

# Good News

Macedonia Baptist Church

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A monthly publication for Members of Macedonia Baptist Church

Rev. Charles D. Twymon, Pastor

Volume 18 Issue 2

February 2020



Black History Month is an annual celebration of achievements by black Americans and a time for recognizing the central role of African Americans in U.S. history. The event grew out of "Negro History Week," the brain-child of noted historian Carter G. Woodson and other prominent African Americans. Since 1976, every U.S. president has officially designated the month of February as Black History Month. Other countries around the world, including Canada and the United Kingdom, also devote a month to celebrating black history.

The theme for 2020 focuses on **African Americans and the Vote**. This year marks the centennial of the Nineteenth Amendment and the culmination of the women's suffrage movement. The year 2020 also marks the sesquicentennial of the Fifteenth Amendment (1870) and the right of black men to the ballot after the Civil War. The theme speaks, therefore, to the ongoing struggle on the part of both black men and black women for the right to vote. This theme has a rich and long history, which begins at the turn of the nineteenth century, i.e., in the era of the Early Republic, with the states' passage of laws

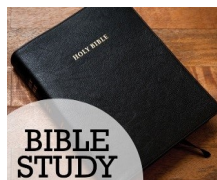
that democratized the vote for white men while disfranchising free black men. Thus, even before the Civil War, black men petitioned their legislatures and the US Congress, seeking to be recognized as voters. Tensions between abolitionists and women's suffragists first surfaced in the aftermath of the Civil War, while black disfranchisement laws in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries undermined the guarantees in the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendments for the great majority of southern blacks until the Voting Rights Act of 1965. The important contribution of black suffragists occurred not only within the larger women's movement, but within the larger black voting rights movement. Through voting-rights campaigns and legal suits from the turn of the twentieth century to the mid-1960s, African Americans made their voices heard as to the importance of the vote. Indeed the fight for black voting rights continues in the courts today. The theme of the vote should also include the rise of black elected and appointed officials at the local and national levels, campaigns for equal rights legislation, as well as the role of blacks in traditional and alternative political parties.

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# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## BIBLE STUDY



The Pastor's Wednesday afternoon and evening Bible Study Classes are held at 1:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. All members and guests are encouraged to attend.

CELEBRATING  
1920 **100TH** 2020  
Church Anniversary

### 100<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY SOUVENIR JOURNAL "One Hundred Years...A Great Start"

In recognition of our 100th Anniversary, we would like to extend to you the opportunity to celebrate our past with us by purchasing an advertisement in our Anniversary Souvenir Journal. Whether you want to say Congratulations to our church, our pastor, or recognize a loved one, we would appreciate your support of this momentous occasion. Please see the ad prices below. The deadline is May 1, 2020. If you need additional information, contact Dorothy Stephens at 313-835-6997 or the Macedonia Baptist Church office at 313-837-5040.

We thank you in advance for your support and look forward to your participation in this historic occasion with the Macedonia Baptist Church family as we joyously "Start" our second 100 years' journey with the LORD! Make check or money order payable to Macedonia Baptist Church, Attn: Souvenir Journal Committee, 14221 Southfield Rd., Detroit, MI 48223

Full Page	\$225.00	Individual Name	\$15.00
Half Page	\$135.00	Mr. & Mrs.	\$25.00
Quarter Page	\$60.00	Family (up to 4 names)	\$30.00
Eighth Page	\$30.00		



### 40<sup>th</sup> Pastoral Anniversary Honoring Charles D. Twymon

**M**acedonia, we are approaching a very special time of the year in which we honor our pastor. During the month of March, we will honor Pastor Twymon's 40th anniversary as the shepherd of Macedonia.

On behalf of the Pastoral Anniversary Committee, we are asking that each member show their love and appreciation by giving a \$150.00 love offering and each ministry is asked to give \$250.00. We believe that God blesses a church that honors and blesses their pastor. We are truly blessed to have a pastor who has stayed committed to doing the work of the Lord and leading this church. Our goal is to present our pastor with \$40,000 (\$1,000 for each year of service), for his dedication and service to God and this church for 40 years. This is a special time for us to commit to being a blessing to our pastor and first lady and showing our love and appreciation for how his ministry has been a blessing to this church.







Envelopes are available and can be obtained from the ushers.

## SERMONS

CDs and DVDs are available through the Audio Ministry. Visit [www.mbcdet.com/media](http://www.mbcdet.com/media) or via the **MBCDET app** to listen to archived sermons.



