

BIOGRAPHICAL THUMBNAIL

Rev. Traci deVon Blackmon



*Until the lion tells the story, the hunter will always be the hero.
~ West African Proverb*

Rev. Traci Blackmon is the Associate General Minister of Justice & Local Church Ministries for The United Church of Christ and Senior Pastor of Christ The King United Church of Christ in Florissant, MO.

As a featured voice on many regional, national, and international platforms, Rev. Blackmon's life's work focuses on faith-filled communal resistance to systemic injustice. Her response in Ferguson to the killing of Michael Brown resulted in national and international recognition, gaining her many audiences spanning the breadth of the White House to the Carter Center to the Vatican. Her work is now featured in several Ferguson Uprising documentaries and she is a frequently sought voice for print media and television. Appointed to the Ferguson Commission by Governor Jay Nixon and to the President's Advisory Council on Faith-Based Neighborhood Partnerships for the White House by President Barack Obama, Rev. Blackmon is a recipient of the NAACP Rosa Parks Award; The Urban League of St. Louis Woman in Leadership Award; the National Planned Parenthood Faith Leader Award, and the Hannah G. Solomon Award, the highest award given by The National Council of Jewish Women, to name a few. Rev. Blackmon is listed as one of Ebony Magazine's 2015 Power 100 and she is a featured writer in several Justice publications. Rev. Blackmon is a graduate of Leadership St. Louis and currently serves on the boards of The Samuel DeWitt Proctor Conference, Chicago Theological Seminary, and WomanPreach! In 2017, she was named Citizen of the Year by The St. Louis American and as one of St. Louis' 100 most influential voices. Last year Rev. Blackmon was inducted into the Morehouse College MLK Board of Preachers, an honor of great significance to her in the year that marked the 50th Anniversary of Dr. King's death. Rev. Blackmon is a featured voice in the National Geographic documentary: America InsideOut with Katie Couric. Rev. Blackmon's greatest award is the blessing of serving the church with her entire being. Her presence in local church ministry has opened new possibilities to ways of serving small congregations in changing times, while maintaining the needed proximity to the people and the pain that her advocacy work demands. Currently residing in both St. Louis, MO and Cleveland, OH, Rev. Blackmon is the proud mother of three adult children: Kortni Devon; Harold II; and Tyler Wayne Blackmon.

"I speak for the lions. And we are many!" ~ Rev. Traci D. Blackmon