"FIGHTING FORWARD: BREAKING DOWN BARRIERS"



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FIGHTING FORWARD: BREAKING DOWN BARRIERS

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2023 ● 6:00 PM

THE SENECA RIVER MISSIONARY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION
FAMILY LIFE CENTER
SENECA, SOUTH CAROLINA



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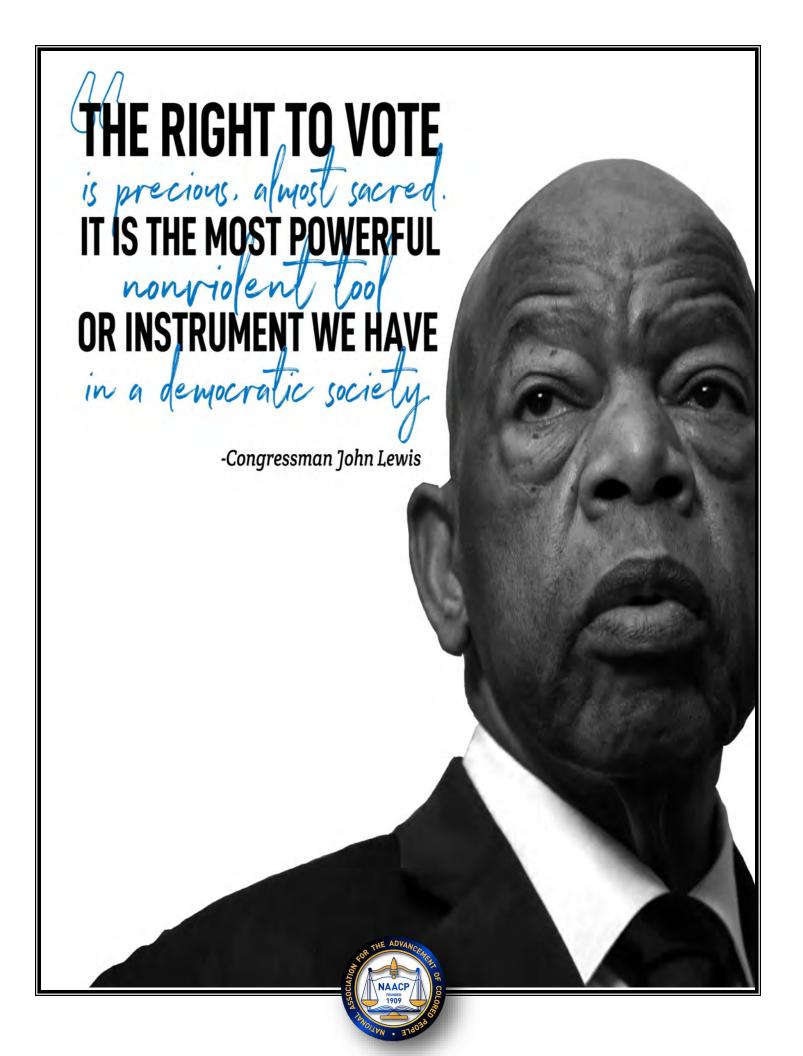
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Congratulations & Best Wishes to the Oconee County Branch NAACP

On your 37th Awards Banquet Celebration

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Website: https://www.brccseneca.org/



NAACP Oconee County Branch Life Members

Fighting Forward: Breaking Down Barriers

Paid Gold Life Member

1. Mrs. Beverly A. Jenkins

Paid Life Members

- 1. Mrs. Josie A. Alexander
- 2. Ms. Rachel Josetta Alexander
- 3. Ms. Diane H. Anderson
- 4. Ms. Alice A. Benson
- 5. Mr. Albert Davis
- 6. Mrs. Virginia Davis
- 7. Mr. Calvin Gibson
- 8. Mr. Fred Golden
- 9. Mrs. Magdalene H. Hawthorne
- 10. Mrs. Severne Haynes
- 11. Mr. Warren H. Holland, Jr. **
- 12. Dr. A.A. Martin
- 13. Mrs. Lillie Mae Morris
- 14. Ms. Jorosa Parker
- 15. Mr. Bobbie G. Poole**
- 16. Mr. Spence A. Rogers
- 17. Mrs. Stephanie R. Rogers
- 18. Mr. Vincent Rogers
- 19. Mrs. Helen Rosemond-Saunders
- 20. Mrs. Deborah S. Gideon
- 21. Ms. Trimmier
- 22. Dr. Curtis D. White Sr.
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- 27. Mr. Larry Barnes
- 28. Mr. Omari Mayfield
- 29. Mr. Billy Ray Kilpatrick
- 30. Mrs. Margie Barnes
- 31. Mrs. Louvenia G. Blassingame
- 32. Mrs. Marsha B. White-Mayfield
- 33. Mrs. Louise J. Wilson
- 34. Mr. Willie L. Wilson
- 35. Dr. Curtis D. White II
- 36. Mrs. Effula Jones Floyd
- **Deceased