**Pastor Charles D. Twymon**

-  January 5, 2020, 8:00 and 11:00 a.m.  
**"A Good Start"**  
 Philippians 1:3-6  
 Pastor Charles Twymon
-  January 12, 2020, 8:00 and 11:00 a.m.  
**"The God of All Grace"**  
 1 Peter 5:10-11  
 Pastor Charles Twymon
-  January 19, 2020, 8:00 and 11:00 a.m.  
**"A Willing Servant,"** Isaiah 6:6-8  
 Pastor Charles Twymon
-  January 26, 2020, 8:00 a.m.  
**"Going Through The Doors of Life"**  
 Psalm 118:25-32  
 Rev. Eric Shumate
-  January 26, 2020, 11:00 a.m.  
**"Finally Broken,"** Genesis 32:24-28  
 Rev. Ronald Davis
-  January 26, 2020, 4:00 p.m.  
**"The Power of A Praying Church"**  
 Acts 12:1-9 & Matthew 16:18  
 Rev. Wayne Bradford Little, Pastor  
 Corinthian Baptist Church  
 Hamtramck, MI 48212

## NEW MEMBERS

We welcome our new members who joined in January.



**KENNETH COOKSEY**  
**KENNIEYAH COOKSEY**  
**THERON FLOURNOY**  
**YOLANDA MARSHALL**  
**BRIAN MONTGOMERY JR.**  
**CALEB MONTGOMERY**  
**CALEM MONTGOMERY**  
**BRANDON SMITH**  
**DEAJA SPICER**

The **New Members Orientation Class** meets on the **2nd, 3rd and 4th Sundays** at **9:30 a.m.** on the second floor in the **Upper Room.**

## 1920 Remember When...

**January:** Walt Disney starts first job as an artist; earning \$40 a week with the Kansas City Slide Co.

**February:** Robert Peary, credited with discovering the North Pole, dies at the age of 64.



# AFRICAN AMERICANS AND THE VOTE

Submitted by Newsletter Staff

**1866**-Civil Rights Act of 1866 grants citizenship, but not the right to vote, to all native-born Americans.

**1869**-Congress passes the Fifteenth Amendment giving African American men the right to vote.

In **1870**, the 15th Amendment was ratified. It stated that, "The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude."

More than a half-million black men became voters in the South during the 1870s (women did not secure the right to vote in the United States until 1920). For the most part, these new black voters cast their ballots solidly for the Republican Party, the party of the Great Emancipator, Abraham Lincoln.

The Republican-controlled state governments in the South were hardly perfect. Many citizens complained about overtaxation and outright corruption. But these governments brought about significant improvements in the lives of the former slaves. For the first time, black men and women enjoyed freedom of speech and movement, the right of a fair trial, education for their children, and all the other privileges and protections of American citizenship. But all this changed when Reconstruction ended in 1877 and federal troops withdrew from the old Confederacy.

**1896**-Louisiana passes "grandfather clauses" which allowed registering anyone whose grandfather was qualified to vote before the Civil War. Obviously, this benefited only white citizens and kept former slaves and their descendants from voting. The "grandfather clause" as well as the other legal barriers to black voter registration worked. As a result, registered black voters drops from 44.8% in 1896 to 4.0% four years later. Mississippi, South Carolina, Alabama and Virginia follow Louisiana's lead by enacting their own grandfather clauses.

**1940**-Only 3% of eligible African Americans in the South are registered to vote. Jim Crow laws like literacy tests and poll taxes were meant to keep African Americans from voting.

Here is an example of real literacy test:

The State of Louisiana Literacy Test (this test is to be given to anyone who cannot prove a fifth grade education)

Do what you are told in each statement, nothing more, nothing less. Be careful as one wrong answer denotes failure of the test. You have 10 minutes to complete the test.

- Draw a line around the number of letter of this sentence.
- Draw a line under the last word of this line.
- Cross out the longest word of this line.
- Draw a line around the shortest word of this line.
- Circle the first, first letter of the alphabet in this line
- In the space below draw three circles, one inside by (engulfed by) the other.

**1964**-Poll taxes are outlawed with the adoption of the 24th Amendment.

Here is an example of a real sign:

- ⇒ PAY YOUR POLL-TAX NOW!
- ⇒ Deadline January 31st
- ⇒ Vote! And Protect Your Rights and Privileges
- ⇒ Be Ready for Every Election
- ⇒ Local Options and Other Special Elections are in Prospect for This Year

When poll taxes, literacy tests, "grandfather clauses," and "white primaries" did not stop blacks from registering and voting, intimidation often did the job. An African-American citizen attempting to exercise his right to vote would often be threatened with losing his job. Denial of credit, threats of eviction, and verbal abuse by white voting clerks also prevented black Southerners from voting. When all else failed, mob violence and even lynching kept black people away from the ballot box.

**1965**-More than 500 non-violent civil rights marchers are attacked by law enforcement officers while attempting to march from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama to demand the need for African American voting rights.

