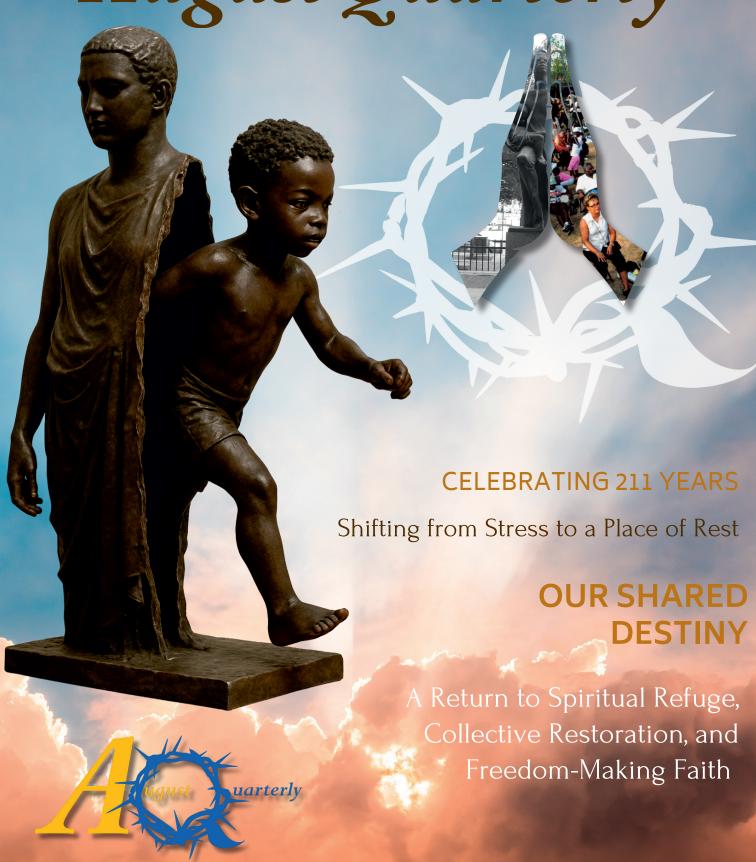
# August Quarterly



AUGUST 31, 2025

Designed by Michael Riley



# Mercedes-Benz of Wilmington

## Porsche Delaware

#### RANGE ROVER

Land Rover Wilmington



piazzadelaware.com



#### What's Inside



Contribute and be a Distinctive Friend to the August Quarterly Festival.

For more information visit us on www.augustquarterly.org

A 501(c)(3) Organization under IRS Code Email:augustquarterlyfestival@gmail.com

August Quarterly Festival Committee, Inc., P.O. Box 2719 Wilmington, Delaware 19805-0719

Host: Mother African Union First Colored Methodist Protestant Church 812 N. Franklin Street Wilmington, DE 19805 Rev. Dr. Ronald W. Whitaker, II, Sr. Pastor





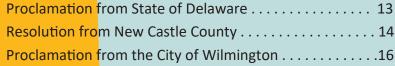




#### Cover Designer: Michael Riley

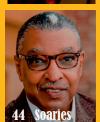
Michael majored in Commercial Art at the Art Institute of Philadelphia. He was commissioned by the Head of Surgery at Hahnemann Hospital in Philadelphia, He began a career as a freelance illustrator and writer. His favorite subjects are history, spirituality and self-empowerment. His poem, "No Pancy Parade" appeared in Essence Magazine's 2004 Anniversary Issue.

Michael relies heavily upon his faith for guidance and inspiration. He believes that his creations are divinely inspired exchanges of ideas, principals and emotions. More information page 21











#### **FEATURES**

٠	August Quarterly History 4
•	Welcome Message Dr. Ron Whitaker 6
•	Dedication to William Dale Anderson 7
٠	Honoring Apostle Patricia Williams 8
•	Welcome Message AQ Chairperson 10
•	A Q Committee Members
•	A Blast from the Past Photos 30
٠	Festival Worship Service 41
٠	From Burden to Blessings 48
٠	Mother-Daughter Photos
٠	In Person Giving Options 70
٠	Patrons
•	Memorials75





Partnering Sponsors



Signature Sponsor













Special Acknowledgements to all Clergy, Churches, Politicians, State, Local Organizations, Musicians, Choirs, Special Guest, Families and Friends. We, thank you for your commitment and support during this great celebration. August Quarterly Festival is truly a community-wide historical event that benefits the entire Wilmington and surrounding regions. Special thanks to our loyal sponsors and all those who continue to support "The Big Quarterly."

#### **August Quarterly**

August Quarterly was started in 1814 by Peter Spencer, the founder of the Union Church of Africans. He started the religious gathering on the first anniversary of the Union Church of African Members, which was the first denomination incorporated in these United States, by African Americans for African Americans. There were several local congregations, and even a few independent local churches in the south, but Spencer and his Union Church was the first to do so with an alliance or denomination in mind.

By 1814, there were several churches that aligned themselves with Spencer's movement and they came together in a celebration of religious freedom and racial solidarity. Peter Spencer was perhaps a man ahead of his time in that he believed the Gospel of Jesus Christ and the Church provided a vehicle to teach and preach about five principles of life --hope, salvation, community, liberation and self-determination. It was these five principles that provided a foundation for his ministry. The Union Church and the August Quarterly.

The August Quarterly grew into an opportunity for the African American Community in and around Wilmington, Delaware to become self-actualized. Delaware was unique in that it was both a slave state and a free state. Geographically, it was below the Mason-Dixon line, yet in the northern part of the state it was declared "free." August Quarterly provided a rare, and almost militant opportunity for African Americans, both those yet enslaved and those who had been granted freedom, to gather together. Freedom of assembly for African Americans was against the law in many parts of the country, and unheard of in all parts of the nation. But Peter Spencer and this newly formed church dared to call for solidarity and the freedom of assembly for men and women of African descent.

The message went out throughout the surrounding areas and not only to the churches associated with Spencer's movement, but men and women from all over would journey to Wilmington to share in these ideals, and if they were not free, they at least shared in the hope of freedom. In time, enslaved Africans were granted passage by their captors to attend the August Quarterly in Wilmington, and people would travel from Lower Delaware and Maryland's Eastern Shore to attend the AQ. People also came on steamships, in wagons and on foot from New Jersey, Eastern Pennsylvania, and New York for this great celebration and participation in the hope of freedom. Thousands of African Americans made the pilgrimage to Wilmington, Delaware on this last weekend of August to attend the Big Quarterly, which was the proper name, though most knew it by the name *August* Quarterly because it always ended on the last Sunday of August.

Education was another principle espoused by Peter Spencer. There was a school associated with every church that aligned itself with the African Union Church movement. Today, the first African Union Church congregation is represented by the Mother African Union Church, which has been granted by God with the honor of serving as host church for the AQ. But the AQ does not belong to Mother Church, it belongs to all of the faith community, the City of Wilmington, and the region, and it is a sign, symbol and foretaste of the Kingdom of God. The Mother African Union Church today is striving not just to keep alive the celebration of AQ for us to remember, but the church makes every effort to keep alive Spencer's vision for the church and the principles he stood for—hope, salvation, community, liberation and self-determination.

# The August Quarterly Festival Committee, Inc. Thanks to our Sponsor's for 2025







































#### Beloved Community,

Welcome to the 2025 August Quarterly Festival! This year, we gather under the banner of our theme: "Shifting from Stress to a Place of Rest." In a time marked by social exhaustion, political anxiety, and spiritual dislocation, this theme calls us not to retreat, but to return—to the sacred rhythms of rest, resistance, and renewal that have long sustained the Black faith tradition.

We draw strength from the legacy of Rev. Peter Spencer, whose founding of the Union Church of Africans in 1813 was itself an act of radical rest: a bold rejection of religious domination, and a reclamation of space for spiritual sovereignty, communal healing, and God-centered freedom.

Established in 1814 as a revival, a reunion, and a resistance gathering, the August Quarterly has always been a place where Black people could not only worship, but also breathe. Amid the brutal realities of slavery and racial oppression, Spencer's movement carved out a sacred sabbath—a space fortified by faith and hope. Today, in a world that continues to press Black bodies and minds to the brink, the call to rest remains revolutionary.

To shift from stress to rest is not to abandon the work of justice—it is to anchor it in something deeper. It is to embody what the late Dr. Katie Cannon called "a theology of the survival of the soul"—where rest is reclaimed as our divine inheritance, not a luxury. In this spirit, our 2025 gathering will serve as a sacred container for reflection, revival, and reconnection—with our ancestors, our communities, and the liberating God who sustained Peter Spencer's vision.

Through prophetic preaching, sacred music, communal storytelling, and intentional spaces of care, the August Quarterly continues to be a place where freedom is not only proclaimed, but also practiced. This year, we invite you not simply to attend, but to unburden your spirit and reclaim rest—as resistance, as refuge, and as the first step toward reimagining the world anew.

With Sacred Resolve and Communal Hope,

#### Overseer Dr. Ronald W. Whitaker, II

Senior Pastor, Mother African Union Church Host Pastor-2025 August Quarterly Festival

#### August Quarterly Festival Committee Dedicates this book to:

#### **William Dale Anderson**



A Beloved Legacy Member of the August Quarterly Festival Committee, Inc.

William Anderson affectionately known as "Dale" was born on January 15, 1942 in Terre Haute, Indiana. He departed this earthly life and transitioned to his heavenly home on Monday, March 3, 2025 surrounded by his devoted family.

Dale was a man of god and a faithful life long member of Mother AUFCMP Church. He served on countless committees and served on the Trustee and Steward Boards. He enjoyed sending time with family and friends, gardening, cooking/grilling and watching sports. He never met a stranger and loved to talk.

Dale was an advocate and lifelong supported of the August Quarterly Festival. He served on the August Quarterly Festival Committee with pride for over 40 years. He offered his service, time, and wisdom to the festival for the honor and glory of God.

Future generations will be blessed by his presence and hard work while our ancestors smile in admiration of his dedication to this historic festival

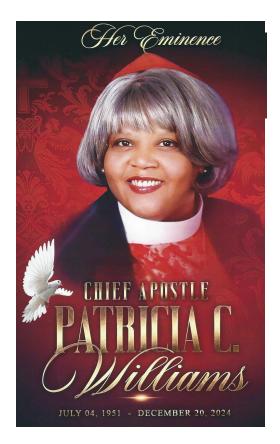
Those we Love don't go away,

They walk beside us every day.

Unseen, unheard, but always near,

Still Loved, still missed, and always dear.

Lovingly Submitted, The Anderson Family



### August Quarterly Festival Committee Honors

#### Chief Apostle Patricia C. Williams

Patricia, known affectionately as "Patty" grew up on the Eastside of Wilmington, where she was known for her quiet uniqueness. While children her age spent their days outside playing jax, double dutch, hopscotch, and other games; Patty found her greatest joy indoors. She preferred learning new crafts, sewing, crocheting, and cultivating her creativity. Her mother recognized her creative nature and began to over and protect her in a way that would allow her to flourish.

Growing up she was rooted and anointed in music. As part of the Gospel Vessels. The group composed of husband, siblings, and a few close friends, who became a beloved fixture in the Tri-state area, traveling and ministering through song.

Patty's signature song was "Give Us This Day"

Despite her busy schedule with the Gospel Vessels, she remained committed to supporting her family in every way she could. She had a long and successful career as a Nursing Assistant.

Many nursing homes specifically requested her services, appreciating not only her professional skills but her genuine compassion.

Patty became an active member of her family's church, St. Paul UAME Church, in Wilmington. There she was nurtured and groomed for the work of the Lord, especially in the areas of music ministry and outreach, Music ran through the veins of her family, and Patty and her siblings often sang together, sharing their musical gifts with the congregation. It was also at St. Paul where Patty's passion for missionary work took root – a calling that would shape her ministry for years to come.

Apostle Williams became known for her powerful missionary and outreach work. Her heart for service took her into nursing homes, prisons, on street corners, across the nation to improvised areas where she spread the love and message of Christ. Her heart was truly for the people. She fed, clothed and sheltered the homeless particularly in cold winters. She continued her mission providing warmth, and would lock the garage door at night so they could sleep safely in the heat. Every morning, she would show up with soup, soap, and washcloths to help those she served clean up and restore their dignity.

Her eminence embraced her presence and supportive stand with the August Quarterly Festival. She was a major source with her church, family and friends singing the songs of Zion in the park and other locations.

Chief Apostle Williams will be remembered and missed for her diligent kingdom work.





#### WE ARE CELEBRATING 211 YEARS OF RELIGIOUS FREEDOM



The Ministerial Staff of the Motherland Nation continues in the legacy of Reverend Peter Spencer.

As we shift from stress to a place of rest, we remain committed to the work of Serving, Educating, and Evangelizing the Community through the Word of God.







<sup>28</sup> "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.

<sup>29</sup> Take my yoke upon you and learn from me,
for I am gentle and humble in heart,
and you will find rest for your souls.

Matthew 11:28-29 NIV























MARILYN J. MONK - CHAIRPERSON

#### WE'VE COME THIS FAR BY FAITH

1814 - 2025

WE, THE 211<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST QUARTERLY FESTIVAL COMMITTEE, INC. ARE:

"THE COMMUNITY RECOMMITTED TO OUR COMMON PURPOSE"

#### THE AUGUST QUARTERLY FESTIVAL-August 30th & 31st "THE BIG QUARTERLY"

Started in 1814 by our Founder Rev. Dr. Peter Spencer, a time for Free Blacks and Slaves alike to come together from multi-states and celebrate their faith with Preaching, Singing, Dancing, Testimonials and Feasting on Good Home cooked Soul Food. The August Quarterly is the Oldest Continuously Running Religious celebration in the Country.

August Quarterly became a kinda Independence Day for Black People on the Delmarva Peninsula. In the early years of the Festival "Abolitionist and Underground Railroad Conductors, i.e. Thomas Garrett and Harriet Tubman were often in Wilmington to assist slaves who chose to escape!

The August Quarterly has changed over the Years but, through Faith and the Grace of God we've remained committed to carry on the Tradition and Celebrate our "August Quarterly Festival!"

I would like to Thank Overseer Ronald W. Whitaker, II, Pastor of Mother African Union Church (The Motherland) for allowing and putting confidence in Me and My committee to carry on this Celebration. To My Committee Thank You is such a small Word, because without your commitment, this would not happen because there is no I in TEAM! To My Family Near and Far, My Masonic Family and My Bonus Family! You make it All Worthwhile!

## The BIG QUARTERLY FESTIVAL "211th "WE ARE IN IT TO WIN IT"

MARILYN J. MONK, 211<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST QUARTERLY FESTIVAL GENERAL CHAIRPERSON

# "HE ANSWERED THEIR PRAYERS BECAUSE THEY TRUSTED IN HIM" 1<sup>ST</sup> CHRONICLES 5:20

# WE THE OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF THE 211<sup>™</sup> AUGUST QUARTERLY FESTIVAL, INC., WOULD LIKE TO SAY: IT IS OUR HONOR TO CONTINUE THIS LABOR OF LOVE COORDINATING AND WORKING TOWARDS

#### REV. PETER SPENCER'S DREAM!



MARILYN J. MONK, CHAIRLADY
HIRAM DYER, LOGISTIC COORDINATOR
DARLA J. CHASE, RECORDING SECRETARY
STACY SUGGS, EXEC. SECRETARY
WM. "BILL" JONES, TREASURER
REV. RONALD W. WHITAKER, II, PASTOR/ADVISOR

# CONGRATULATIONS TO THE AUGUST QUARTERLY FESTIVAL

FOR BRINGING TOGETHER
OUR COMMUNITY AND
CELEBRATING THE LEGACY OF
DR. PETER SPENCER!
Best wishes,

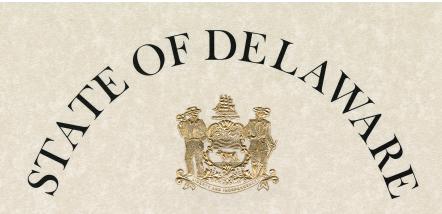
Chin Com

# ChrisCoons

U.S. SENATOR FOR DELAWARE

PAID FOR BY CHRIS COONS FOR DELAWARE





#### OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

# PROCLAMATION IN RECOGNITION OF THE AUGUST QUARTERLY FESTIVAL

Whereas, the August Quarterly, known as the "Big Quarterly," is an annual celebration to commemorate the founding of the Union Church of Africans. Mother African Union Church was the first independent African American Church in Wilmington and in the United States; and

Whereas, the Quarterly educates participants on a variety of American freedom movements, including, but not limited to, the Underground Railroad, the August Quarterly, the Abolitionist Movement, and other revered freedom movements; and

Whereas, the August Quarterly commemorates and celebrates the significant historical perspectives of our nation in general and the African American experience; and

*Whereas*, in 2025, the August Quarterly Festival is celebrating 211 years of historic and religious freedom.

Now, Therefore, I, Matthew Meyer, Governor, do hereby recognize August 24-31, 2025, as THE AUGUST QUARTERLY FESTIVAL

in the State of Delaware, and encourage all citizens to honor the significance of the August Quarterly and urge them to participate in the services and festivities.



Matthew Meyer Governor



### PROCLAMATION

Be it hereby known to all that The Honorable Marcus Henry, New Castle County Executive, recognizes

### August Quarterly

**WHEREAS**, the August Quarterly, also known as the "Big Quarterly," began in 1814 in Wilmington, Delaware, and stands as the oldest African American festival in the United States, founded by Peter Spencer, a visionary leader and trailblazer of religious and civil freedom; and

WHEREAS, Peter Spencer, often regarded as the "Original Civil Rights Leader," firmly believed in the principles enshrined in the Bill of Rights, especially the freedoms of religion and assembly, and acted on those beliefs by establishing a space where African Americans could gather in faith, fellowship, and freedom; and

**WHEREAS**, the August Quarterly was a sacred and rare time when enslaved African Americans from across the eastern seaboard could travel, reconnect with loved ones, and celebrate the spirit of unity, resilience, and hope; and

WHEREAS, the August Quarterly commemorates critical historical movements including the Underground Railroad, the Abolitionist Movement, and other landmark freedom movements that shaped the path toward civil rights, equality, and justice for all people in this nation; and

**WHEREAS**, the August Quarterly Festival Committee continues this powerful legacy, providing cultural activities and educational programs that uplift African American heritage and instill pride and a sense of belonging across generations—from youth to elders; and

**WHEREAS**, the August Quarterly has become a vital institution, drawing thousands to Wilmington annually, preserving the memory and message of African American endurance and triumph through black history presentations, conferences, theatrical dramas, and family-centered events; and

**WHEREAS**, this historic celebration has been recognized at the federal level by U.S. Senator Joseph R. Biden, Jr., and honored by communities nationwide for its unmatched continuity and cultural significance;

**NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Marcus Henry, County Executive, do hereby proclaim the last week of August as:

#### "August Quarterly Week"

in , and urge all citizens to join in commemorating this vital piece of American history by supporting the August Quarterly Festival, honoring the legacy of Peter Spencer, and reflecting on the enduring principles of freedom, unity, and faith that it represents.

