

The background of the entire page is a photograph of the Canaan Baptist Church. The church is a large, modern building with a light-colored brick or stone facade and a dark blue roof. It features several windows and a prominent entrance. The building is surrounded by greenery and a paved area. The sky is clear and blue.

JANUARY 2024

CANAAN NEWS ONLINE

Canaan Baptist Church

3011 New Castle Avenue

New Castle, Delaware 19720

Rev. Dr. Christopher Alan Bullock, Pastor
(302) 654-8818

2024 Theme

Yes God Is Able
Jude 24-25

Rev. Dr. Christopher Alan Bullock, Editor-In-Chief
Dr. Arvis Strickling-Jones, Managing Editor



Thank you for worshipping with us at Canaan Baptist Church. The corporate life of this congregation is the faithful witness of the vitality of service to be found in the Sunday worship experience. What we do from Monday to Saturday speaks volumes about Canaan's commitment and dedication to Christ and our community.

Canaan is "family," and all of us are saved sinners working out our soul salvation under structured Body of Christ, we recognize the powerful work of the Holy Spirit in impacting the lives of our in-reach and outreach ministries. We are organized but not so organized to prevent the organism, the church, from bearing whole life. We welcome you!

Dr. Christopher Alan Bullock
First Lady Rev. Dr. Debbie Bullock
and the Canaan Baptist Church Family

Canaan's Mission Statement

An urban Baptist Church which serves as a vanguard of liberation, faith, and empowerment through our Christian witness. Canaan's mission is to do Ministry for the Master through the five-fold ministries of Discipleship, Fellowship, Service, Worship, and Evangelism.

Acts 2:42-47

Canaan's Core Values

Congregational Intimacy (I Corinthians 13:13)
Salvation for the Lost (John 3:16)
Impact the Human Condition (Luke 4:18-19)

In-Person and Online

Tune in—Canaan's Facebook Page or YouTube

To receive notifications when Canaan Baptist Church is going **"LIVE"**

"Like" and "Follow" us on the "Canaan Baptist Church of Delaware" Facebook page and "Subscribe" to our YouTube Channel Canaanbcvideo

WAYS TO GIVE

Several options to give of His Tithes and our Offerings:

1. Deposit your offering envelope in the baskets located inside the sanctuary doors
2. Drop off a sealed offering envelope on Sundays from 8:00 AM to 12:00 Noon
3. Send via U.S. Mail to:

Canaan Baptist Church
3011 New Castle Avenue New
Castle, DE 19720

4. Transfer e-funds online via PayPal www.Paypalme.com/canaanbaptistde
5. Download and use the Givelify mobile app:



Thank you for your continued and unwavering financial support of the Canaan Ministry!



Greetings from the Editor's Desk



HAPPY NEW YEAR!

I do not know what still awaits, or what the morrow brings; but with the glad salute of faith, I hail its opening wings!

For this I know—that in my Lord shall all my needs be met; And I can trust the heart of Him who has not failed me yet!

We hope you are enjoying each edition of the Canaan News. To keep abreast of all Canaan's services, events, and activities, please read this publication in its entirety as there is much going on in the life of our church and community.

In this month's issue:

- January-Month-at-a-Glance
- Church Covenant
- What Baptists Believe
- First Sunday Morning Hymn
- Church News and Announcements
- Ministry Opportunities
- Deacons Ministry
- Health Ministry
- Angel Tree Ministry
- Christian Education Ministry
- Canaan Atlanta Connection
- GriefShare
- Music and Media Ministry
- Virtual Library
- Birthdays and Anniversaries
- In Loving Memory
- Notes of Thanks
- Community Events
- From the Pastor's Desk
- Heavenly Humor

The January 2024 issue is available online on the Church website, canaanbcde.org – Click on the "Welcome" link and the "Newsletter" tab, or it can be sent via e-mail. Printed issues are available to share with family and friends. If you know of anyone who does not have e-mail or online access and would like to receive the Canaan News, send an e-mail to CanaanNews3011@gmail.com or call the Church Office at (302) 654-8818.

THANK YOU for contributing to the production of the CANAAN NEWS. Please continue donating. You can find the line item on GIVELIFY or use your offering envelope and note "Canaan News."

Have you missed any issues? Stop by or call the office at (302) 654-8818.

CELEBRATE THE SAINTS

Are you celebrating a birthday, anniversary, graduation, retirement, educational, personal, or professional achievement, accomplishment, special occasion, engagement, a new birth, an adventure, a milestone, or a recognition? Share your news with us. Photos are welcome. Please send your announcements by the 20th of each month via e-mail to: CanaanNews3011@gmail.com.

Acknowledgement
Special thanks to Bro. Derek Edwards
Photography Ministry



ORDER OF SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE

10:00 AM - Call to Worship and Prayer

Ministry in Music

Welcome of Visitors / Church Announcements

Giving of His Tithes and Our Offering

Ministry in Music

A Word from the Word

Invitation to New Life

(First Sunday—Holy Communion)

Closing Selection – "**Heal the Land**"

Benediction

Sunday, January 7, 2024, 10:00 AM
Pastor Bullock's 2024 State of the Church

FIRST SUNDAY MORNING HYMN - "GLORY TO HIS NAME"

Verse 1

Down at the cross where my Savior died
Down where for cleansing from sin I cried
There to my heart was the blood applied--Glory to His name.

Verse 2

I am so wondrously saved from sin
Jesus so sweetly abides within
There at the cross where He took me in--Glory to His name.

Verse 3

Oh, precious fountain that saves from sin
I am so glad I have entered in;
There Jesus saves me and keeps me clean--Glory to His name.

Verse 4

Come to this fountain so rich and sweet
Cast thy poor soul at the Savior's feet
Plunge in today, and be made complete--Glory to His name.

Refrain

Glory to His name, glory to His name
There to my heart was the blood applied—Glory to His name!

JANUARY



Calendar of Events

Monday, January 1	NEW YEAR'S DAY – All Offices closed	
Wednesday, January 3	Bible Study / Prayer – Hall of Faith	12:00 PM
	Bible Study (Evening) – Hall of Faith	6:30 PM
Thursday, January 4	Choir Rehearsal - Voices of Canaan	6:30 PM
Friday, January 5	Funeral Service – Bro. Reggie Lacefield	9:00 AM
Saturday, January 6	Saturday Church School	9:00 AM
1st Sunday, January 7	Worship Service-Communion / Voices of Canaan	10:00 AM
Wednesday, January 10	Bible Study / Prayer – Hall of Faith	12:00 PM
	Bible Study (Evening) – Hall of Faith	6:30 PM
Thursday, January 11	Receive Food Truck	9:00 AM
	Choir Rehearsal – Men of Canaan	6:30 PM
Friday, January 12	Sort Food Truck Items	6:00 PM
Saturday, January 13	Saturday Church School	9:00 AM
2nd Sunday, January 14	Worship Service – Men of Canaan	10:00 AM
	Dr. King Weekend Vaccination Clinic - Hall of Faith	11:30 AM
Monday, January 15	Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	
Wednesday, January 17	Bible Study / Prayer – Hall of Faith	12:00 PM
	Bible Study (Evening) – Hall of Faith	6:30 PM
Thursday, January 18	Choir Rehearsal – Voices of Canaan	6:30 PM
Friday, January 19	Funeral Service – Mr. Michael Abram	9:00 AM
Saturday, January 20	Saturday Church School	9:00 AM
	The Next G Youth Ministry Meeting – Hall of Faith	11:00 AM
3rd Sunday, January 21	Worship Service – Voices of Canaan	10:00 AM
Wednesday, January 24	Bible Study / Prayer – Hall of Faith	12:00 PM
	Bible Study (Evening) – Hall of Faith	6:30 PM
Thursday, January 25	Seniors Ministry Meeting – Hall of Faith	11:00 AM – 1:00 PM
	Choir Rehearsal – Men of Canaan	6:30 PM
Saturday, January 27	Saturday Church School	9:00 AM
	Missionary Ministry Meeting	11:00 AM
4th Sunday, January 28	Worship Service – Men of Canaan	10:00 AM
Wednesday, January 31	Bible Study / Prayer – Hall of Faith	12:00 PM
	Bible Study (Evening) – Hall of Faith	6:30 PM

