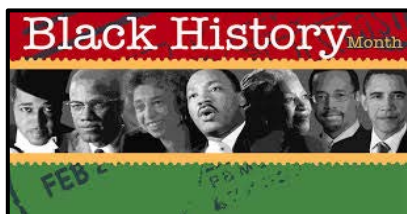




## "BUILDING FAMILIES FOR CHRIST"



Black History Month in February celebrates the contributions that African Americans have made to American history in their struggles for freedom and equality. In 1915, historian and author Dr. Carter G. Woodson founded the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History (now known as the Association for the Study of African American Life and History). In February 1926, Woodson and his organization initiated the first Negro History Week.

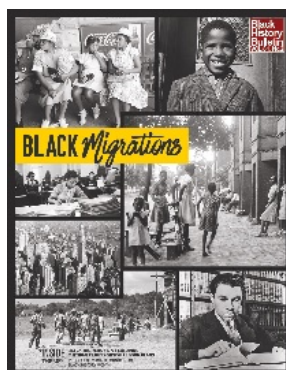
In 1975, President Ford urged all Americans to observe Black History Week. The following year, the Association of the Study of Negro Life and History expanded this celebration of black history to Black History Month, and President Ford followed suit.

The theme for 2019 is "Black Migrations." The Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH) says the theme will focus on "the movement of African Americans to new destinations and subsequently to new social realities."

Beginning in the early decades of the twentieth century, African American migration patterns included relocation from

southern farms to southern cities; from the South to the Northeast, Midwest, and West; from the Caribbean to US cities as well as to migrant labor farms; and the emigration of noted African Americans to Africa and to European cities, such as Paris and London, after the end of World War I and World War II.

Such migrations resulted in a more diverse and stratified interracial and intra-racial urban population amid a changing social milieu, such as the rise of the Garvey movement in New York, Detroit, and New Orleans; the emergence of both black industrial workers and black entrepreneurs; the growing number and variety of urban churches and new religions; new music forms like ragtime, blues, and jazz; white backlash as in the Red Summer of 1919.



The theme Black Migrations equally lends itself to the exploration of the century's later decades from spatial and social perspectives,

# CHRISTIAN EDUCATION CHRONICLES

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMISSION

Terence Renard Gray I, Senior Pastor

Dr. Marilyn A. Doyle, CEC Director

Patricia Goodwin

Lee Rushin

Faye Hogan

Donald Goodwin

Antar Rivers

Dr. Missouri McPhee

Sharon Butler

Kimberly Hawkins

with attention to "new" African Americans because of the burgeoning African and Caribbean population in the US; Northern African Americans' return to the South; racial suburbanization; inner-city hyper-ghettoization; health and environment; civil rights and protest activism; electoral politics; mass incarceration; and dynamic cultural production.



Page 1



Page 2



Page 3



Church Leadership Retreat  
June 28 - 29, 2019

Page 3



Page 4



Page 5



## FOUNDERS' DAY

African Methodist Episcopal Churches worldwide convene each year in remembrance of our Founder and First Bishop of the AME Church- Bishop Richard Allen. These services commemorate Bishop Allen's birthday, February 14, 1760, as well as the founding of the A.M.E. denomination of April 9, 1816.



**Richard Allen** was a slave when he was born on February 14, 1760. While he was a slave, he went to church and learned about God. He became a Christian and also a preacher.

After a long day of doing slave work, Richard Allen would go work a job where he would get paid. He saved his money for many years and when he had enough, he used it to buy his freedom. God helped Richard Allen work hard so he could be free to help others. In 1794, Richard Allen helped to start a church where other black people could learn about God. They named the church Bethel. Because he was a good leader, Richard Allen became the first bishop of the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

Bethel Church is still open today. It is now called Mother Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church. People from all over the world still go there to learn about God and about Richard Allen.

Richard Allen was the Moses of his day. Moses people, the children of Israel, were slaves and Richard Allen himself was a slave. They both wanted freedom for their sisters and brothers. Moses escaped Egypt, but he went back to tell Pharaoh that God said "Let My People Go".

