commands Joshua to set up 12 stones in remembrance of Israel's miraculous crossing of the Jordan River. The stones would stand as an everlasting memorial to communicate to future generations the provisions of the Lord. They were the faithful witness of a faithful God who understood the propensity of humans to forget. Black History Month serves us and those who come after us much like those memorial stones. It helps us remember to show honor. It helps us remember not to repeat the past. It helps us remember to inspire hope.

### Show Honor

Remembering the history of the many people—both black and white—whose humanitarian efforts aided the cause of blacks brings them the honor they are due. Consider <u>Harriet Tubman</u>, one of the many conductors who helped slaves escape from their masters to go north and find freedom. Consider the <u>Quakers</u>, white men and women who believed slavery to be wrong and aided the <u>Underground Railroad alongside black leaders such as <u>Leonard A. Grimes</u>. Born to free parents, Grimes became pastor to a church in Boston in the late 1800s where he shepherded and shared the gospel with black men and women. By remembering and retelling their stories, we honor the courage and examples set by these individuals.</u>

## Don't Repeat the Past

Being aware of the heartbreaking stories that populate black history helps us to not slip back into the type of thinking that may allow history to repeat itself. In 1921, Tulsa, Okla., was home to the community of Greenwood, an African American community populated by the wealthiest blacks in the United States. The community, nicknamed "Black Wall Street," was burned to the ground by whites in the Tulsa Race Riots. Though 10,000 blacks were left homeless after 35 city blocks composed of over 1,200 homes were destroyed, the event was largely omitted from history books for years. The story of Greenwood is one of many. Events like these are hard to hear about, but by committing them to our memory, we help keep them from happening again. We remember in order that we will not repeat.

# Inspire Hope

We remember so that the next generation will see our memorial stones and, in the hope of the gospel, strive toward shalom. When we begin appreciating a people and a culture made in the imago Dei and teach our children to do the same, we create a legacy of hope for racial reconciliation, both inside and outside the church. The history of race relations in our country causes us to feel shame, and our response to shame is often to conceal. We must not hide our history from the next generation. Standing in the shame-releasing light of the gospel, we must share it so that the next generation can learn and strive to build on and maintain the strides in racial reconciliation that have already been made. We remember in order to inspire hope.

The church's recognition of black history ought not to be based on obligation but out of our sincere love for humanity. Our love from humanity flows from the love we have received from God in Christ. We are so interconnected as believers that to ignore black history is to ignore the imago Dei. May this month sharpen our memories so that every month is one in which we see each other as brothers and sisters.



absoluteworship.org

### **ORDER OF SERVICES**

### SUNDAY MORNING

Zoom service 9:30am Men's, Women's, and Youth Classes 10:05am Prayer, Worship & Ministering God's Word

YOUTUBE 2:00PM ABSOLUTE WORSHIP INDY

MONDAY - FRIDAY 7:00 - 7:30am Conference

Line Prayer

609-663-0643

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 12noon Conference Line Prayer Monday Evening Conference Line Prayer 6:30 - 7:00pm Wednesday 6:30pm conference line prayer & 7:00pm Zoom Bible Study

**FEBRUARY** CELEBRATIONS



BIRTHDAY Tywanna White  $22^{nd}$ 

Bishop George & Lady Sarion 2<sup>nd</sup> 49<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary

# WELCOME TO ABSOLUTE WORSHIP MINISTRIES

"The Place for an Ultimate Worship Experience"



4514 N. Hillside Ave.
Indianapolis, IN 46205 \* 317-259-1712
fullgospelworshipministry@gmail.com
www.absoluteworship.org
Bishop George D. Williams, Jr. – Pastor

### **ORDER OF WORSHIP**

Warfare Prayer 10:05am, Morning Worship 10:15am Praise & Worship Announcements/Welcome

Tithes & Offerings

You make a living by what you get. You make a life by what you give. (Winston Churchill)

Ministering God's Word

Evangelist Renee Williamson

Benediction

Elder Ralph Parrot Associate Pastor

# PASTOR'S VOICE

Praise the Lord Absolute Worship Family. Glory to our Holy God for all that he has done.

Today God has allowed us to gather in his house to glorify and lift up the mighty name of Jesus. On this first Sunday of February of 2023, we have been given another opportunity to allow God's glory to be poured into our hearts. As you know this month is known as Black History Month. We must not forget those that have tread the path before us. So many sacrifices have been made to help make our world a better place to live.

Our desire should be to do everything we can to use all of our gifts and talents to help serve God as we live our lives. Each of us have been created for a specific purpose, and we should live our live seeking to serve our creator.

On February 2, 2023 the Lord allowed Lady Sarion and I to be able to celebrate 49 years of marriage. I am eternally grateful for God granting me the opportunity to share my life with a beautiful, God fearing Woman of God. There is no way that we at the age of 18 knew what it truly meant to commit our lives to each other. But thanks be to our God for 4 children, 10 grandchildren, and 2 great grandchildren. We must say that this journey has brought us both joy and tears. If anyone wants to help us celebrate. Please send to \$bishopgdw2

This year will bring much excitement and joy to our Absolute Worship as we celebrate our 35th

year of ministry here on Hillside Ave. Minister Roberta Edwards will need everyone to help in some way to help make this a unforgettable event.

Today I want to honor the Woman of God that will share the Word of God today. Evangelist Renee Williamson who has been a friend of our ministry for over 28 years. Her anointed testimony and gifted teaching have always blessed our ministry. Today I want AWM to make her feel welcome in our house.

May God's Peace be yours, Bishop George Feel free to email me this week:

fullword4u@hotmail.com

### ANNOUNCEMENTS FEBRUARY 5, 2023

Praise and Worship Night *for FEBRUARY* 18<sup>™</sup>, *MARCH* 18<sup>™</sup>, *and APRIL* 15<sup>™</sup> has been CANCELLED

**FEBRUARY 19** at 1:00 pm will be AWM first children's service for kids 12 and under, this service will be held on the 3rd Sunday of each month. for more info please see Ministers Saleem & Tamara.

**FEBRUARY 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm** will be AWM **THE CAFE** for young adults 22 and older, Every 3rd Monday of the month, for more info please see Ministers Saleem & Tamara.

*MAY 20*<sup>™</sup> Praise and Worship Night (Suicide Prevention)

**JUNE 17<sup>th</sup>** Praise and Worship Night

offerings, three ways you can give.

- online absoluteworship.org
- credit/debit card by-phone please contact Andrea

Jackson or Lady Sarion

• Cash app \$absoluteworship

### BLACK HISTORY MONTH: WHY WE REMEMBER

By Rob Daniels



History gives us the ability to stop and remember significant past events that have shaped the world in which we live. This is why every year the month of February is designated as Black History Month. In 1926, Carter G. Woodson initiated Black History Month to raise awareness and acknowledge the accomplishments and influential experiences of black men and women. Black history is not merely the history of African Americans; it is our history as the American people, and our history impacts the church.

In black history, we find a narrative richly woven with the themes of the gospel. It is a history that helps us to better understand God, to comprehend His plan for humanity and to see tangible evidence of His deliverance, love and blessings. Black history offers stunning examples of what unity should look like, serving as a present-day reminder of the unifying truth that Jesus spoke to both the Jews and Gentiles (Col. 3:11). It is a story filled with modern-day faith heroes who persevered for truth, sometimes to the point of death (Heb. 11).

The Bible contains countless historical narratives intended to remind us of the trials and events that shaped our spiritual heritage. Hundreds of verses in Scripture address the idea of remembrance, encouraging us to reflect upon past triumphs and tragedies and recall the God of our salvation. In chapter 4 of Joshua, God