Overview of the Collection

Repository: The HistoryMakers® 1900 S. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60616 info@thehistorymakers.com  www.thehistorymakers.com

Creator: Daniels, Sedgwick, 1959-

Title: The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Bishop Sedgwick Daniels,

Dates: November 28, 2007

Bulk Dates: 2007

Physical Description: 2 Betacame SP videocassettes (0:58:20).

Abstract: Bishop and pastor Bishop Sedgwick Daniels (1959 - ) was the pastor of Milwaukee’s Holy Redeemer Institutional Church of God in Christ. He is a former City of Milwaukee Plan Commissioner and was the first protestant board member of the Catholic Central City Schools. As Bishop, Daniels oversaw more than 105 Institutional Church Of God churches in Wisconsin and northern Illinois. Daniels was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on November 28, 2007, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.

Identification: A2007_333

Language: The interview and records are in English.

Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Bishop and pastor Sedgwick Daniels was born the second youngest of eight children on August 16, 1959 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin to John and Kathleen Daniels. He became City of Milwaukee Plan Commissioner and the first Protestant board member of the Catholic Central City Schools. Daniels joined Antonio Riley and the Wisconsin Housing and Economic Development Authority on several projects, assisting in developing a housing complex for seniors and developing Milwaukee home ownership.

In 2001, Daniels was elevated to the role of Bishop by Bishop Gilbert E. Patterson and the Church of God in Christ General Board. Daniels’ jurisdiction covered more than 105 Institutional Church of God churches in Wisconsin and northern Illinois. During Daniels’ tenure as Bishop, his own church, Holy Redeemer Institutional Church of God in Christ, became a multi-million dollar operation that addressed both the educational and social service needs in the Milwaukee community.

In 2002, the Bush Administration began conferences for faith-based groups. President Bush and David Kuo, then-deputy director of the Office of Faith-Based Initiatives, visited Daniels’ Holy Redeemer Church. A political independent and close friend of Reverend Jesse Louis Jackson, Sr., Daniels took a controversial stand two years later, endorsing George W. Bush primarily on the basis of his faith-based initiative. Daniels continues to serve as Pastor of Milwaukee’s Holy Redeemer Institutional Church of God in Christ.

Bishop Sedgwick Daniels was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on November 28, 2007.

Scope and Content
This life oral history interview with Bishop Sedgwick Daniels was conducted by Larry Crowe on November 28, 2007, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and was recorded on 2 Betacame SP videocassettes. Bishop and pastor Bishop Sedgwick Daniels (1959 - ) was the pastor of Milwaukee’s Holy Redeemer Institutional Church of God in Christ. He is a former City of Milwaukee Plan Commissioner and was the first protestant board member of the Catholic Central City Schools. As Bishop, Daniels oversaw more than 105 Institutional Church Of God churches in Wisconsin and northern Illinois.

Restrictions

Restrictions on Access

Restrictions may be applied on a case-by-case basis at the discretion of The HistoryMakers®.

Restrictions on Use

All use of materials and use credits must be pre-approved by The HistoryMakers®. Appropriate credit must be given. Copyright is held by The HistoryMakers®.

Related Material

Information about the administrative functions involved in scheduling, researching, and producing the interview, as well as correspondence with the interview subject is stored electronically both on The HistoryMakers® server and in two databases maintained by The HistoryMakers®, though this information is not included in this finding aid.

Controlled Access Terms

This interview collection is indexed under the following controlled access subject terms.

Persons:

Daniels, Sedgwick, 1959-
Crowe, Larry (Interviewer)
Stearns, Scott (Videographer)

Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews
Daniels, Sedgwick, 1959- --Interviews

African American bishops--Interviews.

African American clergy--Wisconsin--Interviews.

Organizations:
HistoryMakers® (Video oral history collection)

The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection

Church Of God In Christ

**Occupations:**

- Bishop
- Pastor

**HistoryMakers® Category:**

- ReligionMakers

**Administrative Information**

**Custodial History**

Interview footage was recorded by The HistoryMakers®. All rights to the interview have been transferred to The HistoryMakers® by the interview subject through a signed interview release form. Signed interview release forms have been deposited with Jenner & Block, LLP, Chicago.

**Preferred Citation**


**Processing Information**

This interview collection was processed and encoded on 5/30/2023 by The HistoryMakers® staff. The finding aid was created adhering to the following standards: DACS, AACR2, and the Oral History Cataloging Manual (Matters 1995).

**Other Finding Aid**

A Microsoft Access contact database and a FileMaker Pro tracking database, both maintained by The HistoryMakers®, keep track of the administrative functions involved in scheduling, researching, and producing the interview.

**Detailed Description of the Collection**
Video Oral History Interview with Bishop Sedgwick Daniels, Section A2007_333_001_001, TRT: 0:28:30

Bishop Sedgwick Daniels was born on August 16, 1959 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin to Kathryn Townsel Daniels and John W. Daniels, Sr. His paternal grandfather, John W. Daniels, Sr., had Native American ancestry, and sometimes passed for white. He owned a farm in Dancy, Alabama, and raised sixteen children with Daniels’ paternal grandmother, Hattie Marshal Daniels. Daniels’ maternal grandparents, General Townsel and Inez Harrison Townsel, raised their family in Birmingham, Alabama, where his maternal grandfather was a barber, and pastored East Birmingham Baptist Church. Daniels’ mother matriculated from the University of Michigan School of Nursing in Ann Arbor, and later obtained a master’s degree in social work from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. Daniels’ father served in the U.S. Navy, and met his mother in Birmingham. They moved to Illinois, where his father worked as an engineer at a naval base, and founded a refrigeration business. His parents purchased a home in Milwaukee in 1953.

African American families--Wisconsin--Milwaukee.
African Americans--Religion.
Chronically ill children.

Video Oral History Interview with Bishop Sedgwick Daniels, Section A2007_333_001_002, TRT: 0:29:50

Bishop Sedgwick Daniels grew up on the majority white North Side of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. As a child, he shared a room with his older brother, John W. Daniels, Jr., who became a lawyer. Daniels began his education at the integrated 35th Street School, where he won the Martin Luther King, Jr. Oratorical Contest for his recitation of the I Have a Dream speech. His family belonged to the West Side Church of God in Christ; and, after his maternal grandfather, a minister, and father both passed away in 1973, Daniels became a more active congregant. By the time he was a student at Edison Middle School, Daniels held numerous leadership roles at the church. He was a member of the International Sunshine Band, a Sunday school superintendent and a trustee. He also directed the choir with his older sister, businesswoman Valerie Daniels-Carter. Daniels went on to attend the integrated Custer High School, where he was not encouraged to apply to college. However, Daniels' family supported his pursuit of further education.

African American grandparents.
African American families--Wisconsin.
African Americans--Religion.
African Americans--Education (Elementary)--Wisconsin--Milwaukee.
African Americans--Education (Secondary)--Wisconsin--Milwaukee.