

# History/About Us: Shadows Of Mercy

By Shawnice Hughey

Shadows of Mercy (also known as S.O.M) is the Dance Ministry of The Epicenter Of Worship, formerly known as Apostolic Word Church, in Lansing Michigan under the leadership of **Elder Sean Holland**.

The ministry began in November of 2004 under the direction of Shawnice Rigg-Hughey and co-direction of Bridgette Murphy. The first dance team was founded with six members. By February, the team had grown to ten members strong. Currently, Shadows of Mercy participates in church and local events in an effort to win souls for the Kingdom of God.

## Words From The Founder

When I first started to pray, asking the Lord to birth something within me, never did I think that it would be a Dance Ministry. I expected something on a smaller scale. That just showed me, never limit God. He has bigger and better visions for us, than we have for ourselves. I give him the full glory - there is no way that I could have done this alone. I thank him for having faith in me, even when I didn't have faith in myself and for sending me everything I needed to complete the task. I thank him for a wonderful set of ladies who love dancing for the Lord and for the continual blessings that He has given onto Shadows of Mercy.

## The Story Behind The Name

Originally, the Dance Ministry did not have a name. That of course soon changed when a member of the team saw a vision of the team and described it as us dancing under the Mercy of God. Shortly there after the team was named Shadows Of Mercy.

## About Our Church: The Epicenter Of Worship, Formerly Known As Apostolic Word Church

Students attending bible class and those who have been saved were looking for a place to grow in the Lord. Therefore, being led by the Holy Spirit, **Pastor Holland** formed the Apostolic Word Church of East Lansing in January of 2004. The mission of this church is to ***"Preach a Real Word for Real Times, to Teach the Truth of Salvation, and to Prepare God's People for Church and Community Leadership."*** The church body is composed individuals in the Lansing area including undergraduate and graduate students from MSU, Lansing Community College, Kettering University (Flint-MI), Western Michigan (Kalamazoo-MI), and local Lansing community. Although attendance began very modestly, through the grace of God attendance each week has increased exponentially. Sunday Morning Worship Service began at the Kellogg Hotel & Conference Center beginning with intercessory prayer at 10:30a.m. In August of 2004, during the International Holy Convocation of the Church of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Apostolic Word Church was given an official church charter. The vision God has given Pastor Holland is three-fold. Spiritually, the church is to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ and His message of salvation.

In the financial sector, the church plans to open up a number of businesses so members can have gainful employment and learn about entrepreneurship. Thirdly, there is a community outreach arm of the church where there is currently a partnership with Capital Area Academy in Lansing to mentor 5<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade students. In addition, the church has young mothers who are in need of daycare and other social services for their children.

As of 2007 and now officially known as, [The Epicenter Of Worship](#), this movement of God's people is positioning itself to meet the needs of its members and minister to the total man.

## Epicenter Of Worship, Lansing-MI

Reference: <http://shadowsofmercy.googlepages.com/frontpage>  
This article was last updated 8.7.2007