

Reverend John T. Winters
Spiritual Leadership Award

Reverend John T. Winters is being honored with the Spiritual Leadership Award in recognition of his devotion to leading not only his congregation, but the broader Black community, through spiritual guidance and generosity. Reverend Winters was born on April 30, 1937 in Raleigh, North Carolina to Nathaniel Johnson and Hildreth Pryor. He relocated to the Northeast in the 1970s. As a lifelong servant of God, he was ordained in 1972 at Jones Memorial Baptist Church. He was installed at Shiloh Baptist Church in Ocean City on May 27, 1990. He remained the spiritual leader of Shiloh until his retirement in 2012, traveling faithfully from Philadelphia to lead the congregation each week during his tenure. But Reverend Winters also offered spiritual advisement and mentorship to all residents of Ocean City, whether they were members of his church or not. He was known to have dinner at community members' homes after church and would often fellowship with residents throughout the Black community, no matter their religious affiliation. Reverend Winters is known and loved by all in Ocean City as a supportive and generous leader. He developed the true meaning of a community church during the time that Shiloh was under his leadership.

Reverend Winters was married to Naomi Winters with whom he had two children, Tonya and Travis, and four grandchildren. He currently resides in Philadelphia with his wife, Geraldine Winters.