



## **FEBRUARY THEME: MEN BEHAVING BADLY**

### **February Fighter Verse**

Psalm 1:1-2

*Blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked or stand in the way that sinners take or sit in the seat of mockers. But his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on His law he meditates day and night.*

## **OUR WORSHIP**

**IN-PERSON**

**LIVESTREAM, FACEBOOK & YOUTUBE @ 11:00AM**

**[Www.centralbaptistnyc.org](http://www.centralbaptistnyc.org)**

**Adult Sunday School 9:45AM via Zoom**

**Dial in phone number: 646-558-8656**

### **BLACK HISTORY ISSUE**

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In this special Black History Edition, we are featuring four African American Christians We Should Know: Charles Octavius Boothe, William J. Seymour, Mahalia Jackson, Jarena Lee



**REV. C.O. BOOTHE, D.D.**  
Author of "Plain Theology"

#### **Charles Octavius Boothe**

Boothe was born into slavery on June 13, 1845, Mobile County AL. He encountered Christianity at a young age, witnessing white and African Americans worshipping together in a local Baptist church. However, he only converted to Christianity after the end of the Civil War and was baptized in 1866 and ordained a minister in 1868.

Boothe was strongly concerned with the "uplift" of African Americans, attempting to offer basic literacy and religious and moral education. This included providing the resources necessary to improve the status of African Americans in American society. He helped establish the

Colored Baptist Missionary Convention of the State of Alabama in the early 1870s, as a ministerial alliance of Black Baptist churches. He also published a number of resources, such as what is considered the first theology book written by an African American, *Plain Theology for Plain People* (1890), in order to articulate "the doctrines of our holy religion" with "simplicity of arrangement and simplicity of language." The book was written for Boothe's students who were predominately sharecroppers.

"God has been true and faithful to His law; thousands of years ago, He declared that life and prosperity would come of obedience, and that ruin and death would come of sin. It is true before our eyes, and ever has been true. He promised deliverance and mercy to the penitent: deliverance and mercy comes to the penitent. He promised to give us a Saviour: the Saviour has been given, and now the world is full of the sounds of His salvation. See 2 Thessalonians 1:7-9. That which is fulfilled assures the fulfillment of what remains in promise. "Hath he spoken, and shall he not make it good?" (Numbers 23:19).

*2 Thessalonians 1:7-9 ...and to give you who are troubled rest with us when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with His mighty angels, in flaming fire taking vengeance on those who do not know God, and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. These shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power.*



**William J. Seymour**

One of the greatest revivals in the history of America was led by an African American pastor named William J. Seymour. Seymour's preaching gave birth to the modern-day Pentecostal movement and today, the number of classical Pentecostals worldwide and those who are considered Pentecostal-like charismatics has exploded. Because of a fervent missionary zeal, it has become one of the fastest-growing Christian movements in South America and Africa. *The Dictionary of Christianity in America* cites Pentecostalism as being "perhaps the single-most-significant development in twentieth-century Christianity. And though Seymour is credited with renewing America's interest in the Charismatic gifts such as tongue's speaking, the real emphasis of his ministry was evangelism and Jesus. To Seymour, tongues was not the message of Azusa Street: "Don't go out of here talking about tongues: talk about Jesus," he admonished. What's more, he rejected racial barriers that plagued the Church at that time. Blacks and whites worked together in apparent harmony under the direction of a black pastor, a marvel in the days of Jim Crow segregation. One commentator said: "At Azusa Street, the color line was washed away in the Blood." Plus, he installed women as leaders, which was almost universally opposed at the time. Seymour dreamed that Azusa Street was creating a new kind of church, one where a common experience in the Holy Spirit tore down old walls of racial, ethnic and denominational differences.



**Galatians 3:27-29**—*For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.*

**Philippians 3:8-11** — *Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ and be found in Him, not having my own righteousness, which is from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith; that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death, if, by any means, I may attain to the resurrection from the dead,*



**Mahalia Jackson**

Mahalia Jackson spent a lifetime singing the sacred songs that she loved. "The Queen of Gospel Song" was born on October 26, 1911, in New Orleans, Louisiana. Jackson grew up singing gospel at the Plymouth Rock Baptist Church, where her father was a preacher. At 16, she moved to Chicago, as many African Americans did around that time, and supported herself doing housekeeping and odd jobs. But she never stopped singing.

In Chicago, Jackson joined the Greater Salem Baptist Church and began touring with a gospel quintet. Jackson only sang gospel, refusing to sing secular (non-religious) music, because, she said, "When you sing gospel you have a feeling there is a cure for what's wrong."

She made her first solo recordings in the mid-1930s and eventually signed with "The Father of Gospel Music," Thomas Dorsey. She recorded with Columbia Records in 1954. Jackson collaborated with the "jazz great Duke Ellington, packed Carnegie Hall in New York City on a number of occasions, had a radio show, and sang for four presidents.

Besides being a great singer, she was a highly successful businesswoman. With the power of her music, Mahalia Jackson participated in the civil rights movement and became a prominent figure in the struggle.

Jackson has influenced many singers, such as Aretha Franklin. Martin Luther King Jr. said of her, "A voice like this comes, not once in a century, but once in a millennium."



**Matthew 5:13-15** — *"You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house.*

**Psalms 100:1-3**

*Make a joyful shout to the LORD, all you lands!  
Serve the LORD with gladness;  
Come before His presence with singing.  
Know that the LORD, He is God;  
It is He who has made us, and not we ourselves;  
We are His people and the sheep of His pasture.*





**Jarena Lee**

Minister Jarena Lee was the first authorized female preacher in the African Methodist Episcopalian (A.M.E.) Church. Lee, whose family or maiden name is unknown, was born to a poor but free black family on February 11, 1783, in Cape May, New Jersey. In 1790 at the age of seven, Lee was sent to work as a live-in servant for a white family named Sharp.

