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Correspondence; n.d.; Bishop Philip Robert Cousin; Sr. Welcome

Bethel A.M.E. Church

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WELCOME TO OUR FIRST FAMILY!

BISHOP PHILIP ROBERT COUSIN, SR.

Philip Robert Cousin, elected the 96th Bishop of the African Methodist Episcopal Church in 1976, was born in Pittston, Pennsylvania to the Reverend Sylvester and Mrs. Mary Cousin. His early education began in the public schools of West Palm beach, Florida. He later received a B.A. Degree from Central State University, an Masters of Divinity Degree from Boston University and a Doctor of Ministry from Colgate-Rochester Divinity School. At Colgate-Rochester Divinity, Bishop was one of 21 Martin Luther King Fellows. In addition to his earned degrees, he is also the recipient of several honorary degrees.

Bishop has a distinguish career of service in our church and in the public sector. He has pastored Allen Temple A.M.E. Church in Riviera Beach, Florida; St. Paul A.M.E. Church in Danville, Virginia; Trinity A.M.E. Church in Norfolk, Virginia; and St. Joseph A.M.E. church in Durham, North Carolina. He was commissioned Second Lieutenant in the Infantry through ROTC, and served in the Armed Services. He served as President of Kittrell College; instructor in Homiletics and Black church Studies at Duke University Divinity School; and lecturer at Southeastern Theological Seminary and the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill.

Several of his most notable church, community and civic organization involvement's are : Member to the Board of the SCLC since 1978; Past President of the National Council of Churches of Christ (1983-1988); First Vice-Chairman of the Church World Service Unit Committee (NCCC); Member of the National Board of Directors of the NAACP; Chairman of the General Board of the A.M.E. church; Vice-Chairman of the Board of Incorporators of the A.M.E. Church.

He has received many honors and awards which are to his credit. Bishop Cousin was one of the first black elected delegates to the 1968 Democratic National Convention. He was the recipient of the Kellog Fellowship and the Junior College Administration Fellowship; chosen to dialogue with Pope John Paul, II in 1987 during an Ecumenical Meeting, where he also was given the honor of reading a position for the NCCC. He was recently cited by Ebony Magazine as one of the 100 Most Influential Black Americans.

He is a 32 Degree Mason and a member of the Alpha Phi Alpha and Sigma Pi Phi Fraternities.

He is married to the former M. Joan Grier of Chattanooga, Tennessee, and the father of five sons: Philip, Jr., Steven, David, Michael and Joseph.

DR. M. JOAN COUSIN

Margaret Joan Cousin is a native of Chattanooga, Tennessee. She attended elementary school in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, and high school at Immanuel Lutheran College in Greensboro, North Carolina. She received her Bachelor of Arts Degree in English and Social Studies from Central State College in Xenia, Ohio.

Mrs. Cousin has been the recipient of a Rockefeller Grant to attend an English Institute at Duke University, the Afro-American Institute at Cornell University, and a grant to study West African history and culture in Ghana and Nigeria. She wrote the program for Black Studies for the State of North Carolina and taught the course in Durham.

She is the recipient of many honors and awards which include:

- ~ Citation for AIDS Education in the State of Florida from President Bush
- ~ Center for Disease Control (CDC), Atlanta, Georgia
- ~ Black Women's Agenda for outstanding service regarding AIDS
- ~ Honorary Doctorate for Outstanding Humanitarian Service at Edward Waters College
- ~ 1991 Delegate to the World Council of Women's Conference in Singapore, China
- ~ Twice awarded Teacher of the Year, Durham Hillside High School
- ~ Member of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority

Mrs. Cousin is married to Bishop Philip R. Cousin and the mother of five sons, all of whom are serving in the ministry of the A.M.E. Church, and the proud grandmother of seven grandsons.

Mrs. Margaret Joan Cousin is the Episcopal Supervisor the First Episcopal District Women's Missionary Society.

To God Be The Glory !

and

May God Continue to Bless our First Family !