



Central United Methodist Church

2023 GRADUATE SUNDAY

JUNE 11, 2023

10:00 am

Worship Experience

Central United Methodist Church

501 Martin Luther King Jr. Dr. SW

Atlanta, Georgia 30314

404-524-4264 | www.centralumcatl.org

Rev. Dr. Vance P. Ross, Senior Pastor

Rev. Angela Johnson, Associate Pastor

Graduate Sunday Worship Service

June 11, 2023 | 10:00 am

Theme: Moving Forward in Excellence in Christ

Processional	“ War March of the Priest”	2023 Graduates
Welcome		Ms. Carol Tucker Burden
Hymn	“ Blessed Assurance”	Congregation
Occasion		Mrs. Alva Rowland & Mr. Tarik Rowland Jr.
Presentation of Graduates		Rev. Dr. Vance P. Ross
Musical Selection	“I Came to Magnify the Lord”	Central UMC Combined Choir
Scholarship Presentation		
Divine Nine Scholarship		Mrs. Wilma Brightharp
Mr. Salter’s Scholarship		The Salter’s Family
Grace Kemp Book Scholarship		The Kemp Family
Higher Education Scholarship		Mrs. Krystal Evans
Scripture	Romans 14:13-23	Mr. Byron Kellam II
Prayer		Miss Alyse Harrell
Introduction of the Speaker		Ms. Carol Tucker Burden
Sermonic Selection	“The Holy Ghost”	Central UMC Combined Choir
The Preached Word	“Ages, Stages, and Graces”	Dr. Tonya Lawrence Miles
Remarks/ Benediction		Rev. Dr. Vance P. Ross



**HIGH SCHOOL
GRADUATES**

JASON BERRY



Jason graduated from Campbell High School with Honors. He is the son of Ms. Arica Berry, grandson of Mr. Couties and Mrs. Edith Hollis, the nephew of Rev. Douglas Hollis, Ms. June Hollis, Dr. Saied and the late Mrs. Wendy Murphy.

Jason will attend Florida A&M University majoring in communications.

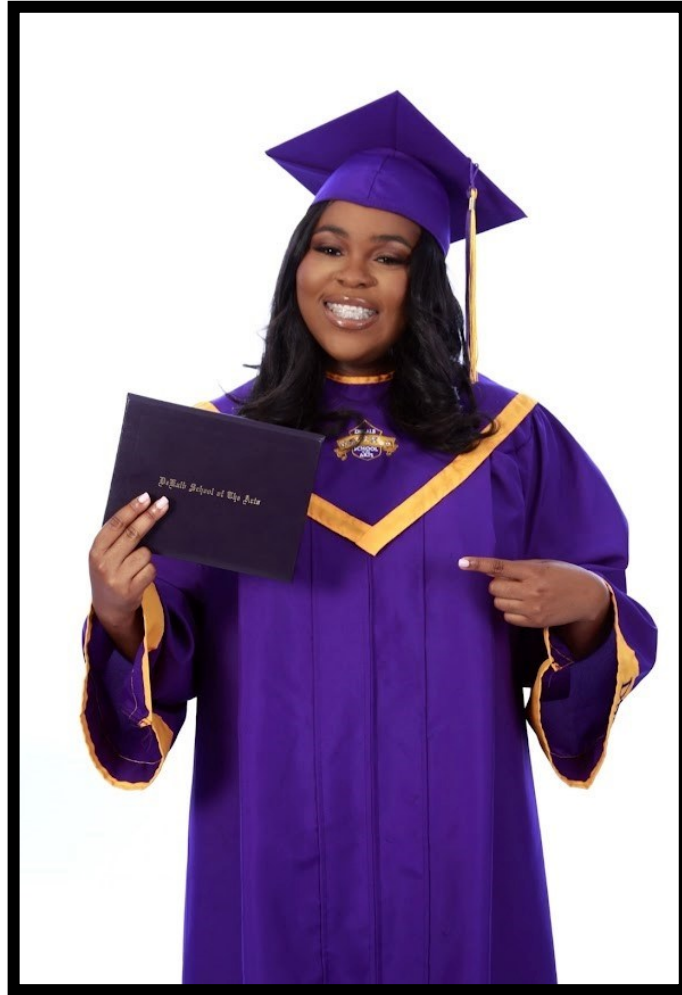
ADAM BROWN



Adam Brown is a graduate of Kennesaw Mountain High School. His mother is Ms. Amanda Brown. He is the nephew of Judge Natasha Brown.

He plans to attend Clark Atlanta University or Kennesaw State University. Adam would like to major in Computer Engineering. His future career plans are to become a coder or video game developer.

GABRIELLE ELLISON



Gabrielle graduated from DeKalb School of the Arts. Her parents are Mr. Kilo and Mrs. Tiffany Ellison. Gabrielle was a part of the Treble Show Choir, The Concert Choir, Bella Voce Treble Choir, Varsity Tennis Team, USDA Ag Discovery Program, USDA National Scholars program, Agriculture Club President.