Marcus Henry
New Castle County Executive





Mayor John Carney and the City of Wilmington congratulate the



## On the 211<sup>th</sup> August Quarterly **Festival Celebration**

Sunday, August 24, 2025 - Sunday, August 31, 2025

"The heart of Wilmington beats stronger each year through the voices and legacy celebrated at the August Quarterly."



www. WilmingtonDE.gov



Office of the Mayor

#### Froclamation:

WHEREAS, the August Quarterly, founded in 1814 by Reverend Peter Spencer in Wilmington, Delaware, stands as the oldest continuously celebrated African American festival in the United States, rooted in the principles of religious freedom, the right to assembly, and the unyielding pursuit of liberty and dignity for all people; and

WHEREAS, Peter Spencer, known as the "Original Civil Rights Leader," created this historic gathering as a sacred space for worship, reunion, and community-buildingempowering enslaved and free African Americans to unite in faith, resilience, and hope during a time of great oppression; and

WHEREAS, the August Quarterly has served as a beacon of freedom and cultural identity, connecting generations of African Americans to the enduring legacy of the Underground Railroad, the Abolitionist Movement, and other transformative freedom movements that shaped our nation; and

WHEREAS, for more than 200 years, the August Quarterly has brought together youth, families, elders, and visitors from across the country to celebrate shared heritage through music, drama, education, and spiritual fellowship; and

WHEREAS, the August Quarterly Festival Committee continues to preserve and elevate this powerful tradition, ensuring that the stories, struggles, and triumphs of African Americans are honored, remembered, and taught to future generations; and

WHEREAS, the City of Wilmington and the State of Delaware are proud to be home to this extraordinary cultural milestone, which contributes to our shared commitment to diversity. history, and community;

> Be it hereby known to all that I, John C. Carney, Mayor of the City of Wilmington, celebrate

#### August Quarterly 2025

and call upon all residents and citizens to join in commemorating this important chapter of American history, to participate in its celebrations, and to reflect upon the enduring legacy of Reverend Peter Spencer and the freedom that he so boldly proclaimed.

ATTEST:

Mayor

Ihn Carney

#### WILMINGTON CITY COUNCIL



TRIPPI CONGO **PRESIDENT** 

"As we honor the legacy of Peter Spencer and the historic roots of the August Quarterly, we are reminded of the strength, faith, and resilience that built our community. This celebration is more than a festival. It is a powerful testament to African American spiritual independence and unity. Wilmington holds the sacred distinction of being the birthplace of the first incorporated African American denomination in the nation. May this year's August Quarterly continue to inspire generations to come."



**COBY J. OWENS** 1st District



SHANÉ N. DARBY 2nd District



**ZANTHIA OLIVER** 3rd District



MICHELLE HARLEE 4th District



5th District



CHRISTIAN WILLAUER YOLANDA M. MCCOY 6th District



**CHRIS JOHNSON** 7th District



NATHAN FIELD 8th District



MARIA D. CABRERA At-Large



ALEXANDER D. HACKETT JAMES SPADOLA At-Large www.wilmingtoncitycouncil.com



At-Large



**LATISHA BRACY** At-Large

# Congratulations

on another inspiring year honoring enduring faith and spiritual heritage



August Quarterly reminds us of the power of Faith, Family, and Freedom

Values that continue to strengthen communities and unite us in purpose

Trinidad Navarro Insurance Commissioner

#### **Congratulations**

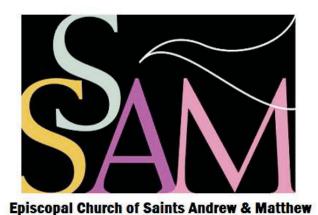
**August Quarterly Festival Celebrating 211 Years** 

#### **Authentic Tailoring Service**



McKinley Womack, President 3207 Miller Road Wilmington, DE 19802 302-764-5872





719 N. Shipley Street Wilmington, DE 19801

302-656-6628

www.ssam.org

Sunday services at 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Facebook prayer services Monday-Friday at 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m.

# When we give back, our community leaps forward.

WSFS Bank sees every chance to support a local nonprofit as an opportunity to grow and enrich our Community.

We're honored to support the positive impact made by the 2025 August Quarterly Festival.

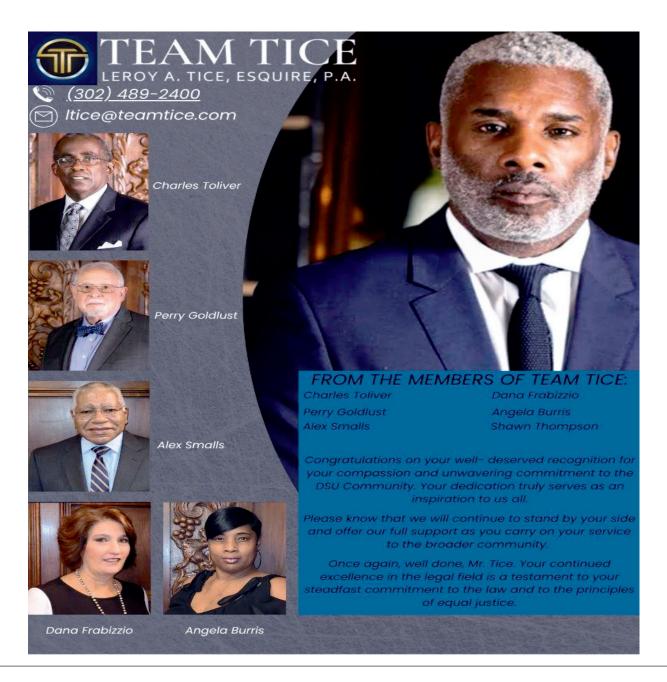












#### **About Michael J. Riley**

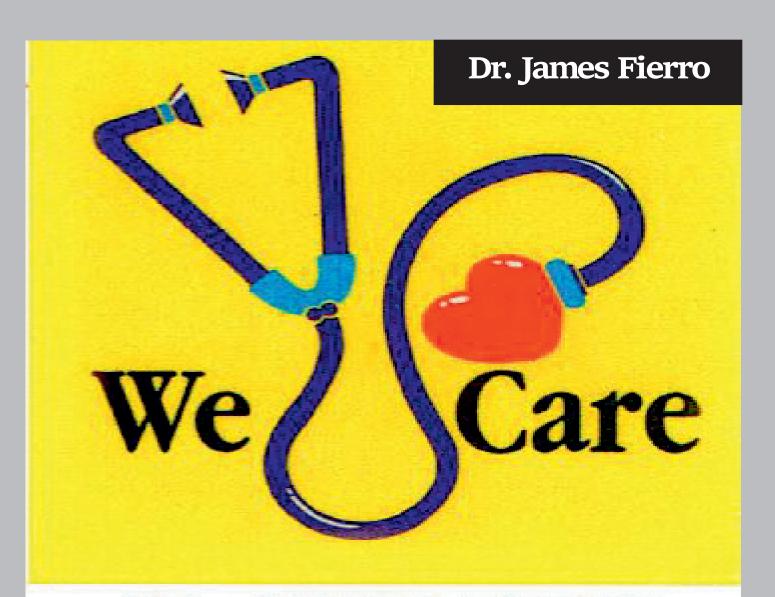


Born and raised in Wilmington, Delaware, Michael J. Riley is a passionate advocate for creativity and community outreach. A proud graduate of Wilmington High School and the Art Institute of Philadelphia, Michael has dedicated his life to using art and media as tools for empowerment and connection.

Since 2007, he has served as the official cover artist for the August Quarterly Festival's Commemorative Book, a role that reflects his deep commitment to cultural heritage and artistic excellence. His talents as a graphic designer, fine artist, and program host have supported numerous local organizations, and his creative consulting has extended to projects on both the local and national stage. Michael's designs, illustrations, and poetry have

been featured in a wide range of publications, including medical textbooks, periodicals, and national magazines. His work bridges the worlds of art, education, and community service.

A former Co-host and Co-producer of "In the Upper Room" and Host/Producer of "From the Basement to the Upper Room" on Channel 28, Michael is also the founder of "UR Future Artists Talent Show Case," a platform dedicated to uplifting emerging talent. Michael has served as a creative consultant to churches, schools, civic groups, and non-profits, always bringing a spirit of collaboration and purpose to every project. In his spare time, he enjoys traveling, basketball, reading, movies, fishing, listening to music, and most of all, spending time with his family and his beloved daughter, Keera.



## DR. JAMES FIERRO

FAMILY MEDICINE 1805 FOULK RD., STE. F WILMINGTON, DE 19810

phone: (302) 529-2255

fax: (302) 529-2257

WWW.DRJAMESFIERRO.COM



#### Janssen's Market

3801 Kennett Pike
Greenville, Delaware
302-654-9941
catering@janssensmarket.com
Janssensfinefoods.com

## Since 1983 !!





## Bernie's

the

## Original Italian Water Ice

1701 W. 8th Street
(Corner of 8th & Dupont Streets)
(302) 429-8985

Home of the Double-Slice Pizza!

www.BestWaterIce.com



Bernies Original Italian Water Ice is on Facebook

#### The Van Mar Inc. and Salon Le Fini



## A Local Agent Who Knows You...and Delaware Laws!

**WE CAN SAVE YOU \$100'S ON YOUR INSURANCE!** 





**AUTOMOBILE INSURANCE** COMMERCIAL INSURANCE WORKMAN'S COMP . HEALTH INSURANCE **HOMEOWNERS & CONDO INSURANCE** LIFE INSURANCE & ANNUITY **BOAT INSURANCE • RENTERS INSURANCE** 

23 HOUR GUAIMS SERVICE





**Protect Your** Family



**Protect Your Home** 

302-633-1980

(WILMINGTON)

302-674-4044

Web: www.smallsinsuranceagency.com Email: Fred@smallsinsuranceagency.com











Smalls Insurance Agency, Inc.

Smalls Real Estate Co., Inc.

5227 W. Woodmill Drive Suite 43 Wilmington, DE 19808

4164 N. DuPont Hwy Dover, DE 19901

#### **BUYERS · SELLERS · RENTALS**

- Homes
- Townhomes
- Land / Lots
   Short Sales

**Property Management Services** 

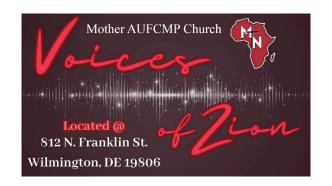


Over 30 Years In Business Corporate Relocations









The Voices of Zion

Congratulates

The August Quarterly Festival Committee

On 211 Years of Continuous Celebration of the

August Quarterly Festival

"Big Quarterly"

To God be the Glory!

