Jimmie Hawkins

Director of the Office of Public Witness, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)



Rev. Jimmie Ray Hawkins serves as the Director of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Office of Public Witness in Washington D.C.

Jimmie earned a Bachelor of Arts in Social Studies from North Carolina Central University (Durham, NC), a Master of Arts in Christian Education from the Presbyterian School of Christian Education (Richmond, VA) and a Master of Divinity from the Interdenominational Theological Center/Johnson C. Smith Theological Seminary (Atlanta, GA).

For 20 years he served as the pastor of Covenant Presbyterian Church in Durham, NC (1996-2016). During that time God blessed the congregation to construct a new facility, maintain ministries for youth people, provide meeting space for non-profits and community groups and experienced church growth. Between 1992-1996, he served as the senior pastor of Grace Presbyterian, Holmes Memorial and Trinity Presbyterian churches in Virginia (Peaks Presbytery).

Jimmie served as Treasurer on the Church World Service global board and as a board member of the National Council of Churches. He was a board trustee with Union Presbyterian Seminary. He is a tri-chair of the Washington Interreligious Staff Community and the Heads of Washington Offices. He has chaired several interfaith /ecumenical and non-profit boards.

His community ministry includes being a leader for the Moral Monday Movement since its onset in 2013. He has participated in three actions of civil disobedience protesting the actions of the NC General Assembly to curtail voting rights, refusal to expand Medicaid, HB2 and other draconian legislation. He served as a member of the NC NAACP Executive Committee and has been active in justice advocacy throughout his ministry. He is engaged with the Poor People's Campaign and participated in a direct action at the Supreme Court in 2017.

Jimmie has a book coming out in January, *Unbroken and Unbowed: Black Protest*, published by Westminster John Knox Press.

He is the son of Elsie L. and the late James P. Hawkins. He is married to Sheinita Hampton Hawkins, and they have two children: Kaela Renee and James Hampton.