Her future plans are to attend Fort Valley State University as an animal science major and then on to Veterinary School.

CALVIN FAVORS III



Calvin is a graduate of Cristo Rey Atlanta Jesuit High School where he participated in cross country sports, the Black Student Union, theatre club and served as a Cristo Rey Atlanta (CRA) Ambassador. His parents are Mr. Calvin Favors II and Mrs. Mashere George.

Calvin plans to attend Florida A & M University in the summer.

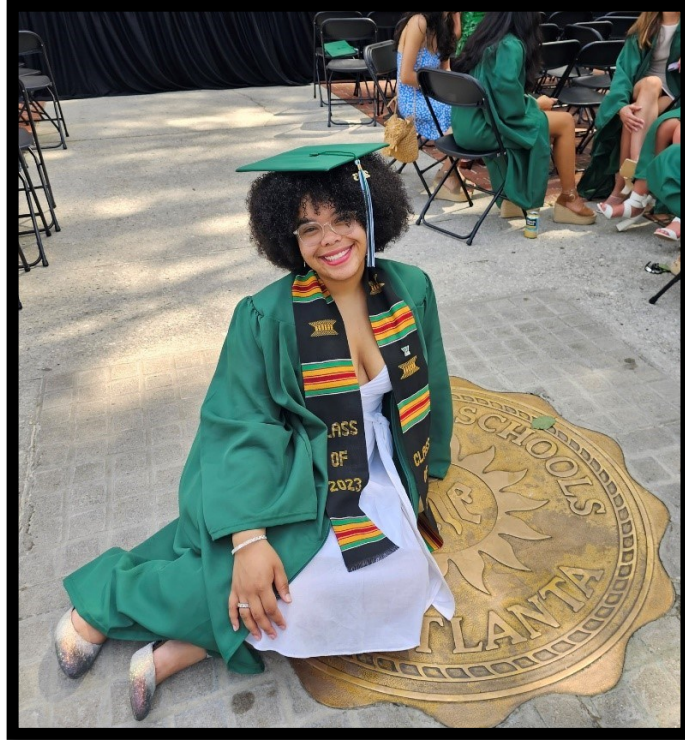
THORNTON FEARS III



Thornton is a Magna Cum Laude graduate from Heritage High School. He is the son of Mr. Thornton and Mrs. Mechelle Fears, and the grandson of Mr. Henry and Dr. Monique Mabry.

Thornton will attend Albany State University on a National Army ROTC Scholarship.

ALYSE HARRELL



Alyse is a graduate of Westminster Schools. She was voted Homecoming Queen, received the Judy Smith Citizenship Award, and was Theatre President. Alyse is the daughter of Mr. Antonio Harrell and the late Rev. Marita Harrell and the granddaughter of Mr. Howard and Mrs. Margie Roberts.

Alyse plans to attend Brown University double majoring in Theatre and Psychology. Alyse plans to be an actress.

AYINDE JOHNSON



Ayinde is a graduate of DM Therrell High School in Atlanta, where he was an AB Honor Roll student. He is the son of Rev. Angela Johnson.

Ayinde served as an AV-Tech for Central. He participated in our virtual worship services and was a volunteer at Central's Food Pantry. In the community, he served as a youth volunteer at the C.T. Martin Recreation Center. Ayinde will attend Kennesaw State University in the fall.

JADEN NICHOLS

Jaden is a graduate of Peachtree Ridge High School. His parents are Mrs. Tomika and Mr. Sadat Nichols. His grandparents are Ms. Audrey Anderson and the late Mr. Norris Anderson and his great grandparents are Mrs. Mary Amos and the late Mr. Joseph Amos.

Jaden will attend Howard University to study Supply Chain Management.



JANAI NICHOLS

Janai is a graduate of Peachtree Ridge High School. Her parents are Mrs. Tomika and Mr. Sadat Nichols. Her grandparents are Ms. Audrey Anderson and the late Mr. Norris Anderson and her great grandparents are Mrs. Mary Amos and the late Mr. Joseph Amos.

Janai will attend college at Tennessee State University majoring in Biology.

EMARI SHERRI NORRIS



Emari Sherri Norris is the daughter of Ms. Terrie W. and Mr. Emory Norris I. She is a graduate of Wheeler High School, and advance Placement (AP) Humanities Achievement School of Distinction in Marietta, GA. Emari is an honor student who participated as a cheerleader throughout her high school tenure. Concurrently, Emari contributed to the community as a volunteer at Our Lady of the Perpetual Help and an active participant in the ministries at Central UMC as a part of God's Dancing Angels and the Children and Youth Choirs. She plans to attend a historically black college/university; either Grambling University or Alabama State University and major in Business Marketing.

Emari's favorite scripture is "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." (Philippians 4:13)

TARIK ROWLAND JR.



Tarik is a graduate of Tri-Cities High School Visual & Performing Arts Magnet. His parents are Dr. Tarik Rowland Sr. and Mrs. Alva Rowland. His grandparents are Mr. Alvin and Mrs. Phyllis Burse.