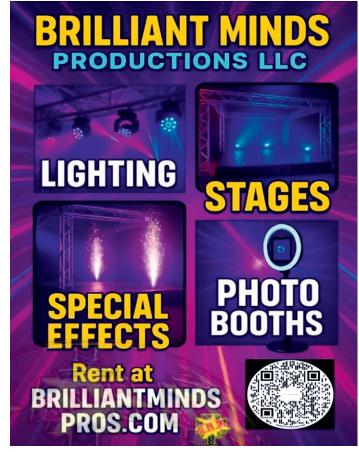


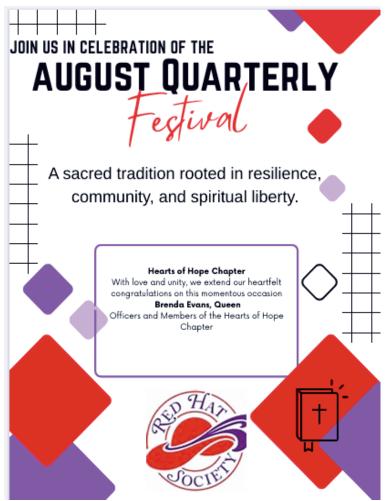


"Let Everything that has breadth praise the LORD! Praise the LORD!" Ps 150:6

# Congratulations August Quarterly Festival











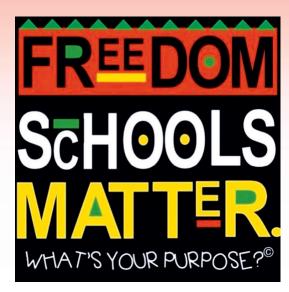
#### The Lee Family Tribe

Thomas F. Lee, Sr.
Rev. Delores A. Lee
Alex A. Archibald
A.J. Archibald
Sian Archibald
Nicholas Zambrana
Ron Wright
Kyneta Lee Wright
Amethyst A.J. Lee









#### ૹૹૹૹૹૹૹૹૹૹૹ

The Peter Spencer Family Life Foundation Freedom Schools are
Following in the Footsteps of Peter Spencer
Congratulations to 211 Years of the August Quarterly

#### ૹૹૹૹૹૹૹૹૹૹૹૹ

"I hope it will be said we taught them to stand tall and proud, even in the face of history, and the future was made new and whole for us all – one child at a time." Brian Andreas, Youth Service Bureau Of Illinois Valley

The Peter Spencer Family Life Foundation 812 North Franklin Street Wilmington, DE 19806 PSFLF.Board@gmail.com



# CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2025 AUGUST QUARTERLY FOR 211 YEARS OF HISTORY AND PERSEVERANCE!

We are guided by the Peter Spencer Principles: Community, Hope, Liberation, Self-Determination, and Salvation.

The Peter Spencer Family Life Foundation
812 North Franklin Street
Wilmington, DE 19806
PSFLF.Board@gmail.com

#### A Blast from the Past

















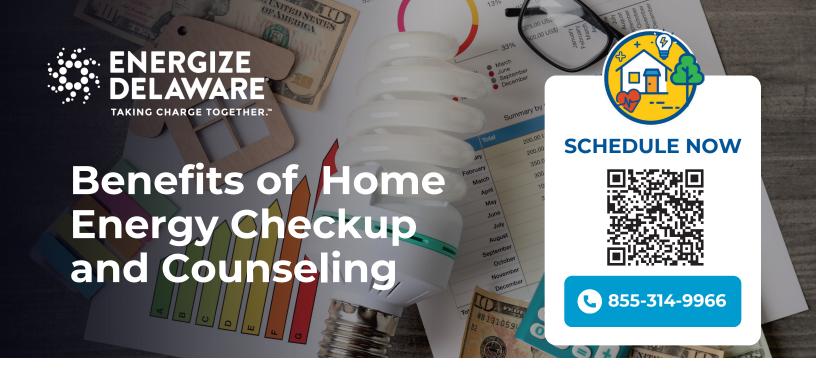














# Inspiring sustainable energy solutions

Energize Delaware offers a no-cost in-home energy check up.

Your check-up and counseling includes:

- ✓ A one-hour in-home appointment
- Counseling on ways to save energy
- Installation of energy-saving products



\$190

Potential Annual Savings from Direct Install Measures



30

Potential Therm
Savings from
Direct Install Measures

Which equates to:

- Charging 12,000 smartphones
- 404 miles in a gas car
- Planting 2 trees



Potential kWh Savings from Direct Install Measures Which equates to:

- 187 dishwasher cycles
- Planting 9 trees
- 7,200 Keurig cups
- 148 laundry cycles
- Charging 48,000 smartphones
- More than a home's monthly energy usage



**Engineering Excellence.** Building Integrity.



#### **OUR APPROACH**

Proudly serving the Washington Metropolitan Area for over 26 years, CECA specializes in delivering customized building solutions. Our in-house team of technical professionals are uniquely skilled to provide services in Engineering Design, Third-Party Inspections, MEP Commissioning and Green Building Innovations.



SOLUTIONS
Engineering Design
Third-Party Inspection
Commissioning







KEY PROJECTS

National Harbor

U.S. Coast Guard HQ

Carlye Place

Wash Commanders

Northwest Park

First Baptist Church of

Glenarden

#### CECA proudly supports August Quarterly 2025

We must celebrate the successes of our heritage, as we strive to build on those legacies

Learn more about us online...

www.CECALLC.com



# Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Delaware

and its Jurisdictions, Inc.

# Congratulations August Quarterly for Celebrating 211 Years of Religious Freedom!

Honorable Everett Lewis, Jr. 31st Most Worshipful Grand Master



#### SERVICING OUR COMMUNITIES FOR OVER THIRTY YEARS!



#### BENNIE SMITH FUNERAL HOME OF DELAWARE



**Traditional Funeral Services & Burial** 

**On-site Crematory** 

Cremation with Memorial Service

**Direct Cremation** 

**Memorial Services** 

**Grief Support/Grief Resources** 

Specialty Funeral Services

**Veterans Funeral Services** 

**Ash Scattering Services** 

**Military Honors** 

Limousine Service

**Pre-Planning** 

Floral Arrangements



Licensed Funeral Dire **Executive Director of Funeral Operations** 

## Celebrating 212 Years Mother African Union Church

#### Sunday, September 21, 2025

812 North Franklin Street, Wilmington, DE
10:00 AM Worship Service



**Host Pastor**Overseer Dr. Ronald W. Whitaker, II



Featuring:

Caleb
Serrano
Singing
Sensation
Nashville, TN



Senator
Darius Brown
Pastor of St.
Daniel's UM
Church Port
Penn, DE



Free will offering

Lunch will be served after morning worship.



#### **Pre-Anniversary Celebration**

Friday, September 19, 2025

812 North Franklin Street, Wilmington, DE 7:00 PM – "Songs of Jubilee"

#### Featuring:

Men of Simpson UMC

and

Motherland Youth Players ("Who Was Peter Spencer?")

#### A GLIMPSE OF THE AUGUST QUARTERLY FESTIVAL MUSIC GUEST AND PERFORMERS



#### **VICKIE WINANS**



Main Headliner Sunday, August 31, 2025

Vickie Winans is an American singer-songwriter, music producer, comedian, and actress.



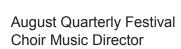
#### **LONNIE HUNTER**



Gospel singer, minister and radio host



**WAYNE CARTER** 





MELVIN CRISPELL, III

Main Headliner Saturday, August 30, 2025

Grammy award recording gospel artist.



We thank and appreciate all our music, musicians, choirs, guest performers and etc.



#### Overseer Doctor Ronald W. Whitaker, II



The Rev. Dr. Ronald W. Whitaker, II is the Senior Pastor at the Historic Mother African Union Church. Dr. Whitaker is an ordained minister of the Gospel, who has held numerous ministerial leadership positions for over 20 years. As a Spiritual thought leader, Dr. Whitaker has been uniquely gifted to assist churches, ministries, and faith-based organizations.

As a Critical Scholar-Practitioner, Dr. Whitaker is an incoming Associate Professor at Arcadia University, an appointed Scholar in Residence at Duquesne University, and an inaugural Faculty Fellow in Race, Research, and Justice at Vanderbilt University. Dr. Whitaker presents his research at both national and international conferences. His research centers on issues of Race, Racism, White

supremacy, Social Justice, the Plight of Black Males, and the Prophetic Black Church Tradition.

**Educationally**, The Rev. Dr. Ronald W. Whitaker, II has earned Five degrees. He received his Doctorate Degree from Duquesne University, Masters Degrees from both The University of Pennsylvania and Eastern University, and Undergraduate Degrees in Urban Ministry Leadership and Biblical Studies from Geneva College at the Center for Urban Theological Studies where he graduated Magna Cum Laude. Further, Dr. Whitaker also earned a Certificate in Culturally Sustaining Teaching from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, and an Executive Certificate in Diversity and Inclusion from Cornell University.

**Additionally, as a Minister of the Gospel**, The Rev. Dr. Ronald W. Whitaker, II has been blessed to receive theological professional development training at the annual Black Theology and Leadership Institute at Princeton Theological Seminary, The E.K. Bailey Preaching Conference, and Christian Research and Development (CRD).

**Apart from work and ministry**, Dr. Whitaker enjoys spending time with his wife (Sheronda) and daughter (Rayan), reading and watching documentaries, eating seafood, and traveling. As a Prophetic Black Preacher, The Rev. Dr. Ronald W. Whitaker, II finds ministry inspiration in Luke 4: 18-19, which declares:

"The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."



