RESOURCES:

Black History Month 2021

February is Black History Month! American Baptist Women's Ministries invites you to join us to celebrate, honor, and reflect on the many contributions African American have made to our country, our culture, our faith, our lives.

Honor a loved one or a woman who has helped shape/influence you by giving a gift to American Baptist Women's Ministries! Gift options available! Have a gift in mind for someone who is over 100 (characters) in the next issue of Leaders Resource? Click here to view.

February 1st, 2021

Rev. Angel Sullivan, 2019-2020 ABWM National President, is a Pastor, Speaker, Author, Life Coach and Consultant. She is the Senior Associate Director of Center St. Joseph's Hospital Ministry for Health Systems, in Tampa, Florida. She grew up in Rochester, New York, earning a Bachelor's degree in Sociology from Nazareth College and a Master's degree in Ministry from Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School (CRDS). For one year during her seminary experience she was a Chaplain Intern at Strong Memorial Hospital. She was the first African American to be ordained in Upstate New York in 1993 and was the first African American woman to be ordained in the American Baptist Churches USA Northeastern Region Team, and she led ABWM's "Transformed by the Spirit" Action Team for 2 years. She has also addressed ABWM's challenge to engage young people in its ministries.

February 2nd, 2021

Marcia Fudge
(1952 -)

Marcia Louise Fudge is an American politician who has been the U.S. Representative for Ohio's 11th congressional district since 2008. A Democrat, she previously served as Ohio Secretary of State, a position unsuccessfully, succeeding Madeline Talley Stokes who died in office. She was the first African-American woman to represent Ohio in the 113th Congress. President Joe Biden has nominated Fudge for the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development for the Biden administration.

February 3rd, 2021

Sybil Lewis
(1941 -)

Sybil Lewis is an American human rights activist, writer, strategist, and community organizer. She is a co-founder of Black Lives Matter Toronto, and a co-founder of Toronto's Pride Community Office. Sybil has national immigrant rights organization for people of African descent, the Black Alliance for Sub Immigration (BAS). Lewis is a co-founder of the Black Lives Matter Toronto Community Task Force, the Black Alliance for Sub Immigration, and the Black Community Action Network. Lewis is a co-founder of the Black Lives Matter Toronto, unprepared for advancing human rights, migrant rights, and racial justice worldwide. She served as a case manager for survivors of domestic violence.

February 4th, 2021

Michelle Obama
(1964 -)

Michelle LaVaughn Robinson Obama is an American writer, lawyer, and university administrator who was First Lady of the United States from 2009 to 2017. She is married to the 44th U.S. President, Barack Obama, and was the first African-American First Lady.

Raised on the South Side of Chicago, Illinois, Obama is a graduate of Princeton University and Harvard Law School. In the early legal practice of her career, she met her husband, who was a law clerk at Sidley Austin. She subsequently worked for the city of Chicago and for the University of Chicago, where she was a vice president for the Civic Institute for Community and External Affairs of the University of Chicago Medical Center. Her husband's career in politics began in 1996.

Obama campaigned for her husband's presidential bid throughout 2007 and 2008, delivering a keynote address at the 2008 Democratic National Convention. She returned to speak for him at the 2012 Democratic National Convention. After the Obamas left the White House for Washington, D.C., in 2009, Michelle Obama became a prominent figure in Washington, D.C., and in the United States.

Obama is a co-founder of the Let Girls Learn initiative, and worked as an advocate for military families, for healthy eating, for physical fitness, and healthy eating. She supported American discipline and was considered a fashion icon.

February 5th, 2021

Rev. LaPhania Tonn Bakeh

Reverend LaPhania A. Tonn Bakeh, ordained in 2016, is the executive minister/director of American Baptist Women's Ministries and a member of the Chapel and a faithful disciple of Jesus the Christ. As a Christian educator, she has served in various roles in Christian education. Reverend LaPhania participated in extensive cross-cultural urban ministry in Cuba Rico. While there, she studied Spanish and lived in the Spanish speaking community. Her ministry in Cuba Rico was cut short during her fellowship, she was deeply inspired by women who used their voices to speak out against injustice. Reverend LaPhania's ministry goals: to understand and assume their personal and legal rights, to take leadership roles in their churches and communities, and to develop their formal education.

Prior to the Parole Pupil Fellowship, LaPhania serves as the Minister of Worship and Music at Bethel Baptist Church in Cuba Rico, Colorado. She is the Director of Christian Education at Rockford Church of Cuba City Academy, an after-school academic ministry in Fontana, Wisconsin. Her ministry goals are to provide a safe environment for the children of Cuba City, to enhance the academic performance and promote the social-emotional growth of students, to provide a safe place for students to learn and grow in their faith, and to provide a Christian Nurturing, Philanthropic, Fun, Friendly Community. That year she was inspired by the various experiences have cemented her passion for building intergenerational and intercultural communities of reconciliation and hope. Prior to her ordination in Christian Education in 2016, LaPhania is certified to continue the work of offering the Gospel of God in partnership with the Chapel, Bethel Baptist Church, and Rockford Church of Cuba City Academy. She became aspects of change.

Reverend LaPhania's academic goals are a BA in Sociology and Africana studies from Scripps College, Claremont, California, the Certificate of Completion from the American Baptist Education and Formation from Princeton Theological Seminary, where she was awarded the Aaron E. Cowl Memorial Prize in Christian Education, and a Master of Divinity from Andover Newton, she earned certificates in Theology, Women, and Gender and Black Church Studies.

February 6th, 2021

Rev. Veronica "Bonny" Lanier
(1938-2018)

Rev. Veronica "Bonny" Lanier was a pioneering African American United Methodist minister and educator in American Baptist Churches. Lanier was born in Ft. Worth, Texas, and graduated from Texas in 1956. An active student at Golden College, she earned a degree in Christian Education. Lanier was ordained in 1963 and was the first African American woman in Indiana and was commissioned a missionary to work with Southern Indiana Association. Lanier was the first African American Women.

She served the next seven years as Christian centers in Denver, Sacramento, and Chicago. In 1970 she was appointed to the Northern Illinois Conference, and was the first African American woman to be appointed to a church in the Illinois Conference. In 1972 she was the first African American to be ordained