

MLK DAY
JANUARY 16, 2023



***Reckoning with Chaos,
Creating Community***

**48th ANNUAL COMMEMORATIVE PROGRAM
MUSIC HALL**

***Keynote Speaker: Denisha Porter, MPH, REHS/RS, HHS,
Executive Director, All-In Cincinnati – Greater Cincinnati
Foundation***

**Watch the program online at
www.mlkcoalition.org beginning Jan. 17**

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WE SHALL OVERCOME

We shall overcome,
We shall overcome,
We shall overcome some day.
Oh, deep in my heart I do believe,
We shall overcome some day.

2. We'll walk hand in hand...

3. We shall live in peace...

4. We are not afraid...

5. God is on our side...

Traditional American folk song

LIFT EV'RY VOICE AND SING

Lift ev'ry 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 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 thro' the blood of the slaughtered,
Out of the gloomy past.
Till now we stand at last
Where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

God of our weary years,
God of our silent tears,
Thou who hast brought us thus far on the way;
Thou who hast 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.

James Weldon Johnson

MLK COALITION 2023 MESSAGE:
RECKONING WITH CHAOS, BUILDING COMMUNITY

This year's theme, "Reckoning with Chaos, Building Community" was inspired by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s final book, *"Where Do We Go From Here: Chaos or Community?"* Dr. King argues that moderates who cautioned him to go slow and be patient would never create the conditions that lead to Beloved Community. We still need to hear this caution today for we still stand at the crossroads that lead to chaos or community. Indeed, recently the forces of chaos—systems and movements that aim to deny justice, voting rights, equality, and opportunity—seem to be on the rise.

Cincinnati is not immune to the chaos that plagues this country, from a mass shooting in our streets, to racial incidents in our schools, to racial pay disparities in the workplace, to housing inequity in places we call home. We cannot afford to behave as if what happens in one community is relegated to that place alone. There is no room for complacency in times of chaos.

Throughout the history of our nation, those threatened by the forces of chaos have survived by choosing to act and to work together for justice, fairness, equal rights, and their very lives. That's what Dr. King and other freedom fighters in the civil rights movement did. They joined together and built a nation-wide movement. We look to them for inspiration, and but we must also look to ourselves.

In many Black churches, the preacher or choir leverage the "call and response" practice in worship. The leader ushers a call that demands the listener respond. When we hear the call, inaction and silence are impossible. Today we hear again the urgent cry from Dr. King: "Where do we go from here?" What will be our response? As individuals, we can vote and strive for our own advancement. But if we make time to build meaningful connections with one another by sharing our stories and exchanging ideas, we can do so much more. We will be so much stronger.

By coming together across our differences, we can use our diverse experiences to stand up to the destructive energy of us/them thinking. We can find the third way that brings everyone into community. We can create new movements, discover new strategies, and support each other so that everyone can feel the call, everyone can participate in the response, and all of us can see the world that is possible. This is what beloved community looks like. This is how we carry Dr. King's vision forward to build the beloved community.

Bertha Davis of Norwood and Martha Viehmann of Anderson Township are members of the Martin Luther King, Jr., Coalition.

Denisha Porter, MPH, REHS/RS, HHS

Executive Director, All-In Cincinnati – Greater Cincinnati Foundation



Denisha Porter currently serves as Executive Director of the All-In Cincinnati Equity Coalition at Greater Cincinnati Foundation. The 150+ member Coalition is working to dismantle racial inequities in health, housing, education, economic mobility and justice, with the goal to uplift Black women in Hamilton County. All-In Cincinnati seeks to co-create and implement an equity action plan to transform our tri-state community, and Porter is the driving force leading the coalition's work to shape that vision. With over 15 years of experience in community engagement, community mobilization, and coalition building, Denisha is responsible for

directing policy and advocacy actions promoting the All-In Cincinnati mission; building strong relationships with local nonprofits, city officials, government agencies and community partners; and facilitating meetings, communications and recruitment with the All-In Cincinnati Core Team and Coalition members. With a current size of 60-90 members in attendance at monthly meetings, All-In Cincinnati leaders provide feedback on racial equity initiatives. All-In Cincinnati is examining barriers that impede collaboration between the for-profit and non-profit sectors and city and county governments to build a more equitable Hamilton County.

Denisha, who has previously served as the Director of Health Promotion and Worksite Wellness as well as the Director of the Creating Healthy Communities Coalition for the Cincinnati Health Department since 2010, has dedicated her career to public service. She also maintained over 100 collaborative relationships between public, private and civic entities including schools, churches and non-profit agencies to promote public and population-based health. Denisha worked with the United Dairy Farmers, a local chain of 210 convenience stores, to carry fresh produce in food deserts. She assisted the Cincinnati Metropolitan Housing Authority in creating and implementing a smoke-free multi-unit housing policy that now protects over 13,000 residents from second-hand smoke.

In 2021, Ms. Porter was selected to participate in Leadership Cincinnati USA, an immersive civic engagement and development program for established leaders in c-suite or senior executive positions. Ms. Porter received the Cincinnati's 2019 Forty Under 40 Award by the Cincinnati Business Courier. In 2018, she was recognized by the Cincinnati Herald for her dedication to the community with the Cincinnati Herald's Nefertiti Award.

Denisha Porter is a proud graduate of Walnut Hills High School. She received her Bachelor of Arts Microbiology degree from Miami University and her Master of Public Health degree from Wright State University. Denisha is a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated and her motto in life is to do good even in the face of adversity.

Performers on Stage on MLK Day 2023



Baba Charles Miller Baba Charles Miller knows the rhythms of the drum inspires compassion for humanity. As a Cincinnati Arts & Culture Legend he has enjoyed a career as a cultural arts craftsman, performer & educator, sharing his love of the world's percussive traditions through experiences of cultural engagement for educational institutions, corporations & non-profit associations. Today he is joined by fellow percussionists sharing the rhythms of the drum for humanity.