#### 211th Gathering of the August Quarterly

Closing Festival Worship Service Sunday, August 31, 2025

#### **Prelude of Praise**

- Processional Clergy, Choir, and Special Guests
- Praise & Worship Led by August Quarterly Worship Team

#### Worship in Spirit and in Truth

- Call to Worship Overseer Dr. Ronald W. Whitaker, II
- Opening Hymn August Quarterly Choir
- Opening Prayer Overseer Dr. Blaine Hackett
- Welcome & Greetings Sis. Darla Chase
- Selection August Quarterly Choir

#### **Celebrating Our Legacy**

- Recognition of Guests Sis. Pasqulita Jackson
- o Remarks from Selected Public Officials
- Special Remarks Sis. Marilyn J. Monk
- The Significance of Peter Spencer and August Quarterly Overseer Dr. Ronald W. Whitaker, II
- o Recognition of Honorees & Award Recipients

#### **Worship Through Giving**

- Offering Bishop George E. Gibson
- Grand March Masonic Lodges
- Offertory Response "All things come of Thee, O Lord, and of Thine own have we given Thee."

#### Proclamation of the Word

- Introduction of the Preacher Overseer Dr. Ronald W. Whitaker, II
- Sermonic Selection August Quarterly Choir
- Sermon Rev. Dr. Michael Eric Dyson

#### The Call to Discipleship

Invitation to Christian Discipleship & Altar Call – Overseer Dr. Ronald W. Whitaker, II

#### **Sending Forth in Faith**

• Benediction - Bishop George E. Gibson



#### Michael Eric Dyson

Public Intellectual & Best-Selling Author

Dr. Michael Eric Dyson is the Centennial Chair at Vanderbilt University and serves as University Distinguished Professor of African American and Diaspora Studies in the College of Arts and Science and University Distinguished Professor of Ethics and Society in the Divinity School. He is also a New York Times contributing opinion writer, and a contributing editor of The New Republic, and of ESPN's The Undefeated website. His rise from humble roots in Detroit to his present perch as a world class intellectual, noted author of 21 books, prominent leader and national media fixture testify to his extraordinary talent. Dyson has also taught at other elite universities like Georgetown University as a sociology professor, Brown University, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Columbia University and The University of Pennsylvania.

Dr. Dyson has won many prestigious honors, including an American Book Award and two NAACP Image Awards. *Ebony* magazine cited him as one of the 100 most influential African Americans, and as one of the 150 most powerful blacks in the nation.

Dyson's influence has spread far beyond the academy in his roles of renowned orator, highly sought-after lecturer, and ordained Baptist minister. For the last quarter of a century, Dyson has also enlivened public debate across the media landscape on every major television and radio show in the country, from The Late Show with Stephen Colbert to Real Time with Bill Maher, from Good Morning America to The Today Show, from NPR's All Things Considered to its Talk of the Nation, from the Tavis Smiley Show to Def Poetry Jam, from This Week with George Stephanopoulos to Meet the Press, and Face the Nation -- and several programs on ESPN.

Dyson's pioneering scholarship has had a profound effect on American ideas. His 1994 book Making Malcolm: The Myth and Meaning of Malcolm X, was named one of the most important African American books of the 20th century and was also named a "Notable Book of the year" by the New York Times. According to book industry bible Publisher's Weekly, Dyson's 2001 book, Holler if You Hear Me: Searching for Tupac Shakur, helped to make books on hip hop commercially viable.

Dyson's recent book, Entertaining Race: Performing Blackness in America, is a testament to Dyson's consistent celebration of the outsized impact of African American culture and politics on this country. His other book, JAY-Z: Made in America, was named one of Washington Post's 50 notable works of nonfiction in 2019. Dyson shares the impact Jay-Z has on America with his



rapping and how he used his poetic talent to weave politics in his music, making important statements on race and social injustice. Dyson's eloquent writing has inspired Vanity Fair magazine to describe him as "one of the most graceful and lucid intellectuals writing on race and politics today." And Dyson's 2005 New York Times bestseller Is Bill Cosby Right? Or Has the Black Middle Class Lost Its Mind? helped to jump start a national conversation on the black poor. Dyson's book, the critically acclaimed New York Times bestseller The Black Presidency: Barack Obama and the Politics of Race in America, has been described by The New York Times as "an interpretive miracle." It was a finalist for the prestigious 2016 Kirkus Prize. Dyson's book, the widely praised New York Times bestseller Tears We Cannot Stop: A Sermon to White America, has been described by the New York Times as "One of the most frank and searing discussions on race ... a deeply serious, urgent book, which should take its place in the tradition of Baldwin's The Fire Next Time and King's Why We Can't Wait. Dyson's other book, What Truth Sounds Like: RFK, James Baldwin and Our Unfinished Conversation About Race in America, has been called by Kirkus "an incisive look at the roles of politicians, artists, intellectuals, and activists in confronting racial injustice and effecting change," and an "eloquent response to an urgent and still-unresolved - dilemma."

Dyson's legendary ascent – from welfare father to Princeton Ph.D., from church pastor to college professor, from a factory worker who didn't start college until he was 21 -- may help explain why writer Naomi Wolf terms him "the ideal public intellectual of our time."

#### Topics:

- In Caricature: Racial Profiling & Its Impact on Black America
- Tears We Cannot Stop: A Sermon to White America
- African American Influence on Pop Culture
- Dr. King for the 21st Century
- Martin Luther King Jr. & (African-) American Leadership in the 21st Century
- Race, Racism & Race Relations in America

#### Dr. DeForest B. Soaries, Jr.



#### **BRIEF BIOGRAPHY**

Dr. Soaries is the Senior Pastor (Emeritus) of First Baptist Church of Lincoln Gardens ("FBCLG") in Somerset, New Jersey. In July 2021 he retired from 30 years of ministry, which focused on spiritual growth, educational excellence, economic empowerment, and faith-based community development. As a pioneer of faith-based community development, Dr. Soaries' impact on FBCLG and the community was tremendous.

In 1992, he founded the Central Jersey Community Development Corporation ("CJCDC"), a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that specializes in helping revitalize underserved and vulnerable neighborhoods. In 1996, the CJCDC launched Harvest of Hope Family Services Network, Inc. This organization developed permanent solutions for hundreds of foster children and parents.

Dr. Soaries was inducted to the The Martin Luther King Jr Board of Preachers at Morehouse College.

Dr. Soaries is also the President and CEO of Corporate Community Connections, Inc., a company that assists corporations expand and improve their Corporate Social Responsibility efforts.

From 1999 to 2002, Dr. Soaries served as New Jersey's Secretary of State, making him the first and only African-American male to serve in that office. He also served as the former chairman of the United States Election Assistance Commission, which was established by Congress to implement the "Help America Vote Act" of 2002.

In 2005, Dr. Soaries launched the dfree® Financial Freedom Movement. The dfree® strategy teaches people how to become financially self-sufficient. His work in financial empowerment was featured in a CNN documentary.

Dr. Soaries has written 12 books including "Say Yes to No Debt" and "Say Yes When Life Says No." he is the host of a weekly radio show "For Your Soul" on SiriusXM Urban View.

Dr. Soaries currently serves as an Independent Director at Independence Realty Trust and Ocwen Financial Corporation. He served as an Independent Director at the Federal Home Loan Bank of New York for 16 years. He also serves as a Trustee of RWJ Barnabas Health.

Soaries earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree from Fordham University, a Master of Divinity Degree from Princeton Theological Seminary, and a Doctor of Ministry Degree from United Theological Seminary. Dr. Soaries resides in Sarasota, Florida with his wife, Donna.

#### Rev. Keon A. Gerow



**Keon A. Gerow** is the founding and Senior Pastor of Catalyst Church in Philadelphia P.A. "Builder, thinker, and cutting edge" are all words used to describe him. Pastor Gerow graduated from Morehouse College (B.A.) and Princeton Theological Seminary (M.Div.) and earned a Certificate in Executive Leadership from the Howard University School of Business. He has served on the board of several organizations and is a recipient of numerous awards and honors, including being inducted into the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Board of Preachers at Morehouse College as a "Distinguished Preacher." Keon is happily married to The Rev. Tamieka Nicole Gerow and the proud father of two.

## House of Wright

**MORTUARY & CREMATION SERVICES** 

NOW SERVING NEW JERSEY!

#### Olignature OFFERINGS

Butterfly Release Customized Interior Tribute Dove Release Horse Drawn Carriage

Memorial Tapestry Memorial Pillow Memorial Reflection Memorial Slideshow



- TRADITIONAL
  -Viewing, Service and Earth Burial
- VIEWING, SERVICE WITH CREMATION
- MEMORIAL SERVICE with Decedent's Photo Or Urn
- JANAZZAH
  Ritualistic Washing/Shrouding and Burial
- GRAVESIDE SERVICE Casket/Urn At Gravesite
- DIRECT CREMATION Cremation.. No Viewing/Service



#### PENNS GROVE

56 Willis Street, Penns Grove, NJ 08069 | (856) 299-5517



#### WILMINGTON

208 East 35th Street, Wilmington, DE 19802 | (302) 762-8448



#### **SMYRNA**

48 East Commerce Street, Smyrna, DE 19977 | (302) 659-5517

"CELEBRATING LIFE WITH PERSONALIZED SERVICE & COMPASSION"

VISIT US ON THE WEB: WWW.WRIGHTMORTUARY.COM

#### PREPLAN TODAY!

INFO@WRIGHTMORTUARY.COM | LICENSED DE, MD, PA & NJ Justen A. Wright, CFSP | Manager/Owner NJ License#5141



DEBORAH A. WRIGHT
& T H E L A T E
ROBERT O. WRIGHT, I C.F.S.P.

#### THE BANCROFT ALUMNI CHAPTER

**AND** 

#### PRITCHETT ASSOCIATES LLC

**SENDS** 

Congratulations and Best Wishes To The 2025 Year Celebration Of The

"August Quarterly"

"Whoooo ......... Needs A Teacher?"



Juanita Pritchett ~ Nicole Pritchett
(302) 275-1746
pritchettm@gmail.com

Pritchett Associates, LLC Providing for The Local Communities Employment Opportunities
In The Field of Education
Substitute Teachers – Behavior Interventionists-After School Program Assistants.



