



### **First Lady Tonya Twyman**

First Lady Tonya Garnes Twyman was born in Henderson, NC in 1966. Her family moved to Washington, DC when she was 1 year old and spent her childhood years. At an early age, her family joined First Baptist Church of Wheaton, MD where she was baptized at the age of 12. First Lady Twyman was very active in the Youth Ministry and that is where her love for the Lord was nurtured. Her mom, Effie Merritt, has always been a loving example of a virtuous woman and attributes her successful walk with the Lord and her desire to serve God with all her heart to her mom's example.

First Lady Twyman attended Stone Ridge High school, Bethesda, MD where she graduated in 1984 and then attended Spellman College; Atlanta, GA for one and a half years. She later attended Howard University, Washington, DC where she obtained a Bachelor's of Business Degree in Accounting in 1990. She works at the Office of Personnel Management as an Auditor and has worked there for 20 years. She has received numerous awards for excellent service in her career.

First Lady Twyman joined Glendale Baptist Church, currently The Sanctuary, in Capital Heights, MD in 1996 under the direction of Pastor and First Lady Anthony G. Maclin and Peggy Maclin where she received much spiritual training and development. At The Sanctuary, First Lady served as the Youth Ministry President, taught Bible Study, was active in the Marriage Ministry, was the president of the Daughters of the Kingdom Women's Ministry and sang in the Young Adult Choir. First Lady Twyman attributes her maturity and growth in the word of God to her years spent at The Sanctuary.

Currently, First Lady is married to the love of her life, Overseer Lanier C. Twyman, Sr., Pastor of the St. Stephen Baptist Church and is the mother to James and proud stepmother to two sons, Lanier, Jr. and Joshua. She currently serves as the Director of the Women Who Worship Women's ministry at St. Stephen. She is affectionately known as "Lady T" by the members and enjoys serving with her husband and supporting him in all of his visions for ministry. Tonya lives to serve others and be a blessing to as many people as she can. She truly believes that only what you do for Christ will last.