



## **Rev. Karen Walker-McClure**

Rev. Karen Walker-McClure is the Presiding Elder of the Chicago District of the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church and the proud pastor of Murchison-Isom C.M.E. Church. She is a native of Chicago, IL and the 5<sup>th</sup> of 6 children born to Floyd (deceased) and Sadie Walker. In 1997, she accepted her call to preach and was ordained a Deacon at the 2002 Southeast MO, IL & WI Annual Conference.

In 2004, Rev. Walker-McClure resigned from her job and moved to Columbia, MO. to serve as the Pastor of Russell Chapel C.M.E. Church. That was also the year she was ordained a Traveling Elder and Admitted into Full Connection. God's favor has truly been upon her life, because while serving in the Kansas-Missouri region, she became the first female Chairman of the Joint Board of Finance. In 2007, Rev. Walker-McClure was appointed the first female Presiding Elder of the Missouri District. In 2010, she returned to Chicago as the first female Presiding Elder of the Chicago District. She served on the Committee on Episcopacy for the 2010 and 2014 General Conferences and currently represents 3D on the Connectional Committee for the Concerns of Women in Ministry.

Rev. Walker-McClure is a first year Doctor of Ministry student at United Theological Seminary in Dayton, Ohio. She earned a Master of Divinity Degree from McCormick Theological Seminary and a Bachelor of Arts from Northeastern Illinois University. She has studied in Beirut, Lebanon and Damascus, Syria. She has been trained in Child Evangelism and worked in youth ministry for numerous years. Before being blessed to devote her life to full time ministry, Rev. Walker-McClure was employed as an Affirmative Action Manager for over twenty years.

Presiding Elder Karen Walker-McClure is married to John McClure, Jr. Their blended family consists of two children and four grandchildren. To God be the glory for the things He has done!