

CENTERING AND MEDITATION: *“One More Year”*

THE GATHERING* Deacon Carl Ballard

In the diaspora he sat down;
 And there he wept;
 Remembering Africa;
 Mouth open, unable to sing a song.
Eyes full of the ocean;
Mouth imploded with praises;
Thought stacked full of memories,
Memories of Motherland Africa.
 In bits he uttered;
 Africa, my cherished home;
 In the diaspora unable to sing a song;
 I want to come to thee. **Amen.**

OPENING HYMN* *“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 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 days 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, Til now we stand at last
Where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION* Minister Donna Childs

CHORAL READING Tabernacle Awana Youth

EXPRESSIONS OF HOSPITALITY The Reverend Don Darius Butler

CHORAL MUSIC The Convocation Choir

GREETINGS

The Reverend Garry B. Levy, President
General Baptist State Convention, Inc.

Rabbi Jacob Herber
Congregation Beth Israel Ner Tamid

The Reverend John A. McBride, President
North Shore Baptist Ministers' Alliance

DANCE PRESENTATION Tabernacle Dance Group

GREETINGS

Honorable Gwen S. Moore, Representative
Fourth Congressional District of Wisconsin

Mr. Ralph Hollmon, President
Milwaukee Urban League

Mr. J. C. Frazier, President
Northwest Funeral Chapel

SPECIAL RECOGNITION Gerald Hyler & Britney Morrow

CALL TO THE OFFERING The Reverend Dennis Givens

PRESENTATION OF THE “HONOR OF THE GRIOT AWARD”
 REVEREND DR. JULIUS R. SCRUGGS, LAUREATE

CHORAL MUSIC Gideon Missionary Baptist Church Choir

THE CONVOCATION SERMON The Reverend Dr. Wade A. Stevenson, Pastor
Gideon Missionary Baptist Church
Waukegan, Illinois

HYMN OF AFFIRMATION* *“We’ve Come This Far By Faith”*

We’ve come this far by faith, leaning on the Lord;
Trusting in His holy word, He’s never failed me yet
Oh, can’t turn around, We’ve come this far by faith

Don’t be discouraged when trouble’s in your life,
 He’ll bear your burdens
 and move all misery and strife,
 That’s why ...

Just the other day I heard someone say
 He didn’t believe in God’s word;
 But I can truly say that God had made a way,
 And He’s never failed me yet.
 That’s why...

EXPRESSIONS OF THANKS Kathy Jenkins, Member
 Black History & Heritage Committee

PARTING SONG* *“We Shall Overcome”*

We shall overcome, we shall overcome,
 We shall overcome someday;
 Oh, deep in my heart, I do believe,
 We shall overcome someday.

We're on to victory, We're on to victory,
 We're on to victory someday;
 Oh, deep in my heart, I do believe,
 We're on to victory someday.

SENDING FORTH & BLESSING* Pastor Butler



OUR GUEST PREACHER
THE REVEREND DR. WADE A. STEVENSON

Dr. Stevenson was born in Lexington, Kentucky to the late Mary Stevenson and the Late William H. Stevenson, Sr. He is married to Gloria B. Stevenson. He has three sons, Wade Jr., Aaron and Justin.

Dr. Stevenson received his Bachelor of Science Degree from the University of Kentucky. He received both his Master of Divinity Degree and Doctor of Ministry Degree from the Lexington Theological seminary.

Dr. Stevenson received the following achievements and awards: Academic Achievement from Phi Upsilon Omicron, Who’s who among Students in America’s Colleges and Universities, the Ronald Graham Senior Theological Symposium Award and a Choir Service Award.

Dr. Stevenson accepted Christ as his Savior in June 1970 at Consolidated Baptist Church, Lexington, KY. He acknowledged his call to the preaching ministry in May 1984, was licensed in June 1984 and ordained in December 1987.

He was the former pastor of Farristown Baptist Church, Berea, KY. He served as Chaplain of Fayette Community Corrections and as Minister of Education at Consolidated Baptist Church.

Dr. Stevenson is currently the Dean of Christian Education for the Lake Shore Baptist District Association, the 1st Vice-President and Political Commissioner for the North Shore Baptist Ministers Alliance, the 2nd Vice- President of the N.A.A.C.P. of Lake Co., and the Pastor of Gideon Missionary Baptist Church, Waukegan, IL, where the mission is, ***“To light the world through the Light of the World.”***



**“HONOR OF THE GRIOT” LAUREATE
THE REVEREND DR. JULIUS R. SCRUGGS**

Julius Richard Scruggs was born in Elkton, Tennessee to the Reverend and Mrs. Earl Scruggs, Sr. and reared in Toney, Alabama. He is a graduate of Council Training High School in Huntsville, Alabama. After earning the Bachelor of Arts degree at American Baptist College in Nashville, Tennessee, he also completed requirements for the Master of Divinity (M. Div.) and Doctor of Ministry (D. Min.) de-

grees at Vanderbilt University School of Divinity in Nashville. On December 9, 2011, he received the honorary degree of Doctor of Humane Letters from Alabama Agricultural and Mechanical University, Normal, Alabama.

