programs and services offered through AJU. In her role, Etheridge also serves as a liaison to the Board of Trustees Ambassadors, and co-chair of the Enrollment Management Committee. Bishop Sherri Y. Etheridge is an end-time preacher and teacher of the Word, with an old-school flair, yet maintaining a progressive edge. She is anointed with the five-fold ministry gifts and having served many powerful praying leaders and mentors, the mantle of prayer has been bestowed upon her. She loves God and His people and works diligently in the Kingdom to help bring others to their fullest potential. She received Christ at the tender age of nine and accepted the divine call of God to bring forth the gospel of Jesus Christ as a teenager under the tutelage and guidance of her parents, the Late Bishop Edward Lee and Shepherd Mother Lillie Barnes at the House of Prayer Overcoming Church of God in Spring Valley, NY. Bishop Etheridge served in various capacities at the House of Prayer. It was here that God called her to the ministry of Evangelism. Recognizing the need for a pre-teen to be cultivated in this area, her parents placed her into the capable hands of Dr. Eloise L. Young, Pastor of Tabernacle of Prayer in Dobbs Ferry, NY where she served under the tutelage of Dr. Young. She continues to pay homage to her Godmother and mentor of 30+ years.

Additionally, Bishop Etheridge also served as the International Evangelist under the auspices of Apostle Roderick Johnson and Abundant Life Ministries International, Uniondale, NY. Be Ye Steadfast Ministries International (BYSMI) was birthed in Bishop Etheridge at the young age of 18, cultivated through personal experience, compassion for a hurting people (men, women and children) and is geared towards meeting the needs of the total man. She especially has a tremendous call and burden for the youth. In April 2001, this burden led her to organize her first inter-denominational Annual Youth Conference, in South Carolina, called "The Gathering". Bishop Etheridge has served in several ministry areas including: revivalist (ministering the Word of God, throughout the United States and overseas), choir director, praise and worship leader, teacher, lecturer, seminar and conference host, helps ministries, mentor, and other services for the Lord. In February 2002, BYSMI was incorporated and in 2003, the Lord blessed BYSMI to open its first transitional house for homeless women and their children. In April 2005, after 27 years on the field as an Evangelist, Bishop Etheridge was installed as the Assistant Pastor of Greater New Hope Baptist Church (GNHBC) in Staten Island, NY, under the auspices of The Late Reverend Wanda Roberson. Prior to becoming the Assistant Pastor, Bishop Etheridge was the annual keynote speaker for the GNHBC Youth Conference.

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This tremendous move of God ignited a fire that caused a youth explosion and empowerment on Staten Island, thus fostering a unity among Pastors and the local churches. Additionally, she served as Director of Education, Protocol and Pastoral Excellence. As part of this assignment and mandate, Bishop Etheridge implemented a monthly leadership training colloquium and developed the relative curriculum. Among other accomplishments, she established a monthly Women's Empowerment Forum, which consisted of educating women on how to come out of social, emotional and economical disparagement as they refute condemning messages, utilizing the Word of God as her primary instructional. She served in the capacity of Assistant Pastor for 8 years. In October 2011, Bishop Etheridge resumed her original call to Be Ye Steadfast Ministries International and understanding the importance of having a covering, she reconnected with her Bishop and Apostle of 25+ years, Dr. Marvin E. Smith, Seed of Faith Ministries International, Fayetteville, NC. Because of her obedience to God, shortly afterwards, a mentoring program was birthed called "The Ministry of Impartation." This branch of BYSMI is dedicated to empowering clergy to tap into their uniqueness as a ministry gift to the Body of Christ. The ministry also empowers families, men, women and children from all walks of life, encouraging them to reach their fullest potential, using the Word of God and other tools for practical living. As Bishop Etheridge continued to walk in faith, the Ministry of Impartation began to experience Godly success, so much so that in October 2012, BYSMI, the church and BYSMI Covenant Fellowships were established.

In 2013, Bishop Etheridge received her Overseer designation and was consecrated in August 2015. She also received her Bishopric election in January 2017 and consecrated a Bishop in the Lord's Church in October 2018 under the auspices of her Bishop and Apostle, Dr. Marvin E. Smith. Bishop Etheridge currently oversees two churches and seven ministries across NY, NJ, CT and VA. With an objective of attaining excellence in ministry, in 2018 Bishop Etheridge established the BYSMI Academy for all leaders. The curriculum's focus is leadership and adjutancy. To God be the glory for the things He has done. Because Bishop Etheridge endeavors to be an effective servant of Jesus Christ, over the years, it has led her to pursue studies at Manhattan Bible Institute, Rockland Community College and Empire State College. In 2013, Bishop Etheridge received her Bachelor's Degree (B.Th) in Theology and in May 2014 graduated with a Master's Degree in Religious Education (M.R.Ed) from Christ Theological Seminary. She received honors, and was inducted into Eastern Theological Consortium's Academician of the Consortium (A.E.T.C.). In the secular, Bishop Etheridge has been an educator since 1981 and is currently the Assistant Director of Infant/Toddler Development at Rockland Worksite Intergenerational School. "God demands a holy life" is Bishop Etheridge's motto, which she not only applies to her life, but also emphasizes in her ministry. BYSMI is coined after 1 Corinthians 15:58 which says, "Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord."