

"In the act of worship itself, the experience of liberation becomes a constituent of the community's being . . . **It is the power of God's Spirit invading the lives of the people,** "building them up where they are torn down and propping them up on every leaning side".

JAMES CONE



## About Sweet Magnolia

Welcome to Sweet Magnolia! Established in 1914 in Statesboro, the name Magnolia honors the Mother Church founded in 1864 near Louisville, Georgia.

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.

720 Magnolia Church Road  
P.O. Box 1982, Statesboro, GA 30461  
P: 912.225.3152 · F: 888.360.6516  
[www.magnolia baptistchurch.online](http://www.magnolia baptistchurch.online)



# Magnolia



MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

## Father's Day

CELEBRATING FREEDOM THROUGH PRIDE, JUNETEENTH, & PENTECOST

Rev. Dr. Francys Johnson, Senior Pastor

## Understanding the Times

Its About Freedom

June is Pride Month and includes both Pentecost, the day when we remember the coming of the Holy Spirit on the gathered disciples after the resurrection of Jesus marking the beginning of the Christian church, and Juneteenth, the day we remember the coming of federal troops with the word that the Civil War and Chattel Slavery was over almost two and a half years after the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation.

**Pride, Pentecost and Juneteenth may seem like strange bedfellows, but they have more in common than meets the eye.**

Each are disruptive—upsetting the status quo and the expectations that people had come to have about the way the world worked. The Spirit caused an outpouring of praise in numerous languages and broke down the barriers that separated people—barriers of race, national origin, language, and faith.

Pride, too, is disruptive; it breaks down the walls that some people seek to erect to mark who is in and who is out. Pride says that everyone, without exception, is made in the image of God and belongs in the circle of love and grace.

Juneteenth is so disruptive that its not clear how those with vested interest in the status quo will deal with the contradictions the day presents. The one thing that is clear is **where the spirit of the Lord is there is FREEDOM!**



**Above:** *Velvet Spirit* by Jamaican visual artist Bernard Hoyes

## Our Vote

**Tuesday, June 21, 2022 from 7 AM - 7 PM at Your Polling Place**

**Lieutenant governor (D):** Kwanza Hall vs. **Charlie Bailey**

**Secretary of state (D):** Bee Nguyen vs. **Dee Dawkins-Haigler**

**Insurance commissioner (D):** **Janice Laws Robinson** vs. Raphael Baker

**Labor commissioner (D):** **William Boddie** vs. Nicole Horn



**Gye Nyame** recognizes the supremacy of God.



**THE STEREOTYPE OF BLACK FATHERS AS “ABSENT” AND BLACK CHILDREN AS “FATHERLESS”—FIRST INTRODUCED OVER 50 YEARS AGO—HAS, LIKE MANY RACIAL STEREOTYPES, REFUSED TO DIE.**

### **The truth: Black fathers are more involved**

The majority of Black dads (2.5 million of around 4.2 million) do live with their kids, even if they're not married to their partner. And second of all, according to a [2013 report by the CDC](#), Black dads—whether they live with their children, or not—are more actively involved in their children's lives than their counterparts of other races.

Father's Day is the least celebrated special day in the US. If the latter is true, I'm not surprised. But it's not because we don't love fathers or because father's don't matter.

Truth is, patriarchal thinking devalues the importance of male emotional nurturance and love (hooks). That is, it doesn't encourage men to love and care for children, but rather to believe that power, control, and domination are more important than love. Thus, there are no societal rewards for loving and caring for your children. Instead, America rewards fathers for how they dominate, check us, pay bills, etc. Not for love. To be sure, fatherhood is irreducible to power or even protection and providing. And we are better for it. As the late bell hooks reminds us, *all children need to have positive and healthy connections to both genders. It's psychologically damaging when they don't. In short, we need your love, care, and nurture.*



**ADINKRAHENE, King of the Adinkra symbols meaning Authority**

# Order of Service

## Second Sunday after Pentecost

June 19, 2022 | 9:00 AM

### SUNDAY SCHOOL

Topic - God People Shall Prosper

Lesson Text: Isaiah 49:18-23; Time of Action: between 700 and 695 B.C.; Place of Action: Jerusalem  
Golden Text: *"And kings shall be thy nursing fathers, and their queens thy nursing mothers: they shall bow down to thee with their face toward the earth, and lick up the dust of thy feet; and thou shalt know that I am the LORD: for they shall not be ashamed that wait for me"* (Isaiah 49:23).

### CALL TO WORSHIP

Gospel Medley as inspired by Psalm 42 - 43 with *Spirit of the Living God* as a Chant and Libations

### SERVICE OF LIGHTS

The Altar Candles today and the tribute, *Bless the Lord, Oh my Soul* by Andrae Crouch inspired by Psalm 104:24-34; 35b, honor June as Pride Month. This Church is committed to being an open and affirming house of worship where everyone is welcomed.

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.

### TITHES AND OFFERINGS

*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* by Lamar Campbell inspired by John 16:12-15

### 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*

**Lectionary:** 1 Kings 19:1-4, (5-7), 8-15a and Psalm 42 and 43 • Isaiah 65:1-9 • Galatians 3:23-29 • Luke 8:26-39



**Gye Nyame** recognizes the supremacy of God over all beings, and therefore revered by all.

# Litany

## On Juneteenth

**First Pouring** acknowledging God our source, our Creator, the giver of Life

**Second Pouring** acknowledging the full presence of God with us Source, Savior and Spirit

**Third Pouring** acknowledging our ancestors, the great cloud of witnesses now one with God.

**Fourth Pouring** acknowledging Maafa\* and the generations that fought suffered, bled and died to bring us from then to now. We name them with our voices and in our hearts as we pour thanking God.

**Fifth Pouring** acknowledging those who have led the struggle for freedom in recent times and even now. We name them with our voices and in our hearts as we pour thanking God.

**Sixth Pouring** acknowledging our children and our children's children. The generations of hope and promise entrusted to us by the Grace of God. We pour in thanksgiving and in Hope.

**Seventh Pouring** acknowledging in Sankofa spirit that work that is ahead confident that God our Source, Our Savior Jesus the Christ, Our Sustainer and Counsel and Comforter the Holy Spirit will enable us to do all things. Thanks Be to God

\***Maafa** is a Kiswahili term used to describe the Black African holocaust, the disastrous 500 years of suffering inflicted on Africa and her people through slavery and exploitation.

**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