

2019
African American
History Month



The origin...

“Known as the “Father of Black History,” Dr. Carter G. Woodson (1875-1950) was the son of former slaves, and understood how important gaining a proper education is when striving to secure and make the most out of one’s divine right of freedom. Although he did not begin his formal education until he was [almost] 20 years old, his dedication to study enabled him to earn a high school diploma in West Virginia and bachelor and master’s degrees from the University of Chicago in just a few years. In 1912, Woodson became the second African American to earn a PhD at Harvard University.



Dr. Carter G. Woodson recognized that there was a lack of information about the accomplishments of Blacks in History. He founded the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History, now called the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH) in 1915. In 1926, Dr. Carter G. Woodson initiated the celebration of Negro History Week, which corresponded with the birthdays of Frederick Douglass and Abraham Lincoln. In 1976, this celebration was expanded to include the entire month of February, and today Black History Month garners support throughout the country as people of all ethnic and social backgrounds discuss the black experience. ASALH views the promotion of Black History Month as one of the most important components of advancing Dr. Woodson’s legacy.”

(Excerpt from ASALH site – Our History)

The month of February has been designated as African American History Month, however it should serve as a catalyst for exploring all year long. African American History is American History. The discoveries and accomplishments have benefitted all of us. This resource includes worship materials, and study resources. Discover some of the many Black Disciples who have made a difference and impact in our Church and World. Our hope is that these resources will be shared within your congregation and community.

Blessed to be a blessing to you,

Sheila P. Spencer
Director of Christian Education/Faith Formation

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Sarah Lue Bostik



A graduate of Southern Christian Institute, Sarah Lue Howard was born near Glasgow, Ky., on May 27, 1868. One of ten children of a black and Choctaw father and a black and white mother. Howard grew up largely self-educated and fiercely independent.

She moved to Arkansas in 1888, married Mancil Bostik, an ordained minister and a medical practitioner.

She spent a long lifetime effectively organizing on behalf of women’s work throughout the state. In 1902, Sarah Bostik was appointed State Organizer amongst the black congregations in Arkansas.

Bertha Mason invited Bostik to Texas to assist in the organization of a school for blacks. For ten years these two women worked toward the opening of the Jarvis Christian Institute in January, 1913.

Sarah died in 1948.

Rosa Brown Bracy



Rosa Brown grew up in Port Gibson, Miss., the daughter of a pastor. At twelve, she entered the Southern Christian Institute in Edwards, Miss. In 1917, Rosa Brown became the first Field Secretary for Negro Work with the Christian Women’s Board of Missions. After 1920, she worked as staff member for both the newly-formed United Christian Missionary Society (UCMS) and the National Christian Missionary Convention (NCMC). After marriage, Mrs. Bracy, sometimes known as the “Sojourner Truth” of Black Disciples of Christ, worked until retirement in 1938. She continued her efforts as a missionary to the African American disciples until her death, at which time she was President of the UCMC’s Christian Women’s Fellowship.

Litany

A Litany from African American Lectionary

Black History Observance

Oh God, you have heard the anguished cries of our ancestors. Their sounds echo and penetrate time to remind us of our foreparents who were brutally captured and forcibly enslaved, as they left the peaceful womb of their African homeland.

“Stony the road we trod.”

Oh God, you have seen the millions of dark bodies buried beneath the tumultuous waves of the deep. Bodies of African men and women who held the seeds of greatness. You have seen women’s dreams for a united family vanish as they were sold at auction blocks. You have seen the legacy of the African American family decimated and demeaned by those who have attempted to control our destiny.

“Bitter the chastening rod, felt in the days when hope unborn had died.”

Oh God, you have ignited the sparks within us into a blazing demand for freedom, equality and justice. This quest cost Harriet Tubman sleepless nights, as she led her people to freedom; it was an equality that Rosa Parks and civil rights activists fought for and gave their lives for; it was a justice that Martin Luther King, Jr. stood for, as thousands stood with him at the Lincoln Memorial.

“Yet with a steady beat, have not our weary feet, come to the place for which our fathers sighed?”

Oh God, you have seen our tears. You have been pained by the evil of human hearts. Yet, you loved humanity enough that you sent your only Son to identify with the outcast, marginalized and rejected. As the cries of Jesus pierced your heart, so have the cries of your people—cries from different cultures and in different languages.

“God of our weary years, God of our silent tears.”

O God, you answered us during our exodus from Africa. You wiped every teardrop during our exile in captivity. Our foreparents dared to dream that one day, on these shores, we would become politicians, preachers, educators, doctors, writers, scientists, artists, and so much more.

“Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met Thee.”

Our ancestors’ hard work, their courage, their convictions, and their belief in you paved the way for our emancipation and education. But it is clear, you have liberated us. You have set us free. “Free at last, free at last, thank God Almighty, I’m free at last!”

“Lest our hearts drunk with the wine of the world we forget Thee. Shadowed beneath Thy hand, may we forever stand. True to our God and true to our native land.”

Lift Every Voice and Sing

*Lift every voice and sing,
till earth and heaven ring,
Ring with the harmonies of liberty;
Let our rejoicing rise
High as the listening skies,
Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.*

*Sing a song full of the faith that the
dark past has taught us,
Sing a song full of the hope that the present
has brought us;
facing the rising sun of our new day begun,
let us march on till victory is won.*

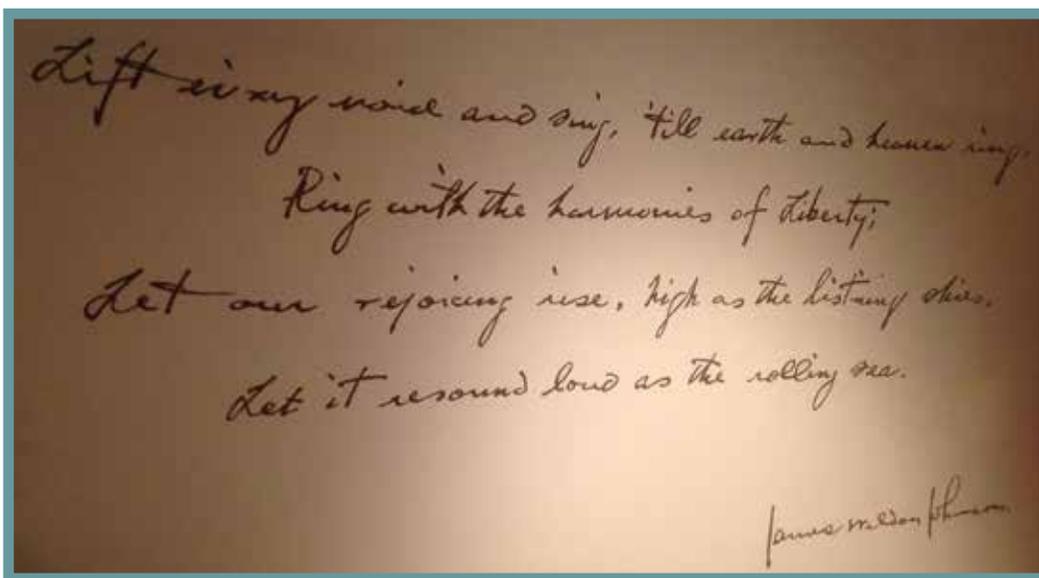
*Stony the road we trod,
bitter the chastening rod,
felt in the days when hope unborn had died;
yet with a steady beat,
have not our weary feet
come to the place
for which our fathers died?*

We have come over a way that with tears

*have been watered,
We have come, treading our path through the
blood of the slaughtered,
out from the gloomy past,
till now we stand at last
where the white gleam
of our bright star is cast.*

*God of our weary years,
God of our silent tears,
thou who hast brought us thus far on the way;
thou who hast by thy might led us into the
light,
keep us forever in the path, we pray.*

*Lest our feet stray from the places, our God,
where we met thee;
lest our hearts drunk with the wine of the
world, we forget thee,
shadowed beneath thy hand,
may we forever stand,
true to our God,
true to our native land.*



Left: *Lift Every Voice and Sing* in the hand writing of James Weldon Johnson (1871–1938). Sometimes referred to as "Black National Anthem" is a song written as a poem by Johnson in 1899 and set to music by his brother John Rosamond Johnson (1873–1954) in 1900.

Norman Reed



Rev. Dr. Norman Reed, Sr. is a native of Indianapolis, Ind. He graduated in 1964 having received a degree of Doctor of Pharmacy. In 1976 he acknowledged his call to the ministry and ultimately graduated from Christian Theological Seminary with a Master of Divinity degree in 1980. He served as the Treasurer, General Manager and Director of Operations of the historical Greenwood Cemetery, Inc. of Nashville, Tenn. Dr. Reed also served as the long tenured (24 years) Pastor of Alameda Christian Church, (Disciples of Christ) also in Nashville. He served this community of faith called the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in various capacities on both the general and regional level expressions of the church.

