

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

**Reverend Dr. Barbara Austin-Lucas** is an itinerant elder of the African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church. In 1996, Rev. Dr. Austin-Lucas stepped into her destiny as founder and CEO of Women Organizing, Mobilizing, and Building, Inc. (WOMB). Through WOMB Rev. Dr. Austin-Lucas has purposed to assist women and their families, through creative programming to improve their quality of life. With a holistic approach to community development, the needs of women are addressed in the areas of women's spiritual, physical, mental, emotional, and economic wellness. Following the destiny of God, in 1998 Rev. Dr. Austin-Lucas, became Pastor Barbara, as she founded the Agape Tabernacle International Fellowship. Through AGAPE, Pastor Barbara has dedicated herself to transform lives, ministering out of a personal commitment to the revelation of God's purpose for human life, encouraging and inspiring all people to discern the purpose of God in every life experience.

**Rev. Dr. Angela Moses**, native of Baltimore, Maryland, is an ordained Minister who holds a Doctorate Degree in Clinical Counseling. Currently, she is working with the Fund for Community Leadership's Uth Turn Program, a youth intervention/prevention model, as Executive Director. She serves as Co-Founder and CEO of "The Family Life Development Center, Inc." In addition, Dr. Moses serves as Youth and Associate Pastor at The New Life Tabernacle Church in Brooklyn, NY. Her motivation and main thrust in life is to break the cycles of poverty, substance abuse, and what she denotes as generational curses.

**Rev. Sharon E. Williams** was born and raised in a Christian home in Flint, Michigan. After many years as an office worker, she returned to college and earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science at Hunter College, New York City. After receiving a call to ministry, Rev. Williams was awarded the Master of Divinity Degree in 1980, from Union Theological Seminary in New York City. Rev. Williams considers it a blessing that her professional ministry began at the Abyssinian Baptist Church in Harlem under the mentoring of Rev. Dr. Samuel D. Proctor and Rev. Dr. Calvin O. Butts, III. At Abyssinian she was licensed in 1978 and ordained in 1980 to preach the Good News about Jesus Christ. In 1984 the congregation of Baptist Church of the Redeemer called Rev. Williams to its pulpit.

