



Preaching, Teaching and Reaching for
Transformation and Liberation

“CONSCIOUS AND INTENTIONAL MINISTRY: DOING WHO I AM”

Also I heard the voice of the Lord saying: “Whom shall I send, And who will go for Us?” Then I said, “Here am I! Send me.” Isaiah 6:8

THE PASTOR’S PEN October 16, 2022

THE BLACK FAMILY PLEDGE

By Dr. Maya Angelou

BECAUSE we have forgotten our ancestors, our children no longer give us honor.

BECAUSE we have lost the path our ancestors cleared kneeling in perilous undergrowth, our children cannot find their way.

BECAUSE we have banished the God of our ancestors, our children cannot pray.

BECAUSE the old wails of our ancestors have faded beyond our hearing, our children cannot hear us crying.

BECAUSE we have abandoned our wisdom of mothering and fathering, our befuddled children give birth to children they neither want nor understand.

BECAUSE we have forgotten how to love, the adversary is within our gates, and holds us up to the mirror of the world shouting, “Regard the loveless”.

Therefore we pledge to bind ourselves to one another, to embrace our lowliest, to keep company with our loneliest, to educate our illiterate, to feed our starving, to clothe our ragged, to do all good things, knowing that we are more than keepers of our brothers and sisters. we **ARE** our brothers and sisters.

IN HONOR of those who toiled and implored God with golden tongues, and in gratitude to the same God who brought us out of hopeless desolation, we make this pledge

UPDATE ON OUR WORSHIP ATTENDANCE PROTOCOLS

1. **Physical Distancing** – We continue to maintain a moderate degree of physical distancing.
2. **Worship Attendance** – Worship Attendance will be open to those who are vaccinated and unvaccinated. Additionally, for the safety of everyone in attendance, those *who are unvaccinated are required to wear their masks at all times in the building.*
3. **Registration** – To ensure that we are able to maintain a moderate degree of physical distancing, everyone is strongly encouraged to register in advance. Please call the church office (414-873-1045) before 3:00 pm on Thursday.
4. **Mandatory Masks** – Everyone is required to wear a mask when entering the church and movement to their seat.
 - Once seated, those *who are vaccinated* may remove their mask if they desire.
 - Those *who are not vaccinated* are required to wear their mask at all times in the building

WHAT IS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE?

Domestic violence is the willful intimidation, physical assault, battery, sexual assault, and/or other abusive behavior as part of a systematic pattern of power and control perpetrated by one intimate partner against another. It includes physical violence, sexual violence, threats, and emotional abuse. The frequency and severity of domestic violence can vary dramatically.

CONTEXT

Due to systemic racism, racist policies, and racist societal structures, both Black women and Black men experience intimate partner violence at a disproportionately high rate. By intentionally denying Black people access to economic opportunities, the ability to build intergenerational wealth, healthcare, education,¹ and a sense of safety from governmental systems, racist policies increase the prevalence of risk factors for domestic violence.² These systems create numerous barriers for survivors seeking safety. Law enforcement officials often arrest Black survivors, and police, jurors, and judges are less likely to believe Black survivors than White survivors.³ Racist systems put Black people at greater risk of experiencing intimate partner violence.

STATISTICS

- 45.1% of Black women and 40.1% of Black men have experienced intimate partner physical violence, intimate partner sexual violence and/or intimate partner stalking in their lifetimes.⁴
- 31.8% of Black women and 16.8% of Black men have experienced one or more of the following intimate partner violence-related impacts: being fearful, concerned for safety, any post-traumatic stress disorder symptoms, injury, need for medical care, housing services, victim advocate services, and/or legal services, missed at least 1 day of work or school, and contacting a crisis hotline.⁵
- 41.2% of Black women and 36.3% of Black men have experienced intimate partner physical violence in their lifetimes.⁶
- 53.8% of Black women and 56.1% of Black men have experienced psychological aggression by an intimate partner in their lifetimes.⁷
- 8.8% of Black women have been the victims of intimate partner rape in their lifetimes.⁸ • 17.4% of Black women and 14.8% of Black men have experienced intimate partner sexual violence (other than rape) in their lifetimes.⁹
- 9.5% of Black women have experienced intimate partner stalking in their lifetimes.¹⁰

HOMICIDE

- An estimated 51.3% of black adult female homicides are related to intimate partner violence.¹¹
- Between 2003-2014, 57.7% of black adult female homicide victims were murdered with the use of a firearm.¹²
- In 2017, for female victim/male offender homicides, Black females had the highest rate at 2.55 per 100,000.¹³

If you are in crisis, contact The National Domestic Violence Hotline at 1-800-799-SAFE (7233) or www.TheHotline.org.