Anaya McNair, Dancer Anaya McNair is proud to be a born and raised Cincinnati. Anaya is a Graduate at Northern Kentucky University School of the Arts, trained in hip hop, jazz, modern, and contemporary dance. Anaya is also founder of (CA)², a dance crew most recently featured at Blink Cincinnati 2022. Anaya is an ambassador and teacher of dance, also competing around the country (Hip Hop International, World of Dance, and first place at the Monsters of Hip Hop Competition). Anaya seeks to influence the next generation and to create active achievers.



Rimel Kamran, Poet Rimel Kamran is a current senior at the Summit Country Day School and the Inaugural Cincinnati Youth Poet Laureate. Her poems aim to build community, celebrate diversity, share her Pakistani-American identity, and weave the sciences with storytelling. She has received awards from the Scholastic Arts and Writing Competition, Mount St. Joseph University, and Democracy and Me and her work has been featured in The Weight Journal and Blue Marble Review. She serves on the Executive Board for the National Diversity Coalition, a student-led organization dedicated to implementing diversity and inclusion practices in schools and was selected for the

Regional Youth Leadership Program hosted by the Northern Kentucky Chamber of Commerce. Rimel is also the founder of South Asians for Medicine, an online page dedicated to bringing awareness to South Asian health disparities and advocating for inclusivity in healthcare. Her work centers around her belief that both poetry and medicine are healing in their abilities to foster human connections and promote active empathy.

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Celebration Program

January 16, 2023

NATIONAL UNDERGROUND RAILROAD FREEDOM CENTER Reflection /Prayer Pastor Christopher R. Graham, Sr., M. Div. Mt. Zion Baptist Church – Woodlawn Ms. Teresa Davis, Theology Teacher, Archbishop McNicholas High School Ms. Aasees Kaur, The Sikh Coalition	10:30 a.m.
MEMORIAL WALK to Music Hall, 12th and Elm Streets	10:45 a.m.
Washington Park Program Reflection/Prayer Rabbi Zachary Goodman, Wise Temple Mr. Aziz Rahman, Islamic Center of Greater Cincinnati Pastor Dr. Mya P. Miller, Chosen Ministries	11:15 a.m.
PRE-PROGRAM MUSIC HALL PROGRAM Baba Charles and the Samba Band	11:45 a.m.
MUSIC HALL PROGRAM	12:00 p.m.
Welcome and Introduction of Master of Ceremonies Eric Watford, Vice President, Martin Luther King, Jr. Coalition	
Master of Ceremonies , Steven Albritton – WLWT Channel 5	
Invocation - Reverend Dr. Orlando Yates, Union Baptist Church	
<i>Lift Ev'ry Voice and Sing</i> MLK Chorale and Audience Composed by James Weldon Johnson and John Rosamond Johnson Musical Sing Language Interpretation, Jeffrey Johnson	
Introduction of Mayor of Cincinnati Raffel Prohett, President, Martin Luther King, Jr. Coalition	
City of Cincinnati Proclamation – Mayor Aftab Pureval	
Introduction of MLK Chorale Directors – Steven Albritton	
Musical Selection - <i>Sing Out, March On</i> Composed by Joshua Campbell, arr. Steve Milloy	
Memorial Giving – Raffel Prohett and Desiré Bennett	

Musical Selections

I'm Going Home on a Cloud – Traditional Spiritual, arr. Sean Deibler

We Search for Peace – Rev. Todd O'Neal, trans. Steve Milloy

Introduction of WordPlay Poet – Steven Albritton

WordPlay Poet - Rimel Kamran

Reflections on a Hero – Steven Albritton remembers Freedom Rider Frances Canty

Introduction of Dancer – Steven Albritton

Musical Selection

Stardust – Composed by B.E. Boykin, Arrangement commissioned for the MLK Chorale

Dancer - Anaya McNair

Introduction of the Keynote Speaker – Steven Albritton

Keynote Speaker – Denisha Porter, MPH, REHS/RS, HHS, *Executive Director,*

All-In Cincinnati – *Greater Cincinnati Foundation*

Introduction for Benediction – Steven Albritton

Benediction - The Very Reverend Owen C. Thompson, Dean, Christ Church Cathedral

We Shall Overcome – MLK Chorale and Audience

Sign Language Interpreters provided by Greater Cincinnati Interpreters for the Deaf

Donations may be made:

Via phone:

Text TO: 44321 MESSAGE: MLK2023

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Martin Luther King, Jr. Coalition

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Thank you for your donation. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

Martin Luther King, Jr. Coalition Board of Directors

2022-2023

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Robert Harris	Member-at-Large
Jason Holmes	MLK Chorale Director
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Martin Luther King, Jr. Coalition History and Mission



The Martin Luther King, Jr. Coalition of Cincinnati works to strengthen the diverse human community through the promotion and practice of non-violence and understanding. Over the last forty years, the Coalition's diverse and collaborative board of directors has remained dedicated to this mission. Each year, we celebrate the vision of Dr. King through our annual MLK Day Commemorative Civil Rights March and Commemorative Celebration. The MLK Coalition is proud to continue Dr. Martin Luther King's brave and earnest work to end racial injustice.

The MLK Coalition began in the early 1970s at City Hall, pledging to support the establishing of an official Ohio holiday for Dr. King. The first proposal for this statewide holiday came from the Cincinnati Human Relations Commission. Numerous area legislators were instrumental in the

bill's passage, including: late State Senators William F. Bowen and William L. Mallory, State Representatives James W. Rankin and James T. Luken, and Warren Pate, then of the Ohio AFL-CIO. Signed into law on May 2, 1975, Ohio Senate Bill 18 declared the third Monday in January as Ohio's Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. The first Cincinnati observance of the holiday was sponsored by many organizations, including CHRC, the City of Cincinnati, the YWCA, UC and the NAACP.

As the MLK Coalition continues to promote social equality and racial justice, we value our partnership with our great city and its citizens for our annual celebration of Dr. King.

