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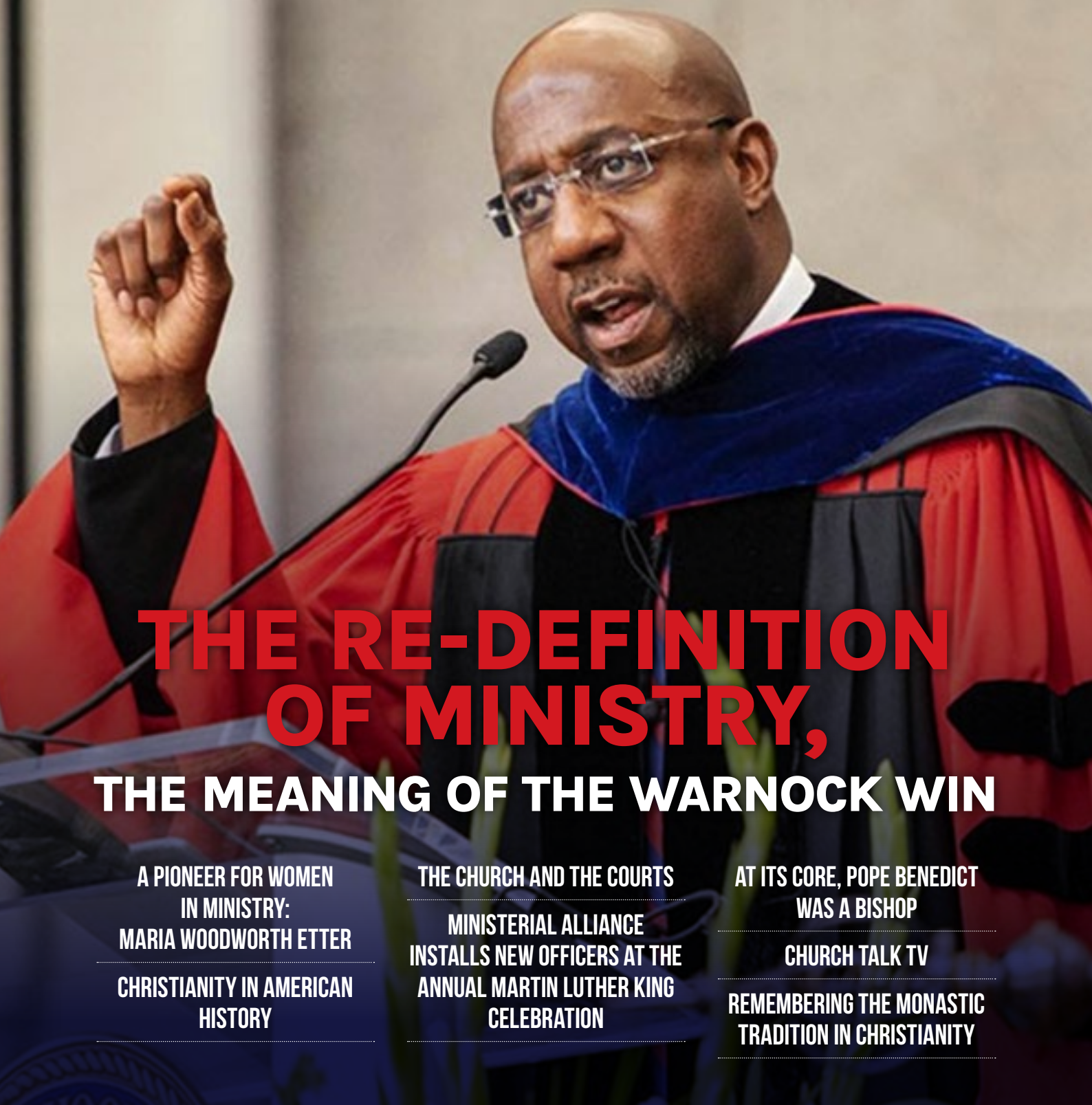
BISHOP



Magazine

JANUARY-MARCH 2023

THE QUARTERLY JOURNAL OF THE NEW LIFE SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY



THE RE-DEFINITION OF MINISTRY, THE MEANING OF THE WARNOCK WIN

A PIONEER FOR WOMEN
IN MINISTRY:
MARIA WOODWORTH ETTER
CHRISTIANITY IN AMERICAN
HISTORY

THE CHURCH AND THE COURTS
MINISTERIAL ALLIANCE
INSTALLS NEW OFFICERS AT THE
ANNUAL MARTIN LUTHER KING
CELEBRATION

AT ITS CORE, POPE BENEDICT
WAS A BISHOP
CHURCH TALK TV
REMEMBERING THE MONASTIC
TRADITION IN CHRISTIANITY

Ministerial Alliance of North
Amityville & Vicinity
&
Bethel African Methodist
Episcopal Church
Copiague NY

PRESENTS

MARTIN LUTHER KING CELEBRATION 2023

Also Featuring
*MANA Installation of Officers &
Clergy Recognition Day*

Keynote Speaker
Bishop Frank A. White
Senior Pastor
Zion Cathedral COGIC
Freeport, NY

Bishop Andy Lewter
MANA President



Rev. Christian Code



Pastor Alexia
Burgess-Huart



Rev. Dr. Keith
Hayward



Bishop Walter
Willie



Rev. Lynn Boone



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Daye

January 16, 2023 @ 10AM

Bethel AME Church | 20 Simmons Avenue | Copiague, NY



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A PIONEER FOR WOMEN IN MINISTRY: **MARIA WOODWORTH ETTER**

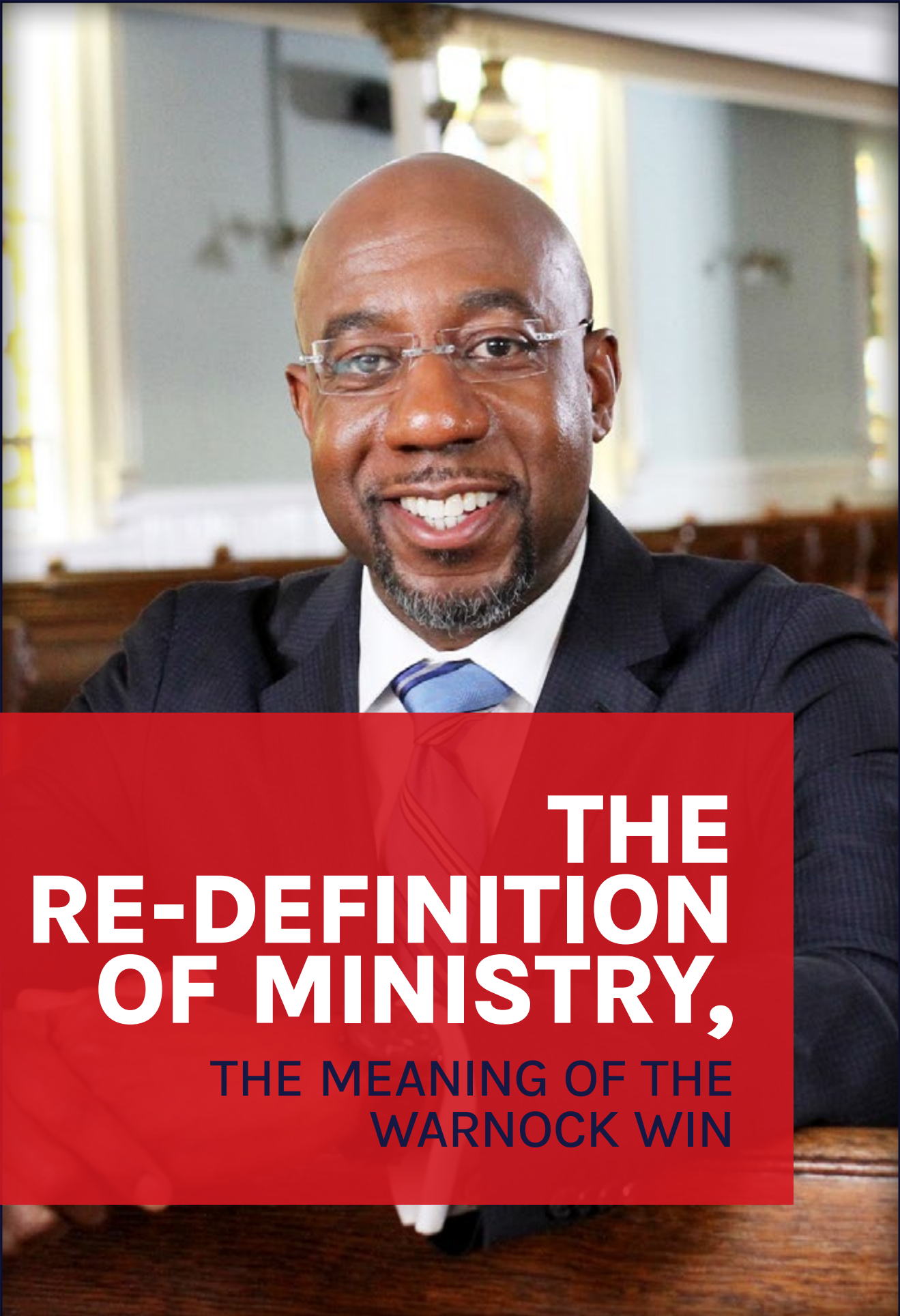
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In the year 2023 we think very little about the presence and participation of women in the fields of medicine, law, accounting and ministry. However, the normalcy of women in ministry has not always been the case. Up until rather recently, ministry and the pulpit were considered off-limits to women. Unfortunately, for much of the church's history it has reflected the cultural norms and preferences of the parent society.

