



# The Abyssinian Baptist Church

Founded 1808 · Erected 1923

132 Odell Clark Place  
New York, New York 10030  
(T) 212 862 7474  
(F) 212 862 3255

[abyssinian.org](http://abyssinian.org)

Reverend  
Dr. Calvin O. Butts, III  
Pastor

James Davis, Jr.  
Director of  
Music Ministries & Fine Arts

*“To all those who enter here, be thoughtful, be silent, be reverent. Before the service, speak to God. During the service, let God speak to you. After the service, speak to others.”*

## **BLACK HISTORY SUNDAY**

9:00 AM

11:30 AM Reverend Dr. Matthew Johnson, Sr.  
Pastor – Mount Moriah Baptist Church, Birmingham, AL

### **Prelude**

9:00 AM

11:30 AM Nathaniel Gumbs, Guest Organist                      *"Go Down, Moses"* Fela Sowande

### **Call to Worship**

**Leader:** We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; Persecuted, but not forsaken; Cast down, but not destroyed.

**People:** Our history tells the story of a people whose faith in God, hope in the future, and love for one another sustained us through every generation.

**Leader:** As You gave our ancestors strength to fight, give us power to break the chains of mass incarceration, poverty, violence, and the sins that so easily beset us.

**People:** As we gather at this table, we remember the sacrifices and faith of our ancestors.

**All:** Guide our feet, focus our minds, and sustain our hearts as we serve this present age. Amen.

### **The Lord's Prayer**

**Processional** *"Lift Every Voice and Sing"* #540

### **Invocation and Chant**

**Responsive Reading** *"Black History Observance"* #57

### **Gloria Patri**

### **Prayer and Choral Response**

## **Anthem**

*"Hold Fast to Dreams"* Roland Carter

9:00 AM

Soloist: Marsha Thompson, Soprano

11:30 AM The Cathedral Choir

Soloist: Pamela Babb, Soprano

*Hold fast to dreams. For if dreams die, life is a broken-winged bird that cannot fly.  
Hold fast to dreams. For if dreams go, life is a barren field covered with snow.  
First in the heart is the dream. Then the mind starts seeking away.  
Then the hands seek other hands to help; a community of hands to build.  
Thus the dream becomes not one man's dream alone;  
Not my dream alone, but our dream, belonging to all the hands who build.*

-Text by Langston Hughes

## **Pastoral Emphasis**

### **Scripture**

### **Meditation**

9:00 AM

11:30 AM The Cathedral Choir

*"I Tried Him and I Know Him"* Darius Brooks

Soloist: Samantha McElhaney, Soprano

## **Sermon and Invitation**

Invitational

### **Offertory:**

### **Offertory Sentences & Selections**

9:00 AM The Cathedral Choir

*"Bread of Heaven"* James Moore

Soloist: Anthony McGlaun, Tenor

11:30 AM The Aeolians of Oakwood University  
Jason Ferdinand, Director

*Selected*

## **Doxology**

Offertory Prayer

## **Baptism**

**Recessional** *"Siyahamba"*

#164

## **Benediction and Amen**

## **Postlude**

*Improvisation on "We Shall Overcome"* Carl Haywood

## **Lift Every Voice and Sing**

*Lift every voice and sing,  
till earth and heaven ring,  
ring with the harmonies of liberty;  
let our rejoicing rise,  
high as the list'ning skies,  
let it resound loud as the rolling sea  
sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us,  
sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us;  
facing the rising sun, of our new day begun,  
let us march on till victory is won.*



*Stony the road we trod,  
bitter the chast'ning rod,  
felt in the day when hope unborn had died;  
yet with a steady beat, have not our weary feet,  
come to the place for which our fathers sighed?  
we have come over a way that with tears has been watered  
we have come, treading our path through  
the blood of the slaughtered,  
out from the gloomy past, till now we stand at last  
where the bright gleam of our bright star is cast.*



