



## Biographical Sketch Odell Dickerson, Jr.

New Psalmist Baptist Church Baltimore, Maryland

Odell Dickerson, Jr. serves as the Chief Operating Officer (COO) for New Psalmist Baptist Church in Baltimore, MD, where Bishop Walter Scott Thomas, Sr. is the Pastor. New Psalmist is a ministry that specializes in empowering people for a better quality of life through preaching, teaching, discipleship, and outreach. Currently, there are over 8,000 active members.

After becoming an official member of New Psalmist Baptist Church in May 1999, Odell became a full-time staff member in June 2000. He is the first and only person to hold the position of Chief Operating Officer at New Psalmist. In this capacity, he is Bishop Thomas' only direct report and is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the church; he also serves as Chief of Staff for the Ministry, Operation and Business Office staff. Additionally, Odell oversees the Office of the Bishop, which includes, but is not limited to, the operating functions of Bishop Thomas' office as both Bishop and Pastor.

Odell is responsible for understanding and leading the transformation of New Psalmist's vision and molding it into reality, as well as ensuring that ministry is fulfilled using the most cutting edge methods possible. The church's organizational infrastructure, financial health, and thriving culture is directly impacted by Odell's thoughtful balance of leadership and management skills that were partially developed with 15 years of experience serving at New Psalmist, as well as a bachelor's degree in Accounting and a Masters degree in Business Administration.

Odell also specializes in project management as well as organizing special events and conferences. Most notable is his lead role on the building of the "Holy City of Zion" project, which is the \$50 million worship campus that New Psalmist moved into in 2010. In connection with the "Holy City of Zion," Odell led the "STRETCH" campaign, which raised over \$6 million within 3 years (during the recession). In addition, he led a second two-year campaign, "TAKING CHARGE," in which New Psalmist raised over \$3.5 million above tithes and offerings. Along with the daily oversight of revenue and expenses, Odell was directly involved in eliminating New Psalmists' current debt of \$10 million within a 4-year period.

Odell currently serves as the Coordinator for the Kingdom Association of Covenant Pastors (KACP) and "Conversations," an annual Pastoral Summit for Senior Pastors held in Paradise Valley, AZ. Some other notable accomplishments include his position as Coordinator for the Kingdom Conference and the Hampton University Minister's Conference, which both registered over 10,000 participants each year. Furthermore, He served as Coordinator for the Millennium Pastor's Conference, an international nondenominational organization of Pastors that served in Nassau, Bahamas for four years to develop strategies for ministry in the New Millennium.

Outside of his many roles at New Psalmist, Odell consults for his own LLC, Odell Exec Enterprises, and Changes Can Happen, LLC. Odell has been afforded the favor to travel the nation teaching the knowledge and wisdom he has earned over the years. His mission is to strengthen organizations both secular and religious in leadership, culture, vision and mission implementation, financial wellness, and organizational infrastructure.

Before assuming his current position at New Psalmist, Odell worked for the Maryland Department of Human Resources (DHR) as a System Support Specialist for the Family Independence Agency (FIA).

Odell was born and raised in Baltimore, MD and was educated in Baltimore City Public Schools. After receiving his diploma from Mergenthaler Vocational Technical High School, he went on to earn his Associate of Arts and Bachelor of Science degrees from Catonsville Community College and the University of Baltimore in Business Administration & Accounting, respectively. He earned his Masters of Business Administration from the University of Phoenix.

God is the center Odell's life and he has a natural love for people. He is a devoted family man and is the younger of two children born to Odell Sr. and Lillian Dickerson of Gretna, VA. He is married to Sherri Dickerson and they are raising three beautiful children, Odell III, Jalen DeAnn and Caleb James.