Please visit the **National Coalition Against Domestic Violence's** website at www.ncadv.org for more fact sheets, membership information, and valuable resources.

Domestic Violence & the Black Community

- ¹ Blesset, B. & Littleton, V. (2017). Examining the impact of institutional racism in Black residentially segregated communities. *Ralph Bunche Journal of Public Affairs*, 6(1).
- ² Capaldi, D. M., Knoble, N. B., Shortt, J. W., & Kim H. K. (2012). A systemic review of risk factors for intimate partner violence. *Partner Abuse*, 3(2), 231 – 280. doi:10.1891/1946-6560.3.2.231.
- ³ Jacobs, M. S. (2017). The violent state: Black women's invisible struggle against police violence. *William & Mary Journal of Women and the Law*, 24(1), 31-100.
- ⁴ Smith, S.G., Chen, J., Basile, K.C., Gilbert, L.K., Merrick, M.T., Patel, N., Walling, M., & Jain, A. (2017). *The national intimate partner and sexual violence survey (NISVS): 2010-2012 state report*. Atlanta: National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Retrieved from <https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/NISVStateReportBook.pdf>.
- ⁵ Breiding, M.J., Smith, S.G., Basile, K.C., Walters, M.L., Chen, J., & Merrick, M.T. (2014). Prevalence and characteristics of sexual violence, stalking, and intimate partner violence victimization — national intimate partner and sexual violence survey, United States, 2011. *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report: Surveillance Summaries*, 63(8), 1-18. Retrieved from <https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/pdf/ss/ss6308.pdf>.
- ⁶ Ibid.
- ⁷ Ibid.
- ⁸ Ibid.
- ⁹ Ibid.
- ¹⁰ Ibid.
- ¹¹ Petrosky, E., Blair, J.M., Betz, C.J., Fowler, K.A., Jack, S.P.D., & Lyons, B.H. (2017). Racial and ethnic differences in homicides of adult women and the role of intimate partner violence - United States, 2003-2014. *MMWR. Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*, 66(28), 741-746. Retrieved from <https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/66/wr/pdfs/mm6628a1.pdf>.
- ¹² Ibid.
- ¹³ Violence Policy Center (2019). *When men murder women: An analysis of 2017 homicide data*. Washington, DC. Retrieved from <https://vpc.org/studies/wmmw2019.pdf>.

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The Pilgrim Rest Oasis

Sharing the Faith · Securing the Future

Through faith God has given us the space to be an oasis in the middle of the city.

An oasis is a fertile spot in the desert where refuge, relief, and refreshment is found.

Be part of God's plan for Pilgrim Rest and this community.

Start contributing to the Oasis today!
Let's continue to make progress!



Thank you for your continued support of God's plan for us.



Your contribution can be dedicated to a specific activity or the Oasis, in general.

	Educational Enrichment	Technology Literacy	Athletics & Recreation	Performing Arts	Facility Innovation
\$500	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 15 Subject books for elementary (math, literature, history, etc.) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 iPad 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10 basketballs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10 art sets for aspiring artists 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> External security lighting to keep the street well-lit and safe
\$1,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100 Summer Bridge books to help students retain learning during breaks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100 "learn how to code" kits for elementary students 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10 tennis rackets 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4 beginner saxophones or 8 beginner violins 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Camera security system to keep everyone safe
\$2,500	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9 students can be challenged to excel using interactive problem-solving programs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 computer for graphic design and website creation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12 sets of golf clubs for children 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10 Play Scripts with performance/licensing fee and cast instructions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wireless PA system to easily communicate at the school
\$5,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 smartboard to help teachers engage students in learning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 STEM lab cart of materials for a classroom with multiple activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3-day Speed and Agility workshop for 15 young aspiring track stars 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100 pairs of tap shoes for aspiring dancers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Battery operated floor scrubber to keep the building looking its best
\$10,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 trip for 15 students to visit 1 HBCU 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100 Robotic kits to reinforce studies in STEAM subjects 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open gym for 20 young people 1 X a week throughout the winter in a safe place 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 200 tickets to see Alvin Ailey Dance Company 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LED light fixtures throughout the school to promote learning and natural light

WORK FOR THE WEEK

OCTOBER MEMORY VERSE

¹⁵ It is a joy for the just to do justice, But destruction will come to the workers of iniquity.

Proverbs 21:15

OCTOBER MEDITATION QUOTE

"Not everything that is faced can be changed, but nothing can be changed until it is faced."

James Baldwin