Rev. Shanay Scott is a third year seminarian at Wesley Theological Seminary where she is a 2016-spring candidate for a Master’s of Divinity in Pastoral Care and Urban Ministry. She earned her undergraduate degree from Lincoln University in 2012 in broadcast journalism. Shanay is the Associate Pastor Intern for University Christian Church in Hyattsville, Maryland where Rev. Nathan Hill is the senior pastor. She recently received her commission from Disciples of Christ.

Arriving to Wesley in 2013, Shanay is an Urban Fellow. As a recipient of this academic privilege, Shanay examines urban issues in the Washington D.C. Metropolitan area and critically analyzes theological implications for solutions. Her capstone project featured a compelling presentation entitled *Seeds of Sexuality* which analyzed how sexual trauma impacts sexual formation and the church’s role in creating an open dialogue to help parishioners seek spiritual and practical counsel to create and maintain healthy relationships. She is also the founder R.S.V.P. (Reconstructing Sisters’ Visions and Purposes), a non-profit organization with a mission of spiritual and holistic wellness for broken women. The organization has grown tremendously since it’s inception in 2013 and is now one of the largest student organizations on Lincoln University’s campus.

While Shanay is dedicated to her academic endeavors, she thoroughly enjoys her work at University Christian Church and discovering her vocation. Her primary responsibilities are supervising a 100+ multi-cultural congregation, creating alternative approaches to traditional worship services and appeal to a diverse community, enhancing intergenerational worship and offering the congregation a library of resources for matters that are beyond the church’s proficiency. As a member of Disciples of Christ, Shanay is involved in regional and national initiatives which include Disciples of Christ Leadership Institute, National Race and Reconciliation Board and Explore Program. Shanay also challenges herself to explore other cultures and theological perspectives; last year in Ethiopia where she spent two weeks exploring Eastern Orthodox Christianity in the capital of Ethiopia and surrounding rural communities and most recently in Jerusalem where she participated in discussions for Palestinian peace and reconciliation.

A native of Southside Jamaica Queens, New York, Shanay is not bashful about her humble beginnings. She is proud of her Caribbean heritage and treasures her family. Shanay says she is certain that it was the spiritual principles instilled in her childhood that helped her overcome many of life’s challenges. Shanay and her family were longtime affiliates of a Pentecostal denomination. Her personal theology encourages individuals to identify and adhere to their personal convictions and to love God and their neighbor.

Today, Shanay is located in the capital relentlessly striving to become the type of leader that positively impacts the community and is an emerging actor in interfaith ministry and social justice. When she’s not preaching, inspiring, serving or counseling those around her, she’s building the brand of Aimezloyaute, a clothing line where she serves as the Chief Communication Officer. In addition, Shanay is also a talented spoken word artist who explores the issues of black femininity, spiritual consciousness and matters of the heart.