



## **Rev. Wanda Y. Floyd**

In 1997, Rev. Wanda Floyd founded Imani MCC of Durham NC after seeing a vision from God at a district conference in 1996. The church began in the early spring holding bible studies and focus groups. The first service was held on November 23, 1997 with 121 in attendance. The church continues to feel a void in the Triangle Community by being a place of healing for all people. In 1999, Rev. Floyd was ordained as a clergy within the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches, Christian denomination with an outreach to the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgendered and queer community. She currently serves on staff at St. John's MCC, Raleigh, NC, USA.

Within the larger LGBTQ community, Rev. Floyd has served on the Board of Directors for the Lesbian and Gay Health Project, Resource Center for Women in the Ministry in the South, North Carolina Lambda Youth Network and on the Board of Directors for Triangle PFLAG (Parents, Friends of Lesbians and Gays). She has been awarded the "Best Friend of the Leather Community" in 2001 and was MC for the NC Leather Contest in 2000, Outstanding LGBT person in 1997. She has also been featured in the "Independent's" Gay Pride issue in 1997 and again with her spouse, Sheryl Griffin in 2000. In 2003, she and her partner were part of a nationwide Human Rights Campaign in connection to gay families and was featured in the *New York Times*. She has appeared in the paper and on TV in connection to her co-chairing the North Carolina Religious Coalition for Marriage Equality.

In January 2008, Rev. Floyd stepped down from the pulpit of Imani MCC to continue her studies in acquiring a Masters in Divinity at Shaw University Divinity School. Shaw University is the first Historically Black College/University in the USA.

Rev. Floyd and her partner, Sheryl Griffin will celebrate 14 years of togetherness on July 28, 2009.