That is why a discussion of Maria Woodworth Etter is most important because it illustrates that the fight for inclusion on the part of women is a fight that has been going on for a long time.

Maria Woodworth Etter started out as a typical subordinate and subjugated woman of her time. However, after years of internal turmoil she chose to follow the leading of the Lord rather than the dictates of her time. Her fame and effectiveness as a preacher grew steadily at a time when the notion of a woman in ministry was opposed by most Christian faith groups.

So the next time you watch a woman boldly declaring the Word and having hundreds of people cheer her with support and shouts of "amen", just remember that such a scene might not at all be possible if it had not been for the courage and the daring of a Maria Woodworth Etter. ●



**THE
RE-DEFINITION
OF MINISTRY,**
THE MEANING OF THE
WARNOCK WIN

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When most people think of ministry they automatically picture a preacher in the pulpit involved in an emotional and passionate delivery of a sermon. But what we are finding, especially since the pandemic of 2020-2022, is that ministers have far more to offer than what they have to do on Sunday mornings at 11 AM. The recent win of Pastor Raphael Warnock reminds the community of faith that ministers have much to offer other than what they do on Sunday.

The perception of ministry, outside the pulpit, is nothing new to the community of faith. As far back as Reconstruction, in the wake of the Civil War, ministers were some of the first public officials to be elected, in the South, and go to Washington DC.

In recent years the most visible ministers who reached beyond the borders of their church walls and made their voices known in the halls of the United States House of Representatives

include Rev. Adam Clayton Powell (Democrat), who pastored the Abyssinian Baptist Church of Harlem and across the aisle, Rev. Floyd Flake (Republican), who pastored the Allen Cathedral AME Church in Queens, New York.

Now America is watching another cleric go to Washington DC as a member of the United States House of Representatives. The victory of Pastor Raphael Warnock to congress is a shining example of the re-definition of ministers in the 21st century. Not since the opening days of the modern civil rights movement have we seen the mobilization of ministers from across the country to function outside the typical definition of what it means to be a minister. And while we have had any number of members stand at the forefront of civil rights like Martin Luther King, Ben Chavis, Jesse Jackson, Al Sharpton and so many other, it certainly appears that the office of minister is under-going a rapid perception in the eyes of the general public. ●

CHRISTIANITY IN AMERICAN HISTORY

The New Life School of Theology closed out the year of 2022 with a pair of presidential lectures entitled “Christianity in American History”. The lectures were divided into two parts with the first covering the Colonial Period up to the Civil War and the second examined “From Reconstruction to the Modern Mega-Church.

The lectures take a look at the unique role that the church played in the early years of America’s development and growth. It commented on the

Atlantic Slave Trade and explored the different attitudes that the church had depending upon the geography of where Christianity was being practiced. The second lecture traced the changing identity of the church as it passed through the end of the 19th century and entered the 20 century.

While the complete lectures are reserved for the students who are enrolled in our school, we have included excerpts of the two hour long lectures for your review and consumption. ●



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THE **CHURCH** AND THE **COURTS**



Most of us are accustomed to hearing the term “The Separation of Church and State”. And when we think of the term we naturally assume that a separation is the natural relationship between our government and our churches. The fact is that the separation of church and state was originally argued for by John Wycliff back in the 14th century because he had seen that the cozy relationship between the two tended to corrupt the church rather than influence the state to behave in a more moral manner because of its relationship to the church.