MARTIN LUTHER KING TRUST FUND

Donations collected at this and other Coalition programs benefit the Martin Luther King, Jr. Trust Fund at the Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County. Income from the trust is used to purchase library materials about Dr. King and his accomplishments so all members of the community can learn of Dr. King's lasting contributions to our society.

JOIN US THIS YEAR!

The Coalition is looking for new members and new leaders. Join us on the third Tuesday of each month at 10:00 a.m. Membership is open to anyone committed to Dr. King's dream. Email mlkcoalition@gmail.com or 513.545.6863 for more information.

About the MLK Chorale

The Martin Luther King Chorale, under the direction Jason Holmes and Reina Dickey, provides the musical heart of the MLK Day Commemorative Program at Music Hall. Women and men of all ages, races and diverse beliefs from area churches, mosques, synagogues and choral groups gather every year to musically celebrate and honor the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The Chorale is part of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Coalition.

The Chorale, founded in 1992 by Dr. Catherine Roma and Bishop Todd O'Neal, has been signing as part of the MLK Day program for over 30 years. The Chorale sang at the groundbreaking and again at the dedication of the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center and often performs throughout the city around MLK Day. At the 2012 World Choir Games the Chorale won two Gold Diplomas in the Gospel and Spirituals competitions.

Rehearsals are held on Tuesday evenings from October through MLK Day. All are welcome, and there are no auditions. Find out more by visiting www.mlkcoalition.org

Soprano

Nellie Allen
Janice Alvarado
Camille Batiste
Shirley J. Blair
Andrea Dale
Lois Gish
Mary Carol Hopkins
Cherylin Loney
Barbara McMullen
Cynthia Oglesby
Sister Rachel Richards
Maddie Smith
Sara Smith

Alto

Day Beezley
Meg Bruck
Cynthia L. Crews
Barb Cummins
Mary Darner
Bertha Davis
Valerie DuBay
Frellie R. Easterling

Susan Glas
Nina M. Jackson
Melva Johnson
Janet Kravitz
Ellie Lamb
Sandra Lundgren
Kate Nicholson
Diana Porter
Mary Ryan
Pam Schall
Suellyn Shupe
Marion Solomon
Marge Webb
Jan Weiler

Tenor

Dante Keeling
Bob Lamb
Rob Lowe
Amelia Mays
Casey Scullin
Gabe Solomon
Steph Tacy
Neal Watzman

Raffel Prophett

Bass

Roberto Alvarado
Bob Booth
Frank Collins
Tom Darner
Don Deems
Ed Goldman
Zack Goldman
Dave McCabe
Gerald Prophett
Manuel Susarret
Les Tacy
Leonard Webb

Directors

Jason Holmes, Director
Reina Dickey, Assistant
Director

The MLK Chorale's New Directors

Jason Alexander Holmes, Director



Jason Holmes is a music educator and performer from Ridgeway, VA and currently serves as the Artistic Director of the Cincinnati Boychoir. Before coming to Cincinnati, he was Director of Educational Programming at the Boston Children's Chorus. Prior to his time in Boston, Jason taught music at the elementary and secondary levels. He also led the University of Rochester Gospel Choir and the Eastman Young Children's Chorus.

As a bass-baritone, Jason has had the pleasure of performing repertoire from contemporary music theatre standouts like Jason Robert Brown's *Parade* to Beethoven's Symphony No. 9. Also, in the worlds of musical theatre and opera, Jason has served on the faculty of the Geva Theatre's Summer Academy (Rochester, NY) and as chorus master and

young artist coach and music director for Finger Lakes Opera (Canandaigua, NY).

Jason holds degrees from the Eastman School of Music and Ithaca College, where his mentors and teachers included Drs. Susan Wharton Conkling, William Weinert, Constance Haas, Brad Hougham, and Susan Avery. At the core of Jason's teaching and performing is the belief that we are all expressive and musical beings who deserve to witness and participate regularly in moments of truth and beauty.

Reina Dickey, Assistant Director



A native of Maumee, OH, Reina Dickey is a third-year doctoral student in choral conducting at University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music, where she is director of the university's Alta Petit Treble Choir. Her research interest in choral repertoire spans a wide range, including the works of historically underrepresented composers. Outside of academic work, she is the assistant music director and accompanist at Epiphany United Methodist Church in Loveland. She completed her master's degree at Temple University in 2020, while serving as a staff singer at Saint Mark's Church in Philadelphia, PA. From 2013-2018, Reina co-directed choirs at Walnut Hills High School in the Cincinnati Public School District. Reina graduated *summa cum laude* from Miami University (Oxford, OH) with a bachelor's degree in music education with an emphasis in piano.

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**THE MLK COALITION IS GRATEFUL TO MANY FOR THEIR EFFORTS
FOR CINCINNATI'S MLK DAY EVENTS.**

SPECIAL THANKS TO:

**The City of Cincinnati and to Cincinnati City Council for continued
commitment to Cincinnati's commemoration of Dr. King.**

**Dr. Gary P. Zola and the American Jewish Archives staff for providing
wonderful support and a meeting place for the MLK Coalition.**

**National Underground Railroad Freedom Center for their ongoing
partnership.**

**The Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County for their commitment to
making Dr. King's legacy available for future generations.**

The members of the MLK Chorale for giving their time and voices in song.

Ryan Davis for his design for this year's flyer and program book cover.

Pixxel Designs for amazing photography.

House of Joy for providing rehearsal space for the MLK Chorale.



MLK Coalition members celebrate Juneteenth in Eden Park, 2022



**Join the Coalition
and join the fun on
Juneteenth, 2023!**

The MLK Coalition Remembers a Hero

Frances Canty, Freedom Fighter, 1937-2022



Frances Lee Wilson Canty was a beloved member of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Coalition. Her warm smile and the ever-present sparkle in her eyes were matched by her life-long commitment to Dr. King's dream of the Beloved Community.

