

Living Legend of Cumberland

Joseph Edward Heyward, Ed. D.



JOSEPH E. HEYWARD, a native of Florence, South Carolina is committed to *education and 'service above self'*. He was educated in the public schools of Florence graduating from Wilson Senior High School with recognition for his academic excellence and leadership ability.

He attended Hampton (Institute) University and in 1963 received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Mathematics with a minor in Physics. Continuing his education at Morgan State University, he received the Master of Arts Degree in Mathematics in 1972 and later the Doctor of Education Degree in 1987 from the University of South Carolina in Student Personnel Administration. Additional studies were done at Wake Forest University (NC) in Physics. In December 2006, he was awarded the Honorary Doctor of Humanities by Francis Marion University, Florence, South Carolina.

Dr. Heyward is a lifelong member of Cumberland United Methodist Church in Florence, SC. He served for eight years as the Conference Lay Leader for the South Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church and chaired its Board of Laity. He has attended the past nine General and/or Jurisdictional Conferences of the United Methodist Church (1988-2019). Dr. Heyward served as President of the Southeastern Jurisdictional Association of Annual Conference Lay Leaders (15 conferences). He served one quadrennial as a member of the General Council on Finance and Administration and eight years as a member of the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits (Westpath) for the United Methodist Church. The General Board of Pension recognized his service with the “**Clay F. Lee Award**” for exemplary service as a Director during its banquet in Chicago, IL, November 2015.

His involvement on boards and committees include the following: Board of Ordain Ministry for SC Conference of United Methodist Church, South Carolina United Methodist Foundation,

McLeod Medical Center Men Advisory Board, McLeod Institution Review Board for Research, McLeod Health Fellows Club (2015), Florence Rotary Club, Pee Dee Housing Development Corporation Board of Directors (president), Pelican House Board of Directors (president), and a former member of the Greenwood Genetic Center Board of Directors, Greenwood Genetic Center Foundation Board of Directors, and South Carolina State Board of Accountancy (appointed by Governor Dick Riley) where he served as vice-chair and former member of the Florence Symphony Board.

Included among the positions he has held, and now holds, in his local church are former chair of the Administrative Board, a member of the Finance Committee, Music Committee Chair (choir director and organist), Council on Ministries (Administration Council), Staff/Pastor Parish Relations Committee, former Superintendent of Sunday School and chaired the Restoration/Rebuilding Committee of the church which is the oldest organized church in downtown Florence, SC.

Dr. Heyward has been a member of Delta Kappa Lambda Chapter (#0198) of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., since 1966. He has served as president, secretary and treasurer. He was instrumental in chartering Kappa Chi Chapter (#0440) of Alpha Phi Alpha on the campus of Francis Marion University in 1975. Brother Heyward was its first advisor and continues to serve today as assistant advisor for the chapter. He is proud of the young men who have become an Alpha through this chapter and have become successful graduates and contributing members of the communities in which they reside.

In 1972, Dr. Heyward was selected and served as South Carolina state secretary and held that position until 1979 under the leadership of State Directors Wilson J. Davis and Peter L. Felder. In 1980, he was appointed district treasurer and continued in that position until 2016. He served as Area Director and Chief Pharaoh for Area III in South Carolina for more than 10 years.

Dr. Heyward attended his first regional convention in Greensboro, North Carolina in 1974. He was appointed to serve as convention secretary, which he did for three years. This began his involvement on a regional level in Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity. In 1977, Brother Ozell Sutton, Vice President of the region, appointed Brother Heyward as Executive Secretary of Alpha South. He held that position until his resignation in 1990. However, in 1991, newly elected Vice President Robert Willis asked Dr. Heyward to serve as his Administrative Assistant. He continued his service to the region in a position of Executive Secretary/Director through the administrations of three other Vice Presidents (Chester Wheeler, Lynwood Bell, and Ronnie Jenkins).

The District Directors of Alpha South recognized Brother Heyward for his dedication and hard work by presenting him with his Life Membership in 1987.

Miami Beach, Florida, 1975, was the site of the first General Convention attended by Brother Heyward. Since that year, he has attended every general convention to date. On the national level, Brother Heyward served on the Constitution Committee, chaired the Publications Committee, and was appointed as Administrative Assistant to the General President and held that

position for seven General Presidents. He now holds the position of Liaison to Past General Presidents (10).

General President Harry E. Johnson presented Dr. Heyward with a **Presidential Citation** at the Public Program of the 2001 General Convention in New Orleans. Southern Region Vice President Lynwood Bell presented him with the regional's Citation in August 2001. General President Darryl R. Matthews presented him with the **Award of Merit**, the highest award for a member of the organization, at the 2007 General Convention in Kansas City, MO. The South Carolina District of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity recognized him with its **Living Legends Award** in 2006.

Professionally, Dr. Heyward has taught mathematics and physics on the high school level and has served as assistant principal and principal of Williams Middle School. In 1973, he joined the staff of Francis Marion University. During the years 1978-80 Dr. Heyward held the position of Director of the University Center at Francis Marion University and Area Representative for United States Senator Ernest "Fritz" Hollings. In 1980, he was recruited and accepted the position of Assistant Superintendent for Instruction for Florence School District One. He held that position for three years and in 1983 returned to Francis Marion University as Vice President for Student Affairs. As a member of the administration at Francis Marion, he served as Interim Provost of the university on three separate occasions. He retired from Francis Marion University in June 2006 as Senior Vice President for Student Affairs.

Dr. Heyward was inducted into Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society, Omicron Delta Kappa National Leadership Honor Society, and Beta Gamma Sigma Honor Society. He has also held membership in the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators (NASPA), Southern Association of College Student Affairs (SACSA) and the South Carolina College Personnel Association (SCCPA).

The *Joseph E. Heyward Scholarship* was created at Francis Marion University in recognition of his service. In addition, a building on campus, the **Heyward Community Center**, was named in his honor. The Francis Marion University African-American Faculty/Staff Coalition, which he was instrumental in starting, recognized him with its **Scholarship, Leadership and Excellence Award** (February 2015). In 2019, the Trustees of Francis Marion named a **street** on its campus in his honor, **Heyward Drive**.

The Columbia Section of the National Council of Negro Women honored him with the "**Living the Legacy Award in Education**", January 2016. In May 2016, the Baptist E & M Music Auxiliary of South Carolina recognized him by naming him a "**South Carolina Baptist Music Legend**" (Sumter, SC). The Florence Rotary Club presented him with its **Presidential Citation** for **Outstanding Leadership and Service** for his work in demonstrating the ideals of Rotary (June 2016). He is the recipient of more than 75 recognitions, i.e.... plaques, certificates, trophies, medals and other awards.

Dr. Heyward is the son of the late John W. Heyward and the late Wilhelmenia Heyward. He married the former Evelyn Sargent on June 27, 1970 and they have three children, Joseph II, a chemical analyst with Eli Lilly (Indianapolis, IN), Ryan Christopher, a mechanical engineer with

Power Systems Mfg., LLC (Jupiter, FL), and Regina Maria of Florence, SC. He has six grandchildren (Joseph Edward. III, Jaylen Christopher, Ryan Christopher, Mackenzie A, Joshua Barron and Cameron Xavier) and one adopted granddaughter, Ava Uggiano of Lexington, SC.

He has four siblings: Dr. Grace H. Salters (Orangeburg, SC), Dr. John W. (Dorothy) Heyward (St. Louis, MO), Mrs. Peggy H. Farmer (Florence, SC) and Mrs. Patricia H. (Ervin) Pearson (Dacula, GA).