

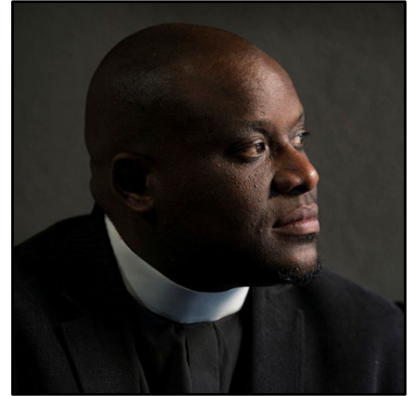


Pastor Michael McBride

The Way Christian Center

Pastor Michael McBride, affectionately known as “Pastor Mike,” is a nationally recognized faith leader, activist, and advocate for racial justice. A native of San Francisco, he has dedicated over two decades to holistic ministry, addressing social justice issues through the power of faith and community organizing.

A graduate of Duke University’s Divinity School with a Master of Divinity in Ethics and Public Policy, Pastor McBride is the founder and Lead Pastor of The Way Christian Center in West Berkeley, California.



In 2012, Pastor McBride became the Director of the LIVE FREE Campaign with Faith in Action, a national movement dedicated to ending gun violence and mass incarceration in communities of color. In 2021, he launched LIVE FREE USA, a racial justice network working at the intersection of public safety, criminal justice reform, and civic engagement. His leadership in implementing community-based violence prevention programs has contributed to significant reductions in gun-related homicides in Oakland and cities across the country.

Pastor McBride is a co-founder of the Black Church PAC and the National Black Brown Gun Violence Prevention Consortium, advocating for policies that uplift communities most affected by systemic violence. He has served on national task forces with the White House and the Department of Justice, advising on initiatives related to gun violence prevention and police-community relations. In 2016, he was appointed to President Obama’s Faith-Based Advisory Council.

A powerful preacher and prophetic voice, Pastor McBride has been at the forefront of movements for racial and social justice, from the Ferguson uprisings to national campaigns for peace and equity. He has been a featured contributor for major media outlets, offering faith-based perspectives on justice and liberation.

Returning to the 2025 Carolina Black Clergy Leadership Retreat, Pastor McBride and his friends will lead a Masterclass on prophetic preaching and guide Wednesday evening’s community worship experience, equipping faith leaders to engage in transformative ministry.