Frances was a 1955 graduate of Withrow High School, and attended Tennessee Agricultural & Industrial State University, where she participated in sit-ins against segregated lunch counters and encouraged people to register to vote. When she heard the Greyhound buses for the Freedom Riders were bombed outside of Anniston, Alabama, and Freedom Riders were almost killed, she was extremely concerned for the Civil Rights movement. She was convinced the Freedom Rides would stop, the movement would end, and segregation would be worse than ever.

On May 28, 1961, while a student at TSU, her Christian faith and belief in equality led her to join the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) and participate in the Freedom Rides in the deep south, defying interstate transit segregation. She understood the importance of how much the Freedom Rides were needed to defy Jim Crow laws and call for a change. Prior to getting on the Greyhound buses, Frances and other students willingly signed their living wills, knowing they were facing threats, abuse, and even death along their journey. However, her moral integrity lit her soul on fire to see liberation through the Civil Rights Movement.



Along with eight other students, she left Nashville, Tennessee, on a Greyhound bus and arrived in Jackson, Mississippi. Once she was there, Frances walked directly into the "Whites only" waiting room and was immediately arrested and taken to the city jail. The next day she was tried and found guilty of breach of the peace. She was fined \$200 dollars and sentenced 60 days in jail. Along with other students, she was transported to Parchman Penitentiary. While in Parchman, Frances stayed in a cell that was close to the electric chair. She would recall this often in later years.



She was released on bail in the middle of July and went back to Tennessee A&I State University, but learned she had been expelled from school due to her participation in the Freedom Rides. She moved back to Cincinnati, Ohio.

Frances married William Canty on January 5, 1962, in Lawrenceburg, Indiana. They were blessed with five wonderful children and raised their family in Cincinnati. She taught her

children about having a strong work ethic and exhibited it by working at the Internal Revenue Service for 47 years.

On May 3, 2011, President Barak Obama issued an official proclamation marking the 50th Anniversary of the non-violent segregation efforts of the Freedom Riders. President Obama stated that "because of their efforts and the work of those who marched and stood against injustice, we live in a country where all Americans have the right to dream and choose their own destiny." She was extremely excited about meeting President Barak Obama. Soon afterwards, Frances was invited to be on the Oprah Winfrey show honoring the surviving members of the Freedom Riders. She spoke at several speaking engagements, doing her duty to spread the word about fighting injustice and inequality.



(Frances and fellow Freedom Rider Betty Daniels Rosemond.)

During the Summer of 2011, Frances was invited back to TSU after being expelled many years before. However, this time her family watched her march across the stage and receive her honorary degree from Tennessee State University. On October 2, 2014, Frances was also inducted into the Ohio Civil Rights Hall of Fame.

Honoring Rep. James Warren Rankin

April 10, 1926 - June 28, 1978



Rep. James Rankin played a key role in the legislation that created Ohio's Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday on May 2, 1975.

On September 2, 2022, the James Rankin Historical Marker was dedicated in the Evanston Wildflower Garden, Duck Creek Rd. at Crane Ave. MLK Coalition President Raffel Prohett spoke on behalf of the Coalition to honor Mr. Rankin.

PROCLAMATION

City of Cincinnati

Be It Proclaimed:

Whereas, signed into law on May 2, 1975, Senate Bill 18 declared the third Monday in January as Martin Luther King, Jr. Day in the State of Ohio; and,

Whereas, the first proposal for a statewide holiday honoring Dr. King came from the Cincinnati Human Relations Commission, and numerous area legislators were instrumental in the bill's passage; and,

Whereas, the first community observance of the holiday was planned by the staff and officers of the YWCA and the Martin Luther King, Jr. Coalition; and,

Whereas, this is the MLK Coalition's 48th annual celebration of the holiday in Cincinnati, dedicated to keeping Dr. King's legacy vibrant in our community; and,

Whereas, the theme for the 2023 event is "Reckoning with Chaos, Building Community".

Now, Therefore, I, Aftab Pureval,
Mayor of the City of Cincinnati do hereby proclaim January 16, 2023
as
"Martin Luther King Jr. Day"
in Cincinnati.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused this seal of the City of Cincinnati to be affixed this sixteenth day of January in the year Two Thousand and Twenty-three.



Aftab Pureval, Mayor
City of Cincinnati

Reckoning with Chaos, Building Community A Reflection and Our Annual Resource List

This year's theme, *Reckoning with Chaos, Building Community*, was inspired by Dr. King's final book, *Where Do We Go From Here: Chaos or Community?* (See a description below). Dr. King argues that moderates who cautioned him to go slow and be patient would never create the conditions that lead to Beloved Community. It is a caution that remains timely, as is his message on the work remaining to be done to build Beloved Community. Recently the forces of chaos, that is the systems and movements that aim to deny justice, voting rights, equality, and opportunity, seem to be on the rise. Throughout the history of our nation, those threatened by the forces of chaos have survived by choosing to act and to work together for justice, fairness, equal rights, and their very lives. That's what building community looks like. We find inspiration in the freedom fighters of the past and of today. We find possibility in the radical ideas that come from those who refuse to be silenced and who refuse to be patient, just like Dr. King. The Martin Luther King, Jr., Coalition hopes that our Cincinnati community takes inspiration from gathering together on this holiday. We also hope that you will also find some books or other resources that inspire you in the work of building community and a brighter future for all. Every year, the MLK Coalition donates to the Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County to ensure that inspiring books are available to everyone. Thanks to Louise Lawarre, Martha Viehmann, and a few local authors for these descriptions, and to Jason Holmes and Jan Seymour for some great suggestions.

Books for Adults

Where Do We Go From Here: Chaos of Community? by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. (1968) In her forward to her husband's last book, Coretta Scott King noted that "In this book, he piercingly revealed the cause of our national discord, placing it squarely on the ingrained white racism of American society...he stresses the common cause of all the disinherited, white and black...for he knew if color made them different, misery and oppression make them the same." Dr. King's breadth of scope, and his clear recommendations for action offer an outline that still serves as us today, because the basic issues are still poverty, jobs, education, and housing. His wisdom inspires us to keep fighting til justice rolls down like waters.