- 37. Ebenezer Baptist Church
- 38. Pleasant Hill Baptist Church
- 39. Mt. Nebo II Baptist Church
- 40. Flat Rock Baptist Church
- 41. Richland Baptist Church
- 42. Snowhill Baptist Church
- 43. Cross Roads Baptist Church
- 44. New Galilee Baptist Church
- 45. Seneca Masonic
- 46. Mrs. Ann Mason-Benson
- 47. Mr. L. Dexter Robinson
- 48. Mr. Ricky Johnson
- 49. Mrs. Cecelia McWhorter
- 50. Dr. Valencia K. Hawthorne
- 51. Ms. Annette Joy Coleman
- 52. Mrs. Libby H. Robinson
- 53. Mr. Albert J. Davis
- 54. Mrs. Priscilla L. Davis
- 55. Mr. Michael Stanley Johnson, Sr.
- 56. Mr. Willie R<mark>. Je</mark>nkins, Sr.
- 57. Mrs. Kathy E. Jenkins
- 58. Mr. Jeffrey L. Wilson
- 59. Mrs. Vivian McWhorter-Hubbard
- 60. Mr. Willie Washington
- 61. Double Springs Baptist Church
- 62. Mt. Olive Baptist Church
- 63. Rev. Edward R. Scott
- 64. Rev. William Cureton
- 65. Ms. Anna Ruth May
- 66. Ms. Cindy Speed
- 67. Ms. Jill Johnson
- 68. Dr. Paul Thompson
- 69. Mrs. Gloria Washington
- 70. Mrs. Lannie Mulwee-Grant
- 71. Mrs. Lillie Johnson
- 72. Mr. Kenneth Carter
- 73. Ms. Sara Kilpatrick







Congratulations to the NAACP on the 37th Annual Freedom Fund Dinner and Awards Banquet

In appreciation for the many years of Leadership, Dedication & Support to our Community

SENECA CITY COUNCIL

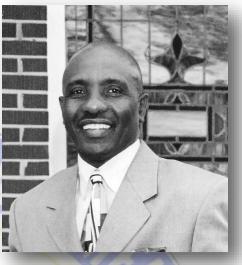
Mayor Daniel W. Alexander
Mayor Pro tem Ronnie O'Kelley
Lekesha Benson
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Ernest Riley
Denise Rozman

Joel Ward



Presidential Greetings

Greetings and welcome to the Oconee County Branch NAACP 37th Annual Freedom Fund Dinner and Awards Banquet. We are excited once again to be meeting in person, and the Banquet would not be successful without you being here with us this evening.



Our theme this year is: "Fighting Forward: Breaking Down Barriers". The NAACP Continues to be the first line of defense for many across the country who have experienced injustice. The NAACP Oconee County Branch is committed and "all in" the fight for justice, equality, and fairness.

We must ensure that all communities can live safely from violence and domestic threats from hate groups. Violent right-wing extremists are growing and threatening the happiness and well-being of those in our communities. We must act now to oppose all such efforts. Additionally, we must continue to grow our organization through memberships, through supporting our leaders in addressing the economic challenges facing thousands of families, issues of racial profiling, and to ensure our voice is heard through voter registration and getting out the vote. Our work must continue.

Lastly, I want to thank our sponsors, NAACP members, volunteers, friends, members of the community and the Freedom Fund Planning Committee for helping to make this year's program a great success.

Again, thank you for your support!