Allen wanted the men and women of color to be free to worship God and to stand up for themselves. Only God can touch the hearts of men. God touched the hardened heart of

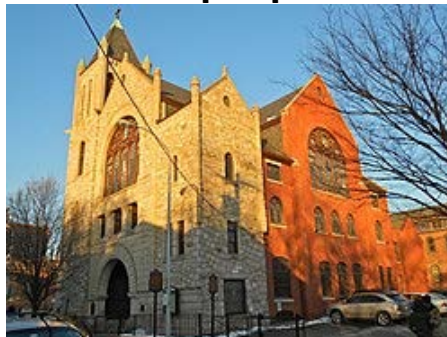
Pharaoh after the final plague of killing all of the first born. God touched the heart of young Allen's slave owner. God spoke through Richard Allen's preaching, and his slave owner accepted Christ as his Savior. When Richard Allen asked him if he could buy his and his brother's freedom, the slave owner did allow Allen to work on his own and buy his freedom.

Richard came to Philadelphia a free man and again through his preaching, many Africans were saved and joined him in attending at St George's Methodist Church. Just as the Israelites grew in numbers in Egypt and became a perceived threat to the Egyptians, the Africans at St. George's Church numbers grew and the members restricted them more and more in the worship service. Through the voice of God Moses and

Allen were chosen to lead the people. The Children of Israel wanted freedom to leave Egypt and worship the one and only true God. The children of Africans wanted freedom to worship God in dignity and respect. God led the Children of Israel and the children of Africans out of their restrictive situations. Moses and Allen were faithful to God. They led the people with the power of God on their side as they listened to the voice of God. These were men chosen by God to carry out His will.

By being a follower of God, they became leaders of men. As the Children of Israel were told to always remember the Passover, we as Christians should remember the day that Richard Allen and the Africans at St. George's Church got up off their knees and walked out to begin a movement in America that has spread throughout the world, the African Methodist Episcopal Church. The first Church for Africans founded in America.

## Mother Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church



Mother Bethel was one of the first African-American churches in the United States, dedicated July 29, 1794, by Bishop Francis Asbury. On October 12, 1794, Reverend Robert Blackwell announced that the

congregation was received in full fellowship in the Methodist Episcopal Church.

In 1816 Rev Richard Allen brought together other black Methodist congregations from the region to organize the new African Methodist Episcopal Church denomination. He was elected bishop of this denomination. After the American Civil War, its missionaries went to the South to help freedmen and planted many new churches in the region.

Allen and his wife, Sarah Allen are both buried in the present church's crypt. The current church building was constructed in 1888-1890, and it has been designated a National Historic Landmark.

## NOTABLE AMES:



**George Washington Carver (1860-1943)**  
Botanist | Inventor | Educator, Best known as the inventor of the Peanut Butter.



**Rosa Louise McCauley Parks (1913-2005)**  
Seamstress | Civil Rights Activist, Best known for the Montgomery Bus Boycott.



**Harriet Tubman (1821-1913)**  
Run-A-Way Slave | Abolitionist | Activist  
Best known as a Leader of the Underground Railroad.





### February 14<sup>th</sup>: **Valentine's Day**

Valentine's Day, also called Saint Valentine's Day or the Feast of Saint Valentine and is celebrated annually on February 14. Originating as a Western Christian feast day honoring one or two early saints named Valentinus. Valentine's Day is recognized as a significant cultural, religious, and commercial celebration of romance and romantic love in many regions around the world.



### February 17<sup>th</sup>: **National Random Acts of Kindness Day**

It is celebrated by individuals, groups and organizations, nationwide, to encourage acts of kindness. It is a favorite day to many, as people everywhere are enjoying doing acts of kindness. Plan to join this movement by being kind and thoughtful to one another.



## **BREAKFAST WITH SUNDAY SCHOOL**

Christian Education Commission provides learning opportunities! Every 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday, Christian Education features a learning opportunity related to enlightening the congregation on the AME governance, doctrines and protocols. Please join us at 9:15am to 10:30am and have breakfast while you learn.

### **March 31, 2019**

Topic – The Social Justice Mission of the AME Church

### **June 30, 2019**

Topic – The Emmanuel Nine – The History of Emmanuel AME Church

### **September 29, 2019**

Topic – The Conferences of the AME Church

### **December 29, 2019**

Topic- General Conference Roundup: Global Structures and Global Leaders



## **ANNUAL LEADERSHIP RETREAT**

**June 28 – 29, 2019**

The leadership retreat is time to step back together, to reconnect with our core competences, goals, and values.