From Burden to Blessing: Shifting from Stress to a Place of Rest

#### By Overseer Dr. Ronald W. Whitaker, II

In the early 1800s, the Reverend Peter Spencer envisioned more than a church. He envisioned a refuge. When he founded the Union Church of Africans in 1813 and established the August Quarterly in 1814, his mission was not only to gather God's people for worship, but to carve out a sacred sabbath space for a people whose lives were defined by toil, trauma, and systemic oppression. In an era when Black life was relentlessly assaulted—physically, emotionally, and spiritually—Peter Spencer insisted that there must be a place where our people could breathe.

That vision is the foundation on which we gather for the **211th August Quarterly** under this year's theme: "Shifting from Stress to a Place of Rest." This theme is more than a comforting phrase—it is a radical summons. In a world marked by social exhaustion, political anxiety, economic uncertainty, and spiritual dislocation, rest is not a passive retreat; it is an act of resistance, a reclamation of our God-given dignity, and a survival strategy rooted in the biblical witness

#### The Tyranny of Unrest

Our current moment is one where stress is no longer an occasional visitor—it has taken up permanent residence in our homes, workplaces, and even our sanctuaries. According to the American Psychological Association's 2023 *Stress in America* survey, more than a quarter of Americans report being so stressed that they cannot function. Black communities bear an even heavier load, given the compounded weight of racial injustice, economic inequities, health disparities, and generational trauma (APA, 2023; Williams & Mohammed, 2009).

The psalmist reminds us: "He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: He leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul" (Psalm 23:2–3). Yet, we live in a society that rewards exhaustion and calls it productivity, that celebrates busyness and labels rest as laziness. This is not simply a cultural problem—it is a spiritual crisis.

In the biblical imagination, rest is not optional—it is sacred. From the creation narrative, where God rested on the seventh day (Genesis 2:2–3), to Jesus' invitation, "Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy

*laden, and I will give you rest*" (Matthew 11:28), the call to rest is a divine command and a divine gift. The tragedy is that many of us have been so conditioned by constant struggle that we have forgotten how to receive it.

#### **Peter Spencer's Theology of Rest**

Peter Spencer's founding of the August Quarterly was itself a declaration that rest belongs to us. At a time when African Americans were denied the most basic human rights, he insisted that we have the right to gather freely, worship freely, and experience joy freely. His vision mirrored the theological truth that Sabbath is not merely about ceasing from labor—it is about entering into God's wholeness (Heschel, 1951).

For Spencer, this rest was not escapist. It was a *strategic pause* that empowered the people to endure the brutality of their reality. Historian Dr. Carleton Young notes that the August Quarterly became "an annual convocation where faith, fellowship, and freedom converged" (Young, 2010). In the same spirit, Black liberation theologian James Cone reminds us that the gospel for the oppressed must include a "God who takes sides with the oppressed" (Cone, 1975). Spencer's rest was not the rest of resignation—it was the rest of renewal, preparing the community to re-enter the struggle for justice.

This understanding of rest aligns with what womanist ethicist Dr. Katie Cannon later described as "the survival of the soul." Rest, in this view, is not indulgence; it is a life-preserving act that keeps the soul from withering under constant assault. It is no coincidence that the earliest August Quarterly gatherings featured not only sermons and hymns but also reunions, meals, and storytelling. These were communal acts of restoration.

Theologically, Spencer's work can be framed through five principles—hope, salvation, community, self-determination, and liberation—which together form a framework for shifting from stress to rest:

- **Hope**: In an environment saturated with oppression, hope was a defiant act. Spencer's gatherings reminded the people that God's promises were still true, even in the shadow of slavery.
- Salvation: He preached a gospel that was both eternal and earthly, challenging the systems of racial domination while also preparing souls for eternity. As Dr. King noted, "It's all right to talk about long white robes over yonder... but God has commanded us to be concerned about the slums down here" (King, 1968).
- Community: Spencer understood that rest is sustained in community. The August Quarterly was a space where collective worship and fellowship re-knit the bonds of belonging torn by slavery's violence.
- **Self-Determination**: By asserting the right to gather independently from white control, Spencer embodied the principle that Black people must define their own spiritual and social destiny.
- **Liberation**: Rest was an act of liberation from the economic and social systems that demanded Black bodies remain in perpetual service. It said, in no uncertain terms, "We are more than our labor."

#### From Stress to Rest—Without Losing the Work

Shifting from stress to rest does not mean abandoning the fight for justice. In fact, it ensures we can sustain it. A tired movement is a vulnerable movement. A burned-out believer is a distracted believer. Rest reorients our priorities so that our advocacy is Spirit-led rather than ego-driven, and our service flows from a place of abundance rather than depletion.

The late Bishop James Dixon, II, in his book *If God is So Good, Why Are Blacks Doing So Bad?* (2007), called the Black church to return to being a "battleship" on the frontlines of defense in our communities. Yet, even battleships need harbors for repair. The August Quarterly is such a harbor—a sacred sabbath where we refuel for the work ahead.

#### A Call to the Present Church

If the Black church is to remain relevant in the 21st century, it must not only speak to rest but model it. We must become places where people can lay down the burdens of respectability politics, generational divides, and performance-based faith. We must preach and practice a gospel that restores the whole person—mind, body, and spirit.

This means creating ministries that prioritize mental health, promote economic stability, and foster Sabbath disciplines. It means preaching not only deliverance from sin but deliverance from overwork, anxiety, and despair. And it means following Spencer's example by grounding our activism in spiritual replenishment.

#### Conclusion: Rest as the Seedbed of Revival

As we gather for this 211th August Quarterly, let us remember: rest is not a pause in the struggle; it is preparation for the struggle. It is the place where God revives our vision, renews our strength, and restores our joy.

Peter Spencer carved out this holy ground for us centuries ago. Now it is our turn to protect it, to practice it, and to pass it on. In this season, may we not only talk about shifting from stress to rest—may we embody it. For in the stillness, God speaks. In the quiet, God heals. And in the rest, God equips us to rise again.

#### Overseer Dr. Ronald W. Whitaker, II

Senior Pastor, Mother African Union Church Host Pastor, 2025 August Quarterly Festival

#### The Fabulous 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Mother-Daughter Brunch – July 19, 2025





























































































#### INTERDENOMINATIONAL MINISTERS ACTION COUNCIL OF DELAWARE, INC.

Community Service Building, 100 W. 10<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 106, Wilmington, DE 19801 Phone (302) 777-1190 Fax (302) 777-1191 Email <a href="mailto:imacde@imacde.org">imacde.org</a> Website IMACDEL.COM





#### BETHEL AME CHURCH | WILMINGTON DE

#### honors

the life and legacy of Rev. Peter Spencer. As sons and daughters of Richard and Sarah Allen, African Methodists familiar with our history understand the importat role Rev. Spencer played in the development of our branch of zion. Methodism was the vehicle used by God to bring a liberating Gospel to those enslaved, and we are the living proof of God's goodness, and Rev. Spencer and Bishop Allen's faithfulness. May the work of Rev. Spencer continue to inspire us to preach Christ and Him crucified until Jesus returns, especially in Delaware.

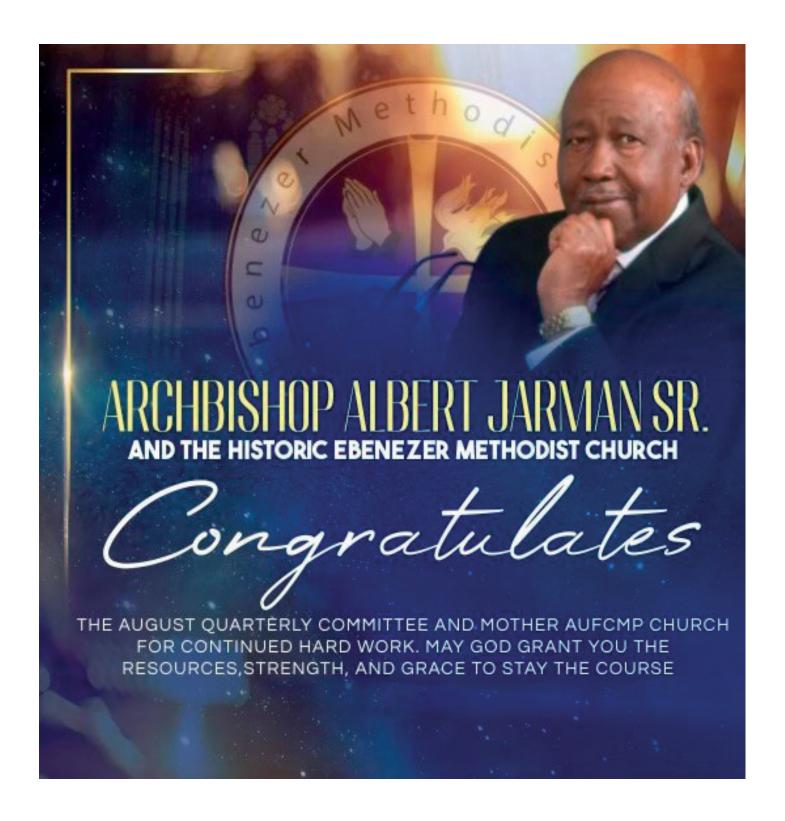
Congratulations on 211 years!





WWW.BETHELWILMINGTON.ORG

#### Historic Ebenezer Methodist Church



#### **EZION MOUNT CARMEL UMC**



Celebrating
220



Years of Service to the Community



## JOINS IN THE 211th CELEBRATION OF THE AUGUST QUARTERLY



#### **UPCOMING EZION MOUNT CARMEL UNITY DAY 2025 ACTIVITIES:**

Homecoming/Back-to-School Weekend. This Unity Day 2025 activity will feature college gospel choirs on Saturday, September 20 at 2:00 p.m. Join us for Sunday service on September 21 at 10:00 a.m.

**Unity Day Prayer and Praise Breakfast.** A spiritual and soul-stirring service will take place on Saturday, October 11, 9:00 a.m. - noon.