His pastoral experience began at age 18 at Pine Grove Missionary Baptist Church (Harvest, AL) where he served 1960-1965. From 1965-1972 he pastored the Mt. Ararat Baptist Church (Nashville, TN). He continued to follow the Holy Spirit’s call and pastored the Antioch Baptist Church (East Chicago, IN) from 1972 to 1977. Since January, 1977 he has been the shepherd of God’s people at First Missionary Baptist Church in Huntsville, Alabama.

Dr. Scruggs has authored four books: Meditations on the Church, Baptist Preachers with Social Consciousness: A Comparative Study of Martin Luther King, Jr. and Harry Fosdick, God is Faithful, and How to Study and Teach the Bible.

He is a man of deep social consciousness, which is apparent in his contributions to religious and community causes. He is a member of the Board of Trustees at American Baptist College, member of the National Board of Directors, NAACP, former board member of Selma University and former President of the Alabama State Missionary Baptist Convention (President Emeritus). Locally, he is a member of the Huntsville Human Relations Commission; member and former president of the Greater Huntsville Interdenominational Ministerial Fellowship (GHIMF); Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity, Inc., Epsilon Kappa Boule’ and provides advisory support to a wide range of community movements.

On September 9, 1999, Dr. Scruggs was elected Vice President-At-Large of the National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc. As a part of the leadership team, he helped to bring vision, integrity, structure, and accountability to the largest Black church organization in the nation.

His accomplishments have been recognized in “Who’s Who in Religion,” “Outstanding Young Men in America,” and “Personalities in America Hall of Fame.” Additionally, he is the 1998 recipient of the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Award presented by GHIMF.

Dr. Scruggs is much sought after for his biblically-based, doctrinally sound, and life-centered preaching and teaching. His servant-leadership style and his personal integrity have molded and shaped the thrust of First Missionary Baptist Church’s Christian Education emphasis, outreach ministry, stewardship commitment, physical growth and spiritual maturity.

During his more than thirty-five (36) years in the pastorate at First Baptist, the church has initiated witnessing/evangelism teams, jail ministry teams, scholarship funds, and health fitness and recreation ministries. The Christian Education ministry has been enhanced with weekly Bible study for all ages, and a licensed Child Development Center and Academy serving children ages 2-1/2 through fifth grade. The church property consists of a twelve-acre lot on which the church and parsonage are located and the four-phases (Sanctuary, Educational Complex, Family Life Center and Administration/Educational Wing) have been constructed. In 2009, Pastor led the church in starting the FMBC Foundation, a mission and education foundation made possible by gifts of 2 million dollars by two families in the church.

More than 4743 new members have united with the church during Dr. Scruggs’ tenure. He has led the church in giving to Home and Foreign Mission causes annually. The church has built and paid for 20 houses in partnership with Habitat for Humanity, allocated funds annually to the program, and members of the church have assisted in building fourteen other Habitat homes.

On September 10, 2009 in Memphis, Tennessee, Pastor Scruggs was overwhelmingly elected as the 17th President of the National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc.

However, more significant than Dr. Scruggs’ many pastoral accomplishments and academic credentials, is his genuine love for the people of God. He is a “tender shepherd” who takes his calling seriously.

He is married to the former Josephine Stewart Tipton and they are the proud parents of a daughter, Jennifer Juliette Scruggs and a son, Morris Errol Tipton, II. They have three grandchildren: Morris E. Tipton, III, Morgan Taylor Tipton, and Elizabeth Francina Scruggs .

OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY - FRIDAY 10:00 A.M.—5:00 P.M.		
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GLORIA PITCHFORD NICHOLAS	414-297-7993	MATC CONTACT
BENEVOLENT NEEDS	414-562-1129	EXT. 100
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Black History CONVOCATION



HERITAGE SUNDAY—FEBRUARY 24, 2013

4:00 PM

GUEST PREACHER

**THE REVEREND DR. WADE A. STEVENSON, PASTOR
GIDEON MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
WAUKEGAN, ILLINOIS**

**“THE HONOR OF THE GRIOT” LAUREATE
THE REVEREND DR. JULIUS R. SCRUGGS, PRESIDENT
NATIONAL BAPTIST CONVENTION, USA, INC.**

2500 WEST MEDFORD AVENUE
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THE REVEREND DON DARIUS BUTLER, PASTOR