

spiritual leader, and true man of God, Reverend Doctor Cameron Madison Alexander, the beloved Pastor of Antioch Baptist Church North in Atlanta, Georgia. Sadly, Reverend Alexander transitioned from labor to reward on Sunday, December 30, 2018. He leaves in his wake many heavy hearts among his church family, community, and across the world. His funeral service was held on January 7, 2019, at 11 am at Antioch Baptist Church North located at 540 Cameron M. Alexander Blvd NW, Atlanta, GA, 30318. What a celebration of life it was.

Rev. Cameron Madison Alexander was born to the union of Reverend Homer M. and Augusta (Hutchins) Alexander on February 12, 1932. A product of the Atlanta Public School System, he graduated from Booker T. Washington High School in 1948, where he played football, ran track, and played saxophone in the band. After high school, he attended Florida A&M University, was in the Marching 100 band, and served his country in the United States Air Force. He then attended Morehouse College under President Dr. Benjamin E. Mays, earning a Bachelor of Arts degree, received his Master of Divinity degree from the Morehouse School of Religion, served there as the President and Treasurer as well as Trustee of the Morehouse School of Medicine. In recognition of his numerous contributions to society, he was awarded Honorary Doctor of Divinity degrees from the United Theological Seminary (1978), the Interdenominational Theological Center (1991), and Carver Bible College (2007).

His pastoral ministry began at Mt. Olive Baptist Church in Cartersville, Georgia. From there he was called to the Flagg Chapel Baptist Church in Milledgeville, Georgia, then in 1958 to New Pleasant Grove Baptist Church in Macon where he became an activist leader against injustice, resulting in desegregation of the city buses, lunch counters, the Bowden Golf Course, and Mercer University. In 1965, Rev. Alexander was called to St. John Baptist Church in Savannah where he took his ministry beyond the church walls and formed a partnership with C&S Bank to improve 109 blocks of real estate in Savannah and provide affordable housing and jobs.

In 1969, while visiting Antioch as a guest, Reverend Alexander delivered a sermon so powerful that the church voted by write-in the next day to call him as Pastor. For almost 50 years, he was the driving force behind Antioch Baptist Church North. Under his leadership, the church grew from 600 members with an annual budget of less than \$40,000 to 14,000 members and a multi-million dollar annual budget. He established over 75 ministries and outreach programs touching communities in Atlanta and across the world.

Rev. Alexander's extraordinary servant leadership was prolific. For 29 years, he served as President of the General Missionary Baptist Convention of Georgia which claims a membership of more than 800 churches; Vice President of the National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc.; and Dean for the Sunday School and Baptist Training Union Congress. He trained, licensed, and ordained 600 ministers, 150 of whom went on to pastor other churches. He established the Antioch International Macedonian Missionaries (AIMM) ministry to touch "the least of these" beyond our nation's borders, addressing issues of inadequate safe drinking water, food, and medical care in Haiti,

South Africa, Turkey, Columbia, and Brazil where AIMM facilitated opening the first university for black Brazilians known as Afrobras.

The City of Atlanta honored Dr. Alexander by naming a street for him. He was inducted into Atlanta Business League's Legends Hall of Fame and the International Civil Rights Hall of Fame at the Martin Luther King Jr. National Historic Site. He was invited to submit one of his inaugural sermons to the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress which became part of the oral history and spoken word collections that preserve Americans' accounts of and reactions to important cultural events.

On a personal note, I met Dr. Alexander 40 years ago through my Pastor and his good friend, Dr. J.H. Flakes, Jr. of the Fourth Street Baptist Church of Columbus. His friendship, advice, and counsel were pivotal in my political career in The Georgia General Assembly and in Congress. I am better for having known him.

Dr. Alexander accomplished much in his life; yet, none of it would have been possible but for the Grace of God and the love and support of his family—including his beloved wife, Barbara; their four children, Gregory (deceased), Cameron, Kenneth, and Barbara; and his nine grandchildren, all of whom will miss him deeply.