On Juneteenth, by Annette Gordon-Reed. (2021) Gordon-Reed, a Pulitzer Prize winning Texas historian, explores what Juneteenth meant in its birthplace state, Texas. In this book that combines history and family stories, she sets the stage for the announcement on June 19, 1865, in a state with a much more complex past in relation to black people than the one learned in many history books. She says, "The chief difficulty lies in how people of color can be fit into the legends and myths of Texas, when the actual historical experience of Indians, blacks and Mexicans wrecks havoc with those legends and myths." This concise and fascinating book gives a deeper look at the newest national holiday.

Steal the Street: The Intersection of Homelessness and Gentrification by Mark Mussman, PhD. (2022) "Gentrification should always be understood as having an anti-Black bias, and should never be seen as a value-neutral endeavor." This is the journey Dr. Mark, Director of Education at the Greater Cincinnati Homeless Coalition, launches the reader on, through a brief overview of

Cincinnati history, and then with articles from the magazine *Streetvibes*. In this city that prides itself on the “revitalization” of OTR, it is hard to find the true story of the underbelly of injustice that has such a glossy façade. Dr. Mark unflinchingly shares that view, and offers an exploration that will help anyone concerned with racial justice in Cincinnati better understand what, and whose lives, are at stake.

By Hands Now Known: Jim Crow's Legal Executioners by Margaret A. Burnham (2022). Margaret Burnham, director of Northeastern University's Civil Rights and Restorative Justice Project and MIT political scientist Melissa Nobles worked with students to unearth accounts of the everyday violence that shaped African American lives and enforced white supremacy from 1920 to 1960. They chose this era so that interviews of survivors and their family members could enhance the reports in newspapers and court records. They created a vast database that shows the systemic nature of anti-Black violence in the Jim Crow era in the South. From the one thousand plus examples, Burnham has selected a few dozen examples in the book, which illuminates “the role of physical violence in sustaining Jim Crow.” Three themes emerge: the federal government's failure to protect Black citizens; the role of white violence in shaping Black citizenship following emancipation; and the resistance of African Americans through protests and the legal channels. The opening section on rendition, the attempt of southern states to seek the return of African Americans for prosecution, weaves the three themes together and demonstrates how, well before the civil rights era, crowds in the streets and the efforts of the NAACP work together to call attention to an unfair system and demand justice for Black citizens.

What My Bones Know: A Memoir of Healing From Complex Trauma by Stephanie Foo (2022). Journalist Stephanie Foo's memoir combines her story with an exploration of psychology, family dynamics, immigration from Asia, and historical trauma. After dispassionately describing abuse and abandonment in part one, Foo outlines her attempt to be a “good” person by addressing her symptoms of complex PTSD. In search of healing, she returns to San Jose to profile this diverse immigrant community and the burdens of the stereotypes of the “model minority,” Asian cultures, and expectations of assimilation and success before discovering the roots of the trauma that she and other descendants of immigrants and refugees have faced: the history of oppression and dissociation that traumatized their parents and forebears. Written in clear and compelling language with surprising touches of humor, this book is essential for anyone wishing to understand how the past continues to weigh down individuals. And as Foo herself allows, other survivors of trauma can skip the opening section and still gain much from this book.

The Loneliest Americans by Jay Caspian Kang. Part memoir, part history, and part reporting, *The Loneliest Americans* explores the creation of the term “Asian American,” the changes in immigration policy that transformed the population of Asian origin in the US, and the complexity of Asian experiences in America. In a country that has long defined race in terms of Black and white, the position of those who are in the middle is complicated and worth trying to understand.

My People: Five Decades of Writing About Black Lives by Charlayne Hunter-Gault (2022). As a groundbreaking, barrier-busting journalist, Charlayne Hunter-Gault wrote “the first draft of history” of African American life in the second half of the 20th century. Hunter-Gault says that learning Black history in school gave her armor that protected her against racism as she integrated the University

of Georgia and many newsrooms. Read selections of her reporting on topics ranging from civil rights leaders and South African apartheid to every day life so that the past can strengthen you in facing today's challenges.

The 1619 Project, created by Nikole Hannah-Jones. (2021) Now in book-form, this project, which began as a New York Times special report, has rocked the nation with its truth and its challenges to status-quo thinking. History laid bare, but contrary to cultural myths, has made its very title both a source of pride and fury, love and hate, depending on the reader. Profound in its scope, it deserves time and discussion to absorb the many perspectives and serious investigative research that it includes, all with the intent of blowing open the tired, stale bits of history taught in many texts, to show black people as active, engaged, creative people, working against the worst odds and conditions, to eek out opportunity, freedom and justice for themselves and their communities.

Dear White Friend: The Realities of Race, the Power of Relationships and Our Path to Equity, by Melvin Gravelly II (2021). Using letters to an unnamed white friend as the vehicle for developing his themes, Gravelly asks white people to engage in discussions about racism, even when it is difficult. He often speaks from the heart, but with thorough research to back up his assessments. In this remarkable book that speaks frankly but without blame, Gravelly asks the reader to care enough to "see" the realities of inequity in America, what he calls the two different contracts the nation has with white people and black people, and to "do" something about it. This book offers a way to enter a conversation his fellow Americans have found difficult, learn why it matters, and ask themselves "What is my role in changing this?"

Podcasts

School Colors. Hosts Mark Winston Griffith and Max Freedman. A documentary podcast about how race, class, and power shape American cities and schools. We follow generations of parents and educators fighting for their children in a gentrifying neighborhood (season 1) and in a diverse but segregated neighborhood that was supposed to get a diversity plan. Season 1 is available wherever you get your podcasts; Season 2 aired as part of the 2022 season of Code Switch, and you can find it there.

Books for Teens

Piecing Me Together by Renée Watson (2017). Jade takes a bus to a private high school, leaving behind her closest friend and entering a world where she feels she doesn't fit in and can't be her full self. A moving story about a girl who wants to succeed and tries to take advantage of opportunities but also wants to be seen, accepted, and understood.

