

Wheeler Avenue
Baptist Church

Celebrates

WOMEN



Audrey M. COSBY

March 2023

Well, this is different for me, but I am honored to have been asked to greet my church family during this year's Women's History Month. We are blessed to be a part of a church that celebrates and uplifts the many contributions of women, both past and present, to our families, churches, communities and the world. Wheeler Avenue Baptist Church has a 60-year history of both acknowledging and appreciating the many women who have helped to bring us to the places in life where we are.

Beginning with our mothers (and mother figures), who bore us and helped to mold us, continuing with those teachers and professors who helped to shape our thinking about education and the world, and the preachers who helped to guide us on our spiritual journeys, all the wise women who have been a part of our development have been God's gift to us.

During this Women's History Month we remember our Founding First Lady, Mrs. Audrey Ann Hoffman Lawson, who was actually born in the month of March. Her tireless efforts and sacrifices helped to deepen and strengthen the foundation of our church, which first met in the living room of her home. We are likewise grateful to all the women (and men) who helped to found our church in 1962. And on March 12th we will once again celebrate Charter Day in their honor.

I celebrate womanhood! I love being the woman God continues to develop me to be. And during this Lenten Season we remember the many women who helped Jesus to do the work that was assigned to Him, to secure our salvation. We remember Mary, the mother of Jesus. We remember Mary and Martha, the friends of Jesus. We remember the several women who were at the cross as He was crucified. We remember the women who were told to tell the disciples that Jesus had risen from the dead. Thank God for those faithful women who were committed to the cause of Christ.

It is my prayer that all of us will commit ourselves all the more to the cause of Christ as we continue to experience this Lenten Season. May our prayers and sacrifices, our scripture reading and meditations, draw us closer to our Savior, Whom we commemorate with joy and gratitude during this significant time.

To all my sisters, Happy Women's History Month! Let's continue to make history in the many and varied ways we can, so that the world will be better because God placed us in it.

This is different for me, but I've enjoyed the experience. Thanks to my AMAZING church family!

The pastor can have his pen back now!

Sincerely,

Audrey Marie Cosby



Mrs. Audrey LAWSON

Mrs. Audrey Ann Hoffman Lawson, late wife of Reverend William A. "Bill" Lawson and Founding First Lady Emerita of Wheeler Avenue Baptist Church (WABC), was a devoted mother, dedicated social worker, and advocate for human rights. Mrs. Lawson worked tirelessly alongside her husband at the Baptist Student Union, assisted with the founding of WABC in their home, actively participated in the civil rights movement, and used her skills to counsel young students.

The Wheeler Avenue Infant School was founded in 1967 by Mrs. Lawson and was the first school in the area to provide services for babies as early as six weeks of age. Her passion for child development, especially character-building, led her to borrow from the ancient African childhood development system of "rites of passage." Consequently, programs called Rites of Passage for pre-adolescent boys and Transformation for pre-adolescent girls were established at WABC. Boy Scout and Girl Scout troops were also established, giving young African-American children an opportunity to learn skills that were not always available to them in the segregated south.



Mrs. Lawson's commitment to cross-generational programs is what resulted in the birth of the Central City Comprehensive Community Center (5C's) - one of the first faith-based community development corporations in Houston to operate affordable housing for single mothers.

One of the highlights of her religious involvement was being a co-founder of the WABC Women's Guild. Because of Audrey Lawson's untiring devotion, the Wheeler Avenue IMPACT Award, given to women in Houston making outstanding contributions to society, was named in her honor.

MADGE BUSH

Transitional Living Center

Madge Bush is transitional housing for single women over the age of 22 with 1-2 children who are experiencing homelessness. The center requires that residents attend educational and life-skills courses and encourages them to save a percentage of their income so that they are able to live independently upon leaving the program.

Director: Sis. Katherin Sanders
3410 Drew Street, Hou., TX 77004
Monday-Friday, 8am-5pm
(713) 652-3830



WOMEN'S GUILD

The purpose of the Women's Guild is to implement fundraising events for the church's Educational Assistance Fund.

Leader: Sis. Pam Cormier



WOMEN'S MINISTRY

**Meets 1st Monday
of each month**

The Women's Ministry offers fellowship opportunities and enrichment through events and monthly Bible study classes.

Leader: Rev. Gwenn Pierre



HIV/AIDS SUPPORT

**Meets 2nd Saturday
of each month**

The HIV Awareness and Prevention Ministry provides faith-based education and awareness to communities at risk for contracting HIV. Additionally, we provide home care services as needed, offer support to the Bering Omega House in the Montrose area, and education/support for individuals living with HIV. We are available to the youth, college, and young adult ministries for HIV education.

Leader: Sis. Deloris A. Stewart



THE WAITING ROOM

The waiting Room is a ministry created for those who are experiencing/have experienced or want to learn more about infertility

Leader: Rev. Tamla Wilson



MARCH
12
8AM-11:30AM

THE WAY ONE YEAR

Youth Church

anniversary



ONE YEAR YOUTH CHURCH ANNIVERSARY
ONE YEAR YOUTH CHURCH ANNIVERSARY
ONE YEAR YOUTH CHURCH ANNIVERSARY
ONE YEAR YOUTH CHURCH ANNIVERSARY

Wear All White Or White And Denim

Join the children for our

VICTORY PARADE 2023

as we celebrate the

RISEN SAVIOR

SUNDAY, APRIL 2ND

3:00PM

WABC CATHEDRAL

Bring your noisemakers and be ready to celebrate!



WHEELER AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH CALENDAR

Wheeler Avenue
Baptist Church *Celebrates*
WOMEN

7

ON THE AVENUE:

Legacy of Audrey H. Lawson
7:00PM

7

FIRST TUESDAY ON THE AVENUE

(Marriage Ministry)
7:00PM

11

THE W.A.Y. COMMUNITY SERVICE EXPERIENCE

(@ Houston Food Bank)
8:00AM – 12:00PM

12

**THE W.A.Y. 1-YEAR YOUTH CHURCH
ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION**

8:00AM & 11:30AM

12

**CHARTER SUNDAY AND
WORSHIP IN PINK SUNDAY**

8:00AM & 11:30AM

13

YOUTH SPRING ROCKOUT

(@ Toyota Center)
7:00PM

14

ON THE AVENUE:

Women's Ministry
7:00PM

16

YOUNG ADULT

WORSHIP EXPERIENCE
7:00PM

18

**BREAST CANCER EDUCATION WORKSHOP
WITH GENETIC TESTING/COUNSELING**

10:00AM – 1:30PM

19

FAMILY GROUP FAIR

10:00AM – 11:00AM & 1:00PM – 3:00PM
(Between Services)

21

ON THE AVENUE:

Intentionality of Art On The Avenue
7:00PM

23

**RECOVERY MINISTRY
MONTHLY MEETING**

7:00PM

27

MENTAL HEALTH MOMENT

Noon

27

**WAITING ROOM
MONTHLY MEETING**

6:30PM

31

STRIKE UP SOME FUN

(Young Adults Ministry)
7:00PM – 9:00PM

CHAPTERS + VERSES VOLUME 1

Now Available
On All Platforms



COME MEET FAMILY GROUP LEADERS AND SAY HELLO TO
SOME OF YOUR FAMILY GROUP MEMBERS AT THE WABC

**SUNDAY
MAR 19**
AFTER EACH SERVICE

FAMILY GROUP FAIR

COMMUNITY
LIFE CENTER
GYMNASIUM



New
**WHEELER
GEAR**

On Sale 3rd Sunday In March

Visit The
Chronicles Bookstore