



## **THE REVEREND AUBRA LOVE**

received her Bachelor of Science degree from Cornell University, Ithaca, New York. A retired banking executive with Wachovia Bank and Trust Company of North Carolina, Rev. Love earned her Master of Divinity from the Interdenominational Theological Center, an Atlanta University Center seminary.

With ordained ministerial standing held in the Southeastern Conference of the United Church of Christ, Rev. Love is the Founding Executive Director of The Black Church and Domestic Violence Institute (BCDVI). This national educational ministry develops and offers training and technical assistance on the culturally specific response to sexual and domestic violence for congregations and human service agencies. As an organizational member of the National Council of Churches of Christ, Committee on Justice for Children and Their Families, BCDVI brings the voices of the historic Black church to the arena of sexual and domestic violence prevention and intervention.

BCDVI initiatives include “***This Far By Faith***”, a continuing education and organizing forum for clergy and advocates, offered each year in Atlanta, GA. Additionally, faith communities across the country conduct services of healing and remembrance with the ***Domestic Violence Sabbath Observance***, a liturgy created and resourced by The Black Church and Domestic Violence Institute.

Rev. Love is the mother of two adult children. One of her children chose to matriculate and graduate from a historic Black university. The other graduated from a private Massachusetts university. As the daughter of Civil Rights organizers and adult literacy educators, she has an ongoing commitment to several academic institutions, political organizations and faith based entities.

During her assignment with the **Pan African Council of Christian Churches**, Rev. Love’s ministry led her to the mission field of the Buduburam Liberian Refugee Camp in Ghana, W. Africa, settlement of over 35,000 displaced Liberian refugees fleeing their country during the first Civil War. Espousing a liberation ethic, her ministry has blessed congregations internationally.

Rev. Love’s gift of Womanist theology can be experienced in the DVD, “***The Preachers: Working to end Sexual and Domestic Violence***”. The author of a wide range of publications including “***If It Had Not Been for the Lord on Our Side***”, ***Telling the Truth, Preaching About Sexual and Domestic Violence***, published by United Church Press, OH, she is featured in ***Gender Talk, The Struggle for Women’s Equality in African American Communities*** authored by Dr. Johnetta B. Cole (first female President of Spelman College) and Dr. Beverly Guy-Sheftall (Spelman College Historian-in-residence Women’s Research and Resource Center), published by The Ballantine Publishing Group, NY. Rev. Love is the pastor profiled in ***I Will Survive, The African American Guide to Healing from Sexual Assault and Abuse***, by Lori Robinson, published by Seal Press, NY. and ***Faith and Feminism: A Holy Alliance***, by Helen Lakelly Hunt, Ph.D., published by Simon & Shuster, NY.