*God of our weary years, God of our silent tears,  
thou who has brought us thus far on the way;  
thou who has by thy might, led us into the light,  
keep us forever in the path, we pray  
lest our feet stray from the places  
our God where we met thee,  
lest our hearts, drunk with the wine of the world  
we forget thee,  
shadowed beneath thy hand, may we forever stand,  
True To Our God, True To Our Native Land.*

The Abyssinian Baptist Church  
*In conjunction with*  
The Mattie Fletcher Powell Satellite Ministry  
*observe*

## **BLACK HISTORY SUNDAY**

*with Guest Preacher*

### **REVEREND DR. MATTHEW V. JOHNSON, SR.**

*"Young philosopher King, penetrating critic of systemic evil, theological lawyer for the morally fatigued."*

~ Dr. Lawrence Carter, Dean - Morehouse College Chapel, Atlanta, GA during Dr. Johnson's induction into Martin Luther King, Jr. International Board of Preachers

Pastor, Preacher, Scholar, Writer, Lecturer, Administrator, and Servant of the people, Reverend Dr. Matthew V. Johnson, Sr. has been in ministry for over thirty years.

Born in Hackensack, NJ, Dr. Johnson was reared in both New Jersey and Lawrenceville, VA. He was licensed to preach in 1979, shortly before he entered Morehouse College, where he pursued a double major in Philosophy and History, graduating with honors in 1983.

The Reverend went on to earn his M.A. degree in Religious Studies and a Ph.D. degree in Philosophical Theology from the Divinity School at the University of Chicago. He completed two years of post-doctorate work in Psychoanalytic Training at Duke University in conjunction with the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and in the Psychotherapy Training Program at the Institute of Contemporary Psychotherapy and Psychoanalysis in Washington, D.C.

Dr. Johnson was conferred the Honorary Doctorate of Pedagogy by the Richmond Virginia Seminary in 2015.

Our Guest Preacher is Senior Pastor of Mount Moriah Baptist Church in Birmingham, Alabama, and he is also a widely respected author. His published works include: *The Tragic Vision of African American Religion*, *The Cicada's Song: A Novel*, *The Passion of the Lord: African American Reflections*, and *Onesimus Our Brother: Reading Race, Religion, and Slavery in Philemon*. Additionally, two of his articles "The Middle Passage, Trauma and the Tragic Re-imagination of African American Theology" and "The Poverty of Prosperity Theology and the Spiritual Impoverishment of the Church" have been published in *The Journal of Pastoral Psychology*.

Married to Arnetta Nicholson Johnson for over 30 years, Dr. and Mrs. Johnson are proud parents of five, and grandparents of three.

# **AbyWEST Moves Forward**

## **3.0 in 24 Mo! Campaign is well underway**



We are very grateful to the membership for their support of our effort to build a \$12MM educational center. Following our initial appeal, more than 40% of our members responded to the plea to make a supporting pledge. We are making progress toward the achievement of our goal to raise \$3mm in 24 months. Thanks to your generous support we are one-third of the way there.

### **Heed the Call – Make Your Pledge Today!**

***100% Member Participation Requested***

For those who have not made a pledge, there is no time like the present. Our goal is to attain 100% participation from our members. Pledge cards are available in the church elevator lobby and at [Abyssinian.org](http://Abyssinian.org) via the “AbyWEST” icon. Your completed pledge card can be left at the front desk in the Trustee mailbox. With your help, our goal to raise \$3mm in 24 months will be realized. Thank you for your continued support! Dedicated to “the Worship of God and the Service of Humanity.”



**Winter 2015**

## **BIBLE STUDY • NEW MEMBERS CLASS • SERVICES OFFERED**

**Sunday Morning Praying Band** – Sundays - 7:00 AM

**Sunday Morning Bible Study** – 8:45 AM

**Monday Afternoon Bible Class** – 12:00 PM

**Wednesday Mid-Week Manna Service** – 7:00 PM

**NEW MEMBERS CLASS SCHEDULE** - Meets Sundays, 8:30 AM | Blue Room

Class #1 *At the Cross: Jesus and Salvation* – March 6

Class #2 *Faith Foundations: Baptist Polity and Practices* – March 13

Class #3 *The Abyssinian Baptist Church: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow* – March 20

Class #4 *Giving God Our Best: Worship & Stewardship* – February 28

**PRAYER REQUESTS • Prayer Request forms** are available at Ushers' station in back of Sanctuary's center aisle, and via [www.abyssinian.org/connect/prayer-requests/](http://www.abyssinian.org/connect/prayer-requests/). Prayer Band meets Sundays, 7AM in Vestry for prayer & testimony.

