

Biography of The Rev. Dr. Jeff G. Johnson
Author of *Black Christians, The Untold Story*

Gathered by Concordia Historical Institute:

Jeff G. Johnson Jr. was born in Los Angeles, California (d. 16 June 1998, Los Angeles). He was educated at California Concordia College (Oakland) and Concordia Seminary (Saint Louis), becoming the first African American graduate of the seminary in 1948. He did graduate study at Saint Louis University, Washington University (Saint Louis), the University of California at Los Angeles, the University of Southern California (Ph.D. in sociology in 1961) and the University of Colorado. He served from 1948 to 1961 as a pastor in Detroit, Michigan; East Saint Louis, Illinois; and Indianapolis, Indiana. From 1962 to 1984 he was a professor in the Sociology Department at Valparaiso University (Valparaiso, Indiana) and chair of the department from 1974 to 1980. He served from 1986 to 1995 as a member of the Missouri Synod's Commission on Black Ministry and was a consultant to the synod's Commission on Theology and Church Relations for its 1994 document "Racism and the Church: Overcoming the Idolatry." He was the author of *Black Christians: The Untold Lutheran Story* in the Concordia Scholarship Today Series (CPH, 1991).

Thank you for your email. Rev. Dr. Jeff G. Johnson was indeed an African-American LCMS (Lutheran Church Missouri Synod) pastor and longtime professor at Valparaiso University.

God's Blessings,
Gloria Walls
Contracts/Rights/Permissions
800-325-0191