

PLEDGE *Campaign*

Every Member is a **BELIEVER**

Every Believer is a **GIVER**

Every Leader is a **TITHER**

TO GOAL
71%
17K GOAL

STEWARDSHIP

\$100

PER MONTH
BEYOND
YOUR TITHES

COLLECTIVE
ACTION

WHY DO WE GIVE?
Giving at Sweet Magnolia is not tied to salvation or compulsion but out of a sincere desire to honor God. We believe that by working together we can improve the human condition and a beloved community. As we study the life of Jesus of Nazareth, it is clear that he had more to say about money than nearly any other subject.

Through scripture, we know that God is the creator and owner of all things. We are responsible for managing that which has been entrusted to us.



WELCOME TO SWEET MAGNOLIA

Established in 1914, 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 an African American Baptist community of faith.

720 Magnolia Church Road
P.O. Box 1982, Statesboro, GA 30461
P: 912.225.3152 · F: 888.360.6516
www.magnoliabaptistchurch.online




Magnolia

MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. Dr. Francys Johnson, Senior Pastor

Welcome to Sweet Magnolia

FAMILY - LOVE, LINKS & LINEAGE

A revolutionary woman can't have no reactionary man. If he's not about liberation, if he's not about struggle, if he ain't about building a strong Black family, if he ain't about building a strong Black nation, then he ain't about nothing.
-Assata Olugbala Shakur



This month, we focus on the Black family and investigate the building blocks of Hope, Faith, and Love that strengthen this God-given institution.

Of course, the Black family is threatened as African Americans experience many disparities, including physical and mental health and socioeconomic well-being. These disparities are magnified in the Southeastern, which, as a region, is home to 58% of the nation's Black population. **According to UGA's Center for Family Research (CFR) Approximately 29% of Black children in Georgia live in poverty.** The challenge of overcoming the environmental obstacles associated with poverty and chronic economic stress is exacerbated by oppressive social structures and racial discrimination. Many Black families in Georgia thus live with chronic economic and social stress that undermines their physical and mental health and personal development.

Despite all of these problems, the Black family endures. Let's examine why together!



SCHOLAR IN FOCUS | The Rev. Dr. Andrea C. White is Associate Professor of Theology and Culture at Union Theological Seminary in the City of New York. She has served as Executive Director of the Society for the Study of Black Religion and chair of the Black Theology Unit for the American Academy of Religion. Her research specializes in womanist theology and critical theory, philosophy of religion and phenomenology.

Her forthcoming volume is *The Scandal of Flesh: Black Women's Bodies, God, and Politics*. She is also the author of *The Back of God: A Theology of Otherness in Karl Barth and Paul Ricoeur*, and editor of several future volumes including, *Political Theology on Edge* with Catherine Keller and Clayton Crockett, and *The State of Black Theology*.



4 WAYS TO GIVE

TEXT BLESSED TO 912.274.8802



ONLINE



SMART PHONE



MAIL



SUNDAY



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

Order of Service

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost GRANDPARENTS SUNDAY

September 10, 2023 | 9:00 AM

SUNDAY SCHOOL
Taught by Dea. Johnny Tremble

CALL TO WORSHIP
Lord, I Lift Your Name on High as inspired by Matthew 18:15-20 with *Spirit of the Living God* as a Chant and the Church Covenant as a Responsive Reading.

SERVICE OF LIGHTS
The Altar candles burn throughout September in honor of the institution of the family.

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. You can be redeemed, reconciled, restored, and revived in this community.

LIBATIONS, TITHES AND OFFERINGS
Lilly of the Valley as inspired by Luke 12:27

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
More Than Anything inspired by John 21:15-25

THE PREACHED WORD
Rev. Dr. Francys Johnson

BENEDICTION
Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen. Ephesians 3:20-21

The Center for Family Research (CFR) has been funded with support from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) since 1995 to advance next-generation basic and preventive investigations of risk, resilience, and physical and mental health among Black families.



Center for Family Research
Owens Institute for Behavioral Research
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA



ADINKRAHENE, King of the Adinkra symbols meaning Authority

Responsive Reading

The Church Covenant

Strengthening Our Relationship with God and Mankind

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 enter 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.

But Jesus called the children to Him and said, "Let the little children come to Me, and do not hinder them! For the kingdom of God belongs to such as these."
Luke 18:16

LOVE, LINKS & LINEAGE



GYE NYAME means "except for God" or Supremacy of God.



FEATURED ARTIST

This program features limited edition works by Larry "Poncho" Brown. On the front cover, *Soul Survivors* is a testimony to how the love and the strength of family can be a healing force in the lives of its members.

On the Insert, *Love, Links & Lineage* is an offset lithograph. It is a testimony to the ability of the family to show love and strength in the face of adversity and endure.

A native of Baltimore, MD. He started his first business at the age of 17 as a signwriter and he has been a full-time artist ever since.



ME WARE WO means "I shall marry you" and symbolizes commitment and perseverance.