What We Believe

The Articles of Faith in the Baptist Church

I. The Scriptures. We believe that the Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired, and is a perfect treasure of heavenly instruction; that it has God for its author, salvation for its end, and truth without any mixture of error for its matter; that it reveals the principles by which God will judge us, and therefore is, and shall remain to the end of the world, the true center of Christian union, and the supreme standard by which all human conduct, creeds, and opinions shall be tried.

II. The True God. We believe the Scriptures teach that there is one, and only one, living and true God, an infinite, intelligent Spirit, whose name is Jehovah, the Maker and Supreme Ruler of heaven and earth; inexpressibly glorious in holiness, and worthy of all possible honor confidence and love; that in the unity of the Godhead there are three persons, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost; equal in every divine perfection, and executing distinct but harmonious offices in the great work of redemption.

III. The Fall of Man. We believe the Scriptures teach that Man was created in holiness, under the law of his Maker; but by voluntary transgressions fell from that holy and happy state; in consequence of which all mankind are now sinners, not by constraint but choice; being by nature utterly void of that holiness required by the law of God, positively inclined to evil; and therefore under just condemnation to eternal ruin, without defense or excuse.

IV. The Way of Salvation. We believe that the Scriptures teach that the salvation of sinners is wholly of grace; through the mediatorial offices of the Son of God; who by the appointment of the Father, freely took upon him our nature, yet without sin; honored the divine law by his personal obedience, and by his death made a full atonement for our sins; that having risen from the dead, he is now enthroned in heaven; and uniting in his wonderful person the tenderest sympathies with divine perfections, he is in every way qualified to be a suitable, a compassionate, and an all-sufficient Savior.

V. Justification. We believe the Scriptures teach that the great Gospel blessing which Christ secures to such as believe in him is justification; that justification includes the pardon of sin, and the promise of eternal life on principles of righteousness; that it is bestowed, not in consideration of any works of righteousness which we have done, but solely through faith in the Redeemer's blood; by virtue of which faith his perfect righteousness is freely imputed to us of God; that it brings us into a state of most blessed peace and favor with God, and secures every other blessing needful for time and eternity.

VI. The Freeness of Salvation. We believe that the Scriptures teach that the blessings of salvation are made free to all by the Gospel; that it is the immediate duty of all to accept them by cordial, penitent and obedient faith; and that nothing prevents the salvation of the greatest sinner on earth, but his own determined depravity and voluntary rejection of the Gospel; which rejection involves him in an aggravated condemnation.

VII. Regeneration. We believe that the Scriptures teach that in order to be saved, sinners must be regenerated, or born again; that regeneration consists in giving a holy disposition to the mind that it is effected in a manner above our comprehension by the power of the Holy Spirit in connection with divine truth, so as to secure our voluntary obedience to the Gospel; and that its proper evidence appears in the holy fruits of repentance and faith, and newness of life.

VIII. Repentance and Faith. We believe the Scriptures teach that repentance and faith are sacred duties, and also inseparable graces, wrought in our souls by the regenerating Spirit of God; whereby being deeply convinced of our guilt, danger and helplessness and of the way of salvation by Christ, we turn to God with unfeigned contrition, confession, and supplication for mercy; at the same time heartily receiving the Lord Jesus Christ as our prophet, priest and king, and relying on him alone as the only and all-sufficient Savior.

IX. God's Purpose of Grace. We believe the Scriptures teach that election is the eternal purpose of God, according to which he graciously regenerates, sanctifies and saves sinners; that being perfectly consistent with the free agency of man, it comprehends all the means in connection with the end; that it is a most glorious display of God's sovereign goodness, being infinitely free, wise, holy and unchangeable; that it utterly excludes boasting and promotes humility, love, prayer, praise, trust in God, and active imitation of his free mercy; that it encourages the use of means in the highest degree; that it may be ascertained by its effects in all who truly believe the Gospel; that it is the foundation of Christian assurance; and that to ascertain it with regard to ourselves demands and deserves the utmost diligence.

X. Sanctification. We believe the Scriptures teach that Sanctification is the process by which, according to the will of God, we are made partakers of his holiness; that it is a progressive work; that it is begun in regeneration; and that it is carried on in the hearts of believers by the presence and power of the Holy Spirit, the Sealer and Comforter, in the continual use of the appointed means especially the word of God, self-examination, self-denial, watchfulness, and prayer.

XI. Perseverance of the Saints. We believe the Scriptures teach that such only are real believers as endure to the end; that their persevering attachment to Christ is the grand mark which distinguishes them from superficial professors; that a special Providence watches over their welfare; and they are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation.

XII. The Law and Gospel. We believe the Scriptures teach that the Law of God is the eternal and unchangeable rule of his moral government; that it is holy, just and good; and that the inability which the Scriptures ascribe to fallen men to fulfill its precepts, arise entirely from their love of sin; to deliver them from which, and to restore them through a Mediator to unfeigned obedience to the holy Law, is one great end of the Gospel, and of the Means of Grace connected with the establishment of the visible church.

XIII. A Gospel Church. We believe the Scriptures teach that a visible church of Christ is a congregation of baptized believers, associated by covenant in the faith and fellowship of the Gospel; observing the ordinances of Christ; governed by his laws; and exercising the gifts, rights, and privileges invested in them by His Word; that its only scriptural officers are Bishops or Pastors, and Deacons whose Qualifications, claims and duties are defined in the Epistles to Timothy and Titus.

XIV. Baptism and the Lord's Supper. We believe the Scriptures teach that Christian baptism is the immersion in water of a believer, into the name of the Father, and Son, and Holy Ghost; to show forth in a solemn and beautiful emblem, our faith in the crucified, buried, and risen Savior, with its effect, in our death to sin and resurrection to a new life; that it is prerequisite to the privileges of a church relation; and to the Lord's Supper, in which the members of the church, by the sacred use of bread and wine, are to commemorate together the dying love of Christ; preceded always by solemn self-examination.

XV. The Christian Sabbath. We believe the Scriptures teach that the first day of the week is the Lord's Day, or Christian Sabbath, and is to be kept sacred to religious purposes, by abstaining from all secular labor and sinful recreations, by the devout observance of all the means of grace, both private and public, and by preparation for that rest that remained for the people of God.

XVI. Civil Government. We believe the Scriptures teach that civil government is of divine appointment, for the interest and good order of human society; and that magistrates are to be prayed for, conscientiously honored, and obeyed; except only in things opposed to the will of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is the only Lord of the conscience, and the Prince of the Kings of the earth.

