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**Covenant Partner News**

**Sunday, June 15, 2025**

**Volume 5 Issue 24**

**RECURRING EVENTS**

**Hour of Power & Bible Study** *Tuesday Bible Study will resume in the Fall.*

Each Tuesday at 6:00pm followed by Bible Study at 7:00pm via \*ZOOM:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83096366206?pwd=J7wZ8bwAcBA1snP5SgRuYhW4E2DsU.1>

*Meeting ID:  830 9636 6206 Passcode: 199366*

***To use your cell phone or land line, \*please dial******:*** ***1. 301. 715. 8592***

*Meeting ID:  830 9636 6206#; Passcode: 199366#*

**We encourage all members to submit prayer requests as the Holy Spirit leads by 12:00 Noon on Monday.**

**Open Praise Forum & Bible Study** *Tuesday Bible Study will resume in the Fall.*

Every Tuesday leading up to Communion Sunday at 6:00pm followed by

Bible Study at 7:00pm via ZOOM and on conference line referenced above. \*

**Bible Study Young Adult Edition**

Each Wednesday at 7:30pm EST and 6:30pm CST via Zoom.

Register by text at 202-262-4476 or email [kgoady07@gmail.com](mailto:kgoady07@gmail.com).

**Men’s Prayer Hour**

Each Wednesday at 9:00pm via conference call: 1.717.908.1972; Access 875378#

**Women’s Prayer Hour** *Women’s Prayer Hour will resume in August.*

Each 4th Saturday at 9:00am via conference call: 1.605.313.5143; Access code 654522#

**Questions and Answers**

Held each 4th Sunday at 6:00pm via conference call: 1.717.908.1972; Access code 875378#

**Please submit your questions *today*  by email to:** [**SoulCare@Bethesdaweb.org**](mailto:SoulCare@Bethesdaweb.org) **or in Q&A box located on the table outside of the church office.**

**Bible Study***Thursday Bible Study will resume in the Fall.*

Each Thursday at 12:00 Noon via conference call: 1.717.908.1972; Access code 875378#

**THIS WEEK EVENTS**

**Monday, June 16**

**6:00pm** Ministry of Comfort Meeting, via zoom (prayer meeting zoom line).

**Saturday, June 21**

**9:30am** VBS VPop Screening, Assistance and Support for VBS Staff

**10:00am** Food & Clothing Distribution

**11:30am** Choir Rehearsal

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Dedication of VBS Workers Sunday, June 22

Questions and Answers 6:00pm Sunday, June 22, via zoom

Vacation Bible School (VBS) 6:00pm Monday, June 23 – Friday 27

Closeout VBS Program 10:00am Saturday, June 28

Education Sunday Sunday, June 29

**SUNDAY SCHOOL FATHER’S DAY PROGRAM**

Please join us today (after worship) for our Sunday school Father’s Day program. Your participation would be greatly appreciated! Thank you!

**THE COMFORT MINISTRY**

*“Comfort ye one another with these words…” — I Thessalonians 4:18*

The Comfort Ministry is dedicated to offering encouragement, consolation, and support to our members and their families during times of bereavement. We thank the Lord for the privilege of serving one another as we reactivate this important ministry.

We warmly invite all former members, new members, and those interested in joining to attend our upcoming Ministry Meeting: Monday, June 16 via zoom (prayer meeting zoom line)

**.**

**QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS SUNDAY**

On Sunday, June 22nd at 6:00 PM we will review "Juneteenth: Faith and Freedom" during our 4th Sunday Q&A time via Zoom. :

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83096366206?pwd=J7wZ8bwAcBA1snP5SgRuYhW4E2DsU.1>

Meeting ID: 830 9636 6206 Passcode: 199366

To use your cell phone or land line, \*please dial: 1. 301. 715. 8592

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**2025 JOHN D. BUSSEY SCHOLARSHIP**

2025 Church Scholarship Applications Are Now Available! We're excited to share that the 2025 John D. Bussey Scholarship application is now open to members of our congregation. IF you are pursuing higher education, we encourage you to apply. Applications are due by June 22, 2025. Applications can be found outside of the church office or on the church website for the application. Email [johndbusseyscholarship@gmail.com](mailto:johndbusseyscholarship@gmail.com) for additional information.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED:**

**DEDICATION OF VBS WORKERS**

Please pray for God's blessings on our upcoming VBS and Summer Day Camp as the start dates for these programs draw nearer. We will have a dedication of VBS workers on Sunday, June 22.

**ATTENTION VOLUNTEERS AND PARTICIPANTS**

Just a reminder! The time is drawing near. It’s Vacation Bible School Time! Are you ready? Have you signed up to volunteer? We need you to sign up today. Please stop by the table in the vestibule today and sign up for Vacation Bible School, June 23-28, 2025. Someone is in the vestibule to provide information and sign up; or click here to register: [**VBS Volunteer**](https://forms.gle/rmEbcb37KCQX2ED66) ; or

[**VBS Student Participant**](https://forms.gle/eWGsJ5fYERvjU5558). You don’t want to miss this opportunity!