Mr. George Anderson, Jr.
President
NAACP Oconee County Branch

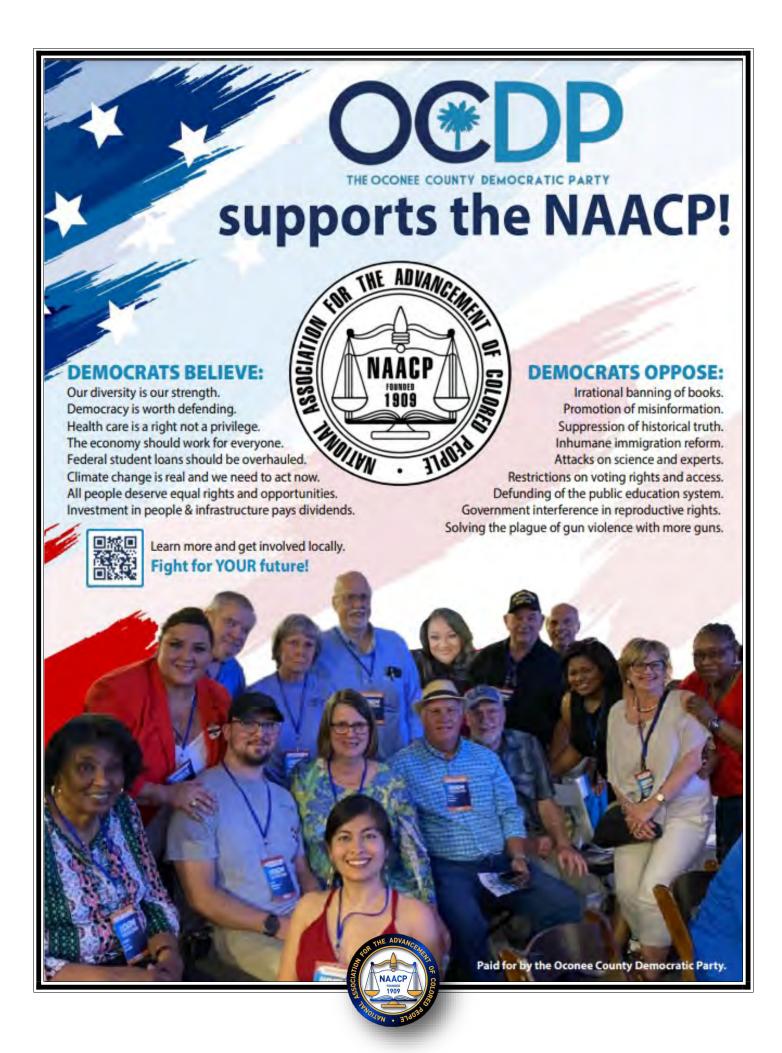




"I know one thing we did right...was the day we started to fight...keep your eyes on the prize...Hold On!"

Civil Rights Movement Song





Greetings!

8

Best Wishes to the Oconee Branch NAACP
On Your Freedom Fund Banquet

~from~

Azzam Temple #84 A.E.A.O.N.M.S. Jnc.

Oasis of Anderson Desert of South Carolina



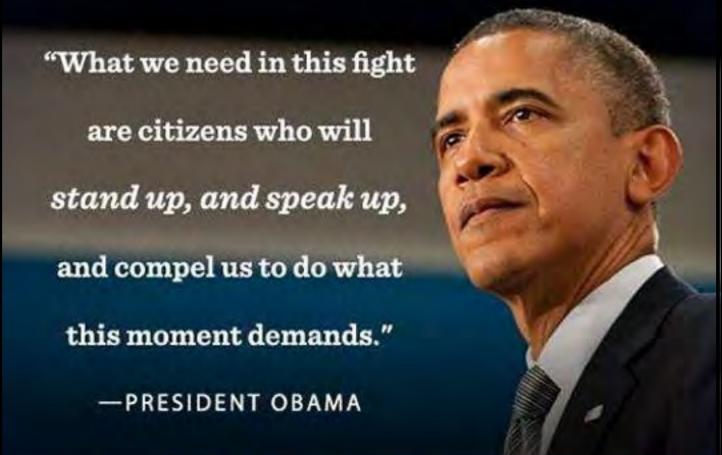
Officers

Noble Russell H. Booker- Illustrious Potentate
Noble Douglas M. Beaty Jr.- Chief Rabban
Noble Richard N. Williams- Assistant Rabban
Noble Chris Mosley- High Priest & Prophet
PP Reagan E. Fair- Oriental Guide
PP Derrick K. Knuckles- Recorder
PP Ronald Martin- Treasurer
PP Willie R. Jenkins- 1st Ceremonial Master
PP David V. Wright- 2nd Ceremonial Master
Noble Marcus Lee- Captain of the Guard
Noble Bernard Freeman- Outer Guard
HPIP William Auls- Imperial Deputy of the Oasis

"We need more light about each other. Light creates understanding, understanding creates love, love creates patience, and patience creates unity."

-Malcom X







Chairman Greetings

Greetings,

We're excited to welcome you to the 2023 NAACP Oconee County Branch Freedom Fund Banquet. Our theme this year is: Fighting Forward: Breaking Down Barriers.



The Annual Freedom Fund Banquet galvanizes support from our Partners and provides the opportunity for the Oconee County Branch to continue programs and initiatives in pursuit of the NAACP's longstanding mission" to ensure the political, educational, social, and economic equality of rights of all persons and to eliminate racial hatred and discrimination. For over 114 years, the NAACP has been in the forefront of the struggle for civil rights, and the struggle continues.

We continue to witness devastating attacks on Black and brown Americans. It is deeply disheartening that we are constantly targeted in so many ways based on the color of our skin. To highlight some of the challenges, we're facing issues of book banning, voter suppression tactics, gerrymandering, lack of access to affordable housing and healthcare, a lack of funding in public education, just to name a few. Further, this year, we witnessed the devastating Supreme Court's decision to strike down affirmative action in college admissions. This was the result of a concerted effort to prevent future advancements of people of color. It undermines decades of progress and the gains that have been made by Black students and other students of color in accessing higher education. Our future depends on our children having access to a high-quality and affordable education. There is still much to be done to disrupt inequality and accelerate change, and the Oconee County Branch is all-in when it comes to fighting for justice and equality.

I am honored to serve as chair of the Freedom Fund Banquet again this year. Tonight, we will honor the memory of members who made significant contributions to the Oconee Branch during their lifetime, and we will provide scholarship awards to four deserving students. This will be a great night of fun and fellowship.

I would like to extend a special thank you to our sponsors and advertisers for your continued support of the work we do. I thank the Freedom Fund Planning Committee for your diligent work over these past months to ensure a successful event. We extend sincere thanks to Reverend Telley Lynette Gadson (PASTOR T) for accepting our invitation to give the keynote address. And last but not least, we thank all of you for attending and supporting the 2023 NAACP Oconee County Branch Freedom Fund Dinner!