Over the last twenty-five years Reed has played a part in or helped shape major decisions and movements that make the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) the church community it is today. In 2017 he was the recipient of the Disciples Home Missions Distinguished Leadership Award.

Dr. Reed is a soft-spoken individual who diligently carries out his duties and responsibilities as a faithful minister of the Lord. In his constancy he continues to serve God and His church with dedication and love.

He is married to the former May F. Lindsey of Muncie, Ind. They have one son, Norman LaMont Reed, Attorney-at-Law, Indianapolis, Ind., and a daughter, Lynnette F. Reed (deceased in 1993).

Rosa Page Welch



Rosa Page Welch was a distinguished graduate of Southern Christian Institute (now Tougaloo College). She spent a lifetime witnessing in word and song throughout the life of the Church, Known as the "Ambassador of Good Will," Rosa was the first African American to lead convention singing. After graduating from Southern Christian, Welch taught school in Mississippi, Kentucky and Virginia. A classically-trained mezzo-soprano, Welch's musical career blossomed. A Disciples staff person arranged for her to lead the singing at a Nebraska student conference, which led to numerous invitations from throughout the Disciples and other denominations. She abandoned a promising concert career to work for the church. Discussions on race relations became a regular fixture during her recitals. In 1952 she went on a "global mission of goodwill," singing to audiences in Africa, East Asia, Europe and South America. This led her to serve during 1961-63 as a missionary in Nigeria for the Church of the Brethren. Afterwards Welch worked with the Disciples Unified Promotion Office (Church Finance Council). Welch also took part in the civil rights movement, working in Hattiesburg, Miss., and marching in Montgomery, Ala. Constantly discriminated against as she travelled, Welch repeatedly won over her persecutors with an ironic spirit.

Lorenzo J. Evans



Rev. Lorenzo J. Evans, was the first African American staff of the National Convocation of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the area of Christian Education.

Evans was a co-founder of the Star Supporter Fund. He was Program Secretary for the Butler Street YMCA in Atlanta when he joined the National Convocation office in 1946 in Indianapolis as Director of Education.

In 1960 to 1961, Evans became one of the first group of merger staff becoming national director of field services on the Staff of the Department of Christian Education in the Christian Missionary Society (UCMS).

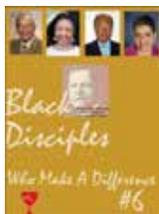
He retired from the Division of Homeland Ministries (formerly the United Christian Missionary Society) on June 30, 1974 after thirty years of meritorious service.

African American Disciples Resources

ASALH (Association for the Study of African American Life and History) -- Established on September 9, 1915 by Dr. Carter G. Woodson, ASALH are the Founders of Black History Month and carry forth the work of the founder, the Father of Black History. ASALH's mission is to create and disseminate knowledge about Black History, to be, in short, the nexus between the Ivory Tower and the global public. We labor in the service of Blacks and all humanity. When Carter G. Woodson established Negro History week in 1926, he realized the importance of providing a theme to focus the attention of the public. The intention has never been to dictate or limit the exploration of the Black experience, but to bring to the public's attention important developments that merit emphasis. The 2018 theme, "African Americans in Times of War," commemorates the centennial of the end of the First World War in 1918, and explores the complex meanings and implications of this international struggle and its aftermath. The First World War was initially termed by many as "The Great War," "The War to End All Wars," and the war "to make the world safe for democracy." The ASALH site has information on resources for teachers and oral history projects. Go to www.asalh.org

Wisdom of Women Volume 2 -- Shares the life of Melvia Anderson Fields. She was born and reared in Bourbon County, Kentucky, which is near historic Cane Ridge. She is an African American author, leader, historian and inspiration. She is the author of "Women on a Mission" -- a book about African American women who were integral parts of the history of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). This just scratches the surface of this remarkable woman. It consists of 60 to 90 minutes of conversation and wisdom, edited into short six to ten-minute segments. A study guide with questions for reflection and conversation after each segment accompanies each DVD. The cost is \$29.95. For information on the DVD Study Series and the book, "Women On A Mission", go to discipleshomemissions.org/wisdom-of-women

Black Disciples Who Made A Difference Series -- This is a series of publications that highlights the life and achievements of African American Disciples who have made an impact in the life of the Christian Church Disciples of Christ. These materials are available for free download at www.discipleshomemissions.org/african-american-resources

