

**The Reverend Dr. Harold James Cobb, Jr.  
Curriculum Vitae**

**WORK HISTORY**

**February 1995-Present**

**Rector of Grace Episcopal Church, Norfolk, Virginia. The eighth rector in the one hundred and thirty two year history of the church. Grace is both a wonderful and challenging place to do ministry. There is something happening at Grace on a continuing basis. There is a solid commitment to an ongoing program of outreach which includes a foodbank that has grown from its inception to feed more than 16,000 people (or 4,000 families) annually. The church was designated a Jubilee Ministries Center in 1997, by the Executive Council of the Episcopal Church. Grace has a Community Development Housing Ministry, with Saint Paul's Episcopal Church, Norfolk, that became the largest builder of affordable housing in Norfolk. We completely redeveloped the Central Brambleton Neighborhood, building 75 of a total of 120 new homes. We have done two successful capital campaigns, the first a year after I arrived and the second four years ago required a complete move out of the sanctuary, removing the pews to completely replace the foundation and subflooring. We worshipped in the Parish hall during the renovation. Perhaps my most gratifying work is that I was blessed to mentor and sponsor four persons for ordination to the priesthood in the Diocese of Southern Virginia: The Reverend Howard Purvis, The Reverend Charles Miller, The Reverend Dennis Patterson and The Reverend Terry Edwards. Grace continues to do many outreach programs in efforts to improve the lives of our community.**

**May 1990-February 1995**

**Rector after being Deacon-In-Charge of Saint Stephen's Episcopal Church, Winston-Salem, North Carolina. While rector of this parish we were able to develop several outreach programs that targeted at-risk-youth. During my time here we increased membership, outreach and community awareness. We did a very unique capital campaign and building project that included developing parking and produced enough income to partially pay for the project and perpetually provided an income stream.**

**December 1980-August 1987**

**Pastor and Founder, Good Samaritan Church, Durham, North Carolina. Starting with zero members, through door to door evangelism, personal visitation and community involvement, developed a fully structured and organized church.**

## **EDUCATION**

**1976-Graduate Charles E. Jordan High School, Durham, North Carolina**

**1982-Bachelor of Arts, History, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill**

**1990-Master in Divinity, The Virginia Theological Seminary, Alexandria**

**1999-Doctor of Divinity, honorary, Saint Paul's College, Lawrenceville, Virginia**

## **SELECTED LIST OF CONTINUING EDUCATION EXPERIENCES**

**Kanuga Conference for Episcopal African American Bishops and Priests.  
Hendersonville, North Carolina. 1992**

**Afro-Anglican Conference hosted by Archbishop Desmond Tutu  
Cape town, South Africa, 1995**

**100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Flight, First Flight Centennial Celebration  
Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, 2003**

**Study Tour The Eternal City of Rome and the Vatican  
Rome, Italy 2006**

**John Maxwell Clergy Leadership Conference, Orlando, 2007**

**Jim Collins, Key Note Speaker, Author of *Good to Great* and *Greatness by Choice*, and others San Jose', California , 2013**

**Charles Duhigg, Key Note Speaker, Author of *The Power of Habit*  
Atlanta, Georgia 2014**

**Self-Directed Reading and Study every year since Ordination.**

## **SELECTED LIST OF ORGANIZATIONS, HONORS AND CIVIC INVOLVEMENT**

**Alternate Deputy to the General Convention of the Episcopal Church:  
Diocese of North Carolina 1994; Diocese of Southern Virginia 2003, 2006  
and 2009.**

**Commission on Aging, Diocese of North Carolina, 1990-1994**

**Compensation Committee. Diocese of Southern Virginia, 1995-2009**

**Board of Trustees Saints Paul's College, Lawrenceville, Virginia, 2003-2015**

**National Alumni/ae Association Executive Committee, The Virginia Theological  
Seminary, Alexandria, Virginia, 1990-1991; 1994-2002**

**President, National Alumni/ae Association, The Virginia Theological Seminary,  
1996-1997**

**Board of Trustees, The Virginia Theological Seminary, 1996-2002, 2003 to  
present**

**The John Hines Preaching Award Selection Committee, Virginia Theological  
Seminary, 2012 to present**

**2013 Humanitarian of the Year Award Recipient by the Virginia Center for  
Inclusive Communities (Formerly National Conference of Christians and Jews)**

**Norfolk International Airport Authority Board of Commissioners  
Commissioner 2001 to present, Chairman 2011-2014**

**Chairman, Commissioners' Committee, Airport Councils International,  
North America, 2018- present**

**Board of Trustees, Chrysler Museum of Art, Norfolk, 2018-present**

**Board of Trustees, Westminster-Canterbury on the Chesapeake Bay, Virginia  
Beach, Virginia. 2006 to 2016**

**Board of Trustees, Hampton Roads Community Foundation, formerly the  
Norfolk Foundation, 2006-2014**

**Board of Trustees, Children's Health Systems, Children's Hospital of the King's  
Daughters Norfolk, 2005-2013**

**Board of Trustees, The Williams School, Norfolk, 1999-2005**

## **SELECTED LIST OF SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS**

**Martin Luther King Day Preacher, Saint James Episcopal Church, Hendersonville, North Carolina, 1993**

**Fall Convocation Preacher, Virginia Theological Seminary, 1996**

**Absalom Jones Day Preacher, Diocesan Council, Diocese of Southern Virginia, Hampton Convention Center**

**Saint Paul's College Graduation Baccalaureate Preacher, 1999**

**Norfolk State University, Graduation Invocation (twice)**

**Tidewater Community College, Graduation Invocation**

**Norfolk City Council, Invocation (more than 5 times)**

**Martin Luther King Day Key Note Speaker, Elizabeth City State University, Elizabeth City, North Carolina, 2003**

**Chapel Rededication Preacher, Christ Episcopal Church, Elizabeth City, North Carolina, 2004**

**Martin Luther King Day Key Note Speaker, Eastern Virginia Medical School, Norfolk, Virginia 2005**

**Martin Luther King Day Speaker, United States Army Corps of Engineers, Norfolk, Virginia 2009**

**Opening Preacher, Union of Black Episcopalians National Convention, Norfolk**

**International Operation Sail 2012 , Governor's Ball Invocation, Norfolk, Virginia**

**Invocation, Opening Session Virginia Legislature, House of Delegates (twice)**

**Invocation, Opening Session Virginia Legislature, Virginia State Senate**

## **PERSONAL**

**I am blessed to be married to Sheliah Jeffries Cobb, we were married by The Right Reverend Robert W. Estill. We are the parents of one daughter: Caryn.**

**I am an avid reader, I enjoy cooking, ping-pong, swimming, walking, art museums, history museums, and travel.**