XVII. Righteous and Wicked. We believe the Scriptures teach that there is a radical and essential difference between the righteous and the wicked; that such only as through faith are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and sanctified by the Spirit of our God, are truly righteous in his esteem; while all such as continue in impenitence and unbelief are in his sight wicked, and under the curse; and this distinction holds among men both in and after death.

XVIII. The World to Come. We believe the Scriptures teach that the end of the world is approaching; that at the last day, Christ will descend from heaven, and raise the dead from the grave for final retribution; that a solemn separation will then take place; that the wicked will be adjudged to endless punishment, and the righteous to endless joy; and that this judgment will fix forever the final state of men in heaven or hell, on principles of righteousness.



Canaan is a member church of the National Baptist Convention USA Inc. and the American Baptist Churches USA.





THE CHURCH COVENANT

Having been led, as we believe by the Spirit of God, to receive the Lord Jesus Christ as our Savior; and, on the profession of our faith, having been baptized in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, we do now, in the presence of God, angels and this assembly, most solemnly and joyfully enter into covenant with one another as one body in Christ.

We engage, therefore, by the aid of the Holy Spirit, to walk together in Christian love; to strive for the advancement of this church in knowledge and holiness; to give place in our affections, prayers, and services above every organization of human origin; to sustain its worship, ordinances, discipline, and doctrines; to contribute cheerfully and regularly, as God has prospered us, toward its expenses for the support of a faithful and evangelical ministry among us, the relief of the poor, and the spread of the gospel throughout the world. In case of a difference of opinion in the church, we will strive to avoid a contentious spirit, and if we cannot unanimously agree, we will cheerfully recognize the right of the majority to govern.

We also engage to maintain family and secret devotions, to study diligently the Word of God; to religiously educate our children; to seek the salvation of our kindred and acquaintances; to walk circumspectly in the world; to be kind and just to those in our employ, and faithful in the service we promise others; endeavoring in the purity of heart and goodwill towards all men to exemplify and commend our holy faith.

We further engage to watch over, to pray for, to exhort and stir up each other unto every good word and work; to guard each other's reputation, not needlessly exposing the infirmity of others; to participate in each other's joys, and with tender sympathy, bear one another's burdens and sorrows; to cultivate Christian courtesy; to be slow to give or take offense, but always ready for reconciliation, being mindful of the rules of the Savior in the eighteenth chapter of Matthew, to secure it without delay; and through life, amid evil report, to seek to live to the glory of God, who hath called us out of darkness into His marvelous light.

We moreover engage that when we remove from this place, we will, as soon as possible, unite with some other church where we can carry out the spirit of this covenant and the principles of God's Word.

References:

Acts 2:42-47; Hebrews 10:23-25; and Titus 3:14

Turner, W.C. (2002). Discipleship for African American Christians: A Journey through the church covenant. Judson Press.

TITHING CALCULATOR

Weekly Income	10%	11%	12%	13%	14%	15%
\$100	\$10	\$11	\$12	\$13	\$14	\$15
\$150	15	16.50	18	19.50	21	22.50
\$200	20	22.00	24	26.00	28	30.00
\$250	25	27.50	30	32.50	35	37.50
\$300	30	33.00	36	39.00	42	45.00
\$350	35	38.50	42	45.50	49	52.50
\$400	40	44.00	48	52.00	56	60.00
\$450	45	49.50	54	58.50	63	67.50
\$500	50	55.00	60	65.00	70	75.00
\$550	55	60.50	66	71.50	77	82.50
\$600	60	66.00	72	78.00	84	90.00
\$650	65	71.50	78	84.50	91	97.50
\$700	70	77.00	84	91.00	98	105.00
\$750	75	82.50	90	97.50	105	112.50
\$800	80	88.00	96	104.00	112	120.00
\$850	85	93.50	102	110.50	119	127.50
\$900	90	99.00	108	117.00	126	135.00
\$950	95	104.50	114	123.50	133	142.50
\$1,000	100	110.00	120	130.00	140	150.00
\$1,050	105	115.50	126	136.50	147	157.50
\$1,100	110	121.00	132	143.00	154	165.00
\$1,150	115	126.50	138	149.50	161	172.50
\$1,200	120	132.00	144	156.00	168	180.00
\$1,250	125	137.50	150	162.50	175	187.50
\$1,300	130	143.00	156	169.00	182	195.00
\$1,350	135	148.50	162	175.50	189	202.50
\$1,400	140	154.00	168	182.00	196	210.00

The Tithing Calculator is posted to help us better understand and determine what an actual tithe (or tenth) is based on our income.

Christian disciples who obey the Word of God, tithe in response to the Lord's command, in light of the Lord's graciousness and also to ensure that Canaan has all we need to do ministry that honors the Lord, equips individuals and to build a wholesome Christian community. (Malachi 3:8-10)

If you are not yet a committed part of our "tithing community", we encourage you to prayerfully trust God today, pray and begin

surrendering your life to His will in this and every area of your life.

Let the Words of Jesus become real and evident in your life according to Matthew 6:33, "But seek ye first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well."

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." John 3:16

CHURCH NEWS

To reserve any of the church's facilities for your meetings and events and avoid date conflicts for the use of the Sanctuary, Hall of Faith, Main Conference room, Multipurpose room, or other meeting rooms, please call the church office: (302) 654-8818.

All Ministries:

Please remember to check your boxes and retrieve your mail located in the Main Conference room.

ROBOCALLS: All members are asked to lock the church's telephone number, **(302) 654-8818**, in your phones. Periodically, you will receive a robocall from the church regarding upcoming events, information, and urgent announcements. Please **DO NOT** call the church office and say, *"Someone from this number just called me."* The call will leave a voicemail message.

time to
UPDATE



Please make sure the Membership Ministry and Church Office has your current and up-to-date contact information:

- Formal Name
- Email Address
- Cell Phone Number
- Residence / Mailing Address

MEN OF CANAAN MINISTRY

Rev. Jeff Miller, Ministry Leader

MEN'S MINISTRY

CONNECT • GROW • SERVE

CALLING ALL MEN OF CANAAN!

Become the man God intended you to be!

A better man, better husband, better father!

A Disciple, a Mentor – A Man of God!

(Proverbs 27:17)

ALL MEN are invited and asked to remain after service on **Sunday, February 11, 2024**, for a very brief information session regarding the Men's Ministry!



ON THE AIR

WDEL
1150 AM and 101.7 FM Presents

Canaan On The Radio

Sundays @ 9 am

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FWS

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION MINISTRY

Rev. Dr. Anita Coleman
Dean Valerie Hill
Ministry of Christian Education

Saturday Morning Church School and Wednesday Night Bible Study



What a blessing it is to see another year! “Heavenly Father, thank you for the greatest gift – the gift of life. In 2024, help us use it wisely to grow spiritually, in wisdom, in kindness and in forgiveness, hope, faith, and love. Amen.” May your year be surrounded with the love of God that compels us to serve – *Happy New Year.*

January begins Unit II, “Learning About Faith.” These lessons allow us to learn more about faith its description, importance, trustworthiness, encouragement, and transformative properties. Join us weekly at 9:00 a.m. for continental breakfast, followed by the biblical lessons for the entire family at 9:30 a.m., concluding at 10:30 a.m.