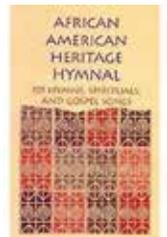


The Cost of Unity: African American Agency and Education and the Christian Church 1865-1914 (Voices

of the African Diaspora) -- Macon, GA: Lawrence Burnley Mercer University Press, 2008. This book examines the agency of African-Americans in the founding of educational institutions for blacks associated with the Christian Church. The philosophical discourse within the Christian Church concerning the purpose, type, and control of these schools is examined as well as the prevailing racial assumptions and attitudes that informed each of these areas. For more info www.mu-press.org/productdetails.cfm

African American Heritage Hymnal: 575 Hymns, Spirituals, and Gospel Songs by Rev. Dr. Delores Carpenter

-- Eight years of inspired work by a committee of more than 30 musicians and pastors, all leaders in African American worship and gospel music, have resulted in this compendium representing the common repertoire of African American churches across the United States. For the first time in an African American hymnal, traditional hymns and songs are notated to reflect performance practices found in the oral tradition of the black church in America. At a time when such traditions are falling victim to modern technology, this book strives to preserve this rich heritage for future generations. Presented are litanies for "Fifty-Two Sundays of Worshipful Celebration" outlining an African American church year, including such special days as Martin Luther King Sunday, Elders' Day, Mother's Day, and Men's Day. Also included are 52 responsive scripture readings from the Old and New Testaments and an extensive index that includes scriptural and thematic cross-references.



For Loves Sake is a book by The Rev. John Foulkes. Published by the National Convocation and available for sale through GWD Ministries at norman.reed@att.net.

Lift Every Voice and Sing -- sometimes referred to as "Black National Anthem" is a song written as a poem by James Weldon Johnson (1871-1938) in 1899 and set to music by his brother John Rosamond Johnson (1873-1954) in 1900.

I Have A Dream -- This poetic and provocative short film has been created to inspire communities to ask the question: how far have we come on the journey to social justice and what must be done to achieve the dream King so eloquently articulated in 1963? www.saltproject.org/christian-video-resources-for-small-groups/i-have-a-dream

Daisy Chambers



Mrs. Daisy R. Chambers, a lifetime resident of Winston-Salem. She was born February 8, 1936 to the late Clarence and Zeola Harris Reed. She died on May, 1, 2017.

Daisy matriculated at Winston-Salem Teachers College (Winston-Salem State University), graduating in 1958 with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Primary Education. She received a Master of Science Degree from Indiana State University, and an Education Specialist Degree in Administration from Appalachian State University. Initially teaching for several years in Columbia, SC, Chambers returned to her hometown to begin a long career with Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools. Until her retirement in 1996 she held various positions with the district including Teacher, Assistant Principal, Principal, Personnel Director, Director of Elementary Education, and Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Administration. She was the first black teacher on the faculty at Clemmons Elementary in 1964.

Chambers held memberships with numerous professional, civic and social organizations including the National Education Association of Retired School Personnel, Phi Delta Kappa Honorary Fraternity, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Incorporated, Democracy NC, and the NAACP.

A founding member of Messiah Community Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), she served faithfully as an Elder. Additionally, Chambers held a number of leadership roles with the Regional, District, and General Assembly of the Christian Church (DOC). Her global service to others included mission trips to China, Zimbabwe, Haiti, and Brazil.

Chambers has a daughter, Cheryl Johnson, and a granddaughter, Gabrielle Johnson.

