

2020 Woman's Day

theme:

"Don't Fear, God is in Control"
A VIRTUAL WORSHIP EXPERIENCE

So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand. Isaiah 41:10 NIV

August, 16, 2020 | 4pm

**REV. CHESTINE SIMS, PASTOR | MRS. DIANNE CURRY, WOMEN'S DAY CHAIRPERSON
MRS. MARILYN JOHNSON AND MRS. KELLY SMEDLEY CO-CHAIRS**



Reverend Chestine Sims

August 16, 2020

Dear Christian Friends,

Mrs. Debra Sims joins me in welcoming you to the 1st Virtual Women's Day celebration of Union African Methodist Episcopal Church. We praise God for showing favor on our Women's Day experience, in spite of the challenges we are facing in our country today.

I would like to commend the Women's Day committee, under the leadership of Ms. Diane Curry, Mrs. Marilyn Johnson and Mrs. Kelly Smedley for their tireless efforts to plan and implement all of the Women's Day activities that have led to this culminating event. I applaud the Women's Day Program committee chaired by Mrs. Anita Brannon, for outlining such a wonderful worship experience. I also am grateful to the Union membership for your constant support of the church.

I extend a special thank you to the Honorable Mayor Shirley Washington for serving as our Women's Day speaker. Likewise to all program participants, committee chairpersons, members, and musicians, I am grateful. Finally, I wish to thank our guests for sharing with us and for helping to make our activities a success.

I hold that the theme, "Don't Fear, God is in Control" is so relevant at this time of the COVID - 19 pandemic. It serves to remind each of us that our Lord is with us and will strengthen and help us, no matter what we are facing.

Be encouraged!

Pastor Chestine Sims





Ms. Dianne Curry

Greetings today and always to the beautiful Women of Union A. M. E. Church.

It has been my honor to serve as chairperson of Women's Day 2020. What a significant and difficult time in all our lives we are experiencing with a new norm caused by COVID-19. Who would have imagined that we would observe our Women's Day Celebration via ZOOM... but we are!

We have been able to persevere in years before, so we must remember that we should not fear because God is in control of our lives whether we know it or not. Congratulations to all the gracious, wise, meek, and mild women of the church.

We salute to our Pastor, The Reverend Chestine Sims, and our eloquent first Lady, Mrs. Debra Sims, our leaders of the Steward and Trustee Boards, WMS, Organized Lay, Sunday School, Men's Ministry, and our Youth leadership. We thank our Lord for the many blessings He has provided as we continue to move forward during these challenging times. It with God's grace and mercy we are able to still stand. **Isaiah 41:10 reminds us to "Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness."**

Remember, as we complete our journey to meet our financial goal, let us not forget how blessed we are, not knowing where the end will be, but remembering that we must always put our trust in God, now and forever. **"With God all things are possible" Matthew 19:26.**

A special thanks from my heart to the Co-Chairs of this day, Mrs. Marilyn Johnson, and Mrs. Kelly Smedley, and to all committee chairs and members who made this day possible. Happy Women's Day 2020!. I want to leave you with a verse of this great song by Andrae Crouch, "Through It All".

I've had many tears and sorrows
I've had questions for tomorrow
There's been times I didn't know right from wrong
But in every situation
God gave me blessed consolation
That my trials come to only make me strong
Through it all, Through it all
I've learned to trust in Jesus, I've learned to trust in God
Through it all, Through it all
I've learned to depend upon His Word

Heartfelt,
Dianne Curry
Chair of Women's Day 2020



The Honorable Shirley Washington, Mayor

Shirley Ruth Moorehead Washington was the second of seven children born to Willie and Blanchie Moorehead in the small Jefferson County community of Gethsemane, Arkansas. While her parents toiled to make a living on the family's small cotton farm, they vehemently stressed the importance of hard work and the value of education. The children were taught that church and school would be their passport from a life of field labor to successful futures as skilled professionals. This resounding message was not lost. Both father and mother, with third and sixth grade educations, respectively, were blessed to witness in their lifetime, all seven of their children receive college degrees, enter respectable careers, and become God fearing, law abiding, productive citizens.

As she listened to all of her siblings plan lives in other states throughout the country, Shirley decided to make Arkansas her home. So after graduating from Wabbaseka High School in 1966, she entered AM&N College and majored in Elementary Education with a minor in English. She earned a Master's Degree from the University Of Arkansas at Fayetteville, and completed additional studies at the University of Central Arkansas at Conway.

Shirley realized at a young age that she had a gift for teaching. Her patience and love for children made her a natural motivating force in the classroom. She retired after 38 years of service in the public schools of Jefferson County which included 22 years in the classroom and 16 years in school administration.

Her goal was simply to make a difference, become a positive impact in the lives of the children in her community. That led to involvement in many organizations and boards over the years. Mrs. Washington served as president of the Pine Bluff Education Association, member of the Southeast Arkansas Arts and Science Center Board of Directors, and the Pine Bluff Jefferson County Library Board. She is currently a member of the Jefferson County Democratic Women, the Jefferson County Retired Teachers Association, the Pine Bluff Beautification Facilities Board, the Jefferson County Board of Governors, and a life member of the NAACP where she serves on the Education Committee of the Pine Bluff Branch.

She has assisted her husband in his construction business for the past 25 years. From this experience she has gained a profound insight into, and generated a growing interest in community development and revitalization.

Mrs. Washington and her husband, Frank, are members of the Old St James MBC. They are the proud parents of three adult children and they enjoy three amazing grandchildren.

In October 2015, Mrs. Washington entered the political arena, launching an effective campaign for Mayor of Pine Bluff, Arkansas. Her promise to provide strong visionary leadership and to be a servant leader propelled her to victory in this historical election. On January 1, 2017, the first African American woman to hold the highest office in the city of Pine Bluff took the oath of office and was sworn into duty.

Although Mayor Washington has an arduous task before her, she remains undaunted by the challenge. As she leads by example, she hopes to inspire and encourage others – with the same desire to see this city rise and flourish again – to join in and invest in our city.



**Union A.M.E. Church
Women’s Day 2020
Sunday, August 16, 2020 | 4:00 p.m.**

**Theme: “Don’t Fear, God Is In Control”
Coordinating scripture, Isaiah 41:10, NIV translation**

PROGRAM

**Worship Leader:
Mrs. Melanie A. Hillard,
Union A.M.E. Church, Little Rock, AR**

**The Opening Litany.....Ms. LaTorria Boykins, Ms. Eugenia Brannon
Union A.M.E. Church, Little Rock, AR**

The Opening Litany

- Reader 1: Deliver me, O God from rash judgment, haste and impulsive decision making.
- Reader 2: From the desire to move when I need to just be still, and from the desire the speak when it is best I keep quiet.
- Reader 1: From the delusion that my own plans are best for me, and from impatience with the sins and peculiarities of others around me.
- Reader 2: From impatience with sins I commit, slow progress in integrity, and from impatience with what You have outlined for me.
- Reader 1: Lord, deliver us from the worldly pull to react out of sorrow, discouragement, anxiety, or even fear.
- Reader 2: Lord, especially now as we experience COVID-19, teach us to trust your love completely. Help us not to fear, for You alone are in control.

The Opening Musical Expression.....The Women’s Day Choir

**Prayer Mrs. Tina Grissom
Holly Grove A.M.E. Church, North Little Rock, AR**





An Expression of Welcome In Song Ms. Samantha Davis
St. Paul A.M.E. Church, Jonesboro, AR

An Expression of Praise through Dance.....Abundant Grace Dance Ministry
Moody Chapel AME Church, Little Rock, AR

The Introduction of the SpeakerDr. Abeer Washington
ACTS Church, North Little Rock, AR

The Musical Expression.....Women’s Day Choir

The Women’s Day Message
The Honorable Shirley Washington
Mayor, The City of Pine Bluff, AR
Old Saint James United Methodist Church, Pine Bluff, AR

The Invitation to Discipleship.....The Reverend Lanette Frazier
Pastor, Saint Peter A.M.E. Church, McGehee, AR

An Expression of Giving.....The Finance Committee

A Tribute to COVID-19 Front-line Workers Mrs. Lyndajo Watson
Union A.M.E. Church, Little Rock, AR

The Expressions of GratitudeMrs. Dianne Curry
2020 Women’s Day Chairperson, Union A.M.E. Church, Little Rock, AR
The Reverend Chestine Sims
Pastor, Union A.M.E. Church, Little Rock, AR

The BenedictionThe Reverend LaNell Ross, Presiding Elder
Little Rock/Jonesboro District





**TO OUR FAMILY, FRIENDS AND GUEST,
THE WOMEN OF UNION WOULD LIKE TO THANK
EACH OF YOU FOR YOUR ATTENDANCE AND
SUPPORT OF OUR
2020 WOMEN'S DAY CELEBRATION!
OUR PRAYER IS THAT YOU WERE RICHLY BLESSED.
PLEASE KNOW YOU BEING HERE
CERTAINLY WAS A BLESSINGS TO US.
TO GOD BE THE GLORY!**

THE MINISTRY

**The Rt. Reverend Michael L. Mitchell, Bishop
The Reverend LaNell F. Ross, Presiding Elder
The Reverend Chestine Sims, Pastor
The Reverend Carroll Anderson, Retired
The Reverend Jeff F. Carr, Retired
The Reverend Charles Frost, Retired
Sis. Cynthia Horton, Exhorter**

CHURCH OFFICE

Telephone: 501-374-3528 / Fax: 501-374-8511

Church Office Hours Are Monday - Friday 10:00 am - 2:00 p.m.

1825 SOUTH PULASKI ST. | LITTLE ROCK, AR 72206

Web: www.unionamec.com

Email: unionamec@live.com