Imagine working with a highly productive team, driven by a shared vision and a deep sense of cohesion. Envision a corporate culture that brings out the best in each other and cultivates creativity, accountability and high levels of performance.

### **Discussion Topics:**

- Recap status of 2018 leadership recommendations
- Update on Community Development Initiatives – Saint Mark campuses

### **Date:**

- Friday and Saturday, June 28 – 29, 2019

### **Location/Times:**

- TBA

### **Keynote Speaker:**

- TBA



*"Train up a child in the way he should go, and [or even] when he is old he will not depart from it" (Proverbs 22:6).*



### Naia Butler-Craig

- Daughter of Sharon Butler
- Senior at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University – Graduating May 2019
- Major - Aerospace Engineering with a concentration in Astronautics
- Minor-Computational Mathematics
- Future plans: Fall 2019 - Entering Aerospace Engineering Ph.D. program at Georgia Tech to obtain a Master and Ph.D. in Aerospace Engineering.



### Gabriel Ferguson

- Son of Angela Ferguson

- Sophomore at Lake Highland Preparatory School; GPA: 4.2
- School Activities: Beta Club, Varsity Basketball Team, Nightrydas AAU travel basketball team (Nike)
- Awards: Principal's Honor Roll 2017-2018; Orlando Police Dept. Super Kid award 2013
- Future plans: Attend Duke or Harvard - Major: Pre-Med
- Attend medical school and practice Pediatric medicine; Play basketball for the NBA
- Church activities: Sunday school member, Saint Mark Café assistant, former member of children's choir

### BIBLE DISCOVERY HOUR



### SPECIAL EVENT:

On Saturday, December 8, 2018, at the Central Conference Annual Day of Sharing, Saint Mark was pleased to have two persons consecrated Deaconesses in the AME Church, Mother Lillie Mae Taylor Gray and Mother Artilla Pierce. The Reverend Terry Lorenzo Walker was also

ordained a LOCAL Deacon for the life and work of Saint Mark Church.



Pictured from left to right: Dss. Artilla Pierce, Dss. Lillie Mae Taylor Gray, The Rev. Terence Gray | Chair of the Board of Examiners and The Rev. Dr. Missouri McPhee | Dean of the Ministerial Training



From Right to Left: Bishop Adam J. Richardson, Jr. | Supervisor Connie Speights Richardson | The Rev. Walter L. Jett (Local Deacon) | The Rev. Terry L. Walker (Local Deacon) | Dss. Mary Lee Bain | Dss. Artilla Pierce | Dss. Lillie M.T. Gray | The Rev. Terence R. Gray, I | The Rev. Dr. Missouri L. McPhee

At the seat of the 119th Session of the Central Annual Conference the following persons were ordained Itinerant Deacons in the African Methodist Episcopal Church:



Pictured from left to right: The Rev. Terence R. Gray, I | The Rev. Regina A. Taylor | The Rev. Byron Loyd | Bishop Frank C. Cummings | Supervisor Connie S. Richardson | Bishop A.J. Richardson, Jr. | The Rev. Shalonda L. Doughty | The Rev. Tina G. Davis | The Rev. Dr. Freda R. Coleman | The Rev. Dr. Missouri McPhee



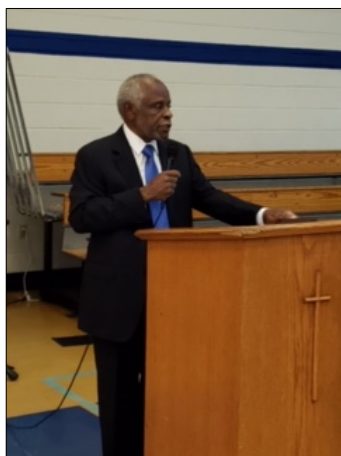


## CEC MONTH SEPTEMBER 2018

### "BREAKFAST WITH SUNDAY SCHOOL – GUEST SPEAKERS"



"Chaplain Scott A. Fleming"



Presiding Elder J. Leander Byrd, was the guest speaker during the September Breakfast with Sunday School.