**BABY BLESSINGS •** Babies are blessed on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in 11:30 AM service. Baby Blessing Class is held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month at 6PM in the Nursery and must be attended by parents who want to have their child blessed at Abyssinian. **Next Class: Wednesday, March 16, 2016.** To register, call x255.

**WEDDINGS • Considering marriage?** If you plan to get married at Abyssinian, call 212.862.7474, ext. 255, to check availability of the church, and arrange pre-marital counseling. **You must also schedule an appointment with Abyssinian's Wedding Coordinator, Tamiaka L. Jones,** at "**A Perfect Setting Inc.,**" 800-451-2951 or [info@aperfectsettingevents.com](mailto:info@aperfectsettingevents.com).

**MEDIA •** Photographs and Audio/Video recordings are not permitted in the Sanctuary. **Cell phones are to be turned off during worship service.** Only the Church's official photographer and ABY/TECH are allowed to take pictures or record services.

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

**To Reverend Butts, and the Abyssinian Officers, Ministries and Members** - Many thanks to Abyssinian women and men who volunteered to make **Go Red for Women's Heart Health** a successful weekend. – Mrs. Patricia Butts

**To My Abyssinian Family** - Thank you to all for your prayers and expressions of sympathy during the loss of my sister - Doretha Webb

## **CREDIT UNION**

The Abyssinian Federal Credit Union would like members listed below, or family of these members, to contact or stop by the Credit Union Office as soon as possible:

**Arlinda Derrick • Carol McHenry • Eric Morgan • Juanita Peterson  
Joseph Reddish • Mabel Richardson**

The Abyssinian Credit Union is located at rear of the 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Conference Room,  
Hours of Operation:  
Sundays: 11:00 AM - 11:30 and 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM  
212. 862.5959 (T)

## MINISTRY

# ABYSSINIAN INSTITUTE FOR CHRISTIAN EDUCATION 2016 WINTER SERIES

*"Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil. After fasting forty days and forty nights, He was hungry" - Matthew 4:1-2*



## A 40-Day Fasting Experience

During the 2016 Lenten Season, we are calling Abyssinians to participate in our first 40-day corporate fasting experience.

For more information and content during the 40 days of fasting, stay connected with us via [www.abyssinian.org](http://www.abyssinian.org) or follow us on:



**Search:** The Abyssinian Baptist Church in the City of New York, Inc.



@AbyssinianBC



@AbyssinianBC



Also, receive daily scriptures to your mobile device by texting "Abyfast" to 55469

**Day 19 – February 28.** Reflection: Write down the revelation God has placed in your heart for the strength of your ministry/Church.

**Day 20 – February 29.** Meditation: Identify what you can do to affect the outcome of a stronger ministry/Church—and commit to doing it!

## MARCH PRAYER STARTERS

**Day 21 – March 1.** Scripture Reading: 1 Timothy 2:1-8

**Day 22 – March 2.** Statement and Prayer of Affirmation:

*"I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone."*  
1 Timothy 2:1. - Lord God Almighty, bring to focus all of those in my Church family in need of prayer.

**Day 23 – March 3.** Reflection: Relax as you bring into focus a time when you were in need of intercessory prayer.

**Day 24 – March 4.** Meditation: Write down names of Abyssinian members in need of prayer each Sunday and pray for them throughout the week.

**Day 25 – March 5.** Scripture Reading: John 15:1-27

**Day 26 – March 6.** Statement and Prayer of Affirmation:

*I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. John 15:5- My God, prune me this day that I might bear much fruit in your name.*

**Medical Disclaimer:** Members with medical concerns should check first with their doctors to be sure they are physically, mentally and emotionally able to participate in a fasting experience.