Please enjoy yourselves this evening and may God continue to richly bless you!

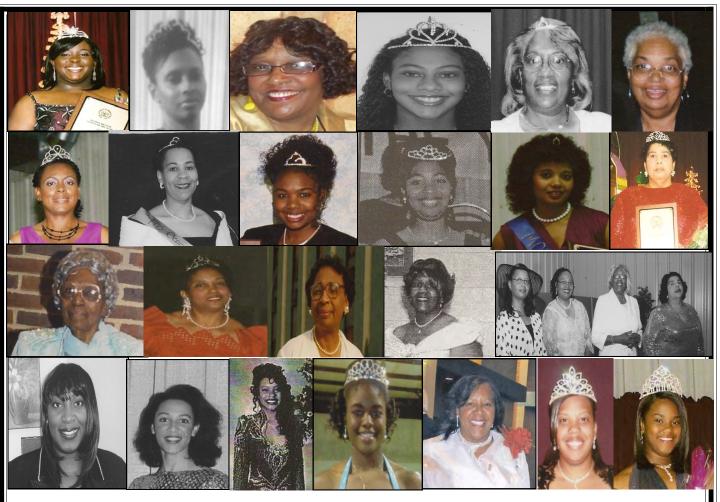
Yours in Justice and Peace,

Kathy Jenkins, Chair Freedom Fund Committee

"I know one thing we did right...was the day we started to fight...keep your eyes on the prize...Hold On!"

Civil Rights Movement Song





Past Women of the Year Winners

1st Woman of the Year: Mrs. Joann Hardy, New Galilee

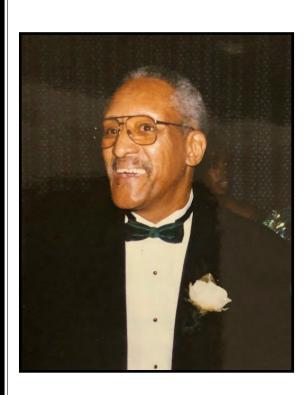
1987	Mt. Nebo	Ms. Deborah Y. Smith	2003	St. Mark	*Ms. Yvonne McKoy
1988	Ebenezer	Mrs. C. Gail Johnson	2004	Ebenezer	*Ms. Aileen Watt
1989	Mt. Nebo	Ms. Diane Anderson	2005	Snow Hill	Mrs. Roxanne Henderson
1990	Mt. Olive	Mrs. Drucilla L. Mayes	2006	Ebenezer	**Mrs. Jan Honeycutt
1991	Mt. Olive	Mrs. Shirley L. Kilpatrick	2007	Ebenezer	Ms. Kendra Renae Hanks
1992	Ebenezer	**Ms. Berlethia Pitts	2008	Mt. Nebo	*Ms. Jennievee Thompson
1993	Mt. Olive	Mrs. Gladys M. Gaines	2009	Pleasant Hill	Ms. Ruth May
1994	Snow Hill	**Mrs. Ella Grant	2010	Pleasant Hill	*Mrs. Joan Jenkins
1995	Mt. Nebo	Ms. Barbara A. Brown	2011	Mt. Olive	Ms. Brianna Mayes
1996	Snow Hill	Mrs. Wanda Marshall	2012	Ozion	Miss Hailey Morris
1997	Mt. Olive	Mrs. Rosena Spencer	2013	Ebenezer	Mrs. Mia Lee
1998	Ozion	Mrs. Jean Morris	2014	Mt. Olive	Mrs. Maranda Fleming
1999	Ozion	Ms. Nikki Carson	2015	Mt. Olive	Ms. Brenda Carson
2000	Ozion	*Ms. Tara Walker	2016	Mt. Olive	Ms. Brenda Carson
2001	Mt. Olive	**Mrs. Dawn Guzman			

^{**}Won SC State Conference

*Ms. Misha Gilmore

2002 Ebenezer



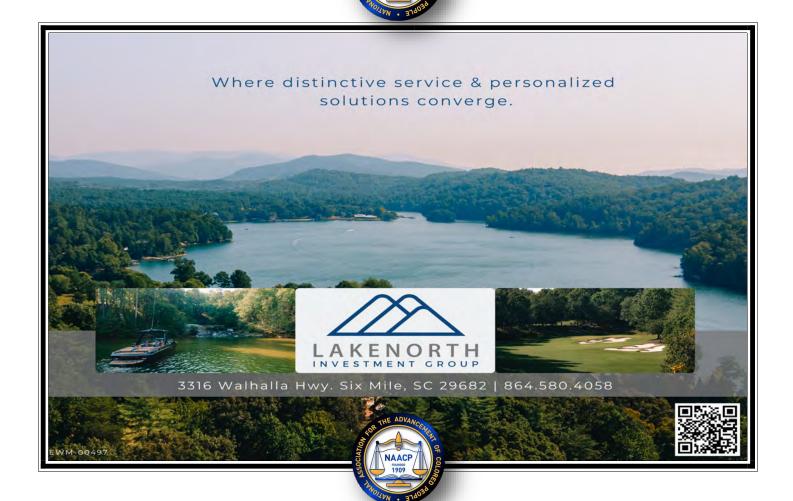


IN LOVING MEMORY OF DEACON JAMES HAWTHORNE Jr.