Bird in a Box by Andrea Davis Pinkney (2011). On a June night in 1937, Black people all across the US tuned their radios to a boxing match between Joe Louis and James Braddock. Pinkney sets the scene through the stories of three twelve-year-olds, who tell their stories in alternating chapters. *Bird in a Box* paints a vivid picture of the challenges and hopes of young African Americans in the 1930s and shows how one person's achievement can impact a whole community.

Books for Children

Bright Brown Baby by Andrea Davis Pinkney, illus. by Brian Pinkney. This series of board books for the youngest children is inspired by a poem by Langston Hughes and celebrates the wonder and joy of babies. You can also find *Bright Brown Baby*, *Peek-a-You*, *Count to Love*, *Baby Boy*, *You Are a Star*, and *Hey, Baby Girl!* collected in *Bright Brown Baby: A Treasury* (2021). The colorful, endearing illustrations emphasize faces, and both the words and pictures are full of love.

When We Say Black Lives Matter written and illus. by Maxine Beneba Clarke (2021). Directly addressing a child, who grows from baby to a youth in a graduation cap in the illustrations, Clarke explains the meaning behind protests and the declaration of “Black Lives Matter.” The book also celebrates Black joy, music, and hope, all in an age-appropriate way. The details of the history and the troubles are left to older children who are ready to know more.

Your Name Is a Song by Jamilah Thompkins-Bigelow, illus. by Luisa Uribe (2020). A girl doesn’t want to go back to school because her name sticks in her teacher’s mouth, and her classmates tease her about her name, too. On the way home, her mother teaches her about the beauty and power of many different names. The next day, the girl helps her class see that all names have music in them, and they learn to say her name. A link to a video helps readers with pronunciation, and a glossary explains the origins and history of the names. The colorful illustrations add to the spirit of wonder in this book.

Zippy The Zebra Earns His Stripes by Brittany D. Eaton, illus. by Bobooks (2021). Kindness doesn’t end in the classroom, but it’s a great place for it to begin. Has there ever been a time when someone laughed at you or called you names? Do you remember how that made you feel? *Zippy The Zebra Earns His Stripes* is about a kind little zebra who knows that it isn’t nice to make fun of others. This book shows us how to be accepting of the differences in others and to be supportive to those in need. This virtuous classroom adventure will warm your heart and have children everywhere proud to stand up and earn their stripes.

I Am Not Afraid of Spiders by Ashley Aya Ferguson (2022) is a story poem that inspires readers not to respond to fear with violence. A girl notices that her babysitter doesn’t hurt spiders and won’t let anyone else hurt them either. Discover what she learns about the creatures we are often taught to be afraid of. Inspired by the Nikki Giovanni poem “Allowables.”



Ohio Secretary of State
Frank LaRose

Does hereby recognize

THE MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. COALITION

As Ohio's 51st Secretary of State, I am proud to recognize the Martin Luther King, Jr. Coalition and the 48th annual celebration of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

The Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s legacy of integrity, passion, and commitment to community service has endured for more than five decades, and his leadership and courage inspired generations of change throughout our nation and the world.

I commend the Martin Luther King, Jr. Coalition for your hard work to ensure Dr. King's deeds, words, and wisdom continue to make an impact.

On behalf of all Ohioans, best wishes for another successful and memorable celebration.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the State of Ohio to be affixed. Done at the City of Columbus this sixteenth day of January in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty-three, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-sixth and of the statehood of Ohio the two hundred nineteenth.

Frank LaRose
51st Ohio Secretary of State



In the Name and by the Authority of
THE STATE OF
OHIO



WHEREAS, the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. was born in Atlanta, Georgia, on January 15, 1929; and

WHEREAS, he earned undergraduate degrees from Morehouse College and Crozer Theological Seminary, and a doctorate from Boston University; and

WHEREAS, in the mid-1950s, King embraced the struggle for civil rights, following the teachings of Mohandas Gandhi and emerged as an influential proponent of organized, nonviolent activism; and

WHEREAS, in 1955, King was among those who planned and participated in the Montgomery Bus Boycott, which ended with the U.S. Supreme Court ruling that segregation on public buses was unconstitutional; and

WHEREAS, King, together with other civil rights advocates, founded the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) in 1957 to organize the action of local protests groups throughout the South; and

WHEREAS, after being jailed during a march to bring attention to integration efforts in Alabama, on April 16, 1963, King wrote his famous "Letter from Birmingham Jail;" and

WHEREAS, King, as president of the SCLC, along with leaders from other civil rights organizations, organized the August 28, 1963, March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom, which drew more than 250,000 participants and was a steppingstone to the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; and

WHEREAS, during that march, King delivered his "I Have a Dream" speech; and

WHEREAS, in 1964, King became the youngest person ever to be awarded the Nobel Peace Prize; and

WHEREAS, in 1983, President Ronald Reagan signed a bill creating a U.S. federal holiday, to be observed on the third Monday of every January, honoring King's birthday; and

NOW, THEREFORE, We, Mike DeWine and Jon Husted, Governor and Lieutenant Governor of the State of Ohio, do hereby recognize

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY

on this 17th day of January 2022.


Mike DeWine
Governor




Jon Husted
Lieutenant Governor



January 17th, 2022

Martin Luther King, Jr. Coalition
PO Box 19358
Cincinnati, OH 45219

Dear Friends & Community Members:

I am honored to attend the MLK Day Commemorative Program and be included in the 2023 program book. I look forward to attending every year to honor Dr. King's legacy and the work of so many to advance his vision of civil rights and racial justice here in our community.

This year's theme, "Reckoning with Chaos, Creating Community" is especially poignant at this moment in our history. We have to end the chaos and extremism that we are all so tired of. It is time to come together and work together to make our nation and our community a more just and equitable place for everyone.

This celebration is a reminder to recommit ourselves to that vital work and to continue to strive for a just and peaceful world. We must continue to carry on Dr. King's legacy and fight for civil rights, voting rights, racial justice, economic fairness, affordable housing, access to quality education, and more.

