



Rev. Dr. Samuel Williams

Dr. Samuel Williams, Sr. completed a Merrill Fellowship at the Harvard University Divinity School during the Fall Semester 2004. He received his Doctor of Ministry from Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia in 1983, his certificate of Clinical Pastoral Education from Georgia Regional Hospital, Savannah, Georgia, June 1972, his Masters of Divinity Degree from Howard University, School of Religion in Washington, DC, in 1969, his Bachelor of Divinity from Howard University School of Religion in 1965, and Bachelor of Science Degree from Savannah State College, 1962. He attended Boggs Academy in Keysville, Georgia, for his junior and senior high school years.

He was born in Midville, Georgia, to the late Rev. Linyon L. Williams, Sr., and Cora B. Williams. He was licensed to preach at the Second African Baptist Church in Savannah, Georgia. He was the organizer of the Savannah Opportunities Industrialization Center, Inc. (OIC), founded by Dr. Leon H. Sullivan in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The purpose of OIC was to train and retrain unemployed or underemployed men and women with untapped talent and unknown skills. He was selected by the Philip Stokes Fund to participate in the 10-week West African Ethnic Heritage Summer Seminar. He received a Certificate of Recognition from the Office of the Secretary of State for Savannah State College for outstanding achievement in Voter Registration for Georgia residents. He taught classes in Financial Development for the Rev. Dr. Jessie Jackson's Operation Push. He was the first black member of the Savannah Jaycees and received a certificate as an Exhausted Rooster. He pastored the Tabernacle Baptist Church for eight years. During his pastorate, the church was completely renovated, two lots were purchased, and many members were added. Dr. Williams was the founder and organizer of Christ Memorial Baptist Church and pastored it for 13 years. He grew the church from 25 members to about 800 over time. He has served twice as President of the Savannah Baptist Ministers Union, as President of the Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance (IMA) of Savannah, and as President of the Emancipation Proclamation Association.

Dr. Williams was also a member of the General Missionary Baptist Convention of Georgia, Inc. He taught courses in the Christian Education department. He also taught classes at the Theology Seminary in Fitzgerald, GA, and the Bryant Theological Seminary. He has also taught a Survey of Christian Theology at St. Leo College and Columbia College, both in Savannah, GA. He taught Western Civilization and World Religion at Savannah State University. He is a member of the New Era State Baptist Convention of Georgia and the National Progressive Baptist Inc. He was a member of the National Association of University and College Chaplains. He is a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity and an activist for the NAACP, and a charter member of the Hungry Club of Savannah, among many other civic organizations. He served as the Director/Instructor of the Certificate in Theology Program for the Interdenominational Theology Center.

In 2008, the present building was completely renovated inside and out, and twenty-five members were added to the church. The property west of the church toward Montgomery Street was also secured for future expansion and growth of the church. Dr. Williams is the best pastor, preacher, teacher, and leader that Faith Baptist Church has ever had. Thank God.

He is married to the former Claudia J. Quarterman of Savannah, and they have two children. Dr. Williams is currently retired from Savannah State University after more than 37 years of service as Dean of Men and College Minister, Instructor, Assistant Director of Financial Aid, Acting Vice President of Student Affairs, and Assistant Director of Student Affairs. He is the pastor of the Faith

Missionary Baptist Church of Savannah, and a Member of the Board of Directors for Community and Schools. He has preached internationally and visited ten African countries twice, as well as China. He has also published a book entitled "Understanding Covenant and Biblical Theology in the Black Church." He recently toured China.

July 9th, 2026

Savannah City Hall
2 East Bay Street
Savannah, Georgia 31401

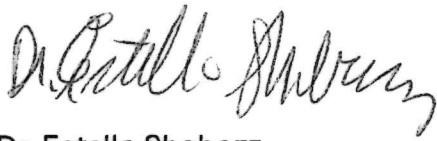
Re: Naming Request Endorsement for Consideration – Pastor Samuel Williams Way

To Whom It May Concern,

I, Mayor Pro Tem, District 5, Dr. Estella Shabazz, officially endorse the honorary street naming request for consideration to name W 49th Street between Montgomery Street and Barnard Street, “Pastor Samuel Williams Way” in accordance with City Ordinance and the process outlined within “Article E. Naming of Public Property, Facilities, and Streets.”

I look forward to this application advancing within the process as required by City Code.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dr. Estella Shabazz", written in a cursive style.

Dr. Estella Shabazz
City of Savannah, Georgia
Mayor Pro Tem, District 5



Barnard St

W 49th St

W 50th St

W 51st St

BINGVILLE

W 49th St

W 50th St

W 50th Ln

Montgomery St

Exchange St

Martin Luther King Jr Blvd

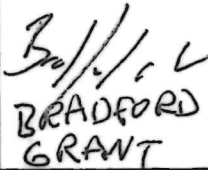
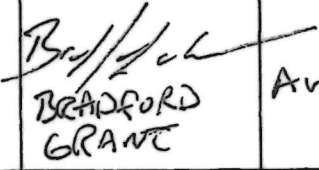
W 51st St

Honorary Street Naming: Pastor Samuel Williams Way

Location: W 49th Street between Montgomery Street and Barnard Street

An Honorary Street naming has been submitted for the Reverend Samuel Williams who has been the Pastor at Faith Missionary Baptist Church located on 49th Street for 38 years. This is an honorary designation – your address will **NOT** change.

At least 51% of adjacent property owners will need to sign off in support of the naming petition for the petition to move forward. If your ownership of multiple parcels/properties is listed, please sign beside **EACH** occurrence.

PROPERTY OWNER NAME	PROPERTY OWNED	RESIDENTIAL ADDRESS	SIGNATURE	DATE
Samuel Williams	115 W 49 th Street	102 Radick Drive		
Samuel Williams	Lots 22 thru 27 – W 49 th	102 Radick Drive		
Savannah College of Art & Design	Lots 32 thru 39 and W 24FT of Lot 40 – W 49 th	516 Abercorn Street	 BRADFORD GRANT	Aug 18, 2026
Savannah College of Art & Design	Lots 41 & 42 and E 6 feet of Lot 40 – W 49 th	516 Abercorn Street	 BRADFORD GRANT	Aug 18, 2026
Continental Self Storage Inc	Lots 20 & 21 – W 49 th	2393 Downing Ave		
Continental Self Storage Inc	102 W 49 th	2393 Downing Ave		

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