January 2024: Unit II “Learning About Faith” Lessons at Glance

January 6th – “Faith and Righteousness” (Hebrews 11:1-4a, 7- 8, 17-18, 20-23, 32, 39-40)

Lesson 6 – This lesson provides understanding of why faith pleases God matters, and why a pleasing faith was so important to God.

January 13th – “Faith and Trust” (Proverbs 3:1-8)

Lesson 7 – This lesson admonishes us to have faith – trusting God and depending on God to enable us to live in faith.

January 20th – “Faith and Encouragement” (2 Chronicles 20:13-20)

Lesson 8 – This lesson provides examples of how God empowered Jehoshaphat’s witness to Judah that they need not fear or be dismayed

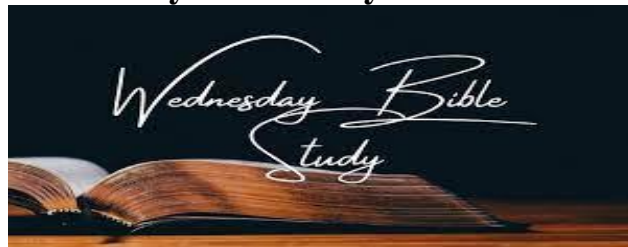
because God was going to fight their battle for them.

January 27th – “Faith and Transformation” (Romans 12:3-8)

Lesson 9 – This lesson reminds us that through faith our existence must not be conformed to the world but be transformed by the renewal of our minds.

Source: SSPD, *Sunday School Commentary: Based on the International Lesson Series* (Nashville, TN: Townsend Press, 2023).

Wednesday Bible Study



New Study Series

The Seven “I AM” Statements of Jesus

January begins an in-depth study series on the seven “I AM” statements of Jesus. Through this study, we will introduce the specific Old Testament narrative where God revealed His name to Moses: “I am who I am” (Ex. 3:14). We will then connect this Old Testament passage to the seven “I AM” statements of Jesus found in the Gospel of John. Join us weekly at noon and at 6:30 p.m. in the Hall of Faith. We have a place for the entire family!

1. I Am the Bread of Life (John 6:35)
2. I Am the Light of the World (John 8:12)
3. I Am the Door (John 10:7)
4. I Am the Good Shepherd (John 10:11, 14)
5. I Am the Resurrection and the Life (John 11:25)
6. I Am the Way, the Truth, and the Life (John 14:6)
7. I Am the True Vine (John 15:1)



“Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.” 2 Tim. 2:15

**MUSIC MINISTRY
MEDIA MINISTRY
Arvis Strickling-Jones
Minister of Music/Administration**



The Canaan Music Ministry choirs are continually open to welcome new and returning members. If you can sing, have a desire to sing, love singing good, gospel music, you'd like to experience worship and praise on another level, fellowship with other members who love to minister in song, join us!

Singing Opportunities:

- **Voices of Canaan**
- **Men of Canaan –**
Bro. Wayne Jefferson, Director
- **Family and Friends Choir/Mass Voices –**
Men, women, youth, young adults

January Rehearsal and Singing Schedule

Voices of Canaan

Rehearsal: Thursday, January 4
1st Sunday, January 7, 8:30 AM
White/Black

Men of Canaan

Rehearsal: Thursday, January 11, 6:30 PM
2nd Sunday, January 14, 8:30 AM

Voices of Canaan

Rehearsal: Thursday, January 18, 6:30 PM
3rd Sunday, January 21, 8:30 AM

Men of Canaan

Rehearsal: Thursday, January 25, 6:30 PM
4th Sunday, January 28, 8:30 AM

For more information, please contact:
Arvis Strickling-Jones:
(302) 981-4908
Email - MomArvis420@gmail.com

**ERNEST AND YOLANDA PURNELL
SENIORS MINISTRY**

Sis. Patricia Risher, Ministry Leader

Happy New Year! The Ernest and Yolanda Senior Ministry will begin onsite meetings on **Thursday, January 25, 2024, at 11:00 AM –**



1:00 PM, at Canaan Baptist Church in the Hall of Faith. This will be our first onsite meeting since COVID. During this meeting we will select officers, discuss the results of our November survey and how to implement our seniors' desires to have activities in 2024. Masks are encouraged.

Refreshments will be served. Please plan to attend and revitalize our Senior Ministry. R.S.V.P to my email: pjrisher@verizon.net or call 317-518- 9942.

Looking forward to seeing all of you.



Youth Meeting Date:

Youth Ministry (Ages 6-17)
Saturday, January 20, 2024
After Church School in the Hall of Faith

Young Adults Meeting Date:

Young Adults Ministry (Ages 18-29)
Sunday, January 21, 2024
After Morning Worship service
in the Hall of Faith

DEACONS MINISTRY

Deacon James Bonds, Ministry Leader

Baptism of Joy
Gibson-Bailey on
Sunday, December
10, 2023



Welcome

New Members

Joy Gibson-Bailey
Leslie Nkansah Bawuah
Anthony Bufford
Erie Gaines
Elaine Hunter
Louise Green
Charles Hunter
Andrea E Powell
Marchelle Folks

Hearts of Thankfulness

The Canaan Baptist Church **Substance Abuse, Evangelism and Prison Ministries** would like to thank those of you that donated clothes, food and furniture to women, men, and families in need of these items. Your acts of kindness have not gone unnoticed. You all are true testaments of God's Word. Isaiah 58:10 reads: "Feed the hungry and help those in trouble. Then your light will shine out from the darkness, and the darkness around you will be as bright as noon." Your light shines within the hearts of many due to your generosity towards others. May God continue to bless you with His love and compassion. From the leaders, team members and those on the receiving end - Have a safe and Happy New Year!

Rev. Vickie Gaines

CANAAN – ATLANTA CONNECTION

Sis. Lynnette Hudson



Let's have some fun learning more about the Bible. Every month, we will provide a "Did You Know" and a few bible trivia questions. The answers will be provided the following month. These questions will allow you to learn more about the Bible

and help us all grow in our faith and walk with Jesus.

Did You Know: God once gave Moses leprosy for a short time (Exodus 4:6-7)

Bible Trivia:

How well did you do with December's Bible Trivia? Below are the questions and answers:

1. Which group of three entities is typically described as making up the Christian Trinity?
Father, Son, Holy Spirit
2. What did Moses do to make the bitter waters of Marah drinkable?
He threw a piece of wood in the water (Exodus 15 :23-25)
3. What were the first two signs that God had shown Jeremiah?
The almond tree and the boiling pot. (Jeremiah 1: 11-13)
4. In the Book of Romans, to which two groups of people did the Apostle Paul say he was a debtor?
Greeks and Barbarians (Romans 1:14)
5. What Old Testament prophet predicted the virgin birth of Christ?
Isaiah (Isaiah 7:14)
6. How many people were there aboard Noah's ark?
Eight people were aboard the ark (1 Peter 3:20)

February Bible Trivia:

1. Who was the first woman to ask The Lord for help?
2. The Holy Spirit took the form of what bird at Jesus' baptism?
3. Who was directed by an angel to go see the baby Jesus?
4. What elderly man laughed at God's promise that he would father a child in his old age?
5. Who ripped a lion apart with his bare hands?
6. Who told the people of Israel to choose wise, understanding and respected men to lead them?

