

BOOK READ



In an inspiring follow-up to her critically acclaimed, #1 bestselling memoir *Becoming*, former First Lady Michelle Obama shares practical wisdom and powerful strategies for staying hopeful and balanced in today's highly uncertain world.

TALKBACK on WEDNESDAY 12/14/22 at 6 PM
Pastor Johnson's Office at 51 East Main Street
Statesboro, Georgia 30458



WELCOME TO SWEET MAGNOLIA



Established in 1914, the name Magnolia honors the Mother Church founded in 1864 near Louisville.

Affectionately known as Sweet Magnolia, this ministry has stood as a physical representation of the hope and determination of the African American spirit. We are a Spiritual Anchor grounded in a liberation tradition operating as a Baptist community of faith.

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www.magnolia baptistchurch.online

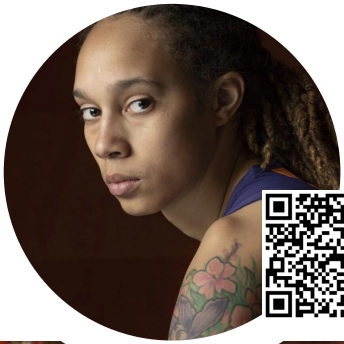


Magnolia



MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. Dr. Francys Johnson, Senior Pastor



Welcome to Magnolia

And there it is. For the first time in anyone's memory, and perhaps the first time in American history at all, a Black woman was singularly important enough to the interests of the United States to warrant a months-long diplomatic effort and a prisoner swap with the country's biggest nemesis on the international stage.

— Brittney Yevette Griner, a professional basketball player for the Phoenix Mercury, was released by Russia after being officially listed by the United States as wrongfully detained.



THE ANGEL PROJECT MAKES A DIFFERENCE!

Sweet Magnolia takes seriously the parable Jesus of Nazareth told about who will be included in the future kingdom of God. In the story, a king is separating his sheep from the goats. When the separation is made, the sheep wonder why they were chosen. Jesus replies that their acts of kindness to strangers earned their place in the kingdom. **"Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me."**

There's nothing quite like Christmas to bring out the kid in everyone. Holiday cards, gift-giving and receiving, stuffed animals, and other toys, hoping for that perfect gift from someone special — the Christmas season is a special time of year. **Sign up today for the Angel Project, we make sure that every child in our program feels special on Christmas Day.**



Dweninmmen is a symbol of strength with humility. Humility is a cherished virtue among the Akans

Church Covenant

GOD'S WORK HERE AMONG AND THROUGH US

Living out the Christian faith Together



LEADER: Having been led, as we believe by the Spirit of God, to receive the Lord Jesus Christ as our Savior and, on the profession of our faith, having been baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, we do now in the presence of God, and this assembly host solemnly and joyfully enters into covenant with one another as one body in Christ.

RESPONSE: We engage, therefore, by the aid of the Holy Spirit to walk together in Christian love; to strive for the advancement of this Church in knowledge, holiness, and comfort; to promote its prosperity and spirituality; to sustain its worship, ordinances, discipline, and doctrines; to contribute cheerfully and regularly to the support of the ministry, the expenses of the Church, the relief of the poor, and the spread of the gospel through all nations.

LEADER: We also engage to maintain family and secret devotions, to bring up our children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord; to seek the salvation of our kindred and acquaintances; to walk circumspectly in the world; to be just in our dealings, faithful in our engagements, and exemplary in our deportment; to avoid all tattling, backbiting, and excessive anger; to be zealous in our efforts to advance the kingdom of our Savior.

RESPONSE: We further engage to watch over one another in brotherly love; to remember one another in prayer; to aid one another in sickness and distress; to cultivate Christian sympathy in feeling and Christian courtesy in speech; to be slow to take offense, but always ready for reconciliation, and mindful of the rules of our Savior to secure it without delay.

TOGETHER: We moreover engage that when we remove from this place, we will, as soon as possible, unite with some other church where we can carry out the spirit of this covenant and the principles of God's Word.



ADINKRAHENE is the King of the Adinkra symbols meaning Authority



THE LIGHT WE CARRY

There may be no tidy solutions or pithy answers to life's big challenges. Yet we believe each of us can locate and lean on a set of tools to help us better navigate change and remain steady within flux. In The Light We Carry Sermon Series, Pastor Johnson opens a frank and honest dialogue considering the questions many of us wrestle with: **How do we build enduring and honest relationships? How can we discover strength and community inside our differences? What tools do we use to address feelings of self-doubt or helplessness? What do we do when it all starts to feel like too much?**

These are questions Pastor Johnson seeks to address using **John 1: 5 The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.**

It is this light that we all carry that has been the testimony of our people from ages past to this very moment - this little light of mine, I'm going to let it shine!



ABOUT THE COVER | This Little Light Of Mine by Kanayo Ede is a limited edition work of art highlighting a young black girl in a red choir robe holding a lit candle. The candle is a symbol of Advent, a Christian season of preparation for the Nativity of Christ at Christmas. It is the beginning of the liturgical year in Western Christianity. The name was adopted from the Latin *adventus* "coming; arrival", translating Greek *parousia*. The Season begins today, Sun, Nov 27, 2022 and continues through Sat, Dec 24, 2022.



ONLINE

4 WAYS TO GIVE

TEXT BLESSED TO 912.274.8802



SMART PHONE



MAIL



SUNDAY

Order of Service

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 4, 2022 | 9:00 AM

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Teacher - Deacon Johnny Tremble

CALL TO WORSHIP

This Joy That I Have with Spirit of the Living God as a Chant, Doxology, The Church Covenant as a Responsive Reading, and Let the Words of My Mouth as the Response.

Sweet Magnolia will utilize all our resources to provide a Christ-centered setting where people in this community can be redeemed to a personal relationship with Christ, reconciled to God and his people, restored to wholeness, to well-being, and revived for a full life involved in service to others. In this church, everyone is welcomed and affirmed. In this community, you can be redeemed, reconciled, restored, and revived.

SERVICE OF LIGHTS

Celebrants- Sis. Mae Jones and the Class of 1972

Joy (You Give Me Joy, Down Deep in m Soul)

This Month we focus on The Light We Carry. The fact is that change, challenge, and the powers of the world can make us believe that the darkness will never end. We know that we carry a powerful light at all times. And the light shines on in the darkness, and the darkness has never put it out. In this Season of Advent, we seek to become the light that illuminates a way forward not just for ourselves but for others.

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Gospel Medley

Offertory Claim - *I am a consistent Tither, a Bountiful Sower, and a Cheerful Giver. I have confessed my sins; therefore GOD rebukes the Devourer for my Sake, and GOD makes all Grace abound toward me!* Malachi 3:1-11 and II Corinthians 9:5-8

HYMN OF PREPARATION

Joyful Joyful We Adore Thee

THE PREACHED WORD

Rev. Dr. Francys Johnson, Senior Pastor

BENEDICTION

Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." John 8:12

This Sundays Lectionary: Isaiah 35:1-10 • Psalm 146:5-10 • James 5:7-10 • Matthew 11:2-11



Ananse Ntentan is the Spider's web. A symbol of wisdom, craftiness, creativity, and the complexities of life.