*O magnify the Lord with me! Let us exalt His name together!*

**EDUCATION SUNDAY**

“We’re excited to celebrate Honoree Sunday on June 29th, a special time to recognize the accomplishments and milestones of our church family! Whether you’ve graduated, started a new job, welcomed a new baby, purchased a home, or reached another meaningful achievement—we want to celebrate with you!

If you or someone in your household has something to be recognized, please submit your name and accomplishment via email to ([erikathompson23@gmail.com](mailto:erikathompson23@gmail.com)) or to the church office by June 22.

Let’s come together and honor God’s blessings and encourage one another through every season of growth and success. We look forward to celebrating with you!”

**CHILD EVANGELISM FELLOWSHIP 5-DAY CLUB DRIVERS**

5 Day Club” Summer Ministry, sponsored by Child Evangelism Fellowship of the Greater Washington DC Metro Area, Inc., is looking for dedicated individuals to transport our Christian Youth in Action (CYIA) workers to various sites in the Metropolitan Washington DC Area.

This is a short-term voluntary position during the month of July, which supports our CYIAers in ministering to youth ages 5 to 12 years old. Volunteers can choose from various dates and hours/times to serve according to their availability. If interested, call the church at 202-635-2883.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED:**

**CONVOY OF HOPE**

Bethesda is grateful for the donations from Convoy of Hope on June 7th Community Day. They are a ministry that allowed us to provide free food, sneakers and socks to all in attendance. The left-over items have been placed in our pantry so we can continue to meet the needs of our community. Bethesda did not have to bear the cost for these items. If you would like to make a donation (any amount) to help cover expenses for all the resources that were provided from Convoy of Hope, you can do so at this link: <https://unityweekend.com/donate/>

**NOTE OF THANKS**

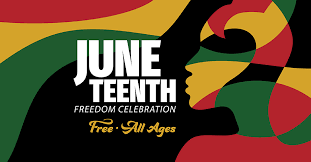
*Pastor Michael Thompson and Sister Jennie Sanders thank our 2025 Community Day Sponsors and Donors!*

**Donors**

* Smoke House
* Volunteers
* LaWanda Prather Carraway and Dana Carraway
* Jackie Council
* Jose Lopez
* The Gideons International
* Open Air Campaigners, Tom Fox
* RFN Creations
* Youth Voice Connect
* The District School
* MUA, Inc.
* JOE A SANDERS VO-TECH FUND, INC.
* George Jackson

**Sponsors**

* Bethesda Baptist Church (Host)
* New Bethel Baptist Church (Co-Host)
* Convoy of Hope
* Howard University
* King Church
* Department of Behavioral Health (DCPC), (5 & 6)



Opal Lee, a Texas Civil Rights Leader sparked the movement that commemorates the day when the last slaves in Galveston, TX learned of Emancipation on June 19, 1865.

President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863, announcing that all persons held as slaves within the rebellious states are henceforward shall be free.”

Congress passed the 13th amendment abolishing slavery on December 6, 1865.

On June 17, 2021, Opal Lee was invited to the white House to witness President Joe Biden signing the National Independence act into law which made Juneteenth a Federal Holiday. This Federal holiday commemorates the Day June 19, 1865, when slaves in Galveston, TX learned that they were free. She was given the pen which he used.

Opal Lee’s perseverance and supporters were blessed to see Juneteenth become a Federal Holiday to be observed on June 19th.

On May 3, 2024, President Biden awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the Nation’s highest civilian award to Opal Lee.

We are thankful for God’s blessings and Opal Lee’s perseverance.

**THE CHRISTIAN PERSPECTIVE ON JUNETEENTH**

The Christian perspective on Juneteenth sees the day as a powerful expression of God’s heart for freedom, justice, dignity, and deliverance. It is an opportunity to remember how the Gospel speaks directly to the history and hope represented in Juneteenth: God sets the captives free—physically, spiritually, and socially.

**Freedom is God’s Will**

The freedom of African Americans is not just a political victory—it’s a theological affirmation. Human beings are created in the image of God and are never meant to be owned.

Galatians 5:1 – “Stand fast therefore in the liberty by which Christ has made us free…”

Juneteenth reminds Christians that all people are called to live in freedom and dignity. The day celebrates that truth breaking into American history.

**Remembering Is Sacred**

The Bible often calls God’s people to remember—not to dwell in the past, but to honor it and to let it shape our identity and mission.

Deuteronomy 5:15 – “And remember that you were a slave in Egypt and the Lord God brought you out of there by a mighty hand and an outstretched army.”

Juneteenth invites the Church to remember both the sin of slavery and the perseverance of faith among African Americans who trusted God in the midst of bondage.

**A Prayer of Thanksgiving**

“God of our weary years, God of our silent tears, we thank You for the freedom You gave and the strength You sustained in our ancestors. As we honor Juneteenth, may we never forget where You’ve brought us from. Heal the wounds that may still remain, empower us to do Your work, and let freedom ring—not only in our nation, but in our hearts. In Jesus’ name, Amen.”