

Most Worshipful Grand Master The Honorable Jimmy Barnes

Most Worshipful Jimmy Barnes

Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge Free and Accepted Masons State of New Jersey, Prince Hall Affiliated

Motto

“Be the Example of Service to Others”

His scripture comes from the Book of Habakkuk Chapter 2, verse 2. “And the LORD answered me and said, Write the vision, and make it plain upon tablets, that he may run that read it.”

Early Life & Education

Most Worshipful Jimmy Barnes was born June 13, 1961, in Trenton, New Jersey, where he was raised in a family that valued faith, education, and service to others. He is the eldest of seven children. From an early age, he demonstrated strong leadership qualities and a commitment to uplifting those around him. He graduated from Trenton Central High School in 1979, before pursuing higher education at Mercer County Vocational Technical School, Virginia State University and The University of Phoenix earning a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice Administration. His academic journey laid the foundation for a life of service, leadership, and personal integrity.

Professional Career

In addition to his Masonic journey, Most Worshipful Barnes has enjoyed a distinguished career in Law Enforcement. He retired in 2016, after 30 years of civil service as the Deputy Warden for the New Jersey Department of Corrections where his leadership impacted Inmate Management, Administrative Oversight, Operational Continuity and Compliance Leadership. His professional contributions have earned him recognition throughout the New Jersey Department of Corrections.

Masonic Journey

Most Worshipful Jimmy Barnes was initiated, passed, and raised on February 15, 2003, at King David Lodge No. 15, Prince Hall Affiliation in Trenton, New Jersey. His dedication to Craft was evident early, as he progressed through the line of officers, ultimately serving as Worshipful Master in 2009-2010. His leadership and devotion to the principles of Freemasonry led to his appointments as District Grand Lecturer of the 5th Masonic District, District Deputy Grand Master of the 5th Masonic District,

Grand Lecturer, Assistant District Deputy Grand Master at Large for the North, Senior Grand Stewart, and Junior Grand Deacon.

He is a member of King David Chapter No. 6, Holy Royal Arch Masons, Zerubbabel Council No. 3 Royal and Select Masters, Douglas Commandery No. 10, Knights Templar, Ophir Consistory No. 48, Valley of Trenton, where he served as Illustrious Commander In Chief, Khufu Temple No. 120 AEAONMS. He is currently serving in the capacity as President of the Past Masters Council of King David Lodge No. 15, F. & A. M., PHA.

In 2018 he received the designation of Grand Inspector General in Denver Colorado as a member of the David L. Holliman Class of the United Supreme Council Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry Prince Hall Affiliation, Northern Jurisdiction, U.S.A., Inc.

His quest to becoming the 93rd Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge Free and Accepted Masons State of New Jersey, Prince Hall Affiliated began in 2019 when he was elected as the Right Worshipful Junior Grand Warden, 2021 he was elected as the Right Worshipful Senior Grand Warden, and in 2023 he was elected as the Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master of the MWPHGL, NJ.

On June 24, 2025, he was elected and installed as the 93rd Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge Free and Accepted Masons State of New Jersey. His tenure has been marked by a steadfast commitment to Masonic education, community service, and strengthening brotherly bonds and Leadership in Prince Hall Masonry

As Grand Master, Most Worshipful Jimmy Barnes has championed initiatives such as:

- Breast Cancer Awareness
- Expanding Opportunities for Youth College Scholarships
- Strengthening Masonic Education Programs for members
- Enhancing charitable outreach within the community
- Building bridges with civic leaders and sister jurisdictions
- Empowerment and Engagement of the Millennial Brothers

His vision reflects both respect for the traditions of Prince Hall Freemasonry and a progressive spirit focused on preparing the Craft for the future.

Community Involvement & Public Service

Beyond his Masonic work, Most Worshipful Jimmy Barnes has been an active servant leader in the community. He is a devoted member of Calvary Missionary Baptist Church in Trenton, New Jersey. He is the founder of **the Tracey C. Barnes Scholarship Fund, Inc. which is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization.** The mission is

to educate African American women and families of color with breast health awareness and early detection, and to empower our youth by assisting with exploring opportunities for higher education. He also participates in several civic organizations, youth mentorship programs and volunteer initiatives, ensuring that his influence extends well beyond the walls of the lodge room.

Family & Personal Life

Most Worshipful Jimmy Barnes is married to the lovely Loretta R. Barnes, his partner in life and service. Together, they are blessed with one daughter Ahmari S. Barnes. He is also the father of the late Tiara C. Bolden, Tiana C. Barnes, Tyler C. Barnes, and Taylor C. Stephens, Traevon A. Harmon, and Brandon N. Davis. Known for his humility, kindness, and commitment to family, he is guided by the principles of faith, charity, and brotherly love.

Hobbies

Most Worshipful Jimmy Barnes hobbies include fishing, cooking, reading, and gardening.

Legacy

As the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Jimmy Barnes remains dedicated to preserving the rich legacy of Prince Hall Freemasonry while preparing the fraternity to meet the challenges of tomorrow. His guiding belief is that 'Masonry makes good men better by inspiring them to serve humanity, to lead, and to love their fellow man.'