**1965**-President Lyndon B. Johnson signs the Voting Rights Act (VRA) into law, permanently bar-

(Continued on page 5)

ring barriers to political participation by racial and ethnic minorities, prohibiting any election practice that denies the right to vote on account of race, and requiring jurisdictions with a history of discrimination in voting to get federal approval for changes in their election laws before they can take effect. Prior to this, only an estimated twenty-three percent of voting-age blacks were registered nationally.

**1965**-By the end of 1965, 250,000 new black voters are registered, one third of them by federal examiners, by 1969 the number had jumped to sixty-one percent.

**1970**-President Richard Nixon signed an extension of the Voting Rights Act.

*Nixon: "The Voting Rights Act of 1965 has opened participation in the political process."*

**1972**-Barbara Jordan of Houston and Andrew Young of Atlanta become the first African Americans elected to Congress from the South since Reconstruction.

**1982**-President Ronald Reagan signed a 25-year extension of the Voting Rights Act.

**1990**-Due, in part, to the enforcement of the Voting Rights Act, the number of black elected officials in Georgia grows to 495 in 1990 from just three prior to the VRA.

**2006**-Congress extended Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act for an additional 25 years.

**2013**-The Supreme Court crippled one of the most effective protections for the right to vote by rendering ineffective the requirement that certain jurisdictions with a history of voting discrimination get pre-approval for voting changes. States have wasted no time enacting potentially discriminatory laws including Texas, Mississippi, North Carolina, Florida, Virginia, South Dakota, Iowa, and Indiana.

The good news is that we have the chance to fix it now. Congress can pass a new, flexible and forward-looking set of protections that work together to guarantee our right to vote — and it's not just wishful thinking. Since 2006, Congress extended the key sections of the Voting Rights Act on four occasions in overwhelming, bipartisan votes. Once again, a bipartisan group of lawmakers

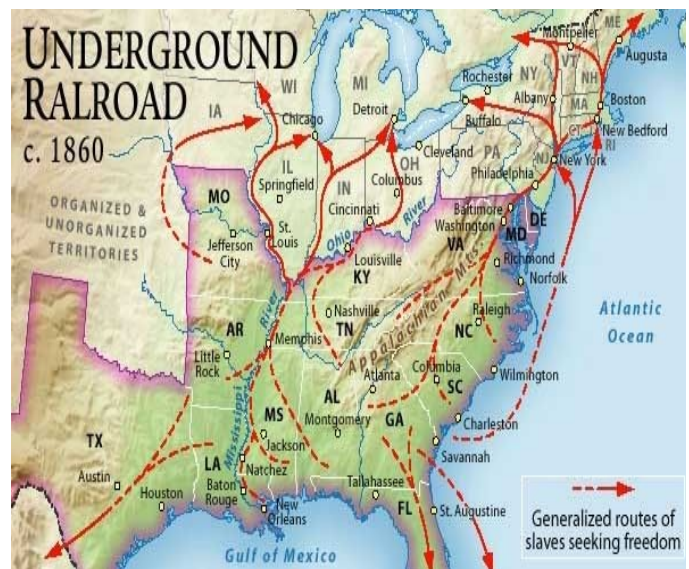
have come together to work on these critical protections.

Source: <https://www.aclu.org/voting-rights-act-major-dates-history> and <https://www.crf-usa.org/brown-v-board-50th-anniversary/race-and-voting.html>

## THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD AND BLACK CHURCHES

Submitted by Wendell Smitherman

The Underground Railroad was a network of secret routes and safe houses established in the United States during the early to mid-19 century, and used by enslaved African-Americans to escape into free states and Canada. The scheme was assisted by abolitionists and others sympathetic to the cause of the escapees.



The black church can be defined as the body, entity, or institution formed in hush harbors of plantations — secret gathering places for the enslaved to engage in their religious and spiritual practices — which over generations, emerged into a valuable and pivotal place of community, protest, and worship.

A diverse, multidimensional body consisting of varying truths, realities, and mission where two things — Jesus Christ and blackness — exist in unison among differing faith traditions, contexts, and theological premises. These institutions birthed

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numerous Protestant denominations, non-Christian movements rooted in the liberation of black people, institutions of higher learning, and more.

Our ancestors took full advantage of the opportunity called Church. During services, a form of "master" was sometimes present. Slaves would put up their finger to get permission to be excused from the room. Some practices need not be continued. The Black Church was a school, to teach reading, writing and arithmetic. It taught social graces, how young ladies and young men should act. It was used as a dating service, young couples didn't want the plantation owners to know that Bro. and Sis. so-in-so were in love and sometimes married for fear of shipping one off to another location, splitting up the family unit even more.

