

## ***Pastor John Modest Miles***

John Modest Miles was born in Magnolia, Arkansas. He received his education from the following schools: New Hope High School, Mt. Holly, AR; Los Angeles Trade School, Los Angeles, CA; Highland Park College, Detroit, MI; Arkansas Baptist College (B.S. Degree), Little Rock, AR; Philander Smith College, Little Rock, AR; Quachita Baptist College, M. ED. Degree, Arkadelphia, AR; Central Mississippi College (D.D. Degree), Kosciusko, MS; Midwestern Theological Seminary, Kansas City, MO; and Western Baptist Bible College (Honorary D.D. Degree), Kansas City, MO.

John Modest was licensed as a Minister in 1963 at Paradise Baptist Church in Los Angeles, CA at the age of 18. He was ordained at Pleasant Grove Baptist Church in Detroit, MI. He was the pastor of True Faith Baptist Church, Detroit MI for 4 years; Liberty Hill Baptist Church and Mount Sinai Baptist Church – both in Little Rock, AR for 16 years. He is currently serving as pastor of Morning Star Baptist Church, Kansas City, MO where he has been serving since April 5, 1987.

He was also a teacher in the Little Rock Public School system, and an instructor at Arkansas Baptist College. He served as the Moderator of the New Era District Association, Kansas City, MO which includes 43 local churches for 12 years. He is a long time friend of President Bill Clinton.

He is married to Jeanette Richard Miles and they have three children: Gerald, Janet and Derrick (Renee). He is the grandfather of 6 grandchildren.

### **Accomplishments**

- Past Vice President-At-Large of the Missouri Missionary Baptist State Convention
- Member of the National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc. Congress of Christian Education
- Board Member of the Western Baptist Bible College, Kansas City, MO
- Past Member of "Americans for Change" Presidential Task Force (President Clinton)
- Past Liaison for the National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc. and Governmental Affairs President Clinton's office
- Featured in the HBO documentary, "27<sup>th</sup> & Prospect: One Year in the Fight Against Drugs"
- General Chairman of the National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc. held in Kansas City, MO in 1998, 2003, 2010 and again in 2016
- Past Board Member of the Greater Kansas City Community Foundation & Affiliated Trusts
- Past Board Member of the Heart of America United Way

- Past Board Member of the KC 150 Celebration commemorating 150 years of history and progress in Kansas City
- Sponsored a yearly Community Awareness Seminar with Judges, Attorneys, Doctors, County officials, Police Department and other civic leaders
- Past Board Member of the Arkansas Baptist College, Little Rock, AR.
- Instructor for the Kansas City Police Academy (Minority Relations)
- Member of the Concerned Clergy Coalition of Kansas City, Missouri
- Board Member of the One Church/One Child Adoption Program
- Sponsored the Annual Amnesty Program that has dismissed thousands of warrants and has kept hundreds out of jail and prison as a result of their warrants
- Rev. Miles greatest joy is to see that the homeless people near his church (27<sup>th</sup> & Prospect) are fed, clothed and sheltered throughout the year
- Honoree of the 100 Change Makers-Unsung Heroes whose work and contributions made a difference in Arkansas presented November 16, 2004 at the Clinton Library opening in Little Rock, AR
- Recommended for Board Member of the Kansas City Health Foundation
- Honored by the KCMO Police Department for outstanding leadership and guidance as Chaplain
- Featured in article "Pastor works to turn around 27<sup>th</sup> & Prospect" Kansas City Star, July 6, 2008
- Received the Outstanding Citizen of the City of Kansas City, Missouri on September 20, 2008 presented at the Truman Heartland Community Foundation Toast to our Towns ceremony for his contribution in making our region a stronger, better healthier place to live.
- Received Proclamation from the Mayor Funkhouser and City Council for outstanding leadership in the community for bringing about great changes 2009
- Presented Resolution declaring Pastor John Modest Miles and Mrs. Jeanette Richard Miles to be the "First Couple of Kansas City" for the month of October, 2010 by Kansas City Mayor Mark Funkhouser
- Special guest to President Obama's 59th National Prayer Breakfast, Washington, DC ~ February 3, 2011
- Appointed to the Mayor's Crime Commission - 2011
- Chairman of Arkansas Baptist College E.C. Morris Institute Board –Little Rock, AR – March 2013
- President of the Baptist Ministers Union & Kansas City , MO & Vicinity – May 2013
- Appointed to the Mayor's City Charter Review Commission – May 2013
- Appointed to the Kansas City Early Childhood Education Commission – June 2013

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

### GWENDOLYN GRANT

Gwendolyn Grant, president & CEO of the Urban League of Greater Kansas City, is a strong advocate for social and economic opportunity for African Americans and other minorities. In her role as the chief executive officer of the Urban League, she provides leadership, oversight and direction for advancing all Urban League programs and its mission.