I appreciate the work that all of you do to make our community strong, and for the part you play each year in continuing to honor the legacy of Dr. King here in Cincinnati. It is an honor to be a part of this celebration, and that vital work, with all of you.

Thank you for all that you do.

Sincerely,
Rep. Greg Landsman
Congressman, OH-01



THE JACOB RADER MARCUS CENTER OF THE **AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES**

Proud Supporter of the Martin Luther King Coalition



The American Jewish Archives is committed to preserving a documentary heritage of the American Jewish experience. The American Jewish Archives was founded in 1947 with a small assortment of congregational and societal minute books and a few collections of private papers. Today, we are proud to hold in our collection many important documents relating to human relations and civil rights in the U.S. including the papers of:

- ★ **Kivie Kaplan**, *president of the NAACP (1966-1975)*
- ★ **Zora Neale Hurston**, *noted anthropologist and Harlem Renaissance writer*
- ★ **Rabbi Mark H. Tanenbaum**, *a pioneering leader in interfaith relations in the United States*
- ★ **Rabbi Joachim Prinz**, *a prominent civil rights activist who, together with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., spoke at the March on Washington, August 1963*

LOCATED ON THE HISTORIC CINCINNATI CAMPUS OF THE HEBREW UNION COLLEGE - JEWISH INSTITUTE OF RELIGION:
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**"If you can't fly then run,
if you can't run then walk,
if you can't walk then crawl,
but whatever you do you have
to keep moving forward."**

Metro celebrates the spirit of Dr. Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. by keeping this community moving forward.



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**RECKONING WITH CHAOS,
BUILDING COMMUNITY!**

“Now more than ever before,
America is forced to grapple
with this problem, for the
shape of the world today
does not afford us the luxury
of an anemic democracy.
The price that this nation
must pay for the continued
oppression...is the price of its
own destruction.”

-- Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.
June 23, 1963



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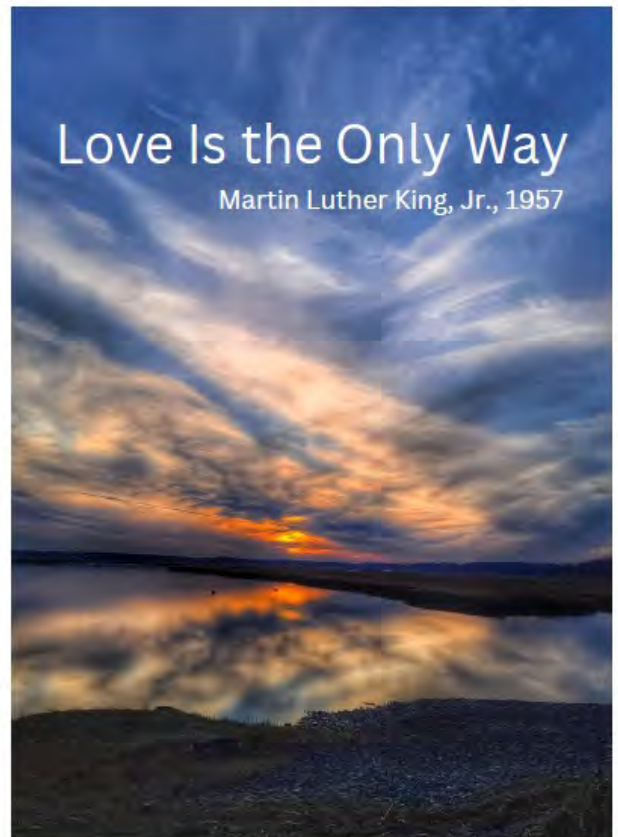
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cincinnati.friends.org

Community Friends Meeting
North Avondale, Cincinnati
community.friendsmeeting.org

Eastern Hills Friends Meeting
Anderson Township, Cincinnati
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Love Is the Only Way

Martin Luther King, Jr., 1957

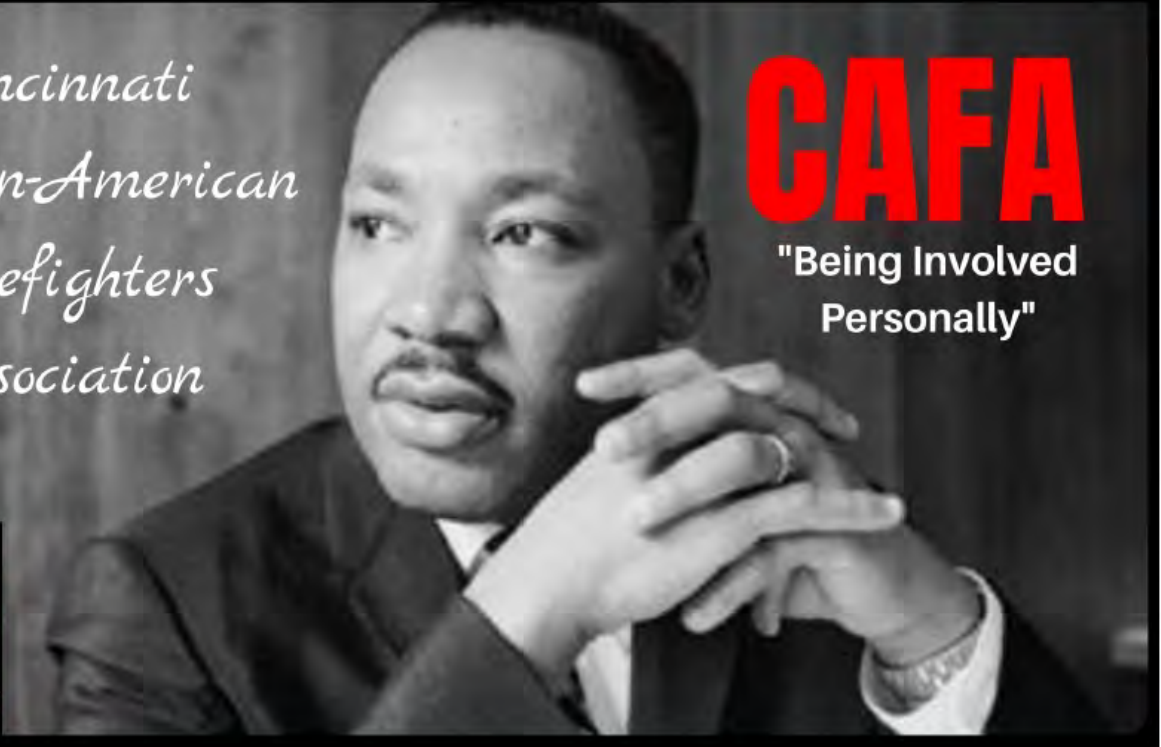


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From Cheryl Meadows

Former member and

Past Vice President, MLK Coalition

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Questions? email becky@IJPCcincinnati.org



