

# ON THE EDGE

## NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 1, NUMBER 1 February 6, 2022

JOHNS CHAPEL AME CHURCH

## Johns Chapel AME Church

605 Geneva Highway

Enterprise, Alabama 36330

Reverend Willie White, Jr.

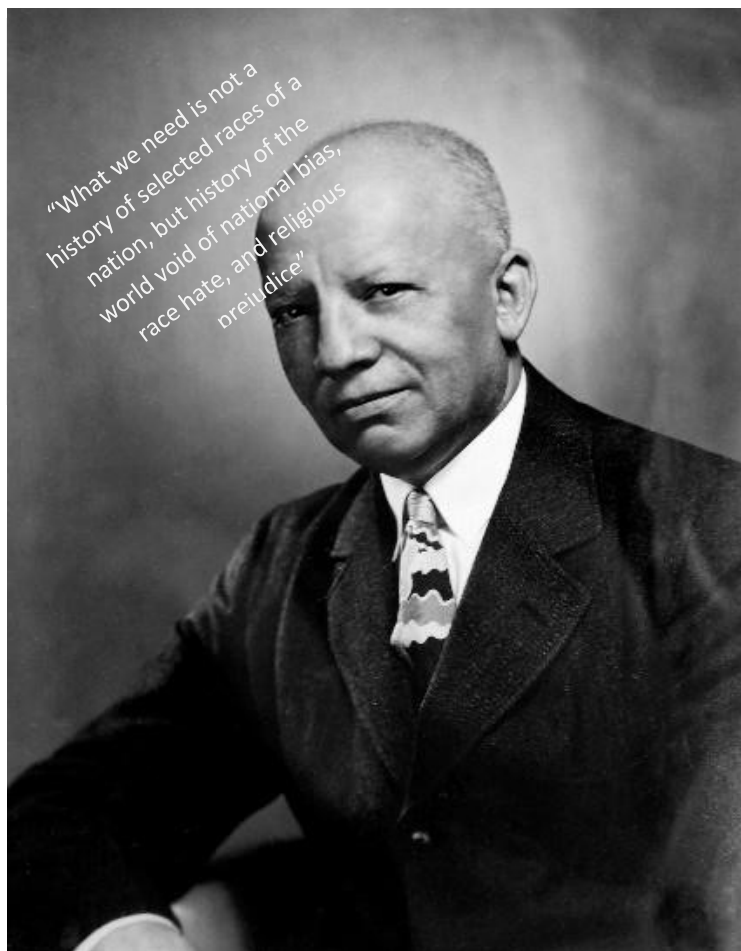
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JC Newsletter history

JC Black History Highlights

## THE ESSENCE OF BLACK HISTORY

In his quest to bridge African American History with American History came the birth of Black History. Black History started out as a week-long celebration back in 1926. It was casted during the week to which the birthday of Abraham Lincoln (February 12) and Frederick Douglas (February 14) were observed. Forty-four years later at Kent University educator and students extended the observance to a month. The month observance was adopted nationally in 1976 the time of the bicentennial celebration. Black History Month is a time to reflect, protect, honor and respect black lives as well as all lives. Black History is made each day so its essence should be marveled for three hundred and sixty-five days a year.



## "A HOT DOG MOMENT"

PASTOR WILLIE WHITE, JR.

### NO GREATER LOVE

My Christian brothers and sisters—

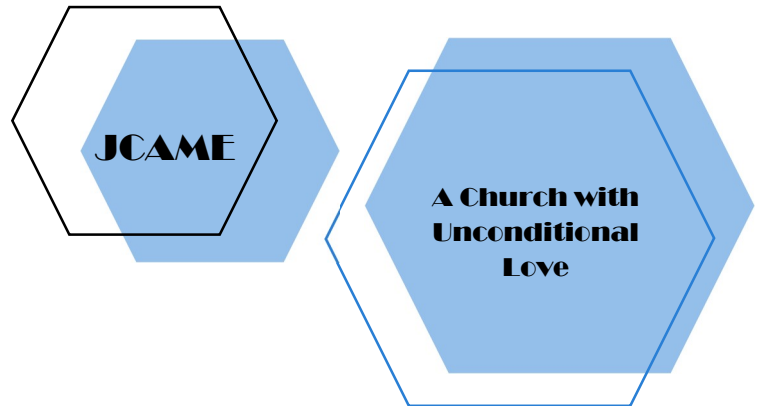
I am delighted to witness the birth of our "On the Edge" Newsletter. Please join me in prayer as we implement this new method of keeping in touch.

It is important for us to understand this simple but powerful statement, as we enter into this LOVE month, the month of February. Here it is "The greatest love of all, is God's love for us!" HOT DOG!

During the month of February, we are going to use the word LOVE quite often. We LOVE our spouses and we LOVE our children. We LOVE our friends and we LOVE our family members. We LOVE our community and we LOVE our work places. We must understand that LOVE is an action word. I was taught "LOVE talked about is easily ignored, but LOVE demonstrated is irresistible!" HOT DOG!

God's LOVE is the greatest love of all because his LOVE showed itself in action for us. The Bible says "God demonstrated His own LOVE toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us" (Romans 5:8).

The time is now for us to LOVE like God! Thanks! HOT DOG!