### Special Thanks

The Office of the President

The Department of Academic Affairs

The Office of Research and Special Initiatives

The School of Liberal Arts and Education

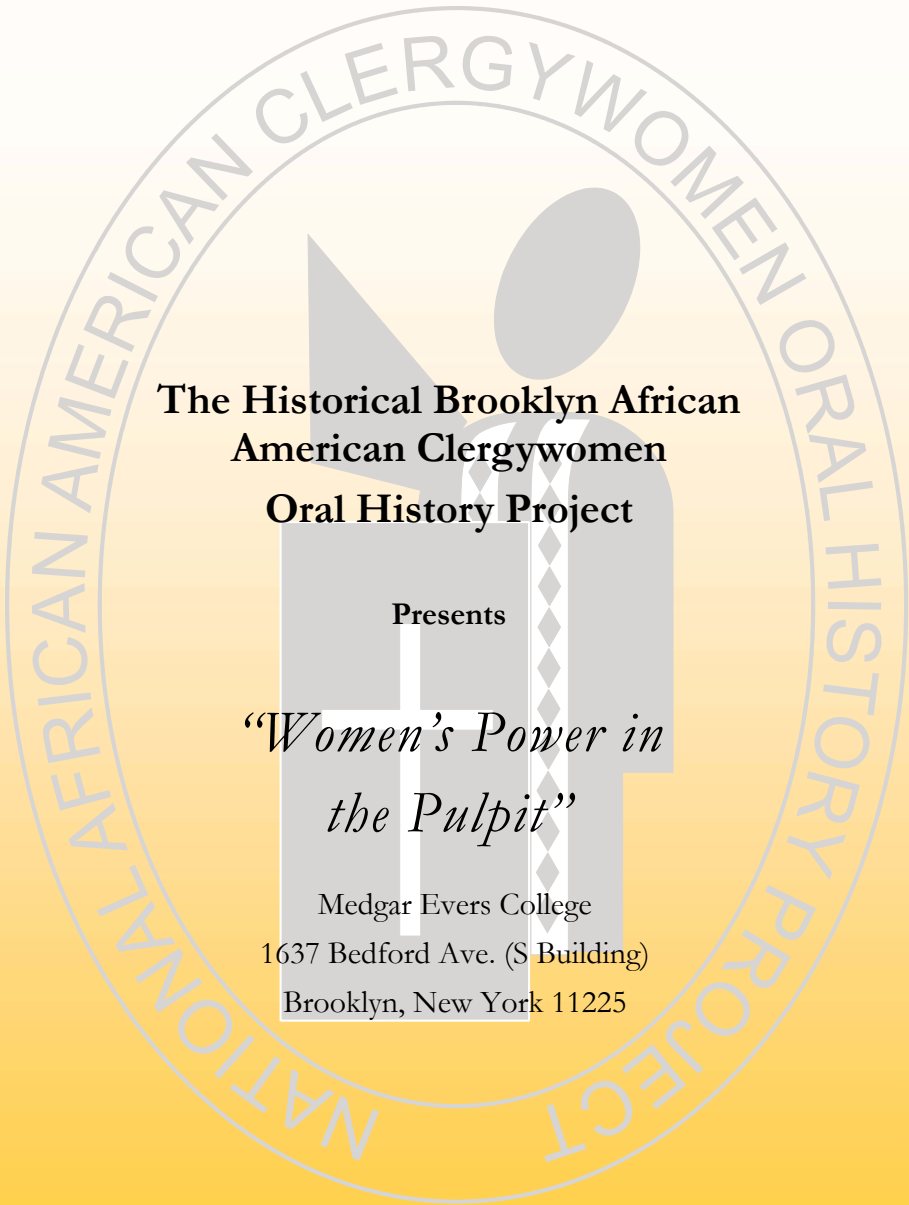
The Center for Learning and Teaching Excellence

The Department of Philosophy and Religion

The Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences

The Clergywomen Participants of the BAACW Oral History Project

The Women's History Month Committee



## The Historical Brooklyn African American Clergywomen Oral History Project

Presents

### *"Women's Power in the Pulpit"*

Medgar Evers College

1637 Bedford Ave. (S Building)

Brooklyn, New York 11225

## Mission of the Oral History Project

The purpose of the Brooklyn African American Clergywomen's Oral History Project is to record the oral histories of black clergywomen who have been ordained in historically black and mainline Protestant denominations. Primarily, the oral histories seek to chronicle their struggle to overcome tremendous racial, gender, cultural, and class obstacles in order to include, expand and empower clergywomen's leadership in a non-traditional occupation in black and white churches, namely the pastoral ministry. Second, the project aims to educate the public about the historical and current issues—many still relevant—defining and informing as well as delimiting the contribution of black clergywomen in the religious community. Most of all, your participation in this project gives names, voices and faces to the many courageous women who have pressed against the winds of racial and gender oppression to give birth to the call that they received from God. You are part of that great company of women who “like the yeast continue to rise from the injustices of the past to claim their names, their identities, their authority and their passion for ministry.” This is the humble but necessary mission of the Brooklyn African American Clergywomen Oral History Project.

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## PROGRAM

### Opening

*Dr. Sallie Cuffee, Ph.D.*  
Project Director and  
Assistant Professor

### Welcome

*Dr. Dominic Nwasike*  
Provost

### Invocation

*Rev. Elizabeth Butler, M. Div.*  
Church of the New Beginnings

### Musical Selection

#### *Reflections on the Oral History Project*

- *Ms. Brenda Jones* – Student Interviewer
- *The Reverend Suzie Elliot, M. Div.* – Clergywoman Interviewee

#### *Panel Presentations*

- *Rev. Dr. Barbara Austin Lucas, Ed. D.*  
Agape Tabernacle International Fellowship
- *Rev. Dr. Angela Moses, Ph.D.*  
New Life Tabernacle
- *Rev. Sharon Williams, M. Div.*  
The Baptist Church of the Redeemer

### Q & A



### Closing

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