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*Greater Anderson Promotes Peace
honors
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
Monday, January 17, 2022
May Peace Prevail
on Earth*



CONGREGATULATIONS AND BEST WISHES
TO
THE MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. COALITION
FOR YOUR CONTINUE SERVICE IN KEEPING THE
DREAM AND THE LEGACY OF
DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR
"RECKONING WITH CHOAS, CREATING COMMUNITY"

From

Golden Leaf Baptist Church
Rev. Dr. Carl P. Adkins, Senior Pastor
5910 Argus Road, Cincinnati, OH 45224
Phone: 513-542-8213 Fax: 513-853-8303
Email: gloffice@cinci.rr.com

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"The time is always right to do what is right."

- Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

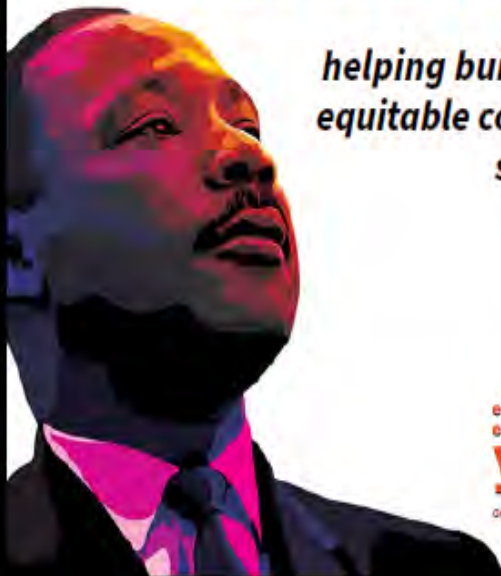


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helping build a more
equitable community
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eliminating racism
empowering women
ywca

Greater Cincinnati



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XAVIER UNIVERSITY proudly supports the **MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. COALITION** and its mission to strengthen the diverse human community through the promotion and practice of non-violence and understanding.

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*To The Martin Luther King, Jr. Coalition
In celebration of the 2023 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
"Always Keep the Dream Alive"
Rev. Joel & Mrs. Lolita McCauley, Jr. &
The New Jerusalem Baptist Church*

“ I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character. ”



Paul M. Booth, Division Manager of the Office of Human Relations Salutes the MLK Coalition



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CINCINNATI
NAACP

The Cincinnati NAACP stands in support of the MLK Coalition as we continue Dr. Martin Luther King Jr's fight for freedom and equality for all.



St. Xavier High School recognizes and honors the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



Hispanic Heritage Month Cultural Lunch and Learn



Fine Arts Department Black History Month Display



HBCU Roundtable Collaboration with College Advising Department



stxavier.org

“The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy.”

-Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

HATRED PARALYZES LIFE;

“**LOVE**
RELEASES IT.

HATRED CONFUSES LIFE;

LOVE
HARMONIZES IT.

HATRED DARKENS LIFE;

LOVE”
ILLUMINATES IT.

- MLK Jr.



jewishcincinnati.org/jcrc



Cincinnati JCRC



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Vote to Empower our Community

NatiVote.org

Our Mission— Educate, register, and mobilize African-American citizens, particularly in the most underserved communities, and to substantially improve their civic engagement.

Our Vision— Through civic and partnerships engagements will we educate and mobilize Cincinnati's African-American Community to vote.

Our Goal— Create an enduring and sustainable organization that will increase Greater Cincinnati's African-American voter participation in local, state, and national elections.





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- Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel

AJC American Jewish
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BLESSINGS UPON THE NATIONAL OBSERVANCE OF
DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY

*Our lives begin to end
the day we become
silent about things
that matter.*

Martin Luther King, Jr.



“RECKONING WITH CHAOS, CREATING COMMUNITY”

“Every now and then I think about my own funeral...I don’t want a long funeral. And if you get somebody to deliver the eulogy, tell them not to talk too long...Say that I was a drum major for justice, say that I was a drum major for peace, that I was a drum major for righteousness. And all of the other shallow things will not matter. I just want to leave a committed life behind.”

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“We will have to repent in this generation not merely for the hateful words and actions of the bad people but for the appalling silence of the good people.” – Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

United Methodists in Cincinnati repent of our past silence, and will no longer stay silent.



**A Message from the Ohio River Valley Racial Justice Task Force
Contact the ORV District Office: 513-421-2057**



Sisters of Charity
of Cincinnati

“Let us realize the arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice.”

- Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



“... [I]nstead of becoming depressed, trust in God, who will never allow you to be tempted beyond your strength.”

- St. Vincent de Paul

www.srcharitycinti.org

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Remembering the Life and Legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



TriHealth celebrates the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Dr. King is known for his powerful leadership and extraordinary impact on the Civil Rights Movement. He believed deeply in fighting for justice for every human alike. We encourage each of you to take the time to remember his profound courage and sacrifice in the fight for justice.

Dr. Martin Luther King's impact is reflected in TriHealth's SERVE values and commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion.

"Everybody can be great...because anybody can serve. You don't have to have a college degree to serve. You don't have to make your subject and verb agree to serve. You only need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love."

– Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

