



Evergreen Notes

Volume 21, Issue 1

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY WORSHIP SERVICE Monday, January 17, 2022 6 PM

The Evergreen Association joins New Beginnings Christian Fellowship in sponsoring the 2022 MLK Day Community Worship Service to be held on Monday, January 17, 2022, at 6 PM. Join with us!

Presenting our Keynote Speaker, the Rev. Dr. Leslie D., Callahan, Ph.D., Pastor, St. Paul's Baptist Church, Philadelphia PA.

As always, our goal is that the Evergreen Mass Choir, other musical selections and worship leaders will be representative of the diversity that is Evergreen.



Rev. Dr. Leslie D. Callahan



Music/Choir Directors and singers, please contact Rev. Sam Townsend at stownsend@thenbcf.org to assure your congregation's participation.

At New Beginnings, proof of full vaccination and masks are required for in-person entry. The service will also be streamed. More details coming.



In This Issue

- The Unspoken Truths Museum P. 2
- Welton-Mitchell Accepts Call as Executive Minister, ABC Wisconsin P. 4
- A Movement. Not A Moment. P. 5
- Happenings Around the Region P. 6

Pray for Churches Seeking Pastoral Leadership

- ♦ Fairview Community Church
- ♦ Mount Zion Baptist Church
- ♦ Wenatchee Brethren Baptist Church, and
- ♦ Filipino-American Christian Fellowship (FACF)

The Unspoken Truths Museum Comes to ARTS at King Street Station

November 10, 2021 by [April Jingco](#)

[ARTS at King Street Station](#) is hosting **1619: Resistance/Resilience/Remembrance/Liberation ...**, through January 15, 2022. The exhibition features stories and objects from the [American History Traveling Museum: The Unspoken Truths](#) that are new and unfamiliar to many.

The exhibition, created and curated by storyteller **Mr. Delbert Richardson**, takes viewers on a chronological journey through the beginnings of our origins in Africa, American Chattel Slavery, the Jim Crow Era to modern-day African American originators, inventors, and innovators.



About the Exhibition

The mission of The Unspoken Truths' 1619: Resistance/Resilience/Remembrance/Liberation is dedicated to the education of children, students, and adults of all ages to tell and share through a non-sanitized version of American History, using authentic artifacts, multi-media presentations, storyboards, and the ancient art of storytelling. This work is centered around an anti-racist curriculum, unbiased histories, and the journey of African people to the Americas and Europe in an effort to recognize and strengthen positive identity development and a positive self-concept and image of African people of the Diaspora.

The exhibit is organized into four themes:

Mother Africa, which features some of the great contributions that Africans have made throughout the world. This section connects Africa's global impact in the areas of its rich traditions, cultures, rituals, and ceremonies. Equally as important, are the global contributions in S.T.E.A.M. (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, & Math)

American Chattel Slavery breaks down the type of slavery where human beings are considered to be property and are bought and sold as such. This section utilizes authentic artifacts, documents, and storyboards, to expose the Impacts on enslaved Africans physically, spiritually, emotionally, and psychologically.

Jim Crow Era is an explanation of the racial caste system geared around white superiority. Jim Crow was the name of the racial caste system which operated primarily, but not exclusively in southern and border states, between 1877 and the mid-1960s. Under Jim Crow, African Americans were relegated to the status of second-class citizens. Jim Crow represented the legitimization of anti-black racism.

Still We Rise highlights African American inventors and inventions. A 40-foot display features everyday items that African Americans have invented or improved upon.

For over 30 years, Richardson has collected and amassed an assortment of artifacts that symbolizes Africans' contributions to Africa and the Americans.

Mr. Delbert Richardson, the founder of The Unspoken Truths, is a self-taught educator, second-generation storyteller, ... and community scholar. Born in Detroit, his family of six siblings moved to the Seattle area in the mid-1960s. He attended Coleman Elementary, Washington Middle School, Franklin High School, and graduated from Antioch, Seattle with a B.A. in Liberal Arts: Global Social Justice.