Now this was during the period of the Middle Ages when the influence and power of the pope

and the church was at its zenith in history. John Wycliff would be burned alive for his effort to reform the church and it would take a scholastic descendent of John Wycliff, Martin Luther, bring many of the reforms that Wycliff initiated.



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Consequently, today we take the separation of church for granted despite the fact that such a separation has not always existed.

Over the years, the relationship between church and state has been mostly exemplified by examining the various rulings that, in this case the Supreme Court, has rendered when it has

come to the matter of the church. One of the celebrated lectures we had this past year was a review of those court ruling and how it has impacted how Christians practice Christianity in this country. While the entire lecture is only available to our enrolled students, we are delighted to share with you excerpts of that lecture. ●

AT ITS CORE, **POPE BENEDICT** **WAS A BISHOP**

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The Vatican announced the death of Pope Benedict XVI on Saturday, December 31, 2022. For most Protestants this was a passing story that held little or no significance because of what was perceived as a remote relationship that Protestants have with the Roman Catholic Church. It is worth mentioning that at its core the papacy is occupied by a minister who is called into service just like all ministers are called into service by God.

Consequently, one of the reasons we are respected and recognized as ministers in our local situations is because of the recognition that has been afforded ministers for over a thousand years before most of our denominations or traditions were even established.

Sometimes we are tempted to believe that all of church history consists of Jesus and his disciples and jumps to whomever it was that started our tradition or denomination, skipping over hundreds of years of history that explains how we got to where we are now.

Even though we are not Catholic, we can still recognize and respect the fact that Catholicism has been one of the essential bridges that has brought us to where we are today. Whether we are Methodist, Baptist, Holiness, Pentecostal, Apostolic or Independent we all are branches of the family tree where Roman Catholicism is the trunk of that. ●

MINISTERIAL ALLIANCE INSTALLS **NEW OFFICERS** AT THE ANNUAL MARTIN LUTHER KING CELEBRATION

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Since the late 1980's the Ministerial Alliance of the North Amityville and Vicinity has been one of the leading organizations on Long Island, New York to celebrate the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King, even before it was declared a national holiday by President Ronald Reagan. With that in mind it certainly makes sense that the Ministerial Alliance of North Amityville and Vicinity would use the occasion of the MLK Celebration as the time and place to install its new officers.

Those officers include Bishop Andy C. Lewter of the Hollywood Full Gospel Baptist Cathedral in Amityville, NY who will serve as president, Bishop Walter Willie of the Prayer Tabernacle Church of God in Christ who will serve as Vice President, Pastor Alexia Burgess-Huart of the Grace Community

Church in Amityville, NY who will serve as Treasurer and Rev. Christian Code, Associate Minister of the Bethel AME Church in Copiague, NY who will serve as Secretary. In addition Pastor Keith Hayward of the Bethel AME Church in Copiague, NY will serve the organization as its Political Liaison and Associate Minister Lynn Boone also of the Bethel AME Church of Copiague, NY will serve as the Editor of the Gospel Express Newspaper, which is the official news publication of the Ministerial Alliance of North Amityville and Vicinity.

The MLK celebration and Installation of Officers will take place on Monday, January 16, 2023 at the Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Copiague, NY at 10 AM. We hope that you and your family will join us at this historic event. ●

CHURCH TALK TV

For such a long time it was virtually impossible for local churches to think that they could share their Gospel message with an audience outside the four walls of their church because of the prohibitive cost associated with the operation of a broadcast property like a TV station.

Recent developments in technology has reduced the cost of reaching mass audiences via the genius of the internet. Now local entities can operate what is commonly referred to as an "IPTV (internet protocol tv) station for a fraction of the

VIDEO TO
BE PLACED



cost that it previously cost to operate a traditional full power or low power television station.

One of the entities taking advantage of the current technology is Church Talk TV which is a network of churches and community content creators that is producing live streaming and video on demand programming. Currently, Church Talk TV has assembled nearly twelve local ministries that produce worship services on a weekly basis. In

addition there are nearly 10 program producers who provide interviews, talk shows and educational programs that are broadcast during the week between the hours of 6 AM to 6 PM. Finally, there is an overnight Gospel Music programming that is hosted by local video jockeys from 6 PM to 6 AM from Monday to Friday.