Our Beloved,

As a husband, father and grandfather - your wife, Magdalene Hathorne, Daughters: Andrea Jacob, Sharon Hardy, Colette Rhue, and Dr. Valencia Hawthorne, Son-in-Laws: Stephen Jacob, Franklin Hardy and Felix Rhue II, Grandchildren: Stephen Jacob Jr., Lawrence Jacob, Sommer Hardy and Caitlyn Rhue and God Grandchild: Chloe Briggs, we will never forget you.

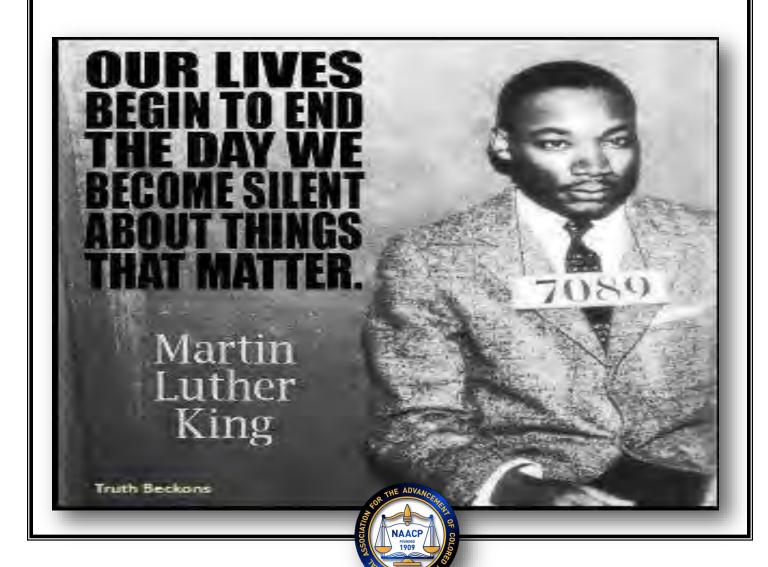
"Now he that planteth and he that watereth are one: and every man shall receive his own reward according to his own labour:" 1 Corinthians 3:8 KJV



The Oconee County NAACP

Meets on the first Tuesday after the second Saturday at 6:00 pm at the

Seneca River Association
Family Life Center
ALL MEMBERS ARE WELCOME!





Our Mistress of Ceremonies

Minister Tashara Scott

Minister Tashara Scott is a native of Seneca, SC born to Rev. Anthony and Rev. Yvonne Scott, and has one brother, Evangelist Carrington Scott. She currently resides in Pickens, SC with her daughter, Essence.

Minister Tashara is a graduate of the Seneca High School and alumni of Greenville Technical College. She enjoys volunteer work and dedicates her time to mentoring youth for different organizations within the Upstate of SC. She is currently one of

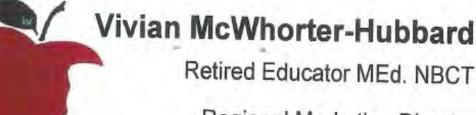
the advisors for the Seneca River Youth Auxiliary, which is under the leadership of the Seneca River Women's Auxiliary.

In her free time, she enjoys hiking, crocheting, and spreading the Gospel of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. She is always willing to help and encourage others to get involved and support the future generation.









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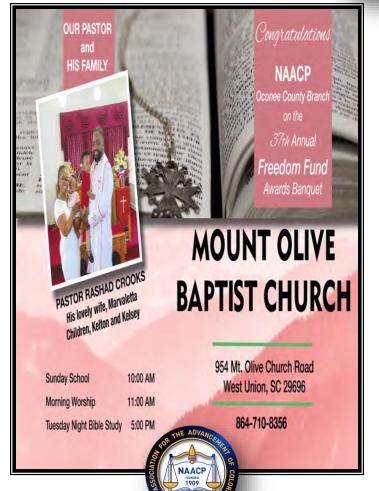
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Our Keynote Speaker

Reverend Telley Lynette Gadson, MDiv

The Reverend Telley Lynnette Gadson, affectionately known as "PASTOR T." serves as the District Superintendent and Chief Missional Strategist of the **HEART** -Warming HARTSVILLE District of the South Carolina Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church. Effective July 1, 2021, Bishop L. Jonathan Holston appointed her to this Cabinet-level position, making her one of the youngest Pastors to be selected to this post. District Superintendency is defined as the Ministry of Administration. As such, PASTOR T is the Supervising Pastor for 90 Churches, 65 Pastors, expansive of 6 Counties - from the Midlands to the PeeDee, inclu-

sive of Sumter, Lee, Kershaw, Darlington, Chesterfield, and Marlboro Counties, with her district's headquarters designated as Hartsville, South Carolina.