On Sunday, September 30, 2018, Saint Mark African Methodist Episcopal Church, Orlando, FL, presented its first ever "Building Faith in Youth" Awards during the culmination worship service of its month long Christian Education activities. The distinguished honorees for this distinguished award were Mrs. Kimberly "Kim" Hill and Mr. Eric "EB" Butler. Their service to the youth of Saint Mark Church is paralleled to none. Mrs. Hill and Mr. Butler begun utilizing the P.R.A.Y. program some three years ago. Over the years, they have utilized the principles of the God & Me and God & Family series in ways which have enhanced intergenerational interaction at Saint Mark. They continue to carry out their ministry to Saint Mark's youth with humility and renewed resolve.



## CEC BIBLE STUDY SEPTEMBER 2018



"Reverend Priscilla Robinson"



"Reverend Willie Bell Coleman-Smith"





## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

### AME Founder's Day Word Search

N G F W K P J Z Q R F L S E H S N W L C S Y Y J C S L S T S  
 F L O R A A L L E N V A E H T O B F Z B W T A K M V Q E F L  
 D O M B K N I D J F I P P S I Y U L F A M E Z N Q I M N D V  
 V F R F D J G P T N I F P T G D L C A D G I T L S Z L O D S  
 F O O F N E E H T S A V A W I K I X F C F C N H O P L J S T  
 A T F H P O V G C O M N W H L X L E F Y K O Y E W A N M D E  
 A I E L U N E O U P I M E U S Y S T L F M S T H D H D O K H  
 Y N H T Z O P R A M O B F G K B A S M R E N M Q D E B L G E  
 K G C P R A S A R A H B A S S A L L E N T A V I K V B A F L  
 L J X G L Q G E B X U K V A J D J V K T H C Y N T J R S Z E  
 N J E F U E T X B N H I J I Z H E U I H O I R V Y H L B F H  
 L S O I Q E D B I S H O P B D F Q C U U D R K U A P S A S T  
 N B Q H D F W A I J T F P V W C N Z D Y I F R M V E F H J X  
 D D M F N G J X L D M J X O C U Z X Z C S A O W M S Q D O K  
 V W L T O W P H Y I B E L K Z V L E I I T E M R O X R P Z P  
 Q E U N M J E A Y N H L X T Z T H Q M F L E R I W S B V X M  
 S L T D B C U S A K E P F I C I K G I C X R P C Z J W U K G  
 X U J V Y N M Q L Y J W U S F M H Y P U D F D H W P E V Q H  
 L E M D B H R K W E C M J Z C C W I H Y G W V A G V N S D W  
 Q W I J H U B W U L Y T E N R L N Y E S L K N R X L U X J O  
 N O L D E J T P F J M Z N U V H G V I E E R U D B D D K K T  
 M A C G N L V Q Z Q Q G H K R W S S C Z O R V A F Z K R V Q  
 L B C B P T T M G I S C O I T Y T G K R Q P R L M W K E A J  
 Q F R I I F D G B A Z V T R E I M G G T O F C L F G B D H X  
 S M Q D R H Y A F V B J Y N U F R S G B S F I E H Q R N I H  
 F M Q R K F I D Y M W M G S V S O D W D X J M N O A C U H P  
 D M H I A Y A U E J F H E J N O C O D G K V H N W T V O B W  
 G Y D U J G F N J X P N A J K V E E L A N E R A J E V F R O  
 R O Y L I Y W T J F G M W V D R S B K E O R I J H Y R L L X  
 L E H T E B R E H T O M R Q E Z W B G R I O L L A Q B G T C

ABSALOM JONES  
 AFRICAN  
 BISHOP  
 BLACKSMITH SHOP  
 CHURCH  
 EPISCOPAL  
 FLORA ALLEN  
 FOUNDER  
 FREE AFRICAN SOCIETY

YELLOW FEVER

JARENA LEE  
 JOHN WESLEY  
 METHODIST  
 MOTHER BETHEL  
 PHILADELPHIA  
 RICHARD ALLEN  
 SAINT GEORGES  
 SARAH BASS ALLEN  
 SELF DETERMINATION