

Rev. José Humphreys

Rev José Humphreys is a native New Yorker, ordained minister and Co-founder of Metro Hope Church, a multiethnic and multicultural church in East Harlem, New York City. He is also a social worker, consultant and author of the award winning book “Seeing Jesus in East Harlem: What Happens when Churches Show Up & Stay Put”.

Rev. José continues to participate in shalom-making and trauma-informed healing work through facilitating conversations across social, economic, racial, and religious boundaries.

As Co-lead Pastor of Metro Hope Church, Rev. José has cultivated partnerships with other East Harlem churches to provide whole-life mentoring circles with people impacted by the criminal justice system. The church is also locally engaged in economic justice through mobilizing church members, churches and residents in collaboration with the Buy Local Initiative, to support locally owned small businesses in a gentrifying East Harlem.

Rev. José currently resides in East Harlem with his wife, Mayra and thirteen year-old son, Javier.



Rev. Kimberly Wright

Rev. Kimberly Wright has lived, worked, and served the East Harlem community for more than four decades. Presently, she is the senior pastor of The Church of the Resurrection and is the executive director of The Center for Life and Faith. She has also helped establish and develop The Booker T.

Washington Learning Center which provides a variety of educational services to children and teens in East Harlem. Rev. Wright is also an educator and activist. She believes that the Christ in the Temple is the Christ in her community - judging the wicked, liberating the oppressed, and setting the captives free. She is a chaplain for the NYC MTA and loves working in prison ministry, hospice care, and with substance abusers.

Rev. Wright is motivated by her great faith and her love for her four children.



Chris Lawrence

Chris Lawrence has spent his entire adult life puzzling out what “re-neighborhooding” might mean, and how Christians who share a passion for justice and human flourishing in the inner-city might support each other in this quest. He likes the phrase “Jesus-centered community organizing”. After 25 years in London (Hackney) he relocated to East Harlem NYC with his wife Naomi and their children, to pastor Church of the Living Hope (United Church of Christ). In 2019 Chris and his wife transitioned to become

InnerCHANGE staff and now devote themselves to street art (Naomi - a fiber artist @NaomiRAG) and advocacy and support with seniors in low-income housing (Chris).