Prior to being appointed to serve as a District Superintendent, PASTOR T served as the Senior Pastor of Saint Mark United Methodist ("THE 9-1-1" of Taylors, SC) on the Greenville District for 8 years; and 14 years as the Pastor of Saint Mark United Methodist Church (Sumter, SC) on the Hartsville District. In addition to these appointments, she also served Saint Matthew (Taylors, SC) and Mount Zion (Sumter, SC) United Methodist Churches in her 22 years of pastoring in the local church.

Preaching since the age of 18, PASTOR T completed her undergraduate studies in 3-1/2 years, earning a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science, minoring in Religious Studies, from the University of South Carolina, in December of 1995. She is a distinguished 1999 graduate of the Candler (not Chandler) School of Theology at Emory University (Atlanta, GA). In the same year, she was commissioned as a Probationary Elder; and three years later, ordained an Elder in Full Connection in 2002, at the age of 28, making her one of the youngest to attain such credentials. In addition to her work in local churches, she is a trained Church Growth and Leadership Coach through Discipleship Ministries of the United Methodist Church, and served as a delegate to the 2012 and 2016 General and Jurisdictional Conferences. In August 2013, she was elected National President of Black Clergy Women of the United Methodist Church (BCWUMC), distinguishing her as the youngest to lead over 700 Black Clergy Women in the organization's history. PASTOR T has been a spiritual advisor to former President Barack and First Lady Michelle Obama, and has been a special guest at The White House in both 2010 and 2011, at their gracious invitations.

PASTOR T is clear that effective communication is one of God's assignments for her life. Her wordsmith-acumen garnered her the opportunity to write the 2016 UMC African American History Month Daily Devotional, self-titled, "Don't Forget Who You Are!" She is the founder of M.O.M. (Mothers-On-Monday), a weekly conference call for devotion and reflection for Mothers, and on Tuesday mornings, she hosts "The HEALTHIER WOMAN Experience," also her founding, as a 15-minute expresso of affirmations to inspire women to seek healing and wellness, on the journey to wholeness! Wellknown as a social media influencer, PASTOR T is the Visionary Founder and Content Curator for Creative Excellence Opportunities COACHING and CONSULTING, LLC, branding herself as "The CEO Coach." Her CEO work provides mentoring and training to help people become better communicators in their respective careers or crafts they are invested in. Most recently, she was selected to curate and present the Official Blessing for the long-awaited African American History Museum in Downtown Charleston, SC, sharing center-stage with the award-winning Bebe Winans and the renowned Phylicia Rashad.

Well known across United Methodism, and in ecumenical circles for her prophetic preaching and leadership excellence; she is the daughter of the Honorable Herbert Gadson and "Missionary" Linda D. Gadson. Her father is a survivor of the Orangeburg Massacre on the campus of South Carolina State (then) College, not University, and went onto become the first Black Mayor of their hometown, Hollywood, South Carolina. Her mother is the first Black Woman to graduate from the College of Charleston, the 13th oldest institution of Higher Education in the nation, and she is the 2010 recipient of the Order of the Palmetto, the highest honor bestowed upon any citizen in South Carolina. Born and raised, as a daughter of the dust of the Sea Islands of Charleston County, where her native-land of Hollywood, South Carolina is located, she faithfully lives by the words, "If I can help somebody as I travel along the way, then my living shall not be in vain."

NAACP

Congratulations on the 2023 Oconee County Branch

Freedom Fund Awards Banquet

First Female President
of the
Oconee County Branch NAACP



Best Wishes To

Beverly A. Jenkins

Twentyt-Nine Years of Service

"Either America will Destroy Ignorance or Ignorance will Destory the United States"

First Gold Member of the Oconee County Branch NAACP

She participated Nineteen Consecutive years rallying in Columbia, South Carolina to remove the Confederate Flag from the State House.

She worked alongside Sis. Caroline Rivers, wife of Rev. Nelson Rivers, on the Committee for the State Women of the Year Pageant, of which the Oconee County Branch had more winners and runner-ups than any other Branch during her tenure.

In 2006, during her tenure as President, of the Oconee County Branch NAACP along with support from the County fought a plan to cut Martin Luther King, Jr. day as a paid holiday.

Pioneers who helped start with Beverly's involvement in the Oconee County Brnach NAACP were E. W. Whittenburg Joann J. Hardy and Lillie J. Johnson.

"Thank you and Congratulations to our Mother for her many years of dedicated service.