**REGISTER ONLINE:** [www.abyssinian.org](http://www.abyssinian.org)

Contact: Assistant Minister for Christian Education, Pamela D. Mason, Ext. 204



**ABYSSINIAN INSTITUTE FOR CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

*Searching the Scriptures | 2016 Bible Study Course Schedule*

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**MONDAY**

**Noon-Day Bible Study**

February 29  
March 7, 14, 21, 28  
April 4, 11, 18, 25  
May 2, 9, 16, 23  
June 6, 13, 20, 27

Noon-Day Bible Study Class Not in Session  
on Memorial Day 5/30

**SISTERHOOD BIBLE STUDY**

March 14, 28  
April 11, 25  
May 9, 23  
June 13, 27

**BROTHERHOOD BIBLE STUDY**

March 14, 28  
April 11, 25  
May 9, 23  
June 13, 27

**YOUNG ADULT BIBLE STUDY**

*Saturdays*

April 2  
May 15  
June 4

For more information, contact:

Assistant Minister for Christian Education, Pamela D. Mason, Ext. 204



The Abyssinian Baptist Church Trustee Board

presents

# THE 4<sup>th</sup> FINANCIAL SEMINAR

**TODAY**

**Sunday, February 28, 2016**

*Immediately following 9:00 AM and 11:30 AM  
Worship Services in the Vestry*

## **DISCUSSION TOPICS**

### **Financial Management**

*Working the New Social Security Guidelines into your  
Retirement plan;  
Maximization of your Social Security Benefits*

### **Estate Planning**

*What determines the level of legal advice necessary  
to prepare a Will;  
What are some of the cost factors that impact the  
cost of a Will;  
How to manage the cost of preparing a Will*

### **Facilitators**

*Jana Handwerk - Financial Planner, Mass Mutual  
Lori Ann Douglass - Partner, Moses & Singer*

*Please join us in our quest toward better personal  
Financial Management and development of  
Inter-Generational Wealth in the African American community*

Who will be the next congressperson of New  
York's 13th Congressional District?  
**A COMMUNITY FORUM ON EDUCATION**  
WITH THE CANDIDATES

ACHIEVING EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE & ACCESS

CONFIRMED FORUM PARTICIPANTS



MICHAEL  
GALLAGHER



ASSEMBLYMAN  
KEITH L. WRIGHT



AMBASSADOR  
SUZAN JOHNSON  
COOK



ADAM CLAYTON  
POWELL, IV



CLYDE  
WILLIAMS



MODERATOR  
AYANA HARRY  
WPIX 11 REPORTER

THURSDAY, MARCH 3, 2016  
7:00 PM

AT

**THE ABYSSINIAN BAPTIST CHURCH**  
132 ODELL CLARK PLACE | NEW YORK, NY 10030  
WWW.ABYSSINIAN.ORG

Rev. Dr. Calvin O. Butts, III - Pastor



Sponsored by:  
**The Harlem Renaissance Education Pipeline (HREP)**  
hrep2c@gmail.com



**VISION STATEMENT**

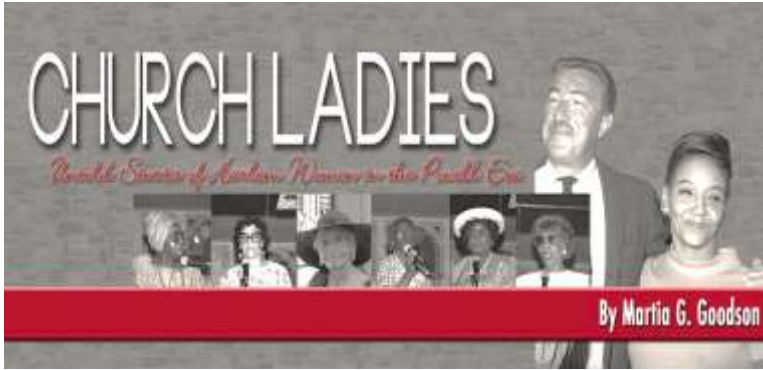
Collective Responsibility. Supportive  
Communities. Equitable Access. Educational  
Empowerment. Productive Global Citizens.

