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

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
Selected
Jason Ferdinand, Director

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.
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 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.”
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/. Prayer Band meets Sundays, 7AM in Vestry for prayer & testimony.

BABY BLESSINGS • Babies are blessed on the 2nd Sunday in 11:30 AM service. Baby Blessing Class is held on the 3rd 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, Tamieka L. Jones, at “A Perfect Setting Inc.,” 800-451-2951 or 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 1st Floor Conference Room,
Hours of Operation:
Sundays: 11:00 AM - 11:30 and 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM
212. 862.5959 (T)
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 or follow us on:

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

@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
Contact: Assistant Minister for Christian Education, Pamela D. Mason, Ext. 204
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 4th 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

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

MODERATOR
AYANA HARRY
WPIX 11 REPORTER

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

VISION STATEMENT

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 12th at 10:00 AM in Aby Cafe (Fellowship Hall).

Dr. Goodson will be Present
The Abyssinian Women’s Ministry of The Abyssinian Baptist Church

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

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 2nd 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

ARTS & CULTURE
Award-winning actress, SUZZANNE 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 22nd Street. Co-star of Whitney, School of Rock, How Stella Got Her Groove Back, TAP, Bones and The Good Wife, Rolling Stone review states, “Suzzanne Douglas is Fabulous!” For Tickets ($24), visit 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 or call 212.947.8844, Golden Theatre Box Office, 252 West 45th Street between 7th & 8th 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 - search - A Soulful Celebration 2016 or purchase tickets at door.

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 2nd 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 116th Street Express subway to midtown. Available March 1st. Rent - $3,400 (includes elec/gas & WiFi). Call 646.526.1119 for more info.
SERMON NOTES
Take personal notes while listening to the Word of God

Date: ____________________________
Sermon Title: ____________________________
Biblical Text: ____________________________
Points to Note: ____________________________

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PULPIT FLOWERS
Courtesy of Saundra Parks | 212.633.9000

ABYSSINIAN DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
212.368.4471 | adcorp.org
THE ABYSSINIAN BAPTIST CHURCH OFFICERS

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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

WORSHIP SERVICES

Sunday
7:00 am
9:00 am
9:00 am
9:00 am
9:15 am - 11:00 am
11:30 am
2nd Sunday 11:30 am
3rd Sunday 9:00 & 11:30 am
4th Sunday 11:30 am
5th Sunday 11:30 am

The Praying Band
Bible Class
Sunday School
Worship Service
WE Youth Worship Experience
Worship Service
Babies Blessed
Communion/Right Hand of Fellowship (11:30 am)
Baptism
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