Help Us Celebrate the Ministry of Clem Winbush at Her Retirement Party!

Saturday, January 8, 2022, 2-4 PM
New Beginnings Christian Fellowship
[19300 108th Ave. SE, Kent](#)



E. Clem Winbush

MASKS AND PROOF OF VACCINATION WILL BE REQUIRED AT THE DOOR FOR ENTRY.

Whether joining us in-person or virtually, Registration Deadline is January 1, 2022.

Lunch is available for purchase at \$30 per person: Caesar Salad, Baked Spaghetti with Ground Turkey, and Garlicky Green Beans, Roll and choice of Iced Tea, Lemonade or Coffee.

Vegetarian Option: Portabello Mushrooms.

Please register below in two places:

ONE: Fill out the registration form, and click SUBMIT. You may fill out a second registration afterwards (one registration form per person).

TWO (if purchasing lunch): Click "Pay Now" to pay for your meal (choose meat or vegetarian option). You may pay for multiple meals at once. Note that the Pay Now button takes you to Square. When you are ready to pay, you do NOT have to use Google Pay; click on the Blue "Attend \$30" button to use whatever card you wish.

The program will also be livestreamed.

Please [visit the Kudo Board](#) to add a thought or picture for Clem.

Hope to see you there!

Doug's New Cellular Phone Number

Executive Minister Douglas Avilesbernal's new cellular phone number is: **253-204-3067**

Please change his contact info card to the number above. The other number will stop working in January.

Welton-Mitchell Answers the Call as Executive Minister of ABC-Wisconsin

On November 6, 2021 the Board of Managers of the American Baptist Churches of Wisconsin enthusiastically approved the Reverend Mindi Welton-Mitchell as their new Executive Minister.

Rev. Mindi Welton-Mitchell has served as Pastor of Queen Anne Baptist Church, Seattle since June of 2017. As part of a church restart there, she created and implemented a visioning process for the unique nature of the congregation and changing neighborhood.

ABC Wisconsin Board President Rev. Brandle Morrow noted, "Rev. Mindi has the requisite experience, theological intellect, and infectious spirit to lead our region effectively. I am convinced she is providentially positioned for immense ministerial success as our new Regional Executive Minister."

Rev. Welton-Mitchell received an M.Div. from Andover Newton Theological School in 2002 and was ordained in 2003 at the First Baptist Church in Newton, MA. She had served churches in Massachusetts and Washington prior to her call to Queen Anne.

Additionally, since February of 2016, she has served in regional ministry as Ministry Associate for Social Media for the Evergreen Association of ABCUSA. Recently she was the Evergreen representative to the ABCUSA Ministers Council. She has written pieces published in the *American Baptist Quarterly*, *The Christian Century*, Judson Press's *Journeys* and a chapter for the Chalice Press publication *When Kids Ask Hard Questions: Faith-filled Responses for Tough Topics* (2019). She also writes science fiction and fantasy under the name Melinda Mitchell.

Rev. Mindi is passionate about inclusion of persons with disabilities in all aspects of church life, as this is part of her family's story. She is active in pursuing cross-cultural relationships and partnerships, anti-racism education and practice, and multi-faith conversations and action. She attended the Baptist-Muslim Dialogue in Green Lake in 2019 and hosted events with Muslim and Jewish neighbors in Seattle.

Rev. Mindi is married to Rev. J.C. Mitchell and they have a



Rev. Mindi Welton-Mitchell

thirteen-year-old son, A.J. Mindi was raised in Alaska where her family of origin still resides. She is a fifth generation ordained American Baptist minister.

Rev. Mindi Welton-Mitchell will begin as Regional Executive Minister of the American Baptist Churches of Wisconsin on March 1, 2022.

Mindi, know that your Seattle Family loves you, will miss you and is excited for what God has in store for you and our brothers and sisters in your new relationships in Wisconsin.

