Councilmember
District 2-West
Terms: 2012-2014
Minister

A resident of Tyler for more than 30 years, Darryl Bowdre serves as minister of the SouthCentral Church of Christ, a congregation he founded in 1998.

As a community leader Bowdre has served on the Tyler Independent School Board of Trustees, the Board of Directors of PATH (People Attempting To Help), the North Tyler Child Development Center, and was one of the founders of the Bi-Partisan African American Coalition. He was also one of the founders of the Tyler Metropolitan Black Chamber of Commerce and later came back to serve as the Executive Director of the organization.

He is often known to be outspoken and vocal on community issues and has been instrumental in leading community efforts for effective change. He works with other community volunteers both in front and behind the scenes and has working relationships with both policy-makers and the Tyler community’s change agents.

Bowdre is also well known in the field of journalism and broadcasting in the Tyler-Longview-Marshall area. He has been involved in the field of communications for more than 30 years. He has worked extensively in the profession as a radio news director, programming consultant, television producer and broadcast commentator. He is the founding publisher and Executive Editor of the Ebony News Journal, the largest weekly Black newspaper in East Texas. He is also publisher and co-founder of “The Voice of East Texas”, a monthly religious periodical.

Bowdre also owns and operates Diversity Advertising Incorporated, a small, specialty agency that specializes in African American radio, newspaper and internet marketing and advertising. In addition to several local businesses as clients, the company partners with other media outlets as well as contracts with different agencies of the state of Texas to help reach, inform, educate and communicate with the state’s diverse populations in East Texas.

Among Minister Bowdre’s honors are several for his editorial writing including awards from the Texas Publishers Association, and two (2) Texas School Bell Awards from the Texas State Teachers Association. In addition to his role in the ministry, Bowdre currently serves on the boards of the Tyler Area Chamber of Commerce, The Tyler Economic Development Board, the Tyler Convention and Visitors Bureau Board and the Smith County Tax Abatement Committee. He has been married for over 34 years to the former Lynn Kirby of Compton, California, and has three children and four grandchildren.