REGENA MANLEY MISSIONARY MINISTRY Dr. Sandi Hicks, Ministry Leader



Missionaries prepared breakfast and served the residents of Ronald McDonald House on December 30, 2023.

HEALTH MINISTRY

Sis. Janice Grant, LP, Ministry Leader

NEW COVID HEALTH ADVISORY

Everyone is advised to wear a mask because the new COVID-Omicron XBB variant coronavirus is different, deadly, and not easily detected properly.

Symptoms of the XBB virus are as follows: No cough, No fever.

There will only be joint pain, headache, neck pain, upper back pain, pneumonia, and general loss of appetite.

XBB is 5 times more toxic than the Delta variant and has a higher mortality rate. It takes a shorter time for the condition to reach extreme severity, and sometimes there are no obvious symptoms. This strain of the virus is not found in the nasopharyngeal region (head and neck), and it directly affects the lungs, the "windows," for a relatively short period of time. Nasal swab tests are generally negative for COVID-Omicron XBB, and false-negative cases of nasopharyngeal tests are increasing. This means the virus can spread in the community and directly infect lungs, leading to viral pneumonia, which in turn causes acute respiratory stress. XBB has become highly contagious, highly virulent, and lethal.

Avoid crowded places, keep a distance of 1.5m (5 feet.) even in open spaces, wear a double-layer mask, wear a suitable mask, wash hands frequently even when everyone is asymptomatic (no coughing or sneezing). Don't keep this information to yourself; share as much as possible with other relatives and friends, especially yours.





CHURCH LIBRARY

"Love the Lord your God with all your mind."

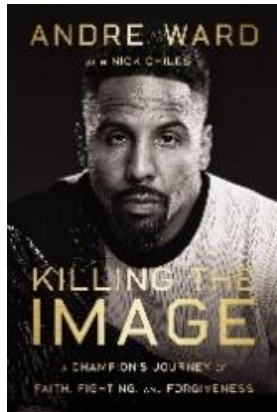


Deacon-In-Training
Alix Jefferson
Virtual Librarian

Killing the Image: A Champion's Journey of Faith, Fighting, and Forgiveness

by Andre Ward

Andre Ward was the undefeated light heavyweight boxing champion of the world when he walked away from the ring and did not



look back. Now that he has taken off his gloves for the final time, the Olympic gold medalist is ready to share the heartbreaking and uplifting stories of his formative years and unprecedented boxing career. Motivational, faith-building, and utterly compelling, this memoir

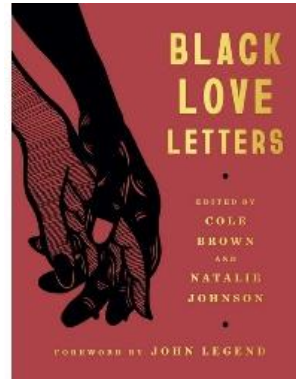
offers:

- an inspiring story of overcoming a broken childhood
- behind-the-scenes drama from Andre's epic championship bouts, complicated relationships with managers and promoters, and shocking decision to retire at the top of his game
- insight into breaking destructive generational bonds, forgiving those who have hurt us, and moving toward hope
- a challenge to live out our faith without compromise

Rich with colorful characters, fascinating detail, and biblical truths, this is the story of a man known for his integrity outside the ring, his warrior's instinct inside it, and his unrelenting bond with the God who called him to the greatest victory of all.

Black Love Letters

by Cole Brown and Natalie Johnson

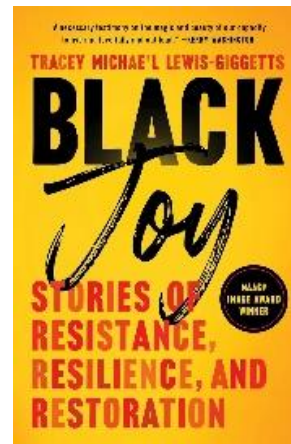


From celebrated Black writers, creators, and thinkers—and with a foreword by John Legend—comes a collection of letters and original illustrations on the subject of Black love, a powerful and heartfelt celebration of Blackness in all its many forms.

In this exquisite anthology of letters and illustrations, Cole Brown and Natalie Johnson bring together a constellation of influential Black figures to write to the people, places, and moments that mean the most to them. With a foreword from John Legend and contributions from Brontez Purnell, Morgan Jerkins, Reverend Al Sharpton, and Dr. Imani Perry, among many others, *Black Love Letters* is an ode to a phenomenal community: a testament to the fact that where there has been pain and suffering, there has also always been immeasurable, irrepressible joy and love.

Black Joy: Stories of Resistance, Resilience, and Restoration

by Tracey M. Lewis-Giggetts



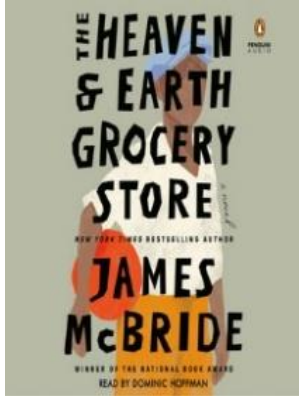
When Tracey M. Lewis-Giggetts wrote an essay on Black joy for *The Washington Post*, she had no idea just how deeply it would resonate. But the outpouring of positive responses affirmed her own lived experience: that Black joy is not just a weapon of resistance, it is a tool for resilience.

With this book, Tracey aims to gift her community with a collection of lyrical essays about the way joy has evolved, even in the midst of trauma, in her own life. Detailing these instances of joy in the context of Black culture allows us to recognize the power of Black joy as

a resource to draw upon, and to challenge the one-note narratives of Black life as solely comprised of trauma and hardship.

International Cultural Ministry
Sis. Jennifer Grace-Umoete, Ministry Leader

The Heaven & Earth Grocery Store: A Novel
by James McBride



In 1972, when workers in Pottstown, Pennsylvania, were digging the foundations for a new development, the last thing they expected to find was a skeleton at the bottom of a well. Who the skeleton was and how it got there were two of the long-held secrets

kept by the residents of Chicken Hill, the dilapidated neighborhood where immigrant Jews and African Americans lived side by side and shared ambitions and sorrows. Chicken Hill was where Moshe and Chona Ludlow lived when Moshe integrated his theater and where Chona ran the Heaven & Earth Grocery Store. When the state came looking for a deaf boy to institutionalize him, it was Chona and Nate Timblin, the Black janitor at Moshe's theater and the unofficial leader of the Black community on Chicken Hill, who worked together to keep the boy safe.

As these characters' stories overlap and deepen, it becomes clear how much the people who live on the margins of white, Christian America struggle and what they must do to survive. When the truth is finally revealed about what happened on Chicken Hill and the part the town's white establishment played in it, McBride shows us that even in dark times, it is love and community—heaven and earth—that sustain us.

Kwanza 2023 Celebration



DEACON DONALD J. BOWMAN ANGEL TREE MINISTRY –

Dr. Nakishia W. Bailey, Ministry Leader

On behalf of the Deacon Donald J. Bowman, Sr. (DDJB) Angel Tree Ministry I would like to say thank you! This year in partnership with the Bullock Food Pantry we were able to serve ALL our assigned ANGELS (160) and had an overflow to serve over one hundred in the community. This major effort was not by happenstance or coincidence. Please allow me to formally thank all that assisted and all our community partnerships.