**MISSION STATEMENT**

Through transformative family and community  
engagement, all students in District 5 will have  
equitable access to a well-rounded education, so  
that they can become productive members of a  
thriving community.



THE ABYSSINIAN BAPTIST CHURCH  
**Archives & History and Women's Ministries**  
present



## **A Book Signing & Discussion**

Celebrate the distinguished Abyssinian Baptist Church Ladies during the Powell era. See them through the eyes of their descendants and the author, Dr. Martia Goodson.

**Next Sunday, March 6, 2016 | 2:00 PM**

“Full of moving personal stories that together paint a vivid picture of the culture of a significant institution during a period of dramatic change. .. A wealth of rich material.”  
- Kirkus Reviews

More than simply ushers and Sunday School teachers, the women of Harlem's Abyssinian Baptist Church were influential leaders in the congregations of Reverend Adam Clayton Powell Senior and Junior. *Church Ladies: Untold Stories of Harlem Women in the Powell Era* explores their lives at the church, and their roles in a movement that took them and their pastor, the fiery Powell Junior, from protests for jobs on Harlem's 125th Street in the 1930s to demonstrations for justice in the halls of the United States Congress in the 1960s.

Testimony from over a dozen little-recognized women paints an authentic picture of that historic church and the struggles against Jim Crow. It also sheds light on Powell's social and legislative impact on the American nation at a time of strict racial segregation and unchecked racial violence. It was time when the Church Ladies and all of Black America whispered and shouted, Give 'em hell, Adam!

**“TEA TIME” REFRESHMENTS TO FOLLOW  
FREE ADMISSION**



**For Women's History Month**, the Abyssinian *Sister-to-Sister* Book Ministry is reading ***Church Ladies: Untold Stories of Harlem Women in the Powell Era*** by Abyssinian's own, Dr. Martia Goodson. Book discussion will take place on Saturday, March 12<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM in Aby Cafe (Fellowship Hall).

**Dr. Goodson will be Present**



# WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT SUMMIT

*Save The Date*

**SATURDAY, APRIL 16, 2016**

**PROVERBS 3:15 - 18 | 31:20 - 22**

*Designed. Defined. Destined For God's Purpose.*

**#WEAREROYALTY**



**TICKETS AVAILABLE FEBRUARY 21ST**

**abyssinian.org**

132 Odell Clark Place, NY, NY 10030 | (212) 862-7474 (F) | (212) 862-3255 (F)  
Rev. Dr. Calvin O. Butts, III - Pastor

## Empowerment Summit Registration Fees

Adults • \$15 | Students and Seniors Age 70+ • \$10 | Seniors Age 80+ • FREE

**\*\*Register in the Lobby Bookstore after Worship Services\*\***



**The Abyssinian Women's Ministry will host A Meeting with Women of the Church today following the 9:00 AM worship service in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Rehearsal Hall.**

*We look forward to seeing you there!*

## AFFILIATE NEWS

### Abyssinian Development Corporation Harlem Economic Literacy Program



RETURNS WITH A NEW

### Homeownership Education Series 2016

TWO-PART SESSION WORKSHOPS BEGIN

Thursday(s) March 17 & 24, 2016 • 6 PM – 9 PM

Registration Fee: \$35.00 – Must be submitted in advance

*For further information and to receive registration form,*

Contact Andrea Britton, Economic Literacy Homeownership Counselor

abritton@adcorp.org or call: 646-442-6545

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## ARTS & CULTURE

**Award-winning actress, SUZANNE DOUGLAS, will be showcased in “You and the Night and the Music”** on Friday, March 4, 2016, 9:30 PM at The Metropolitan Room, 34 West 22<sup>nd</sup> Street. Co-star of *Whitney*, *School of Rock*, *How Stella Got Her Groove Back*, *TAP*, *Bones* and *The Good Wife*, Rolling Stone review states, “*Suzanne Douglas is Fabulous!*” For Tickets (\$24), visit [metropolitanroom.com](http://metropolitanroom.com).

