

CHRISTOPHER J HARRIS

INSPIRE WISDOM

An Innovative, Strategic Leader that offers Inspirational Wisdom for life.

His life mission is “to inspire everyday people to live wise lives.”

Although he’s known as a Pastor of practical wisdom, he’s simultaneously known as a skilled leader, proficient administrator, strategist, gifted communicator, with a balanced charismatic commitment to inspire people and create systemic change in organizations. His work has crashed the box that the Pastor’s work is one day a week or just in a church building. His ministry and community work has produced lasting fruit and systemic change that will outlive his life.

Formally, Pastor Christopher J. Harris is the *Executive Pastor* and member of the Preaching Team at the well-publicized and culture changing multi-ethnic church, **Crossover Church of Tampa, Florida** with Pastor Tommy “UrbanD” Kyllonen. Living in the Tampa Bay region, he shares his life work and purpose to Inspire Wisdom with his wife, Dr. Carmen J Harris and their four children.



Previously, he served as Chief of Staff & *Director of Ministry Operations* and also a member of the *pastoral team* at the historic mega-church, **Fellowship Church of Chicago**, with Pastor Charles Jenkins and founded by pioneer Rev. Clay Evans. He also currently serves as *Director of Administration & Vision Implementation* within the world-wide ministry reformation, **Full Gospel Baptist Church Fellowship International**, where Bishop Joseph W. Walker, III is the Presiding Bishop and Bishop Paul S. Morton, Sr. is the Founding Bishop. He previously served as the International Children and Youth Leader within the same organization for over a decade. Beyond Chicago, he has served in ministries in Florida, South Carolina, and North Carolina. His track record involves leading people, inspiring families, and building organizations with multi-million-dollar budgets and diverse teams, which engage community, manage programs, and create lasting change and life transformation. His commitment to his work has afforded his models and strategies to be adopted within churches and organizations across the United States.

Pastor Harris is a member of a number of national Boards and community groups, including **Urban League of Hillsborough**, **Leadership Tampa Alumni**, **Leadership Tampa Class of 2019**, **Educate Hillsborough**, the **Hillsborough County Public Schools Achievement Zone Taskforce**, **Tampa Innovation Alliance**, **Tampa Bay Coalition of Clergy**, several local **Parent-Teacher Associations** and a member of **Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc.**, being recognized as the 2000 National College Brother of the Year. As a life-long learner, he’s completed a year-long intensive at Princeton Theological Seminary and is a multi-degree alumnus of The Florida State University and the University of South Carolina-Columbia, and completed doctoral coursework at Nova Southeastern University. His community involvement also includes being a member of the **Florida State University Alumni Association**, including the **Midlands (SC) chapter**, **Chicago chapter**, and **Tampa chapter**. Holding multiple professional certifications, including conflict resolution and diversity and inclusion training, he has also served on staff at multiple secondary and post-secondary educational institutions as an administrator, instructor, and staff member, including Greensboro College, North Carolina A & T University and The Florida State University. As an *entrepreneur*, he has launched **The Wise Idea Podcast**, a weekly podcast focusing on Life, Family/Marriage, Leadership and Ministry and is heard in 23 countries around the world. He is the *Lead Principal* for the **Inspired Ideas Group, LLC**, and **The Healthy Urban Church Initiative**, a conglomerate of trainers and consultants to assist not-for-profits, educational institutions, and ministries in maximizing their success in operations and human capital, and has worked with organizations in 29 US states. **The Timothy Troop** is a subsidiary of this, a venture to train and mentor young ministers, ages 13-19.

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In 2020, he launched the business-ministry platform known as **DiverseChurchJobs.com**, assisting churches and people of color in ministry, primarily in the United States in locating, placing, and developing new staff and personnel. He previously served as Executive Director of Staff Search with **The Mosaix Network**, based in Arkansas. Also in 2020, he became the **City Director for One Race Tampa**, a chapter of the One Race Movement launched to move the faith community forward on matters of racial reconciliation.

As a proficient *writer, consultant, policy writer, and blogger*, you can find evidence of his work on national platforms- on video, in print, on many social media sites, nationally recognized blogs, and in corporate structures, reaching diverse, multi-ethnic audiences from around the world. His first book, **Temporary Assignments** and second work, **Church Strategies and Ministry Systems**, which became the #1 New Release on Amazon in the Christian Church Administration category in 2018, reflect his heart in published form.

During his time as an Educational Administrator, he was actively involved in leadership roles with National Association of Student Personnel Administrators (NASPA), National Association of Student Affairs Professionals (NASAP), the South Carolina College Personnel Association (SCCPA) and Communities In Schools.

While a student at FSU, Mr. Harris served as the **Student Body Vice President**, an **Admissions Office** representative, **President** of the FSU chapter of **NAACP**, **Project Director** of **Your Voice Television Talk show**, which reached viewers all across the Southeast United States; **Chaplain** and **Percussionist** for the renowned **FSU Gospel Choir**; Member of **FSU's Burning Spear**; a member of the Board of Directors for **Seminole Torchbearers**; **saxophonist** in the **FSU Marching Chiefs**; and a host of other affiliations in campus organizations, university-wide committees, and statewide affiliations, including the **Florida Student Association**, **College Leadership Florida**, **Brothers Of The Academy (BOTA)**, and The **American Legions Boys State program**. All of which resulted in him being recognized as the 2000 Greek Man of the Year, inducted into the FSU Hall of Fame, FSU Black Alumni Association *Prelude to the Drum*, ODK/Gold Key *Spirit of FSU Award*; numerous oratorical awards and other special recognitions.

Some of his other work has been widely recognized across diverse platforms, including receiving a commendation from the Tampa City Council in 2018. Pastor Harris is at heart *a teacher*, who has been privileged to lead and teach in conferences, workshops, services, and events that have challenged people to discover their divine assignment and walk in wisdom. Beyond inspiring everyday people, the normalcy (and sometime mundane routine) of family life is his priority. He's often said, "I want those who know me best, to respect me most."

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