First, I thank GOD for being the head of my life and being the head of this Ministry. Thank you, Pastor Bullock, for the opportunity to lead this effort and community outreach. I also honor the memory of the late Deacon Donald J. Bowman, Sr., and the late Carolyn Bowman. Thank you to the Bowman family that donated \$4,000 in their memory towards the DDJB Angel Tree Ministry. This is my favorite ministry and yet the hardest for me to work on! I miss my father (Wilson Williams, Jr. – WW) daily, but I miss him the most during Angel Tree. We worked on this effort side by side!

Secondly, I want to thank ALL our volunteers and community partners!

- Dot Foods, Inc. – Provided \$6,000 of Food for Food Baskets and \$5,000 in Toys and provided two (2) staff members to shop and deliver toys.
- US Marines Toys for Tots – Provided 400 Toys
- The Butterfly Effect Training Studio (Walter and Tracy Sellers) – Held a Toy Drive and provided one hundred Toys.
- Canaan College Kids – Madison Perry, Paisley Crocker, and Alexis Lee Bailey
- Delaware Probation and Parole – Provides Volunteers
- Kenny Family Foundation (ShopRite 501c3) – Provides Bags for Food Baskets
- Mr. and Mrs. William (Bill) and Sheena Temple – Provide the Angel Tree and Decorations
- Walmart/Gabes/Target – Discounted Toy Purchases
- Food Bank of Delaware – Provided 400 Turkeys, Sides, and \$20,000 worth of Food.
- DDJB Angel Tree Ministry – Tim and Alice Munson, Deacon Shebra Stafford, Missionary Debra Easter-Hackett, David Bailey, Katrina Brown, Anita Hester- Crocker
- Security Ministry – Led by Deacon-In-Training Correy Brown
- Sextons – Deacon Mike Jones, Deacon Robert Rivers, and Deacon Victor Moody (Asst. Leader – Bullock Food Pantry)
- Forum for Advancement of Engineers (FAME) – Volunteers
- Deb Piner – answering and fielding all the donation requests through the office.
- Canaan Volunteers – Thank you for coming out on Thursday to receive the food truck and sort the food, Friday to assemble the food baskets and sort toys, and Sunday for assisting with food and toy distribution!

Finally, all of you make this effort seem effortless, and I thank you for always willing to assist Canaan as we serve the least of these"! God bless you ALL! Let us do it again in December 2024!



Canaan Baptist Church Deacons Ministry blesses the Seniors during the Christmas Season.





Julie White
January 1



Deacon James Bonds
January 2



Rev. Dr. Christopher Alan Bullock
January 7



Sabrina Boyd-Ross – January 2
Gladys Boyd – January 4



Frances Roane Smith
90 Years – January 3



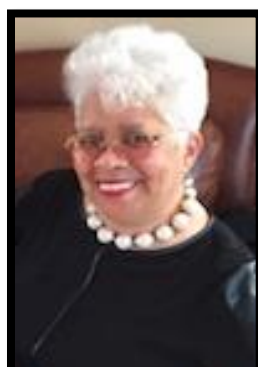
Rev. Valerie Scott
January 3



Rev. Dr.
Anita Coleman
January 3



Elaine Jefferson
January 3



Emma Reynolds
January 4



Carol Amos
January 5



Deacon-In-Training
Anita Hawkes
January 6



Dinah Screven
January 5



Alan Hicks
January 8



Darlene Perry
January 14



Elder Juneta Dutch
January 10



Leslie Purifoy
January 15



Derek Edwards
January 18



Carrie Hunt – January 26
Ceola Coles – January 27
Troy Lopez – January 29



Dr. Kim Allen
January 21



Jay Jackson
January 30



Lois R. Walley
January 31





We regret to inform you of the passing of **Bro.**

Reggie Lacefield, age 78, on Sunday, December 17, 2023. He is the husband of Sis. Sandra "Sandy" Lacefield and cousin of Bro. Levi Coates, members of Canaan. Funeral services will be held on **Friday, January 5, 2024**, at the Canaan Baptist Church. Viewing: 9:00 AM;



Services: 11:00 AM. Interment at Silverbrook Cemetery and a repast will follow in the Hall of Faith. Cards and condolences can be sent to: Sis. Sandy Lacefield, 674 Old Schoolhouse Road, Middletown, DE 19709



A member of our Greeters Ministry, **Sis. Kimbali "Kim" Ghrael Davis**, age 59, passed away on Sunday, December 17, 2023. She is the mother of Sis. Keirah Davis-Ghrael, also a member

of Canaan. Cards and condolences may be sent to: Ms. Keirah Davis-Ghrael, c/o Canaan Baptist Church, 3011 New Castle Avenue, New Castle, DE 19720.

Alice Y. Holmes, age 78, passed away on Tuesday, December 12, 2023. She is the sister of Sis. Mary Susie Stewart (Charles), the late Bro. Howard (Julia) Gross, and aunt of Sis. Francine Stewart, all members of Canaan. Cards and condolences may be sent to: Ms. Mary Stewart, 40 Saratoga Drive, New Castle, DE 19720; and Sis. Francine Stewart, 801 N. Jackson Street, Wilmington, DE 19806.

Former member, **Sis. Lois Easterling**, age 81, passed away in Florida on December 1, 2023. She is the cousin of Sis. Sandra Turner, member of Canaan. Cards and condolences may be sent to: Sis. Sandra Turner, 1800 N. DuPont Street, Unit 905, Wilmington, DE 19806.

Mr. Michael Abram, age 57, passed away. He is the husband of **our member, Sis. Connie Abram**, son of **Sis. Janie Abram**, brother of **Bro. Anthony Abram**, brother-in-law of **Sis. Melanie Abram**, uncle to **Sequina and Josiah Rice**, and cousin of **Sis. Toya, Madison** and **Larry Perry**, all members of Canaan. Funeral services will be held Friday, January 19, 2024, viewing: 9:00 AM, Service at 11:00 AM, Interment is private. A Repast will follow the service in the Hall of Faith. Services entrusted to House of Wright Funeral Services. Cards and condolences can be sent to: Mrs. Connie Abram, 215 Werden Drive, New Castle, DE 19720.



Pastor Bullock, the Deacons and my Canaan Church Family, Thank you so much for the generous Christmas blessing. May God continue to bless you all.

Louise Dancy

Pastor Bullock, Mr. and Mrs. Jones, Mrs. Debra, Rev. Walter Brown and Canaan Staff, thank you all for the love, support and kindness shown during the bereavement of my mother, Bonita Ryder. I truly appreciate you all. With Love,
Sabrina Veney

Praise the Lord! To Pastor Bullock, the Deacons Ministry and my Canaan Baptist Church Family, greetings from Sacramento, California! I wish to thank you all for the generous Christmas gift I received. Know that I love you all and pray God's blessings upon each of you. With much love,

Mother Ann Strickling

I wish to thank Pastor Christopher Alan Bullock and all of the Deacons for your kindness and thoughtfulness for the Christmas gift. It meant so much to me to be so kindly thought of. May God forever bless all of you.

Sis. Joyce Bantum

To Pastor Bullock, Deacon Bonds and Deacons Ministry, many thanks for the monetary blessing at Christmas. May God continue to bless each one of you. Sincere thanks!