Farewell Celebration for Rev. Mindi Welton-Mitchell follows 11 a.m. worship at Queen Anne Baptist Church on January 23, 2022.

A Movement. Not a Moment .

Article reprinted from the New Baptist Covenant, Dec 6, 2021

The Montgomery Bus Boycott in Montgomery Ala., ended 65 years ago this month. From December 5, 1955, to December 20, 1956, African Americans refused to ride city buses in Montgomery to protest segregated seating. On day one of that boycott, over 40,000 African Americans refused to ride the bus. They were sick and tired of being sick and tired of the assaults to their human dignity and civil rights.

The Montgomery Bus Boycott is regarded as the earliest mass protest on behalf of civil rights in the United States, setting the stage for additional large-scale actions outside the court system to bring about fair treatment for African Americans.

My parents were first generation immigrants from the South, and just a decade earlier had been a part of the Great Migration of Blacks who made their way north, west and east of the bastion of southern brutality to make new lives for themselves and their children. As a six-year-old then in South Central Los Angeles in 1956, I celebrated getting my first new bike at Christmas as my parents and neighbors celebrated the victory in Montgomery. What I did not know until many years later was that in January of 1957, four Black churches and the homes of prominent Black leaders were bombed. Even a bomb at the home of Dr. Martin Luther King was defused.

Progress is never steadily progressive. Often it is two steps forward followed swiftly by one step back. Sometimes it is a great leap forward met by a whirlwind or resistance pushing the hopes and aspirations decades back.

There has always been a white supremacist backlash to the affirmation that Black lives matter. Instead of Reconstruction, after the proclamation of emancipation of formerly enslaved people, came the “Redemption” Movement — the return of white supremacy and the removal of citizenship and voting rights that Blacks recently attained. Political pressure to return to the old order was backed by mob and paramilitary violence, with the Ku Klux Klan, the White League, and the Red Shirts assassinating pro-Reconstruction politicians and terrorizing southern Blacks.

I am twice as old today as my parents were when they gifted me with my first bicycle on Christmas day of 1956 and sat around the kitchen table with their friends toasting the miracle in Montgomery. And while I too am sick and tired of being sick and tired, I also realize that apathy and fatigue are luxuries democratization and justice can ill afford. Ours is a movement. Not a moment. The struggle continues.



Aidsand Wright-Riggins,
Executive Director
New Baptist Covenant

Please go online to www.ea-abc.org and click on
“Give” to donate.
Your continued support is greatly appreciated!

Happenings Around the Region

Please be in prayer for the Sutton family and friends as they grieve the loss of the **Rev. Jerry Sutton**. Rev. Sutton passed Tuesday morning, December 7, 2021, surrounded by his family. More information will come as plans are made to celebrate his life sometime in February.

Continue to keep in prayer, **Rev. Stephen Guantai** and his family following the recent loss of his mother. Pastor Stephen was able to be with his mom and will return home to the US a few days before Christmas Day.

Also, keep in prayer the family of **Marty Hightower** who passed recently. Marty served on the Evergreen Association Board until his health began to fail. We are grateful for his service.

Prayers are also asked for **the families of JBC Pastor Samuel Kim** grieving the loss of his wife Rhea's father; and **Executive Minister Doug Avilesbernal** as his wife Anna's father is facing a serious medical situation. The Kims are back East and Doug and Anna leave this week to join her family.

January 23, 2021—**Celebration for Rev. Mindi Welton-Mitchell** follows 11 a.m. worship at Queen Anne Baptist Church.

Retirement Celebration for Rev. Dr. Timothy Phillips: Sunday, January 30, 2022, Seattle First Baptist Church. More info as it becomes available.

February 11, 2022—Leaders Retreat at Camp Burton (Event may move to online)

Rev. Dr. Tim Phillips is Retiring as Lead Pastor of SFBC!

A retirement celebration will be held at Seattle First Baptist Church on Sunday, January 30, 2022.

