

159th Annual Session



Peoples Award Luncheon

Forms must be received by April 15, 2026

The People's Award

- ♦ Moderator of the Year Award
- ♦ Pastor of the Year Award
- ♦ Associate Minister of the Year Award
- ♦ Diaconate Member of the Year Award
- ♦ Trustee of the Year Award
- ♦ Ministry of the Year Award
- ♦ Layperson of the Year Award
- ♦ Christian Educator of the Year Award
- ♦ Youth of the Year Award
- ♦ Young Adult of the Year Award
- ♦ Church Musician/Minister of the Music Award



The President's Award

- ♦ Distinguished Service Award
- ♦ Lifetime Achievement Award
- ♦ Robert J. N. Jones Community Service Award
- ♦ Heritage Award
- ♦ Corporate Business Award
- ♦ John H. Foster Political Achievement Award

Rev. Dr. Waddell G. Jones, Jr.

President

Criteria for Nominating Individuals for People's Awards



PEOPLE'S CHOICE NOMINATIONS

MODERATOR OF THE YEAR AWARD	Awarded annually to the Moderator of an active and financially supportive local Association, for
PASTOR OF THE YEAR AWARD	Established to recognize the outstanding church leadership or community by pastor or senior
ASSOCIATE MINISTER OF THE YEAR AWARD	Given annually to an unpaid associate minister of a local church who embodies Servanthood and submission to pastoral authority and leadership.
CHURCH STAFF MEMBER OF THE YEAR AWARD	Presented annually for outstanding service to a local church as a paid member of its staff. Clergy or laypersons may be nominated for this award.
DIACONATE MEMBER OF THE YEAR AWARD	The award is given annually to recognize the significant and faithful service of a deacon or deaconess to their local church.
TRUSTEE OF THE YEAR AWARD	Awarded annually to a church trustee for outstanding service to their local church.
CHRISTIAN EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR AWARD	Awarded to a dedicated paid or volunteer Christian educator for outstanding service and/or leadership.
YOUTH OF THE YEAR AWARD	The annual award is for an active and faithful youth member of a local church, up to age 18.
YOUNG ADULT OF THE YEAR AWARD	It is given annually to a young adult between the ages of 19-35 for outstanding service to their
MINISTRY LEADER OF THE YEAR AWARD	This award is presented annually to an individual who demonstrates leadership excellence as the president, director or overseer of a church ministry without compensation.
LAYPERSON OF THE YEAR AWARD	Established to honor the significant contributions of a volunteer who serves faithfully in a local
MINISTER OF MUSIC OF THE YEAR AWARD	This award is presented annually to honor excellent service and dedication to the ministry of music in the local church.

President's Awards (*nominated by president*)

JOHN H. FOSTER POLITICAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD	Given to a Christian man or woman that has distinguished him or herself as an elected official in a municipal, state or national office.
CORPORATE/BUSINESS AWARD	Presented annually to a corporation or business which has established a track record of excellence in providing superior service to its clients, innovative programs and initiatives that benefit, empowers or protects its employees; while it maintains the highest ethical and moral standards.
DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD	The award is given annually to recognize the outstanding contributions of an individual to their field of study, area of interest or the VBSC.
LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD	The award is presented annually to an individual who has community leadership of a local pastor/senior pastor during their lifetime made repeated significant contributions to their field of study, area of interest or the VBSC.
ROBERT J. N. JONES COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD	This Award is presented annually to an individual who has made noteworthy contributions to the improvement of the quality of life and welfare of other people.
HERITAGE AWARD	The award is presented annually to honor excellence in the promotion, perpetuation and preservation of African American History.