A Partial List of African American Inventors

Compiled by C. Butler and Charles Isbell



A.P. Ashbourne	Biscuit cutter	November 30, 1875
L.C. Bailey	Folding bed	July 18, 1899
A.J. Beard	Rotary Engine	July 5, 1892
A.J. Beard	Car-coupler	November 23, 1897
G.E. Becket	Letter Box	October 4, 1892
L. Bell	Locomotive smoke stack	May 23, 1871
M.E. Benjamin	Gong and signal chairs for hotels	July 17, 1888
M.W. Binga	Street sprinkling apparatus	July 22, 1879
A.B. Blackburn	Railway signal	January 10, 1888
Henry Blair	Corn planter	October 14, 1834
Henry Blair	Cotton planter	August 31, 1836
Sarah Boone	Ironing board	April 26, 1892
C.B. Brooks	Street-sweepers	March 17, 1896
O.E. Brown	Horseshoe	August 23, 1892
J.A. Burr	Lawn mower	May 9, 1899
J.W. Butts	Luggage carrier	October 10, 1899
W.C. Carter	Umbrella stand	August 4, 1885
T.S. Church	Carpet beating machine	July 29, 1884
G. Cook	Automatic fishing device	May 10, 1899
J. Cooper	Elevator device	April 2, 1895
P.W. Cornwall	Draft Regulator	February 7, 1893
A.L. Cralle	Ice-cream mold	February 2, 1897
W.R. Davis, Jr.	Library table	September 24, 1878
C.J. Dorticus	Machine for embossing photo	April 16, 1895
Clarence L. Elder	Occustat	1976
T. Elkins	Refrigerating apparatus	November 4, 1879
F. Flemings, Jr.	Guitar (variation)	March 3, 1886
G.F. Grant	Golf tee	December 12, 1899
J. Gregory	Motor	April 26, 1887
M. Headen	Foot power hammer	October 5, 1886
B.F. Jackson	Gas burner	April 4, 1899
Fredrick M. Jones	Automatic refrigeration system	
J.L. Love	pencil sharpener	1897
Latimer & Nichols	Electric lamp	September 13, 1881
T.J. Marshall	Fire extinguisher (variation)	May 26, 1872
Elijah McCoy	Lubricator for steam engines	July 2, 1872
Garrett A. Morgan	Gas mask	
Garrett A. Morgan	Traffic signal	1923
J.F. Pickering	an airship	1900
W.B. Purvis	fountain pen	1890
Norbert Rillieux	Sugar refining process	1846
H. Spears	Portable shield for infantry	December 27, 1870
Rufus Stokes	Air-purification device	1968
E.H. Sutton	Cotton cultivator	April 7, 1878
Granville T. Woods	Electromechanical brake	August 16, 1887
Granville T. Woods	Railway telegraphy	November 15, 1887
Granville T. Woods	Induction telegraph system	November 29, 1887
Granville T. Woods	Overhead conducting system for electric railway	May 29, 1888
Granville T. Woods	Electromotive railway system for long-haul trucks	June 26, 1888

Oscar Haynes

Oscar Haynes was born in Rogersville, Tenn., on Jan. 18, 1916. He moved to Washington, D.C. upon graduation from Swift Memorial Junior College and became a member of Twelfth Street Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). He attended Howard University and Tuskegee Institute before being drafted into service for World War II (1941-45), serving in Tampa, Fla., India-Burma and Kearns, Utah.



Upon leaving the military, Haynes became a journalist with the Afro American Newspapers. During his tenure, he was part of a team of journalist that did investigative reporting on the Martinsville 7 Trail in Virginia. He was active in the Civil Rights Movement in Washington, D.C. He joined Mary Church Terrell and other activists in "sit-ins at the bus station and local restaurants. He was among the thousands at the March on Washington when Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. delivered his "I Have A Dream" speech.

Haynes served as president of the Capital Press Club in Washington, D.C.; the National Convocation, Christian Church (Disciples of Christ); and the Board of Managers of Greenwood Cemeteries, Nashville, Tenn. During his tenure as president of the Capital Press Club, he gave President Harry S. Truman an award for desegregating the military.

As a businessman and State & Regional Manager for Fromm & Sichel/Christian Brothers Wines & Brandy, Oscar forged partnerships with the State

Department to increase the sale of American wines abroad. When he retired in 1984, Christian Brothers Wines and Brandy were being sold in 28 nations.

Haynes served on numerous boards including: Thurgood Marshall Community Center, Washington, DC; National City Christian Church Foundation; Christian Church – Capital Area Region; Disciples of Christ Historical Society, Nashville, Tenn.; Trustee, Lexington Theological Seminary, Lexington, Ky.; United Campus Ministry Board, University of Maryland, College Park Campus; and the Reston Community Orchestra.

Haynes received honors that included: John James Audubon Medal, Audubon Naturalist Society; Public Service Award YMCA, Washington, DC; The College Park Lions Club; Diplomate, National City Christian Church Foundation, Washington, DC; Liberation Award, National Convocation, Christian Church 1998; Tribute of Appreciation, Secretary of State, American Businessmen Abroad Committee, July 31, 1967.

In 2008, the Disciples Historical Society of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Nashville, TN, named an Exhibit Hall in his honor.

Haynes married his first wife, Lula Mae Smith, in 1949 and they raised five children together. She preceded him in death. He is survived by his wife, Rev. Joan Bell-Haynes, Regional Minister of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the Central Rocky Mountain; his children: Toni Ross, Oscar Sherwood Haynes (Robyn); Kim A. Atwater (Jay); Donna N. Taylor, and Christina H. Haynes; as well as nine grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren; son-in-law Rev. LeBaron Taylor.

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