Tim was ordained in 1981 and served churches in Michigan and Illinois before being called to Chicago Theological Seminary as Director of Admissions in 1994. During his service there, Tim became convinced that empowering people's gifts is central to the work of a spiritual community.

In 1996, Tim was called by University Baptist Church, Seattle, where he served until Seattle First Baptist Church called him as Lead Pastor in February 2009.

The Rev. Dr. Phillips received a Doctor of Ministry degree in May, 2018 from the American Baptist Seminary of the West. The title of his dissertation is *Evolutionary Theology and Revolutionary Worship: Worship as Orientation, Disorientation, and Reorientation in a Post-modern World*.



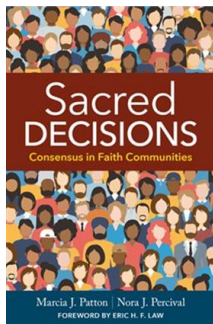
Rev. Dr. Tim Phillips

Tim, know that your Seattle Family loves you, will miss you and is excited for what God has in store for your future. More details as they become available.

Greater New Bethel Missionary Baptist Church and Pastor Dana McClendon Celebrate the 25th Pastoral Anniversary—Silver Jubilee ~ March 12-13, 2022 ~ Save the Date! Plan to Attend!



Sacred Decisions: Co-Author, Dr. Patton—Executive Minister Emerita



Sacred Decisions: Consensus in Faith Communities released November 1, 2021 by Judson Press.

Rev. Dr. Marcia Patton and co-author, Nora Percival, invite you to drive deeper into consensus building

The dedication reads: *“To the people of Evergreen Association of American Baptist Churches, for their courage to listen to each other and God, and to embrace a new way to do God’s work in the world.”*

Reserve your copy of *Sacred Decisions: Consensus in Faith Communities*

here: <https://www.judsonpress.com/Products/J297/sacred-decisions.aspx>; through Rev. Marcia J. Patton, Ph.D., 206-458-2089; or at Amazon.



Evergreen Association of American Baptist Churches
409 Third Avenue S, Suite A
Kent WA 98032-5843

Phone: 253-859-2226

Email: eba@ea-abc.org

Non-Profit
Organization
US
Paid
Kent WA
Permit No. 451

“Like” us on Facebook:

Facebook: www.facebook.com/evergreenabcusa;
Instagram, and **Twitter** @evergreenabcusa
#ebaabc

Return Service Requested

Evergreen Notes, the newsletter for member churches, ecumenical partners, national affiliates, and friends of the Evergreen Association of American Baptist Churches is published monthly.

Please submit articles by the 20th of the month prior to expected publication.

You are encouraged to copy and/or reprint information and articles for your congregation and community.



Rev. Douglas Avilesbernal
Executive Minister

Building Bridges, Resourcing Churches & Translating Our Unity

Calendar of Upcoming Events

Executive Committee continues to meet monthly.

SAVE THE DATES

January 8, 2022—The Evergreen Family Gathers to Celebrate the Work and Ministry of Clem Winbush, 2—4 PM at New Beginnings Christian Fellowship. Proof of Vaccination necessary to participate in person.

January 17, 2022—Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Worship Service, New Beginnings Christian Fellowship, Kent WA. Proof of Vaccination necessary to participate in person.

January 23, 2022—Farewell Celebration for Rev. Mindi Welton-Mitchell follows 11 a.m. worship at Queen Anne Baptist Church.

Retirement Celebration for Rev. Dr. Timothy Phillips: Sunday, **January 30, 2022** at Seattle First Baptist Church

February 11, 2022—Leaders Retreat at Camp Burton (Event may move to online)

Mission Statement

Being a culturally diverse people who are one in Christ and who value the liberties of our American Baptist Heritage, the Evergreen Baptist Association will

Build bridges between communities;

Provide resources to **equip member churches** to share Christ and teach God’s word; and

Translate our unity to the world.