



February 2021 Reverend Dr. Willie F. Smith
Pastor

Conant Avenue UMC

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Volume 8 Issue 10

Conant Avenue United Methodist Church Newsletter



The Pastor's Pen

Greetings Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

Praying that all is well and you are enjoying the blessings that God has just for you and your loved ones. I also pray that as you read this edition of Conant's newsletter by hardcopy, from our church website or by other means, that all is well. February is Black History Month and, in this year of 2021, we have already made new history. In January of this year (2021) a female of color was sworn in as the Vice President of the United States of America, an accomplishment that is well worth noting. I guess we are starting to be like the Jeffersons, we are, "Moving on up, finally getting a small piece of the pie!", Praise God. We have been waiting for quite a while for this accomplishment although we did have a male figure become the first person of color to hold the highest office in this land and he did it with dignity and respect. Shifting gears, this COVID-19 situation seems like it just doesn't want to fade away. We have to do our part to eradicate this disease by maintaining social distancing, wearing a mask and finally getting vaccinated. I got my first shot on February 4, 2021 at the TCF Center in Detroit. We have special days coming up this month. We have Ash Wednesday and unfortunately, we cannot spread ashes like we formally have done. I am checking with the conference to see what alternate method we can use. Then there is Valentine's Day and unfortunately the men cannot prepare breakfast as we have done in the past, and finally we have the Lenten season. Fasting and praying is something we can do individually and collectively by utilizing ZOOM to connect and pray. We have to be patient and follow guidelines so we can defeat this pandemic that is paralyzing the world and especially our churches. The one thing we have in our favor is the God we serve, who promised to never leave or forsake us. Let us lean on the wisdom that God has given to individuals to help control and eradicate this plague. Remember, those who wait on the lord will soon run and not be weary, will mount up on wings like eagles, and soon will experience the victory that only our God can give. Patience is the key.

Blessing to you and yours.
Pastor Smith



FEBRUARY 17th
11.a.m.

LIVESTREAMING on ZOOM

Meeting ID - 784 000 401 Via Computer

Password - 48234

or

Telephone # - 1(253) 215 - 8782

Or

Join us in person in the Church Sanctuary

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY

6:00 p.m.

Brother Rick Gibson

John 7

884 2865 6727

Passcode: 091478



LAST MONTH'S HIGHLIGHTS



Certified Lay Ministers
Sharon Appling's & Ellena Totty's
Sermons



Certified Lay Servant
Avis Taylor's
Sermon



Certified Lay Servant
Rickey Gibson's
Sermons & Bible Study Classes



Certified Lay Servant
Diane Borum's
Sermon



Certified Lay Servant
Jan Rorex's
Sermon



Certified Lay Speaker
Willie G. Grissette's
Sermon



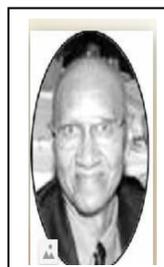
Certified Lay Servant
Evelyn McDuffie's
Sermon

**FAMOUS BLACK AMERICANS
ASSOCIATED WITH CONANT AVENUE 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.



Clyde Hopkins

Detroit Mayor Coleman A. Young appointed Mr. Hopkins Director of Engineering for the City of Detroit. During his tenure, He oversaw a **\$180 million expansion of Cobo Hall, a \$25 million renovation of Detroit City Airport, and a \$13 million renovation of historic Belle Isle Bridge**. Mr. Hopkins also served as the head water systems engineer for Detroit's Water and Sewage Department.



Herbert Metoyer

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



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. Mr. Jefferson was one of several founding members of our Conant Ave. UMC. Google his name to find out more about Conant's legendary hero. He recently celebrated his 99th birthday this past November.



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 as well as in several public art galleries and private collections throughout Michigan, D.C., Philadelphia, Los Angeles and Chicago. Google her name or visit her website at www.judybowman.com to view samples of her work and find to out more about this beautiful and talented young woman. Judy grew up attending Conant with her family and mother, **Mrs. Minnie Mae Matthews**.



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 throughout Michigan as well as around the world. She has won many awards for her outstanding work. And she has been featured in several newspapers and magazines in Detroit and throughout the U.S. She has served as resident artist for several television network shows as well as films. You may have seen her work on the ABC family show, Lincoln Heights. Google her name or visit her website at www.sydneyjames.com to find out more about this beautiful and talented young lady who grew up attending Conant Ave. UMC. with her family and mother, **Mrs. Deidre James**.

Conant salutes our very own "home grown" Famous Black Americans who changed the World.