

REVEREND NICHOLAS S. RICHARDS APPOINTED  
NEW FOREIGN MISSION BOARD EXECUTIVE SECRETARY



*Nicholas S. Richards*

Dr. Julius R. Scruggs, President of the National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc., is pleased to announce the appointment of the Reverend Nicholas S. Richards as the new Executive Secretary of The Foreign Mission Board.

Reverend Richards was selected after a year-long exhaustive and prayerful search of applicants from across the country. Rev. Richards' qualifications and recommendations were some of the highest received from among the applicants. Rev. Richards, most recently an assistant pastor at Abyssinian Baptist Church (NY) under the Rev. Calvin Butts, will assume leadership of the organization as it prepares to celebrate its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary in Liberia, the home of its founding.

No stranger to the foreign mission field, Rev. Richards' knowledge and work has prepared him to hit the ground running as he takes the lead at the Foreign Mission Board. In his role as assistant pastor of Global Missions, he was instrumental in the creation of the first all-girls high school in the eastern Kenyan province of Mwingi. He also helped to deliver emergency assistance to those devastated by the 2010 earthquake in Haiti. Most recently, Rev. Richards established The Abyssinian Fund, a non-governmental organization that provides training, equipment and market access to rural coffee farming communities in Ethiopia.

Born in Mandeville, Jamaica and reared in the Bronx, NY, Rev. Richards is an alumnus of Morehouse College where he earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science and Philosophy. While at Morehouse, he studied at The University of Cape Town, earning a certificate in International Human Rights. In 2009, Rev. Richards earned a Master of Divinity degree from Union Theological Seminary.

An ordained Baptist minister, Rev. Richards' sermons are regularly carried in the Sunday Edition of The Huffington Post. He has been featured in The New York Times and The Wall Street Journal, on NBC and The Africa Channel. He is a member of the 100 Black Men, The World Economic Forum Global Shapers Program and an active participant in the Aspen Institute.

Rev. Richards will begin his duties on November 1, 2012.