**Unity Day Sunday** (all ages.) Sunday, October 19, 10:00 a.m. The day has arrived!

Rev. Cornelius Berry, M.Div., Lead Pastor 2025unityday@gmail.com 302.654.3103





#### MT JOY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Serving the Southbridge Community for over 152 years

## Celebrates your Many and the year



PASTOR PROVEY POWELL, JR. , SR, PASTOR

MT JOY UM CHURCH

DELAWARE'S OLDEST AFRICIAN AMERICAN RELIGIOUS FESTIVAL



A BRIDGE TO WHOLENESS:, (B2WC) IS A CAMPUS FOR SOUTHBRIDGE RESIDENTS TO EXPERIENCE TRANSFORMATIONAL IMPACT ON THEIR QUALITY OF LIFE

For more information to support this project contact 302-655-7751 or email mountjoyumc@gmail.com

9:00 AM BIBLE CHAT (ZOOM) 10:00 AM WORSHIP EXPERIENCE

**CELEBRATING 152 YEARS OF SERVICE IN THE COMMUNITY** 



**Facebook** 

Mt. Joy UM Church 451 Townsend Street Wilmington, DE 19801

mtjoyumc.org

#### Congratulations on preserving and promoting the rich history of the Big August Quarterly



The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the LORD turn his face toward you and give you peace." Numbers 6:24-26

Marilyn C. Turner, Pastor

Chauncey L. Turner, Aspiree

Elizabeth Sadler Boyer, Pastor Steward

Officers & Members of Mt. Salem UAME Church in Delaware City, Delaware



Friends of the African Union Church Cemetery-- FAUCC - Find Us

Marilyn C Turner, President

Marilyn Whittington, Vice President

Linda Butler, Secretary

Loree Elton, Treasurer



#### A CHRIST-CENTERED REFUGE THAT **NURTURES SPIRITUAL GROWTH, EMPOWERS FAMILIES AND** CONNECTS WITH OUR COMMUNITY.

#### **ALL ARE WELCOME!**

#### **BIBLE STUDY**

TUES. (ZOOM) 10AM WED. (IN-PERSON) 6:30PM MEN'S: THÙRS. (IN-PERSON) 12PM

**SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:45 AM** 

**SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP 11:00 AM** 

SIMPSON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 907 CENTERVILLE RD **WILMINGTON, DE 19804 REV. PEARL SCOTT JOHNSON, PASTOR** 



Simpson UMC-Delaware



Simpson United Methodist Church



info@simpsonde.org



#### St. John Hrican Methodist Church Salutes the August Quarterly Festival

#### CONGRATULATIONS

### St. John A M Church Inc. Salutes You

On the 211th year since Peter Spencer and the Union Church of African Members launched the first August Quarterly, formally known as the Big Quarterly. On this special milestone of 211 years, congratulations to the Mother Church and the August Quarterly Festival Committee, Inc. Your unwavering dedication to faith and community is truly inspiring.

1848 to 2025

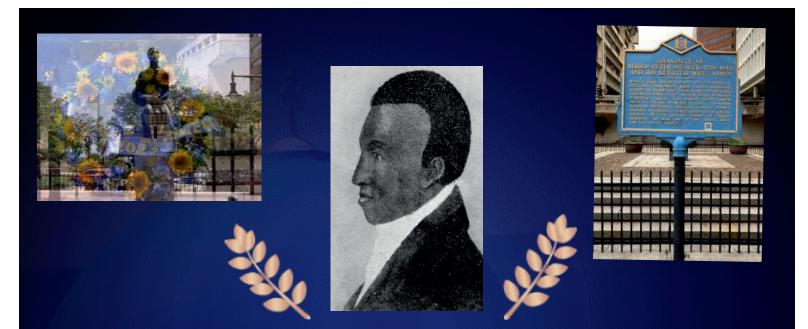
Congratulations on Your Big Quarterly Celebration!

77 New London Road Newark, De. 19711 302-454-7269

Rev. Dr. Blaine Hackett, Pastor And The St. John AM Church Family

St. John AM Church 77 New London Road Newark, Delaware 19711

Rev. Dr. Blaine Hackett, Pastor



A Union American Methodist Episcopal Church





Changing lives from the inside out!

Sunday worship

AT 9:30 AM

Real people serving a loving God

Pastor, Bishop Charles L. Amos St. Paul UAME 3114 N. Market St. Wilmington, DE 19802 302-764-4500

## Tabernacle Full Gospel Baptist Cathedral Celebrates with August Quarterly





# OVERSEER DR. RONALD W. WHITAKER II 5TH PASTORAL ANNIVERSARY 7-11 PM OCTOBER 3, 2025

Executive Banquet Conference Center 205 Executive Drive Newark, DE 19702

\$100 PER GUEST

ATTIRE: FORMAL/SEMI-FORMAL

TICKETS: JUANITA RICHARDSON 302-373-2003 MOTHER AFRICAN UNION CHURCH







#### DELAWARE CENTER FOR HOMELESS VETERANS (DCHV) CONGRATULATES THE AUGUST QUARTERLY FESTIVAL

### AUGUST QUARTERLY FESTIVAL

CELEBRATING 211 YEARS OF FAITH, FREEDOM & COMMUNITY

#### FROM THE DELAWARE CENTER FOR HOMELESS VETERANS (DCHV)

For 211 years, the August Quarterly Festival has symbolized resilience, spiritual unity, and the enduring strength of the community. It honors the vision of Richard Allen and the founding of the African Union Church—a legacy that coninues to inspire.

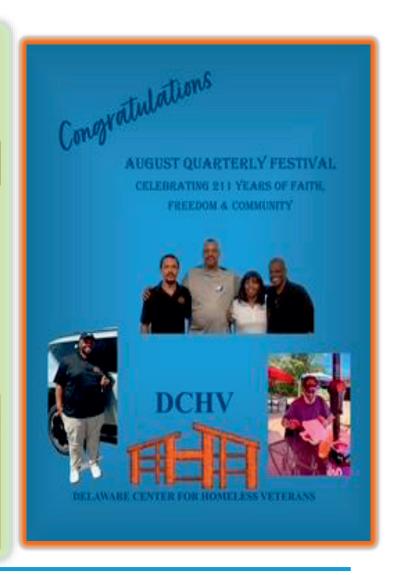
#### DCHV proudly salutes this historic milestone.

We stand alongside the community in celebrating freedom, faith, and fellowship. Our mission echoes these values as we serve those who once stood in service to us.

#### FROM ALL OF US AT DCHV-THANK YOU.

For your legacy. For your faith. For your strength.





#### **In Person Giving Options:**

- 1. QR Code
- 2. AppStore Vanco Mobile App (code DV2FX6)
- 3. Text the word "assist" to (302) 244-7655
- 4. Check payable to Mother African Union Church
- 5. Cash Offering Baskets



## Patrons Family and Friends

Cheris Allen James Allen Semaj Allen

Mary Baines
Jerome O. Berry
Alexander Blake
Anthony Blake, Jr.
Ashley Morris-Blake
Doretha Blake
Tonyell Boddy
Varie Booker
Barbara J. Browder
Shawn L. Browder
Cheryl Bryant

Serenity Caulk-Allen
Sharon Chambers
Abella Chase
Abria Chase
Bennisha Chase
Darla Chase
Larry Chase, Jr.
Jay Conaway
Monta Conaway
Nomi L. Conaway
Nyarah Conaway
Lavette Curtis

Donald B. Davis, Sr. Sharon & JaNiece Davis April Dupree Hiram and Sheryl Dyer

Jo-Ann Eatmon

Frances Foster-Kittrell Lawrence and Debbie Foster Foster Girls: Laura – Naomi - Rachel Lynn Robinson McKnight Aj'Zhanii Moon Liana Moreno Carlos Morris

Elder Julious Newman

Karl Patterson & Family Pearl Ponzo & Family

Michele Rawls Albert and Eva Ray Adreianna Richardson Dante Richardson Elijah Richardson Juanita Richardson Kimberly Richardson Roger Richardson Kimberly Robertson Ace Robinson Ava Robinson Cayto Robinson Cayomi Robinson Damyn Robinson Latrell Robinson Rylee N. Robinson Nelson Ross Elijah Royster

Shyra and Michael Sanders
Sandra Simpers
Carmeta Simpson
Tina and Darnell Smith
Sylverna Smith
Johnny Snow
LaVon Snagg
Michelle Speight
Reuben Stanford
Dawn Stevens
Rev. Marlene Stewart
Naomi Stewart

Patrice F. Gibbs
Quanyet Gibbs
Tiana Gibbs-Booker
Tomir Gibbs
Tyair Gibbs
Mr. Ronald and Mrs. Faye Gilbert, Sr.
Bernice Gist
Clara Goulsby-Fisher
Spencer Goulsby

Barbara Haire
Ann Henry
Charles Henry
Eric Henry
Erica Henry
Trevor Macer Holland
Kenya Hunter

Za'Niyrah Jefferson Barbara Jervey Teresa Jervey Jahi A. Jones Jari M. Jones Jasir O.G. Jones Jason O. Jones Jeneses Jones Marcus J. Jones William Jones

Mr. & Mrs. Earl Lacy & Family
Kay Lacy & Family
Paulette Laws
Patricia Lewis

Bridgette Macer Mahogany R. May Veronica Mays Veannie Strand Bernadette Sturgis Marva Sturgis

Jazmyne Thomas Shevawn Thomas-Collins Toquinna Turner

Dawn Van-Zharee
Faye Vaughn
Jabbar Vaughn, Jr.
Jakim Vaughn
Lola Vaughn
Nyla Vaughn
Shae Vaughn

Rev. Patricia Wallace Victoria Ward Shirell Waters Rayon Whitaker Overseer Ronald and Lady Sheronda Whitaker Bertha Williams Tannis Willis Charmisha Woodard Anthony Wright Daintry M. Wright (Deceased) Dehigh M. Wright Jacqueline P. Wright Laverne Wright Nicola Wright Otis Jay Wright, III William and Dineen Wright Thomas



#### WE'VE COME THIS FAR BY FAITH

1814 - 2025

LOOKING BACK OVER THE MARTIN-MONK FAMILY HISTORY, THIS YEAR'S THEME: "Shifting from Stress to a Place of Rest"