### YOU ARE WELCOME! VIRTUAL OR IN PERSON

⇒ Sunday School - Each Sunday at 9:00 a.m. IN PERSON & VIRTUAL

⇒ Morning Worship—Each Sunday at 10:45 a.m.— IN PERSON & VIRTUAL & Radio—87.9 FM limited range

⇒ Weekly Bible Study — Each Wednesday at 7:00 pm—VIRTUAL ONLY

⇒ Late night devotional — Facebook & Zoom

For more details about our services and how to join via Zoom, Facebook Live, or YouTube, please visit our website [johnschapelamec.org](http://johnschapelamec.org)



## LEADERS INSPIRE WITH FIRE!

*Editor's note: Leaders of church ministries are invited to share their stories and thoughts to "Inspire With Fire!" Dr. Russell Nichols, DMD, President of the JC Lay Organization is our Inaugural Edition Pioneer. Thank you, Dr. Nichols!*

## Now CHOW!

This was all that was needed to repeat **Now CHOW** and my exercise routine of a twenty-five-minute walk was started back. When this CHOW was started, I had to give meaning to it. This acronym CHOW is **C**limb **H**igh **O**ver **W**ins. This means you celebrate the wins while knowing they are being collected to ascend to a higher level. This process makes it difficult to rest on your laurels. The NOW means you are not to procrastinate. This got me started and I really enjoyed the process; however, several **factors** have blocked my **CHOW** for now. I must get it back. When is the best time to **CHOW? NOW!!!**

This **NOW** moment reminds me of a story about an elder Cherokee who picked the right **NOW** moment to enlighten his grandson about a battle that goes on inside of all people. He said, "My son, the battle is between two wolves inside of us. One is fear. It carries anxiety, concern and inaction. The other is faith. It brings calm, conviction, confidence, enthusiasm, decisiveness, excitement and action." The grandson thought about it for a second and then meekly asked his grandfather, which wolf wins? The old Cherokee replied...the one you feed.

This story and my **CHOW** moment have elements of success to be used in any endeavor. Be consistent and enthusiastic even if it seems you are on the edge. Just remember, circumstances are usually not as bad as they seem. With faith ATAP (all things are possible). **Be the Best YOU for GOD.**

**Dr. Russell D. Nichols**

# *“On the Edge”*

## The Inaugural Edition

### TELLING OUR STORY

It is definitely one for the history books as this first edition of the Johns Chapel Newsletter, *On the Edge*, rolls off the presses. I salute Pastor Willie White, Jr., for his insight and tenacity in making this publication a reality! Pastor White also provided the name of this newsletter, noting that we are always “on the edge” in anticipation of “What’s Next” in God’s plan for us!

*On the Edge* was preceded by two other JC newsletters—*The Phoenix* and *Johns Messenger*. The name of *The Phoenix* was the brainchild of the late Reverend Eli Holmes, Jr., a beloved local elder in our church, a highly respected gentleman, and a veteran of the Korean War, World War II and the Viet Nam War era. He was quite the scholar, and suggested the name to pay tribute to Johns Chapel’s recovery from the destruction of the church house due to fire. The Phoenix was a mythical bird that rose from ashes to live and thrive, much like Johns Chapel had done after two fires—the latest in 1982.

The editors of the *Johns Messenger* were the late Joyce Baxter and the undersigned. Joyce was a longtime member of Johns Chapel who served in many capacities—steward, choir member, soloist, decorator, just to name a few of her gifts. Sadly, she passed away suddenly in 2017. The work of Reverend Holmes and Sister Joyce was not in vain. Let us continue to tell our story in the written and spoken word. Many thanks to Pastor White and LauReen McDaniel for their work; to Dr. Russell Nichols for an excellent and thought-provoking message; and to each of you for your contributions as the JC story continues...

To God be the Glory!

MARGE SIMMONS, EDITOR

## TITHES AND OFFERINGS FOR KINGDOM BUILDING

Opportunities to give tithes & offerings: during morning worship service. Or mail to Johns Chapel AME Church, Post Office Box 311015, Enterprise, AL 36331-1015. Please do not mail cash. Thank you.

Or give via Givify: Johns Chapel AME Church  
Pay Pal: Johns Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church  
Cash app: \$JohnsChapelAMEC.

--February is Black History Month. Notes from Pastor White:

- Asking members to wear African attire each Sunday in February.
- Each Sunday in February will feature a short speech on the meaning of Negro Spirituals. Please note the changes below:
  - (1) *I Couldn’t Hear Nobody Pray* – Brother Franklin Simmons
  - (2) *Steal Away* – Dr. Stafford Thompson
  - (3) *Go Down Moses* – Sister Hattie Huggins
  - (4) *We Shall Overcome* – Sister Allie Bell Reddick

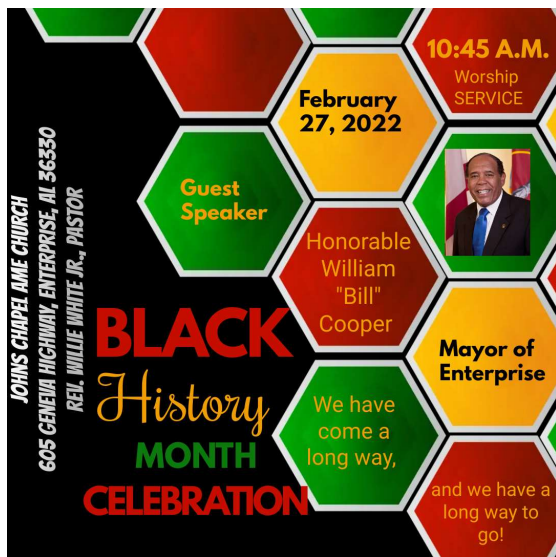




*Grab those dresses and suits out of COVID storage, and then grab your honey, friend, family members and come and share this wonderful time of fellowship at the Valentine's Ball!*



**FEBRUARY IS RED  
HOT AT J.C. YOU  
DON'T WANT TO  
MISS THIS!**



*March Event! Get your tickets soon.*