The Black Church was very instrumental in its partnership with the Underground Railroad. Songs of the Underground Railroad were spiritual and work songs used during the early-to-mid 19th century in the United States to encourage and convey coded information to escaping slaves as they moved along the various Underground Railroad routes. It is said that songs were used to communicate messages and directions about when, where, and how to escape, and warned of dangers and obstacles along the route.

The singing of certain songs meant certain actions were to take place. "Steal Away (to Jesus)," was the signal that it was time for one to escape. And those that escaped sometimes needed transportation- "Swing Low, Sweet Chariot,"- a buckboard would be waiting. And then the question of where to meet, where to go, where to gather - "Wade in the Water."

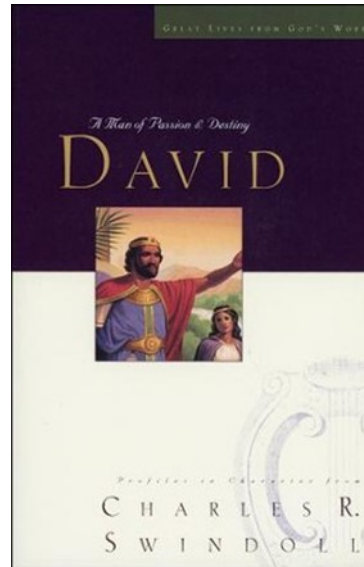
The "Church," was used to plan uprisings, revolts, to spread news, to share not only joy, but quite often sorrows. When word came that Just One made it to safety, the service would be high, loud and long to celebrate this victory. The Black Church was and in some cases, still is more than just a place of worship and fellowship.

For centuries, the black church has stood as an institution built on community, family, justice, and freedom.

Source: <https://www.jstor.org/stable/10.5406/j.ctt3fh4h4> <https://www.history.com> and <https://sojo.net/articles/importance-thriving-black-church>

## MACEDONIA BIBLE & BOOK CORNER

Submitted by Sonja Gray



David was a man after God's own heart . . . What does it mean to be someone "after God's own heart?" David, Old Testament Shepherd, king, and psalmist, offers an answer in the shape of his own life.

In many ways he was a most extraordinary man, intelligent, handsome, abundantly gifted as a poet, musician,

warrior, and administrator. Yet in other ways he was a most ordinary man. Often gripped by destructive passion, rocked by family chaos and personal tragedy, and motivated by political expediency. How did David become the national hero of God's chosen people? Why is he the one character in the Bible described as "a man after God's own heart?" In **David: A Man Of Passion And Destiny**, author, Chuck Swindoll explores the many facets of David, from his teenage years and dysfunctional family life to his overwhelming passion for God.

David's life offers hope to all of us. It shows that God can do extraordinary things through ordinary men and women. And David offers an insightful perspective on what it means to be truly spiritual, to become like David, men and women after God's own heart.

David is the first of a multi-volume series exploring great lives from the Bible. Chuck Swindoll wants to show us that these men and women became great when they placed themselves at the Lord's disposal, allowing Him to develop within them the marks of true character: humility, purity, authenticity, and integrity. To live a life God considers "great" is within the reach of everyone who submits to him. This paperback is available in our Bible & Book Corner, or you can also order from [christianbooks.com](http://christianbooks.com).





**Invitation to:** *Macedonia Baptist Church Sunday School*

**Superintendent of Sunday School:** *Rev. Ronald Davis*

**Pastor:** *Reverend Charles D. Twymon*

The Sunday School Ministry invites you, your family and friends to attend Sunday School classes. The classes begin at 9:30 a.m. We know you will enjoy the wonderful lessons that will be reviewed, and can apply these teachings to your everyday life. The list of lessons for February 2020 includes the following:

#### The Life of Discipleship

Date	Lesson	Scripture
February 2	Losing and Gaining	Luke 9:18-27
February 9	Two Lessons in Discipleship	Luke 9:51-62
February 16	Counting the Cost of Discipleship	Luke 14:25-35
February 23	Forgiveness, Faith and Service	Luke 17:1-10

## ?? ? Bible Quiz ? ?

The precise number varies depending on the Bible version, but roughly how many times does the word “love” occur in the Old and New Testaments combined?

- A. 200-300
- B. 400-500
- C. 600-700
- D. 800-900



Answer: C



# Macedonia Baptist Church

14221 Southfield Road, Detroit, Michigan 48223

*"Come over into Macedonia and help us." ACTS 16:9*



www.mbcDET.com

**The Men's Ministry of Macedonia** will be hosting a **Super Bowl Fellowship** in Fellowship Hall on **Sunday, February 2, 2020**, following the 11:00 a.m. worship service. All members and guests are welcome to attend. Be prepared to watch the Super Bowl and cheer for your favorite team. There will be good food and lots of fun!



The greatest of these



IS LOVE.

1 Corinthians 13:13