Gwendolyn has a broad range of experience in all aspects of business administration, marketing, leadership development, workplace diversity, race relations, and in building and strengthening minority enterprises.

Out of the office, Mrs. Grant serves as President of the Kansas City, Missouri School District Buildings Corporation Board of Directors; She leads the Internal Facilitator Team for the KCMO School District's community-wide strategic planning initiative; She served on the NonProfit Alliance (formerly known as American Humanics) local Host Committee; She is a member of the MARC Creating Sustainable Places Coordinating Committee; She serves on the Urban Neighborhood Initiative Board of Directors and is a member of the Kansas City Climate Protection Plan Steering Committee. She is a member of the Finance Committee at Friendship Baptist Church; And Ms. Grant is the founder and facilitator for Destination: Wealth Creation™ - a financial education and asset development initiative that is designed to teach sound financial principles and create wealth in urban communities; and Project League – a professional development initiative that develops purpose-driven and proactive servant leaders. Grant has served as a member of the Institute for Urban Education Advisory Board; Race Equity – Race Relations Scorecard Advisory Group; Race & Ethnicity Collaborative; the Black Education Council; and she is a graduate of the FBI Citizen's Academy. In addition, Mrs. Grant wrote a provocative, socially conscious op-ed column, which

was published monthly in The Kansas City Call for three years. Currently, she is a Ruckette on KCPT's Ruckus Show – a weekly political free-for-all that looks at the news of the day in a lively roundtable about the issues that face Kansas City.

The first female leader in the organization's 92-year history, Gwendolyn has been leading the Urban League since 2001. She is the co-founder of the League's Servant Leadership Development Program where she has provided leadership development training for more than 450 emerging leaders. As a co-author of the *Afraid of the Dark Dialogue Guide and Workbook*, Gwendolyn lectures regularly on the local and national level to help advance the Urban League's race relations and social justice agenda. Her portfolio of professional/organizational development seminars is extensive. Her credentials include a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration from Park University and an Executive Fellows MBA from Rockhurst University, where she graduated Magna Cum Laude.

Mrs. Grant is the recipient of numerous honors and awards, which include the Southern Christian Leadership Conference Community Service Award, Blacks In Government Outstanding Community Service Award, United Minority Media Association Leadership Award, Martin Luther King – King Dream Conference Woman of the Year, the William F. Yates Medallion for Distinguished Service, Excellence in Public Education Award – KCMO School District, Heartland Muslim Council Public Service Award, Kansas City Church Women United Human Rights Award, and the ***National Urban League's Whitney M. Young Leadership Award for Advancing Racial Equity*** to name a few.

## *G&H Consulting, LLC*

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Gayle Holliday has 20 years of transportation senior level, executive experience and has been President/CEO of G&H Consulting, LL, for the last 18 years. As an entrepreneur, she specializes in management assessments, public outreach, board facilitation, policy development and contract compliance and labor relations. She is an experienced writer, researcher, evaluator and data analysis. Dr. Holliday holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science; a Masters in Public Administration; and a Doctoral Degree in Management and Applied Technology. She continues to serve on numerous Boards and Commissions, including the Kansas Convention and Visitors Association, as Vice Chair, The Jazz District Redevelopment Board as acting Chair, Board of Governors of the Greater Kansas City Urban League, Leadership Team of Freedom, Inc, Life member of the NAAC, member of the Urban Summit and active member of the Links, Incorporated and Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc, both of which are service organizations. Dr. Holliday has served as a commissioner for the 16th Judicial Circuit Court, appointed by the Governor of Missouri and recently served on the Jackson County Charter Review Commission, appointed by the Jackson County Executive. She was one of only two Missourians to serve on President Clinton's transition team.