James Gourdine

Dear Dr Arvis Strickling-Jones and the Canaan News Ministry,

Thank you all for your work on The December Edition and all previous editions. I enjoyed all the announcements, prayers, new books, the laughs, and everything in between. I especially enjoyed reading "From the Pastor's Desk." The achievements these students made while incarcerated earning their bachelor's degrees at Northwestern University were phenomenal. I pray that this practice takes place throughout our country. Also sharing information about investing for retirement was such a great resource. Knowing what you need to sustain life after retirement is something that is so important to do while working. Last month I was looking for some information and I called the church. Dr. Arvis responded to my request "it's in the Newsletter". I realized that I get the newsletter digitally, so I usually skim through it. I realized how valuable this monthly newsletter is, so I picked up the hard copy and gained a wealth of insightful information. Thank you, thank you, thank you!

Judy Sullivan

To Pastor Bullock, First Lady Bullock, and my Canaan Family, thank you for your prayers, calls, cards, and other acts of kindness shared during the passing of my niece Brenda Brannam. I appreciate all of you, and please continuously pray for my family, especially during this holiday season. God bless.

Sis. Lillie Vance and Family

**HAVE YOU
TALKED
TO GOD
TODAY?**



Mother Caroline Congo

Sis. Olistine Davis

Ms. Sherry Douglas

Sis. Marchelle Folks

Sis. Nettie Gates

Bro. Michael Harris

Deacon Mary Hegazy

Mr. Julius Hicks

Sis. Dorothy Jackson

Sis. Louise Jamison

Sis. Ekkgie McClain

Mother Blanche Moore

Sis. Jean Nichols

Sis. Marche Norris

Deacon Gene Royal

Sis. Ida Sadler

Bro. Charles Stewart

Sis. Carolyn Williams

Mother Catherine Wilson

In the event of the death of a Canaan member or family member, please call:

The Church Office - (302) 654-8818

Pastor Bullock - (302) 654-8240

Deacon James Bonds

(484) 678-2276

E-mail james007sbonds@gmail.com

God 
Answers
Prayers

Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
Day of Service





Monday
 Jan. 15th
 11:00 am
 3:00 pm

Sign Up Today
 Contact 302.354.9570
 Scan QR Code or Use Link

DONATE | VOLUNTEER | SUPPORT
THE HOPE CENTER

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NCCHopeCenter8>

Community Partners

Please join the Pastor at the New Castle County Hope Center on Monday, January 15, 2024, 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM, for the 4th Annual Dr. King, Jr. Day of Service. This is an opportunity to Honor Dr. King's message and legacy.

You can also make a donation to the Hope Center through their donation list at <https://www.newcastlede.gov/2156/Hope-Center> or order from their Amazon Wishlist at <https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/7B72ZCB6UR36...>


You can sign up to volunteer at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NCCHopeCenter8>


We will need: volunteers to receive donations, serve meals, and clean up. Please contact Dr. Nakishia W. Bailey, Director of Community Outreach at (302) 354-9570, scan QR Code or use link on flyer.


LOOKING TO CLEAR YOUR RECORD?


Join us at the
**CLEAN SLATE
 DELAWARE
 EXPUNGEMENT
 CLINIC**


Presented by the Delaware State Bar Association

 **Monday, January 15, 2024**

 **10:00 AM - 1:30 PM**

 **Chase Center on the Riverfront
 815 Justison Street
 Wilmington, DE 19801**

 Pre-resignation is strongly encouraged but walk-in services will be available.
<https://forms.gle/v2WWdjZJUtf3rkjh9>



For any questions, please reach out to ODS Client Services Program Coordinator Maria Whiting at mariac.whiting@delaware.gov or 302-688-4560.

**Beyond Adverse Childhood
Experiences Ministry**

Richard S. Carter, Ed.D., Co-Leader



“Three more!”, my friend encouraged. “I’m done”, I wearily replied. I was exhausted and found no glory in hoisting iron for more repetitions. To my surprise, I noticed that my body was also “talking” and thrice more I pushed the bar. This moment resonates

as it exemplifies the reality that our minds have minds of their own.

We have all had arguments. I was having words with someone when I realized that I was actually alone in my kitchen (washing dishes, no less). You see, I anticipated seeing an individual, later that day, with whom I had an issue. My mind had taken me away from the sink and I was “in my head” in that anticipated encounter.

How may we stay present? The Bible tells us in Isaiah 23:3 (NIV): “You keep in perfect peace those whose minds are steadfast because they trust in you.” How are we to hear the The Holy Spirit if our powerful minds are so susceptible to internal distraction?

First, we may thank God when we realize that we are preoccupied. Second, we may simply shift our focus to the breath. Job 23: 4 (NIV) reads: “The Spirit of God has made me; the breath of the Almighty gives me life.”

I count my breaths when I need to focus and get back to “right now”. I also add my steps or closely observe objects in front of me. From Canaan’s choir loft, I have calculated ceiling lights and windowpanes to slow my mind down.

Third, once we return to the present, we may target excellence! Philippians 4:8 (NIV): “Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is

pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable - if anything is excellent or praiseworthy - think about such things.” We fill the recently cleared spaces with worthy frameworks.

Joyful Now and Happy New Year to All!

**ACTIONS FOR THE NEW
YEAR**

If You will practice the following actions during the next 365 days, you are certain to have a happy new year.

Help others.

Admit it when you are wrong.

Promote Christ at every opportunity.

Present yourself in the best way possible to serve as an example for others.

Yield not to temptation.

Never think an unkind thought of others.

Endeavor to work harder for the Lord.

Weed out your bad habits with God’s help.

Yearn and pray for peace.

Earnestly desire a stronger relationship with Christ.

Attend church regularly.

Resolve to give your all for Christ and His church.



Please read this month's section of local, state, and national news articles from various sources for information, knowledge, empowerment and your reading pleasure.

Pastor Bullock attended the 2023 Conference of National Black Churches, December 13-14, in Orlando, Florida. The theme conference was "Coming Out of Darkness, Finding Light: The Black Church Responding to The Continuing Pain of The Pandemic".



"The mission of the conference of National Black Churches (CNBC) is to serve as a united voice of Black religious bodies that seek to improve the quality of life for African Americans. We channel our unique voice of faith into advocacy efforts in the key areas of health, social justice, public policy, economic empowerment, anti-violence, and education on behalf of African Americans and other communities of color. The member denominations include African Methodist Episcopal Church, African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church, Christian Methodist Episcopal



Church, Church of God in Christ, National Baptist Convention USA, Inc. and the Progressive National Baptist Convention."

Pastor Bullock shares a moment with his friend, Civil Rights Attorney Benjamin Crump and National Action Network leader, Rev. Al Sharpton.

A brief history of the Black church's diversity, and its vital role in American political history

Published: February 3, 2023, 8:31am EST



The exterior view of the Bethel African American Methodist Episcopal Church at 125 S. 6th Street in Philadelphia. Breton, William L., circa 1773-1855 Artist via the Library of Congress, World Digital Library

With religious affiliation on the decline, continuing racism and increasing income inequality, some scholars and activists are soul-searching about the Black church's role in today's United States.

For instance, on April 20, 2010, an African American Studies professor at Princeton, Eddie S. Glaude, sparked an online debate by provocatively declaring that, despite the existence of many African American churches, "the Black Church, as we've known it or imagined it, is dead." As he argued, the image of the Black church as a center for Black life and as a beacon of social and moral transformation had disappeared.