Madam Speaker, my wife Vivian and I, along with countless others throughout Georgia and the nation salute Reverend Doctor Cameron Madison Alexander for his outstanding accomplishments in the ministry and his service to humankind. I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join us in extending our deepest sympathies to Reverend Alexander's family, friends, loved ones, and all who grieve during this difficult time of bereavement. We pray that they will be consoled and comforted by an abiding faith and the Holy Spirit in the days, weeks, and months ahead.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF MR.
ROBERT HAND

HON. SUZAN K. DeLBENE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 10, 2019

Ms. DELBENE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Robert Hand who was named Teacher of the Year in Washington State. Mr. Hand is a family and consumer sciences teacher at Mount Vernon High School, in my district. This award goes to teachers who display an unwavering commitment to the success of their students.

Mr. Hand has been teaching at Mount Vernon since 2013. He has taught Beginning Foods, Life After High School, and Careers in Education, Nutrition, and Leadership. Along with being an outstanding teacher, he has also held important roles throughout our community, including as an adviser for Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America and for the Social Justice Club.

Mr. Hand's outreach to students extends beyond the classroom. His teachings often relate back to his students, in uplifting ways. Mr. Hand is a champion of diversity and has recognized the diversity of his students by displaying eleven flags in his classroom to celebrate their heritage.

He is working to continue critical investments in our teachers by helping to develop the Recruiting Washington Teachers program for the Professional Educator Standards Board. Because of his work, Washington students will have quality teachers and mentors for years to come.

I want to thank Robert Hand for his commitment to serving his students and enriching the teaching profession in Washington State. Congratulations, Mr. Hand.

TRIBUTE TO REVEREND DOCTOR
AZALEE C. BISHOP

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 10, 2019

Mr. CLYBURN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to Rev. Dr. Azalee C. Bishop, a faithful Christian servant and a trailblazing humanitarian. Dr. Bishop and I are of the same generation, and I am honored to extend best wishes on the occasion of her 80th birthday.

Dr. Bishop is an honors graduate of Gallman High School, Class of 1956. She went on to pursue her undergraduate degree at Johnson C. Smith University in Charlotte, North Carolina. Upon graduation, she completed graduate studies at Cornell University, Canius College, State University of New York in Buffalo, and Pentecostal Overcoming Outreach School of Religion in Columbia, South Carolina. She spent years as a dedicated wife and mother, and then earned her doctorate degree at Spirit and Truth Seminary in Richmond, Virginia.

Her legacy is Grace Christian Church in Columbia, South Carolina, which was established under the vision and leadership of Rev. Dr. Bishop and her husband, Bishop Robert L. Bishop. The initial worship service was held on May 12, 1982 with seventy-seven faithfuls in attendance. The Bishops grew the congregation from its original location in a small daycare facility and moved to a site at the Columbia Housing Authority's Latimore Manor Housing Complex in 1984. It continued to thrive, and seven years later moved to 627 Dixie Avenue in Columbia. Grace Christian Church established its current home on October 17, 1995 when it purchased property at 5010 Monticello Road.

Under the vision of Dr. Azalee C. Bishop, the church expanded its mission and in 1998 launched the Grace Divinity College of Biblical Studies. This divinity school is accredited both by the Accrediting Commission International and International Biblical Association. She is also the founder and producer of Morning Break with Jesus, a daily devotional broadcast, that reached thousands of South Carolina listeners.

Dr. Bishop has also sought to improve the quality of life in her community by establishing Grandma's House, an afterschool program for low-income, academically-challenged youth, and The Wisdom Center which is dedicated to embracing wisdom and changing lives. In addition to her work as a pastor and civic leader, Dr. Bishop spent 33-years as a Program Administrator with the Department of Social Services.

Her many memberships and accomplishments include The Greater Columbia Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance (Board