Is a Return to Spiritual Refuge, Collective Restoration, and Freedom-Making Faith

"OUR SHARED DESTINY"

#### FRIENDS AND FAMILY OF THE CHAIRLADY

MS. MELVINA ANDERSON MR. & MRS. RANDY BARNES MS. AMARI BARNES MS. DORETHA BLAKE MS. CARLA BROWN MR. & MRS. COREY BROWN MR. & MRS. MONROE BROWN, SR MR. TONY CALLOWAY MR. & MRS. MICHAEL CALLOWAY MR. & MRS WALTER CALLOWAY MS. DORIS CANNON MS. JANIECE DAVIS MS. SHARON DAVIS MR. & MRS HIRAM DYER MR. FREDDIE FLONNARY MR. & MRS. RON GILBERT MS. ROBIN GOLDSBOROUGH MR. SHAWN GRINNELL, JR. MS. DORA HAIRSTON MS. MORGAN HAIRSTON MR. & MRS. FREDERICK HARDING MR. & MRS. PHIL HARRIS MS. NIKKI HEANEY MS. EBONY JACKSON & FAMILY MR. KENNY JACKSON MR. & MRS. WILLIAM JILES MS. CAROLYN JOHNSON CHEF MONIQUE JORDAN & FAMILY MR. & MRS. EARL LACY, JR MR. ARTHUR M. MARTIN, JR. MRS. JACKIE MATHEWS MRS. MAHOGANY MAY MR. WALTER McALPINE MR. DAVID J. MONK, SR. MR. DAVID J. MONK, JR. MS. JONELLE E. MONK MR. JOHN E.D. MONK

MS. JONAE' E. MONK MS. JOSETTA "JOJO" MONK MS. ADRIENE NEWMAN & SONS MR. & MRS. VICTOR NEWMAN MS. LORI NEWTON MR. MARVIN NEWTON MR. & MRS. RONALD PARK MR. & MRS. JOHN H. SHEHEE MS. BARBARA SIMPERS MS. SANDRA SIMPERS MS. ANNA J. SIMS MS. M. LORETTA SNOW MR. EMANUAL SOUTHERLAND MS. SHAVAWN THOMAS MS. VICTORIA M. WARD MS. BERTHA A. WILLIAMS MRS. DIANE BRADY-WILLIAMS MR. JOHN L. WILLIAMS MR. & MRS. LEONARD A. WILLIAMS, JR. The L.A.W. CHILDREN MR. SANTAWN WILLIAMS MS. TERRI WILLIAMS BISHOP & MRS. WILLIAM B. WILMORE MS. CAROL "TOT" WRIGHT MR. & MRS. JIMMY WYATT IN LOVING MEMORY

ALFRED & HARRIETT ALSTON
ANNA & RUSSEL BARNES
SARA, NITA, HELEN & JOHN
EVELYN E. BROWN
ARTHUR MARTIN, SR.
JULIA L. MARTIN
MARY E. MARTIN
JOHN E. MONK

# Loved & Missed by Many... JOSEPH "BRUMSKILL

"Rather than mourn the absence of the flame, Let us celebrate how brightly it burned."

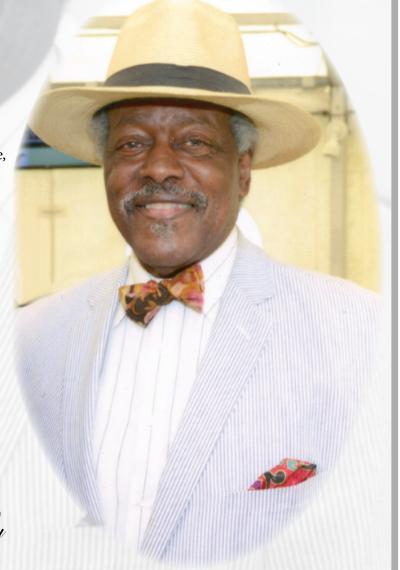
Let us recall favorite memories of sharing times when we were all together. Let us celebrate the spirit of one very special life, so in our hearts the flame will burn forever..

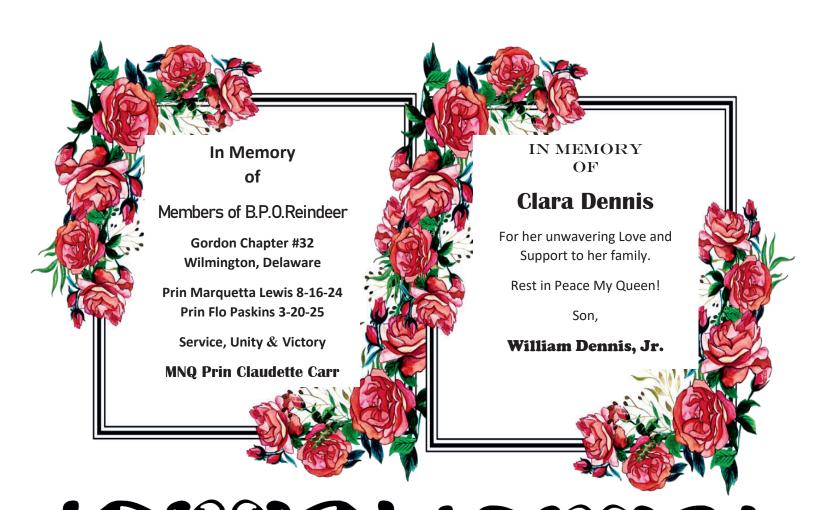
In the spirit of

"Peter Spencer, Educator,"
Joe's guiding motto:

"Embrace, Inspire and
Challenge Every Child
Every Day."

Thyra Brumskill and Family





#### **CONGRATULATIONS**

On another year as the August Quarterly tradition continues!

**%** 

Mama Chioma Amaka

#### CONGRATULATIONS

On 211 Years of the Big Quarterly

From

Gordon Chapter #32
Benevolent Protective Order
of Reindeer, Inc.

Officers & Members

MN Queen Princess Claudette Carr Financial Secretary Princess Phyllis Johnson Keeper of Chest Princess Regina Harris



#### **MEMORIAL**



#### **And Groups**

Mother Church **Elder's Ministry** 

WHS Class Of 1972
Wilmington High School

George Gray All Class Reunion In the Memory of our Sister

**Stephanie V. Daniels** 

Nov. 1, 1953 - Nov. 23, 2024

We miss you and think of you often. You will always be in our hearts.

With Love, Barbara Browder and Family

Mother Church Music Ministry







## In Loving Memory Charlene Antionette Keys



Charlene Antionette Keys, was a Deaconess and devoted member of Scott AME Zion Church. She was one who showed great passion for her faith in GOD. She loved reading the Bible, leading Bible studies, and sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Rev, Ogden T. Jones, her former pastor, recognized her unwavering commitment to her active roles in the Church, while she faithfully supported him in caring for the sick and shut-ins.

Charlene was an active member of the Stewardess Board at Scott AME Zion and participated regularly in the church's prayer line. Deaconess Keys also served as a member of the August Quarterly Committee and she always made sure Scott AME Zion attended and supported August Quarterly.

Her deep love for the Scriptures was apparent to everyone who knew her. Pastor Ogden expressed gratitude for being part of Deaconess Keys' spiritual journey. GOD called her home to rest in Him on October 30, 2024. Charlene Keys is the mother of Prophet Maurice Keys who was a former member of Mother AUFCMP Church under the leadership of Rev. Dr. Lawrence M. Livingston. Prophet Maurice Keys is now a faithful member of the Holy House of Praise where he serves on the ministerial staff under the pastoral and spiritual leadership of Apostle Anthony Cornish, II and Prophetess Sonia Cornish.



## **Culture** is important.

At M&T Bank, we understand how important new experiences are to learning and growth. That's why we offer our time, energy and resources to support cultural organizations of all kinds, and encourage others to do the same. Learn more at **mtb.com**.

M&T Bank is proud to support the August Quarterly Festival.



#### SERVICING OUR COMMUNITIES FOR OVER THIRTY YEARS!



#### BENNIE SMITH FUNERAL HOME OF DELAWARE

#### **OUR SERVICES**

**Traditional Funeral Services & Burial** 

**On-site Crematory** 

**Cremation with Memorial Service** 

**Direct Cremation** 

**Memorial Services** 

**Grief Support/Grief Resources** 

**Specialty Funeral Services** 

**Veterans Funeral Services** 

**Ash Scattering Services** 

**Military Honors** 

**Limousine Service** 

**Pre Planning** 

Floral Arrangements

Terrence D. Níchols President/Owner

**Main Office** 

717 W. Division Street Dover, Delaware 19904 (302) 678-8747

(833) 888-2009 (Toll Free)

www.benniesmithfuneralhomesdelaware.com

#### Wilmington, Delaware 741 S. Broom Street

Wilmington, DE 19802 (302) 655-2219 (302) 384-6283 (Fax)

#### Millsboro, Delaware

30587 DuPont Boulevard Millsboro, DE 19966 (302) 934-9019 (302)934-6515 Fax

#### Milford, Delaware

274 Rehoboth Boulevard Milford, DE 19963 (302) 422-5955 (302) 491-4693 (Fax)

#### Seaford, Delaware

437 North Front Street Seaford, DE 19973 (302) 628-8280 (302) 990-5055 Fax



For over a decade, families throughout Delaware have trusted Evan W. Smith Funeral Services to honor their loved ones with care and compassion. Our newly expanded chapel and family spaces in Wilmington are designed to bring comfort and peace during life's most difficult moments. It is our privilege to help carry your family's legacy forward. Thank you for letting us stand with you.

Celebrating Faith, Heritage, and Unity During The August Quarterly



#### EVAN W. SMITH

Funeral Services

201 N. Union Street | Wilmington, DE 19805 | 302-377-6906

518 S. Bay Road | Dover, DE 19901 | 302-526-4662

www.ewsmithfs.com | info@ewsmithfs.com