**ECLIPSED**, the new play by Danai Gurira, directed by Liesl Tommy, and **starring Academy Award-winner, Lupita Nyong'o**, runs for Limited Engagement Performances beginning February 23, 2016. Tickets - \$89/\$69/\$59 with code ECTALL1123 (reg.\$146/\$99/\$77), visit [www.telechargeoffers.com](http://www.telechargeoffers.com) or call 212.947.8844, Golden Theatre Box Office, 252 West 45<sup>th</sup> Street between 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Aves. Discounts for groups of 10+ call 646.467.7393.

**A Soulful Celebration 2016 featuring Marvin Lowe & Friends, TODAY**, Sunday, Feb. 28, 2016, 4:00 PM at St. Philip’s Episcopal Church, 334 McDonough Street, Brooklyn, NY 11233. Featured Friends: Jim Davis, Jr., Music Director, Dina Foster-Osbourne, Organist and vocalists Angela Simpson, Lucia Bradford, Brandi Sutton, & Larry Hylton. To purchase tickets: [Eventbrite.com](http://Eventbrite.com) - search - A Soulful Celebration 2016 or purchase tickets at door.

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## HOUSING

**Sale:** Downtown New Rochelle apt only 30 mins to Grand Central. Top flow apt is two levels, 1 BR, 1.5 bath, walk-in closet, large attic & balcony for Sale at \$179,700. Contact agent, Katie McClougin for viewings, 914.522.3521 or <http://tinyurl.com/newrochelle200centre>

**Rentals:** 1 bdrm/1bath apt. on 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of well-kept brownstone, located on lovely tree-lined Harlem block. Apt. is beautifully furnished with good closet space and hardwood flrs throughout. Convenient to #2, #3 trains. Rent - \$2,500 (incl. utilities). Available for monthly long and short term rental. For more info, or to view call, 646.526.1119.

Sun-filled 2 bdrm /1 bth apt. in beautiful Central Harlem townhouse. Fully furnished apt. has hardwood floors and carpeting, is convenient to restaurants, shops and near 116<sup>th</sup> Street Express subway to midtown. Available March 1<sup>st</sup>. Rent - \$3,400 (includes elec/gas & WiFi). Call 646.526.1119 for more info.





# THE ABYSSINIAN BAPTIST CHURCH OFFICERS

Gerald Barbour  
Eleanor E. Olive  
Alexis Thomas  
Patricia Proctor  
Sheila S. Boston Robinson

Chairman, Board of Deacons  
Chair, Board of Deaconess  
Chair, Board of Trustees  
Treasurer  
Church Clerk

## MINISTERIAL STAFF

Reginald L. Bachus  
Itang H. Young  
Rashad R. Moore

Associate Pastor  
Assistant Minister for Youth  
Ministerial Intern

Ext. 203  
Ext. 220  
Ext. 212

## MUSIC MINISTRY

James Davis, Jr.

Director, Music Ministries & Fine Arts

Ext. 261

## ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES

Finance  
Building, Grounds & Maintenance

Ext. 245  
Ext. 244

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## WORSHIP SERVICES

### Sunday

7:00 am

The Praying Band

9:00 am

Bible Class

9:00 am

Sunday School

**9:00 am**

**Worship Service**

**9:15 am - 11:00 am**

**WE Youth Worship Experience**

**11:30 am**

**Worship Service**

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday

11:30 am

Babies Blessed

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday

9:00 & 11:30 am

Communion/Right Hand of Fellowship (11:30 am)

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday

11:30 am

Baptism

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday

11:30 am

Youth Sunday

### Wednesday

7:00 pm

Mid-Week Manna

## THE ABYSSINIAN BAPTIST CHURCH

132 Odell Clark Place • New York, NY 10030 | 212.862.7474 (T) 212.862.3255 (F)

[www.abyssinian.org](http://www.abyssinian.org)