Angela, Robert and Aretta Jenkins Grandchildren and Great- Grandchildren



Richland Baptist Church

PO Box 1394

Located at 130 N. Strawberry Farm Road

Seneca, SC 29678

Church Phone: 864-882-4901

Pastor: Dr. Rondey Bolden 864-313-9237



Sunday Morning Worship – 10:00 AM **Facebook** - www.facebook.com/RBC-Richland-Bapist-Church-469468683143011

Wednesday Bible Study – 6:00 PM

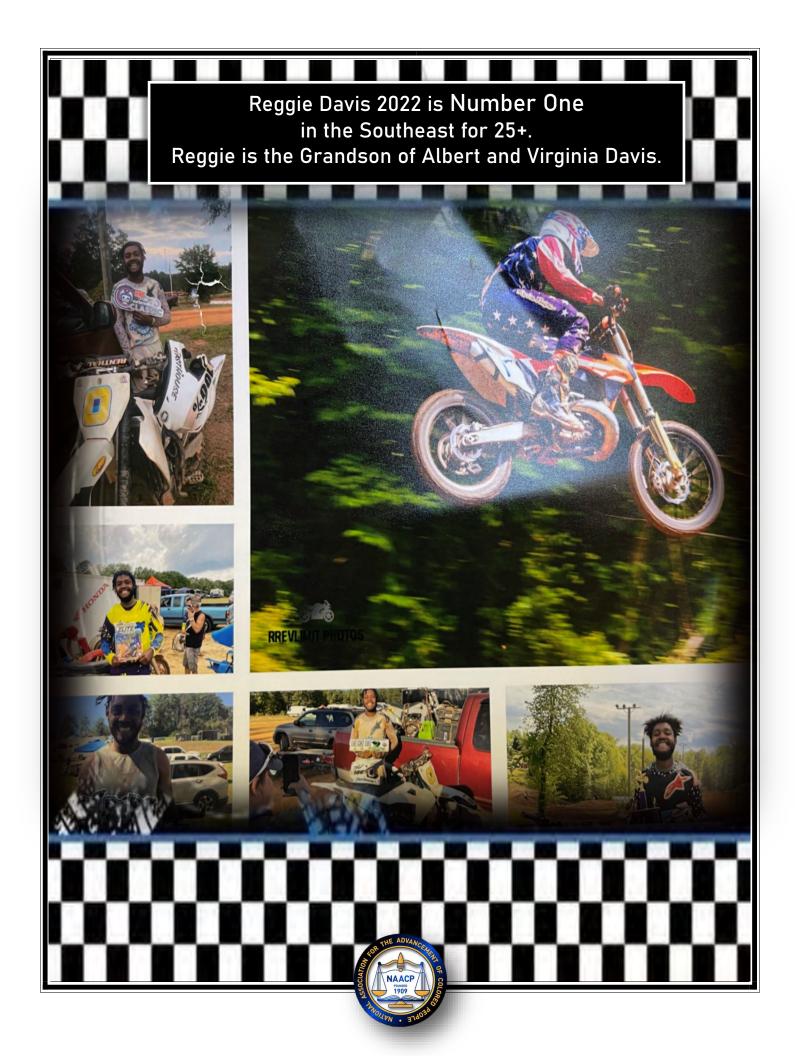
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Congratulates

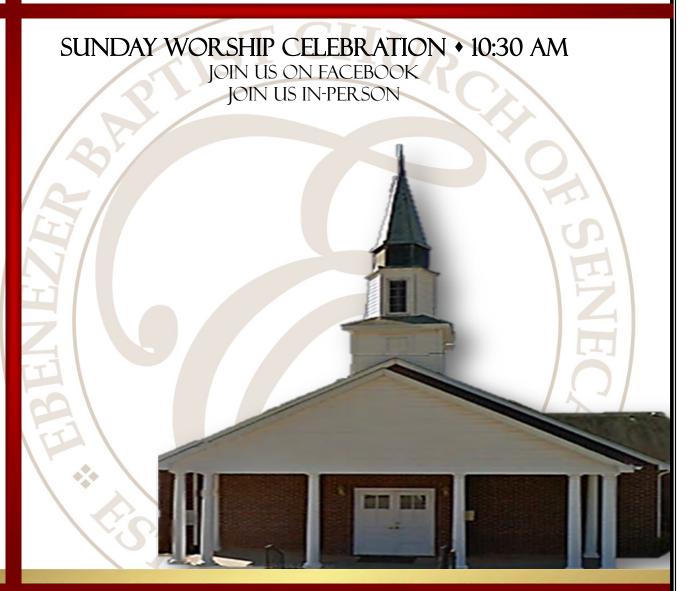
The Oconee County Branch NAACP on its

37th Annual Freedom Fund Dinner and Awards Banquet



* WORSHIP * PRAISE *FELLOWSHIP * LOVE * HARMONY * * REUNION * FAMILY * INSPIRATION * MOTIVATION *

Congratulations and Best Wishes NAACP



Ebenezer Baptist Church of Seneca

P.O. Box 1322, 506 E. South 2nd Street, Seneca, SC 29679

Pastor WC Honeycutt, Jr., Pastor Deacon Curtis D. White Sr., Chairman Mrs. Jackie Jackson, Clerk