You are invited to check out the 24/7 programming coming to you by Church Talk TV. ●



REMEMBERING **THE** **MONASTIC TRADITION** IN CHRISTIANITY



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Long robes with belts that looked more like a rope is how we usually think of monks who make up the monastic order. However, the monastic tradition has a long and storied history in Christianity that dates back to the 4th century AD and is an African tradition that was adopted by the church in response to the belief that the church had “sold out” to secular influence.

It seems that at the time the Roman Emperor Constantine, who had recently re-unified the empire following the “Diocletian Divide” adopted Christianity as the official religion of the empire. As such, Christianity had gone from being the religion of the oppressed to the religion of the oppressor. Christianity was now being used to maintain the status quo of the Roman Empire rather than enabling people to survive the ordeal of Roman persecution.

In response, many Christians felt that the church had sold out and had lost its direction as a church. Led by the African, Anthony of Egypt, many Christians withdrew from the world and established communities in the desert, determined to live away from the corruption and collaboration they saw the church now being operated under.

What Anthony of Egypt produced was a religious order and protocol that is still practiced today by the Roman Catholic Church and to a lesser degree by the Protestant Church. And while the Protestant Church has not built communities of isolation it still values the idea of separation and act out its regard for such with periodic retreats, sabbaticals and vacations. ●



Includes:

- R/T Economy Air from JFK (New York)
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- Meals not mentioned
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Bishop Andy C. Lewter

Bishop Anthony W. Slater

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God Bless You
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DAY 1

Depart from a New York area gateway to Ben Gurion Airport in Tel Aviv. Dinner and breakfast are served on board.

DAY 2

Arrival at Tel Aviv airport. Transfer to hotel in the Galilee for dinner and overnight. Begin to feel the spirit of this amazing land. Depending on flight arrival time, visit Megiddo, Carmel on the way to Galilee.

DAY 3

Start the day with a boat ride on the Sea of Galilee. Continue to the Mount of Beatitudes, site of the Sermon on the Mount. On to Tabgha, site of the Miracle of the Fishes and Loaves and the Feeding of Five Thousand. Visit Capernaum, the city of Jesus and Peter to see the house of Peter and an ancient synagogue, where Jesus preached and gathered his disciples. End the day in the ancient city of Magdala, hometown of Mary Magdalene.

DAY 4

Start the day at Yardenit, the Baptismal Site on the Jordan River. Take a scenic drive past Cana of Galilee to Nazareth to visit the Church of the Annunciation and Mary's Well. On to Muchraka, the location of Elijah's altar during his confrontation with the false prophets of Baal. Continue through the Valley of Armageddon to the excavation site at Tel Megiddo. On to Caesarea, built by Herod the Great in 22 B.C. Continue to the city of Jerusalem.

DAY 5

Start the day at the Mount of Olives for an outstanding view of Jerusalem. Visit the Chapel of the Ascension, Garden of Gethsemane, and Church of All Nations before driving along the Kidron Valley seeing the Tombs of Absalom, Zechariah and James. Visit the Old City, see the Pool of Bethesda, the Chapel of the Flagellation, and the Ecce Homo Arch. Continue through the Bazaar to the last stations of the Cross Via Dolorosa, the Church of the Holy Sepulcher and the Gabbatha pavement.

DAY 6

After breakfast, continue to the Jewish Quarter visiting the Cardo, the "Wide" wall built by King Hezekiah, the Herodian mansion and the Golden Menorah. Continue to the Temple area and Mt. Moriah, to see the Dome of Rock, visit the Western Wall, the Ophel Archaeological Park and Museum and the Southern steps. Visit the Upper Room and King David's Tomb.

DAY 7

This morning we drive past the Inn of the Good Samaritan to arrive at the shores of the Dead Sea - the lowest point on earth. We go to Masada. Continue to Ein Gedi, where King David found shelter from the wrath of King Saul. After lunch (on your own), enjoy a short "float" in the Dead Sea. On to Qumran where the Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered in 1947

DAY 8

After breakfast and hotel check out continue to the Garden Tomb, visit Calvary where we will partake of Communion service. Continue to Bethlehem. Visit the Church of Nativity, the Milk Grotto and Shepherds' Field. Enjoy a special farewell dinner before being transferred to the airport.

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