

## Our Preacher's Biography



**Kennya Durr** was born on June 10, 1974 in Harvey, IL to the union of Mack Jones (deceased) and Kathryn Durr and he is the eldest of four children. His grandfather Charles Durr Sr., a Church of Christ minister, taught the family in the one faith. Kennya grew up in the Harvey Church and as a youth came from under the teachings of Jules Hutton and assistant William McNeal. At the age of 12 on June 8, 1986 he obeyed the gospel, Bro. Hutton's nickname for him was "little preacher" and as a youth he was very serious about bible study.

Kennya graduated with honors in 1992 from Hillcrest High School in Hazel Crest, IL and was voted by his peers "Most Likely to Succeed". That same year he moved to Chicago and attended the Illinois Institute of Technology and studied Computer Engineering. He left college to enter the professional work force in 1994 and worked in the field of computer systems engineering and technical support for well known consulting firms including EDS, Entex Information Systems, and Comark supporting many fortune 500 clients in the Chicagoland area and abroad. As a young man living in the city he worshipped and served at the 87<sup>th</sup> Street Church under the teachings of William Jones Sr. and then assistant Gerald Walker. Bro. Durr worked in various areas including Sunday school, personal work, and the citywide Campaign for Christ. In 1999 Kennya became self-employed as an independent consultant starting his own business called Higher Technologies Inc., which he operates to this day.

In the summer of 2001 his sweetheart of several years (Marcella Webster) obeyed the gospel at the Crusade for Christ and on December 29, 2001 they became united in holy matrimony by William Jones Sr. On that day Kennya, Marcella, her daughter Marquitte, and brother (in her care) Marcus became one family. On July 21, 2002 Kennya's grandfather encouraged him to preach his first sermon at a visit to his congregation down in McComb, MS. On June 8, 2003 Kennya and Marcella Durr placed membership with the Colonial Village Church with the blessing of Bro. Jones to begin a new chapter in their walk and ministry, in the neighborhood they hoped to later relocate to. Since then Bro. Durr has worked in various capacities including Administration, Education, and Evangelism. In August 2004 with the encouragement of Bro. Daniel Carter Sr. Kennya began preaching and Daniel ordained him as a preacher on September 4, 2005 along with his fathers in the gospel (Bro. Hutton and Bro. Jones).

In November 2005 Kennya became an interim minister for Colonial Village and was formally installed in April 2006 as their assistant minister. He and Marcella gave birth to their first son "Christian" on 10/26/07. This year (2009) they moved on from Colonial Village in a step of faith and became part of the Main Street congregation in Evanston on Easter and Kennya began his tenure there as the local evangelist in June 2009 after the relocation of Bro. Harold Armstead down south to take on a new work. Kennya has actively been involved coordinating at Main Street community outreach projects, bible class curriculum development, ministerial training, and mass media efforts. He is actively and progressively looking for new ways for his new congregation to "let their lights shine" by using their gifts (S.H.A.P.E.) in ministry to the community and to ensure everyone is properly trained, empowered, and equipped to pass on to others what they have been taught (2 Timothy 2:2, especially the "good news" of our salvation).

Kennya's favorite passage best describes how he perceives his calling in the Lord's church, *"As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God; if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth: that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever. Amen."* 1 Peter 4:10-11