Tarik's future plans are to attend Southern University in Baton Rouge, LA majoring in Agricultural Science

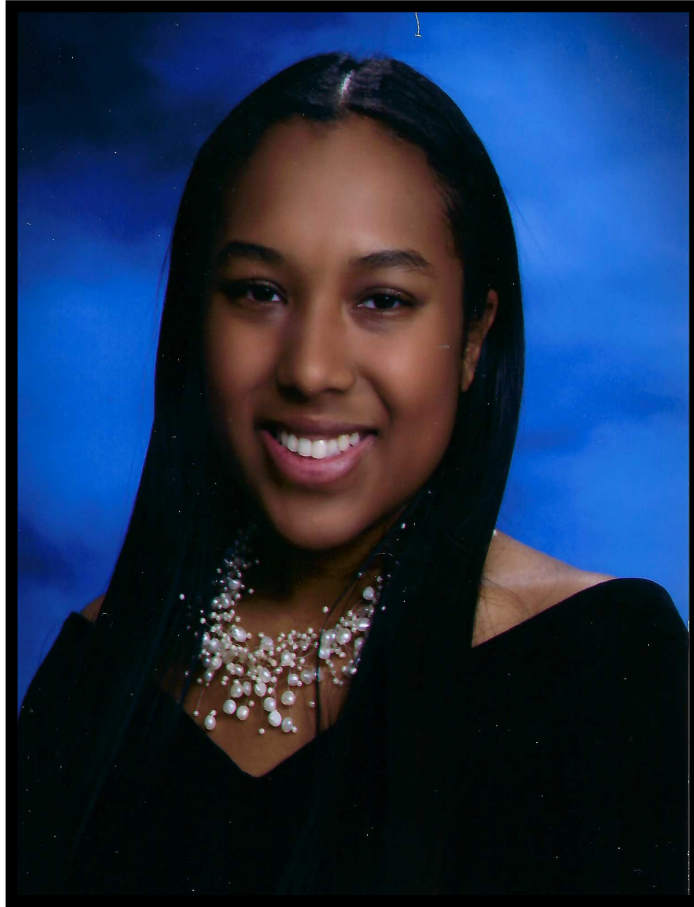
JEREMIAH SWEET



Jeremiah is a graduate of Cedar Grove High School where he played tackle and guard positions on Cedar Gove Saints football team. He is the son of the late Ms. Roneisha Hayes, and grandson of Mr. Darrell and Mrs. Valerie Bullock.

Jeremiah will attend Savannah Technical College in the fall.

COURAGE WEST-TANKOO



Courage Amelia Annez West- Tankoo is a 2023 graduate of Midtown High School, Atlanta, GA. She will attend Valdosta State University in the fall to major in nursing.

A Centralite from birth, she has served in the youth ministry and has volunteered her services in the church and the community. Courage is the daughter of Mrs. Deanna West Tankoo and Mr. Paul Tankoo. She is the granddaughter of Mr. Dean and Mrs. Carolyn West, and also the granddaughter of Dolly Tankoo of Trinidad and the late Paratop Tankoo.



**COLLEGE
GRADUATES**

BYRON RONALDO KELLAM, II



Byron R. Kellam, II is a lifelong member of Central. He is the son of Mr. Byron and Mrs. Alexis Kellam, brother to Kai Kellam and grandson of Mrs. Eleanor B. Proctor and Mrs. Carolyn Kellam.

Byron is a proud 2023 graduate of Fisk University, where he earned a B.S. in Business Administration. While at Fisk, he was a 55Strong scholar, an intern with Crane Financial, and actively involved with the Stagecrafters Theatre Group and the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. Byron plans to attend Texas Southern University for graduate school in the fall.

ALVA BURSE ROWLAND



Alva is a graduate of Mercer University. Her parents are Mr. Alvin and Mrs. Phyllis Burse. She is the spouse of Dr. Tarik H. Rowland and the mother of Tarik Jr., Tarin & Tarianna.

Alva has received her Master of Arts in Teaching (Early Elementary). After teaching music for 16 years, she plans to continue making a difference in the classroom, this time in General Education.

CAROL TUCKER-BURDEN



Carol is a graduate of Emory School of Law. Carol plans to take a reflection retreat at Ring Lake Ranch to attend a Moral Leadership Retreat in Dubois, Wyoming. She also plans to serve as a pro bono volunteer for Atlanta Legal Aid in the areas of estate planning, website research and Fulton County Property Tax Appeal & Homestead Exemption.

Congratulations to the 2023 Graduates of
Central United Methodist Church
From the Divine Nine



DIVINE NINE

Alpha Phi Alpha, Alpha Kappa Alpha, Kappa Alpha Psi, Omega Psi Phi,

Delta Sigma Theta, Phi Beta Sigma, Zeta Phi Beta, Sigma Gamma Rho, Iota Phi Theta