



*Ivan Douglas Hicks, Ph.D.*

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Dr. Ivan Douglas Hicks has served as the Senior Minister of the historic First Baptist Church North Indianapolis, Indiana since April of 1999. Prior to moving to Indianapolis, Pastor Hicks served as assistant to Dr. H. Beecher Hicks, Jr. at his home church, Metropolitan Baptist Church, in Washington, D.C. He served the prior three years, from 1994 through 1997, as Assistant Minister/Chief Operating Officer and only full time minister at Bright Hope Baptist Church in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, where Congressman William H. Gray, III is the Senior Minister.

In August of 2003, Dr. Hicks was awarded the Doctor of Philosophy Degree in African American Studies from Temple University in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Renowned Afrocentric scholar, Molefi Kete Asante provided mentorship to Dr. Hicks in his course work and dissertation preparation. "Centering African American Religion: Toward an Afrocentric Analysis" is the publication that is the result of Dr. Hicks' terminal matriculation.

Rev. Hicks graduated from the United Theological Seminary in Dayton, Ohio where he received a Master of Divinity Degree in 1994. In December of 2007 Dr. Hicks graduated his first 9 Doctoral students as he served as Adjunct Faculty Mentor in the Doctor of Ministry Program at United. As he completed this assignment he was asked to serve as the first Samuel Dewitt Proctor Visiting Professor teaching Master's students and has recently assumed a position as Associate Dean of Africa American Studies at United. In this capacity, among other responsibilities, he is tasked with developing a comprehensive African American Studies Department for the Seminary, infusing an African American Studies curriculum into the Master of Divinity program.

He is also a proud alum of Morehouse College in Atlanta, Georgia where he was a campus leader and community organizer. He founded the Morehouse Mentoring Program and toward the end of his collegiate matriculation, Ivan Douglas was elected and remains the President of the Morehouse Class of 1991. Pastor Hicks resides in the city of Indianapolis with his bride of thirteen years, Christia Lynett Hicks. They are the proud parents of engaging twin daughters Austynn Lene' and Ashley Rene' and 2-year old Anya Madison.