

## **Rev. Kevin Cosby, Religion, Doctor of Humanities**

Eastern Kentucky University alumnus Reverend Kevin Cosby received the honorary Doctor of Humanities on May 10, 2003. During the Spring 2003 commencement ceremony, Rev. Cosby was recognized for his growth of St. Stephen's Church into one of America's top 100 largest ministries. The degree also commends Rev. Cosby for his dedication to the community; he is a strong supporter of education and higher learning in southern United States—especially within the African American community.

Rev. Cosby is a Louisville, Kentucky native. After high school, he attended Eastern Kentucky University, where he graduated with a bachelor's degree in history in 1980. He became Senior Pastor at St. Stephen's Church in Louisville while attending college. Shortly thereafter, he earned a master's degree in divinity at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky, completing his higher education with a doctoral degree from United Theological Seminary in Dayton, Ohio. He has served on the Board of Trustees at Kentucky State University, been an instructor of Pan African Studies at the University of Louisville, and a mentor for the Cosby-Wheeler Fellows at United Theological Seminary.

Devotion to God, the community, and education has led Rev. Cosby to be the recipient of the WAVE-TV STEP (Service through Excellent Performance) award; the Regional Minority Business Advocate award; the Freedom Award, given to him by the Louisville mayor; the Communicator of the Year Award, from the Kentucky chapter of the International Association of Business Communicators; and the Catholic Alumni Award, personally presented by the Archdiocese of Louisville. Under the strict guidance of Rev. Cosby, St. Stephen's Baptist Church has grown from a small place of worship to one of the six super churches of the south:

going from 500 members to well over 10,000. The church itself has funded several family life centers, which serves to battle addiction in local communities.

He continues to serve as Senior Pastor at St. Stephen's Baptist Church. He is also an adjunct professor at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.