

THE MEANING OF JUNETEENTH

"The people of Texas are informed that in accordance with a Proclamation from the Executive of the United States, all slaves are free. This involves an absolute equality of rights and rights of property between former masters and slaves, and the connection heretofore existing between them becomes that between employer and free laborer."

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On June 19, 1865, Major General Gordon Granger arrived in Galveston, Texas with almost unbelievable news. The civil war was over and all those enslaved were now free. Two years after the Emancipation Proclamation was signed, General Lee surrendered and the union forces were finally strong enough to enforce the new law. Freedom Day, also known as Juneteenth, is celebrated as a culture to commemorate this announcement.

Facts about Juneteenth

- Although this announcement was made June 19, 1865, slaves were officially freed when the Emancipation Proclamation was signed on January 1, 1863.
- Emancipation Park was opened in Houston on 10 acres of land, purchased by former slaves and stayed open until the 1950s.
- Texas was the first state to declare Juneteenth a state holiday.

The Juneteenth flags represent the history, and freedom the American Slaves and their descendants.

Alton's, Juneteenth Celebration will be Friday, June 14 with a concert at Tabernacle @6p and the festival will be Saturday, June 15 10a-5p at Salu Park.

FROM THE DESK OF PASTOR COINS

Greetings in the matchless name of our Savior and Lord Jesus Christ. I am excited to be sharing in our monthly newsletter. As you may or may not know our theme this year is "Strive to Thrive". Strive means to flourish, blossom, bloom, do well, prosper, advance, and grow just to name a few. Thrive has also been given to us as an acronym:

T=Trust
H= Health
R=Refreshing/Renewal
I=Increase
V=Victory
E=Encouragement

We thrive as we learn to put our trust in Him in all things. God also desires that we thrive in all areas of our health; spiritual, physical, and emotional. We also thrive as we experience refreshing and renewal by spending time in His presence. Spending time in the presence of the Lord is essential to our ability to thrive. As we experience refreshing, we also experience increase. One can't help but to experience increase as we spend time in His presence. Whatever area in our life that we need increase, we can achieve it by spending time in His presence. We also thrive as we walk in victory. God provides all that we need to live a victorious life in Him.

Lastly, we thrive as we stay encouraged. Tough times will come, trials and tribulations happen yet in spite of those things we can remain encouraged instead of discouraged. Just as David encouraged himself in the Lord, we too must learn to also encourage ourselves in the Lord.

This year and for the rest of our lives, let us strive to thrive in the Lord and the things of God.

Remember what John said in 3 John, "Beloved I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper (thrive) and be in health, even as our soul prospers (thrives).

Blessings,

PASTOR GOINS



NEWS YOU NEED TO KNOW

Sunday School Scriptures of the Month

June 2

Jesus Institutes the New Covenant
Jeremiah 31:31-34 & Mark 14:12-31; Hebrews 8
Teacher: Rev. Cedric Mack

June 9
Jesus Seals the New Covenant
Psalm 22:1-8, 21b-28 & Mark 14:32-50; 15
Teacher: Sis. Annette Williams

June 16

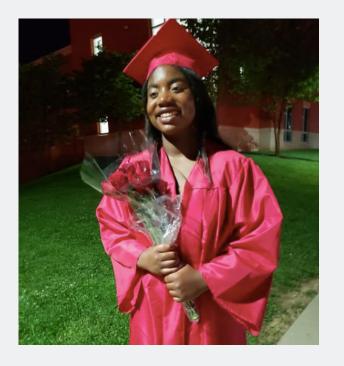
The New Covenant's Sacrifice
Psalm 50:1-15 & Hebrews 9:11-28
Teacher: Pastor David Goins

June 23
Hearts United in Love
1 Corinthians 3:10-17 & Colossians 2:1-15
Teacher: Rev. Dennis Mooney

June 30
Right Attitudes
Isaiah 61:1-8 & Matthew 5:1-12
Teacher: Rev. Stefanie Ward

Member Spotlight

Congratulations to Bria Thurman! She is one of six recipients of the Lovejoy Memorial Academic Achievement Award Scholarship! Bria will be attending the University of Illinois to major in Psychology and Sociology. She will be awarded the scholarship on Jun 9 @ 6p at Lovejoy Elementary School. Bria is the daughter of Bryan and Tamara Thurman. She is the niece of our own Brian & Annette Williams and granddaughter of Dottie Hysten.



June Events

Congressman Mike Bost will have one of his staff members available for constituent services every 1st Thursday of the month at the Alton City Hall from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

June 3 @ 7a - Free HIV Testing

Madison County Health Department 101 E. Edwardsville Rd, Wood River

June 3 - Volunteer at Crisis Food Center

For more info, call 618-462-8201

June 4 @ 7p - Overeaters Anonymous

St Paul Episcopal Church

10 E 3rd Street

June 6 @ 6p - Yoga Basics: Intro to Yoga

\$55-60 per person.

The Yoga Connection

221 E. Center Dr.

Theyogaconnection.me for more information.

June 6 @6p - Computer Class: Excel Tables

Six Mile Regional Library

2001 Delmar Ave

Granite City, IL

Call 618-452-6238 ext 730 to register

June 6 @ 630p - Zumba Fitness

\$5 per person

Alton YWCA

304 E. 3rd St

June 7 @ 6p- Friday Open Play

Riverbender Community Center

200 W. 3rd St

\$5-\$10

June 8 @ 8a - Men's Fellowship Breakfast

MSMBC

June 8 @930a - 90 Minute Saturday Yoga

\$10 Alton YWCA 304 E. 3rd St

June 14 @ 6p- Juneteenth Concert

Tabernacle Church

June 15 @ 10a-5p - Juneteenth Celebration

James H Killion Park

June 21 @ 8p - Prayer Shut-In

MSMBC

June 22 @ 6p - AHS 1979 40th Class Reunion

Spencer T Olin Golf Course

\$30 per person. For details call Vicki @ 618-781-

7196

June 26 @6p - A Community Conversation

Godfrey Town hall meeting with Trustee Virginia

Woulfe-Beile

3112 Godfrey Rd

June 30 @ 6p - Encounter Concert

MSMBC

Vacation Bible School

VBS is scheduled for July 8-13.

Each ministry/auxiliary has been asked to sponsor one night by providing a meal. Any questions about VBS please see Sis. Sandra K Herron.

June Crossword

Congrats to last month's winner, Sis Amanda Malone, for being the first to complete the word puzzle! Be the first to turn in this crossword correctly to Sis. Stefanie or Sis. Christian to win a prize!

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ACROSS

- 1 Who is the downstairs hall dedicated to?
- Who received a double portion blessing after his mentor was taken up?

 Mother _____ Woods submitted "Morning Star" as the new church name.
- Mission Baptist Church was the original name.
- 10 Rev. _____ was the first elected leader of Southern Mission # 1.

DOWN

- 2 The month membership marched from Gross Street to Riley Ave.
- 4 What is the name of the bread used in the Passover meal?
- 5 The first street where Morning Star's founding members gathered.
- 6 The annual Mother's Day brunch honors which mother?
- 9 What is one of our themes for 2019?