



**Conant Avenue UMC**

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**Volume 6 Issue 12**

**February 2020 Reverend Dr. Willie F. Smith  
Pastor**

# Conant Avenue United Methodist Church Newsletter



## The Pastor's Pen

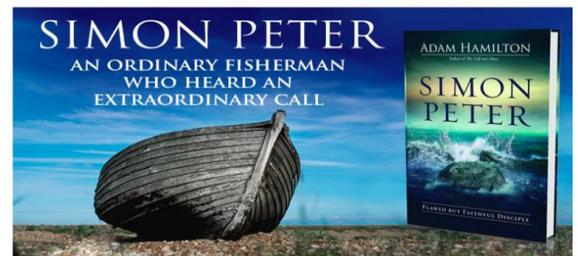
Greetings Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

I pray when you are reading this edition of the Conant newsletter either by hard copy or on the church web page [conantave.org](http://conantave.org). that all is well with you and your loved ones. January was a tough month for us here at Conant. We had to suspend services here for one Sunday because of the weather. Fortunately here at Conant, we have someone who is very proficient at using electronic media (ZOOM) and an impromptu service was held using that technology. A big thank you goes out to our Minister of Spiritual Formation, Lay Minister Sharon Appling, for a job well done. We are now in the month of February and hopefully things will fare better. February is considered to be Black History Month. While it is officially celebrated in February, black history is evolving each and every day. Yes, we have heroes like Dr. King and Rosa Parks whom we celebrate each year. The fact is that, we have new persons of color emerging each and every day. We have people right here at Conant that should be celebrated for the work they have done and continue to do each and every day. People like Alexander Jefferson who fought in the war with the Tuskegee Airmen. Mary Hicks Good who worked on a national level with the United Methodist Women. We have Marchelle (Micki) Phelps, who was President of the Michigan Delegation of the United Methodist Women and she continues to work for equal justice for all of God's children. Minister Sharon Appling, who was the first and only Lay Minister in the Detroit Renaissance District of the United Methodist Church. These are just a few of the people who have done and continue to do great work here at Conant Avenue, doing what they do, not just to receive the accolades given to those we call heroes. This work is being done simply because this is what God is calling them to do. Let us celebrate all the heroes, the mothers, aunties, and grandmothers who take time to help raise our youth, as well as the dad's uncles and grandpa's who help as well. We have a rich legacy here at Conant. Let us celebrate our heroes here at Conant Avenue also. Blessings to each and every one of you. May God bless each and every one throughout this month and each month of the year.

Pastor Smith



### INTENTIONAL FAITH DEVELOPMENT BIBLE STUDY



Sundays 9:30 a.m. and Wednesdays 5:30 p.m.

### Upcoming Events @ Conant



On the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday, February 16<sup>th</sup> in honor of Valentine's Day, The Men of Conant will be serving a free homemade breakfast to the young ladies and women of the church. This event will start at 9:00 a.m.



Conant Youth Presents:  
2020 ANNUAL  
BLACK HISTORY MONTH  
SOUL FOOD - TASTE FEST  
SUNDAY FEBRUARY 23<sup>rd</sup>  
Following 11:00a.m.  
Worship Service.  
WEAR YOUR  
AFRICAN ATTIRE!



**BLACK  
METHODISTS  
FOR CHURCH  
RENEWAL**

**BMCRC** *Our Time Under God Is Now!*

**BMCRC Sunday**  
February 9, 2020 11:00 a.m.  
Certified Lay Servant  
**Willie Grissette**  
will bring the message.

### Charter for Racial Justice

The **CRJ** is beginning a project focusing on the School to Prison Pipeline problem in America. If anyone is interested in the project, please see **Marchelle Phelps** for a survey in order to complete and turn in by the deadline date of February 15, 2020.

**Marchelle (Mickie) Phelps Reporting**



Worship Service  
02/26/2020  
7:00 – 8:00 p.m.

### Last Month's Highlight



**Sister Brenda Rudolph** from Galilee Missionary Baptist Church in Detroit brought the message on Conant's Family & Friends Fill the Pews Sunday.

## FAMOUS BLACK AMERICANS

### ASSOCIATED WITH CONANT AVEUNE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



#### SYLVIA MOY

American songwriter and record producer, formerly associated with the Motown Records group. The first woman at the Detroit-based music label to write and produce for Motown acts, she is probably best known for her songs written with and for **Stevie Wonder**. She later wrote theme songs for several television shows, and was involved in writing film music. She was inducted into the Songwriters Hall of Fame in 2006. She grew up in Conant Gardens and attended Conant Ave. Church.



#### Herbert Metoyer

First Black Army Helicopter Pilot. Published Author, Folk Singer & Composer



#### Mary Hicks Good

Associated with United Methodist Women on the National Stage for many years.



#### Judy Bowman

Renowned mixed media artist. Her work has been exhibited in the Detroit Charles Wright Museum and several galleries in Detroit, and many private collections in Detroit, D.C., Philadelphia, Los Angeles, and Chicago as well as the 2018 Essence Festival.



#### Lt. Col. Alexander Jefferson

Tuskegee Airman pilot, POW and esteemed educator Alexander Jefferson has served his country with distinction, in the face of great adversity. Published Author. He is the subject of a motion picture documentary about his life and legacy of his life. **He recently celebrated his 98 birthday this past November.**



#### Sidney G. James

Detroit-bred and based visual artist and muralist. Her large wall murals can be found on several buildings at Detroit's Eastern Market as well as on several buildings around the world. Visit her website at [www.sydneygjames.com](http://www.sydneygjames.com) to find out more.

**TO NAME A FEW THAT WE HAVE ROOM FOR HERE**