Deacon James Lewis, Vice Chairman Mrs. Linda H. Henderson, Treasurer

CROSS ROADS BAPTIST CHURCH



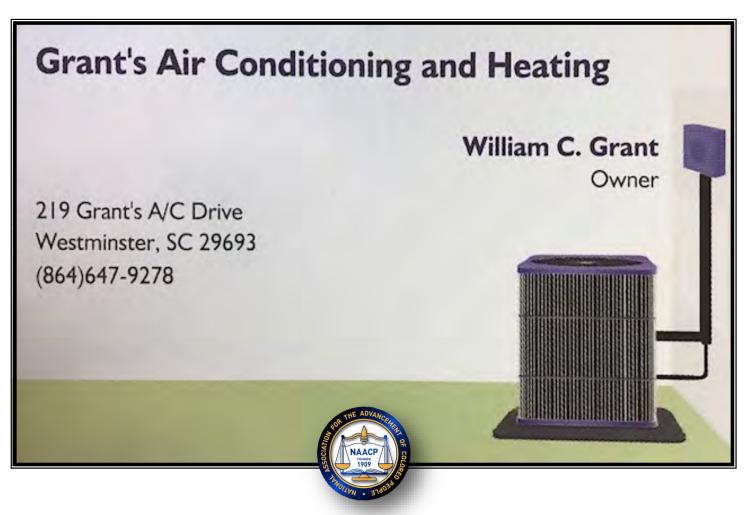
Let us lift up our heart with our hands unto God in the heavens.

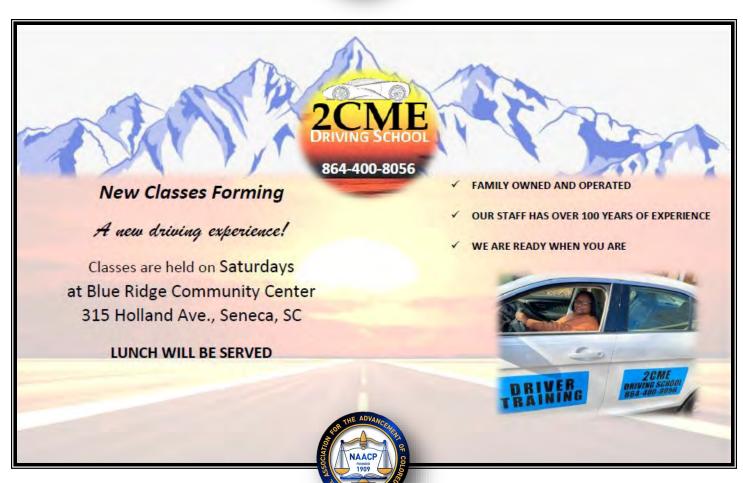
Lamentations 3:11

Rev. Bobby Poole, Pastor • 864.202.1048 Rev. Stephan Hampton, Assistant Pastor

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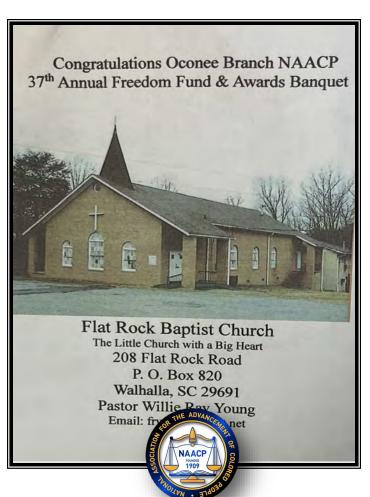
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EVENT
TODAY!





LIFT EVERY VOICE AND SING

NEGRO NATIONAL ANTHEM

James Weldon Johnson

John Rosamond Johnson

Lift every voice and sing, till earth and Heaven ring,
Ring with the harmonies of liberty;
Let our rejoicing rise, high as the listening skies,
Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.

Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us,
Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us;
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun,
Let us march on till victory is won.

Stony the road we trod, bitter the chastening rod,
Felt in the days when hope unborn had died;
Yet with a steady beat, have not our weary feet,
Come to the place for which our fathers sighed?
We have come over a way that with tears has been watered,
We have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered;
Out from the gloomy past, till now we stand at last
Where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

God of our weary years, God of our silent tears,
Thou Who hast brought us thus far on the way;
Thou Who hast by Thy might, led us into the light,
Keep us forever in the path, we pray.
Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met Thee.
Lest our hearts, drunk with the wine of the world, we forget Thee.
Shadowed beneath Thy hand, may we forever stand,
True to our God, true to our native land.



NAACP

Oconee County Branch

Thirty-Seventh Annual Freedom Fund Awards Dinner

Fighting Forward: Breaking Down Barriers
Saturday, October 21, 2023 • 6:00 PM

Opening Remarks	Mr. Willie Washington Vice President, Oconee County Branch NAACP
Mistress of Ceremonies	
Entertainment	Seneca High School Steppers
Occasion	
Selection	
Blessing	
00 / \	DINNER IS SERVED
Entertainment	Seneca High School Steppers
	Mr. S. Ronnie O'Kelley Mayor Pro Tem, Seneca City Council
	Mayor Pro Tem, Seneca City Council
Introduction of Speaker	
Musical Performance	
Guest Speaker	
Acknowledgements/Closing Remark	sMr. George Anderson, Jr. President, Oconee County Branch NAACP
	Rev. C. Lee Grant