Lee moved to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania as a teenager and continued to work as a domestic servant. One afternoon, Lee attended a worship service at Bethel Church where Bishop Richard Allen, founder of the A.M.E. Church, was scheduled to preach. After hearing the powerful sermon delivered by Allen, Lee became filled with the Holy Spirit and converted to Christianity.

In 1807 Lee heard the voice of God commissioning her to preach the Gospel. She was initially reluctant to pursue ministry, given the male-dominated nature of the church. However, she decided to confide in Bishop Allen and revealed to him her call to preach. Allen told Lee that he could not grant her permission to preach because he was required to uphold the A.M.E. Church's ban against female ministers.

In 1811 Lee married Pastor Joseph Lee, and the couple had two children. After seven years of marriage, Lee's husband died. During the course of her marriage and after her husband's death, her desire to proclaim the word of God grew even stronger. This caused Lee to renew her advocacy for women in ministry.

In 1819 during a worship service at Bethel Church, a guest preacher began struggling with his message and abruptly stopped preaching. As he stared into the congregation at a loss for words, Lee sprang to her feet and began preaching, picking up where the minister had left off. After Lee's sermon, she was afraid that Bishop Allen would punish her for preaching without permission. On the contrary, Allen was so impressed by Lee that he officially gave her authorization to preach the Gospel. Allen asserted that God had called Lee to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Shortly thereafter, Lee began to travel to various cities for preaching engagements and was highly praised for her powerful sermons.

In addition to her work in ministry, Lee was also heavily involved in the abolitionist movement and joined the American Antislavery Society in 1839. To share her experiences in ministry, Lee decided to pen her

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**FEBRUARY 2021  
NEWSLETTER**

## **Bible Study, Prayer Meetings & Announcements**

### **WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY**

Topic: Galatians  
Join Zoom by Phone:  
**646-558-8656**

**Prayer Meetings by Phone**  
Conference Call  
Connection  
(712) 770-4711  
Access Code: 667293#

**Sick and Shut-In:**  
Monday & Thursday  
6-6:30 AM

**Men's Ministry:**  
Tuesday and Thursday  
6:45-7:30 AM

**Mid-Week Prayer:**  
**Wednesday**  
12:00-1:00 PM  
Join Zoom Prayer Meetings  
by Phone: **646-558-8656**.

**WOMEN'S MINISTRY**  
**"POWER HOUR" MEETING**  
**Sunday, February 21 @ 12:30PM**  
Dial in phone number:  
**646-558-8656**  
*"Prayer is our most powerful weapon!"*

**EVENING PRAYER**,  
Evening Prayer will meet  
**Friday, February 26 @ 7:00PM**

Dial into the Zoom Meeting with your  
phone number:  
**646-558-8656**.

Pray for those who are suffering with and  
recovering from COVID-19.

Those seeking to receive the vaccine to be  
able to receive the first dose and schedule  
the second.

**All Senior Ministry Activities are  
cancelled until further notice.**



autobiography titled *The Life and Religious Experience of Jarena Lee*. She completed her autobiography in expanded form in 1849. Lee’s work made her the first African American woman to have her autobiography published.

Lee’s pioneering work faded into obscurity until interests in her autobiography was renewed after former first lady Michelle Obama published her memoir “Becoming.” And although it has a different focus, Lee’s work shares underlying similarities with Obama’s—noticeably the argument for gender equality. The exact date and circumstances of Minister Lee’s death are unknown. However, the records of Mt. Pisgah AME Church Cemetery where she is buried indicate that she died in 1855.



# Pray from our Missionaries

## Our missionaries who serve with Missions Door:

Francklin and Nerlie Alexis, Haiti  
Felix and Amnerys Abreu, Dominican Republic  
Edwin and Liz Colon, Brooklyn, NY  
Herode and Edline Guillomettre, Haiti  
Duane and Miriam Mansveld, Montreal, Canada  
Luis and Azucena Matute, Panama & Costa Rica  
Vincent and Maryam Morgan, Brooklyn, NY & Middle East  
Ray and Valerie Ramos, Brooklyn, NY  
Marvin and Denise Robinson, Rochester, NY

## Our missionaries who serve with World Venture: Barry and Peggy Owen, Asia

## Our missionaries who serve with United World Mission: Matt and Nicole Paschall, Hungary

## Our missionary who serves with Urban Life Source Connection: Dale Belli, New York City

## Our missionaries who serve with COMINAD (Cooperative Mission Network of the African Dispersion) Brian and Ruth Johnson, Europe, Africa, and the Caribbean

# February Birthdays

LaJuana Smith	Feb 02
Helene Jean-Michel	Feb 05
Tracey Knuckles-White	Feb 05
Elizabeth Almanzar-Wright	Feb 07
Sarah Clark	Feb 07
Deborah Gorham	Feb 11
Debra James	Feb 13

Brielle Johnson	Feb 14
Stephanie Cunningham	Feb 14
Meaghan Selch	Feb 15
Colliertine Walker	Feb 17
Willie Ray Gibson, Jr.	Feb 17
Rebecca Navarro	Feb 18
Chaz Briggs	Feb 24
Helen Dunn	Feb 26

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Office Hours until further notice:  
Tuesday — Thursday 9:00AM — 4:00PM

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