Scholars of African American religion responded to Glaude by stating that the image of the Black church as the moral conscience of the United States has always been a complicated matter. As historian Anthea Butler argued, "The Black Church may be dead in its incarnation as agent of change, but as the imagined home of all things black and Christian, it is alive and well."

As a scholar of Christian theology and African American religion, I'm aware of this long history of the Black church and its contribution to American politics. Its story began in the 15th and 16th centuries, when European empires authorized the capture, auction and enslavement of various peoples from across the coast of Western and Central Africa.

Origins of African American Christianity

As millions were transported through the "Middle Passage" to the Americas, Europeans forcefully baptized the enslaved into the Christian faith despite many of them adhering to traditional African religious systems and Islam. European slave traders dismissed Africans as "heathenish" to justify their enslavement of Africans and the coercive proselytization to Christianity.

In the 1600s, British missionaries traveled throughout the American Colonies to convert enslaved Africans and the Indigenous peoples of the continent. Originally, however, white slaveholders were hesitant to convert enslaved

Africans to Christianity because they feared that Christian baptism would lead to the enslaved Africans' freedom, causing both economic ruin and social upheaval. They widely supposed that British laws mandated the freedom of all baptized Christians, and thus white slaveholders initially refused to grant missionaries permission to instruct enslaved Africans into the Christian faith.

By 1706, six Colonies had passed laws that declared that Africans' Christian status did not alter their social condition as slaves. Consequently, missionaries created "slave catechisms," modified religious instruction manuals that instructed enslaved Africans about Christianity while reinforcing their enslavement.

Over time, evangelical Protestant groups followed suit in their proselytization of the enslaved community, most notably during the First and Second Great Awakenings, the Protestant religious revivals that swept across the American nation in the mid-18th and early 19th centuries.

Denominations that form the Black church

Both during and after the end of slavery, African Americans began to establish their own congregations, parishes, fellowships, associations and later denominations. Black Baptists founded first the National Baptist Convention USA, in 1895, the largest Black Protestant denomination in the United States. The National Baptist Convention of America International and the Progressive National Baptist Convention were founded years later.

The first independent Black denomination, the African Methodist Episcopal Church, which was formalized in 1816, grew out of the Free African Society founded by Richard Allen, a former enslaved man and Methodist minister, in the city of Philadelphia in 1787. Allen and his colleague Absalom Jones walked out of St. George's Methodist Episcopal Church after white members demanded that Allen and Jones, who had been kneeling in prayer, leave the ground floor and go to the upper balcony, which was designated for Black worshippers.

Other Black Methodists founded two other denominations – the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church in 1821 and the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church in 1870. The Church of God in Christ, the largest Black Pentecostal denomination in the United States, was founded by Charles Harrison Mason, a former Baptist minister, in 1897 and incorporated in 1907.

Other Black Christians belong to mainline Protestant denominations. Additionally, there are 3 million Black Roman Catholics in the United States, and a smaller number of African Americans who attend Eastern Orthodox churches. Moreover, a number of African Americans belong to independent nondenominational congregations, while others belong to white conservative evangelical, Pentecostal, and charismatic churches.

Contributions to American politics

The Black church has played a vital role in the shaping of American political history. African American churches provided spaces for not only spiritual formation but also political activism. Black churches were spaces where slave abolitionism was envisioned, and insurrections were planned. Black preachers such as Denmark Vesey and Nat Turner were actively involved in attempted and successful slave insurrections in the South



Ida B. Wells organized and led Bible study classes for young Black men. (Library of Congress) During the Reconstruction era, the African Methodist Episcopal Bishop Henry McNeal Turner served as one of the first African American legislators for the state of Georgia. Turner was famous for his scathing critiques of American Christianity and the nation at large. Ida B. Wells was an investigative journalist and educator who wrote extensive accounts of the lynchings of Black people in the South, fought against Jim Crow policies, and advocated for Black women's right to vote. An active churchgoer, Wells also organized and led

Bible study classes for young Black men at Grace Presbyterian Church, a predominantly Black church founded in 1888 in the city of Chicago.

Many Black Christians participated in the Civil Rights movement, including Bayard Rustin, an openly gay Quaker, who was instrumental in organizing the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom on August 28, 1963. Despite his contributions to advancing Black people's freedom, Rustin was pushed to the background by his peers because of his homosexuality.-- Pauli Murray, the first Black woman to be ordained in the Episcopal Church, was a lawyer, legal scholar, civil rights and gender equality advocate and poet. Murray compiled an extensive collection of laws and ordinances that mandated racial segregation and wrote extensively on women's rights.

An influential institution

The Black church is far from monolithic. Its members hold different theological positions and hail from diverse socioeconomic backgrounds, education levels and political affiliations.

Some African American Christians did not participate in efforts to end racial segregation, fearing violent backlash from white people. Today, Black Christians are divided over other social justice issues, such as whether to support LGBTQ equality. Nevertheless, African American Christians have drawn insights from their experience of enduring racism and their Christian faith to contest racial subjugation and advocate for their freedom and human dignity.

Despite the rise of the religiously unaffiliated or "Nones" within the African American community, the Black church, I believe, continues to be an influential institution.

<https://theconversation.com/a-brief-history-of-the-black-churchs-diversity-and-its-vital-role-in-american-political>

THOUGHTS FOR THE MONTH AND HEAVENLY HUMOR

Ponder how valuable your soul must be for Satan to tirelessly pursue it, and the King to lay down his own life for it.

Before you hold a grudge - hold a conversation. It may be a result of a misunderstanding

IF YOU THINK YOU'VE BLOWN GOD'S PLAN FOR YOUR LIFE, REST IN THIS. YOU, MY BEAUTIFUL FRIEND, ARE NOT THAT POWERFUL.



When I look in the mirror and see gray hair, tiny wrinkles, and dimming eyes I think, "They sure don't make mirrors like they used to."

The youth may move and walk faster, but it's the Elders who know the road.

Accept Nothing Less than Jesus!

Be satisfied with nothing less than the Lord Jesus abiding in your life.

He is the Light of the World.
He is the Life of the World.
He is your Savior,
your Lord, and
your Friend.

He has promised to come to you
and abide with you.

Then accept nothing less than
Jesus in your life.
Invite Him into your heart.
Embrace Him.
Talk often with your Friend, and

His Light Will Fill Your Life!

When you Pray,
God Listens
When you Listen,
God Talks
When You Believe,
God Works

Bullock Food Pantry January Days of Service

Thursday, Jan. 11, 2024 9am – 12pm
Receive Food Truck

Friday, Jan, 12, 2024 6pm – 9pm
Ministry Meeting, Sort Food, and Organize Pantry



An Opportunity to Honor Dr. King's
message and legacy ...

Canaan Baptist Church
Rev. Dr. Christopher A. Bullock, Pastor
3011 New Castle Avenue | New Castle, DE 19720
www.CANAANbcde.org | 302-654-8818

VACCINE & HEALTH EDUCATION CLINIC

SUNDAY, JAN. 14, 2024
11:30 AM
(IMMEDIATELY AFTER SERVICE)

COVID AND FLU VACCINES FOR ALL AGES
RSV VACCINE FOR 60 AND UP

LIGHT REFRESHMENTS & DOOR PRIZES

PLEASE BRING ID AND INSURANCE CARD



Delaware Health Equity Coalition
Restoring Trust in Healthcare

