

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CONFERENCE
AFRICAN AMERICAN MINISTRIES DEPARTMENT PRESENTS ...

46th Annual Convocation • October 13-14, 2023

Reaffirming *the Hope*



Two Locations

FRIDAY, October 13 | 7:00-9:00 p.m.
Oakland Market Street SDA Church
900 34th Street

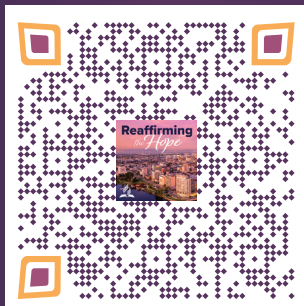
SABBATH, October 14 | 9:00 a.m.
Oakland Inter-Stake Center
4780 Lincoln Avenue



Sponsored by the
Northern California Conference
of Seventh-day Adventists
African American Ministries Department

WELCOME TO

Reaffirming *the Hope* **CONVOCATION**



*Scan the QR code to view
this program online*

“We have this hope
as an anchor for
the soul, firm
and secure.”

HEBREWS 6:19-20

Northern California Conference African American Ministries

nccsda.com/AfricanAmericanMinistries



YOUTUBE

[YOUTUBE.COM/NCCSDAAM](https://www.youtube.com/NCCSDAAM)



FACEBOOK

[FACEBOOK.COM/NCCSDAAM](https://www.facebook.com/NCCSDAAM)



Greetings! On behalf of the Northern California Conference, it is my pleasure to welcome you to the 46th Annual African American Convocation. More than ever before our communities are in need of hope. With news of civil unrest, political divisiveness, natural disasters, acute homelessness, and war all around us, this year's convocation theme is so appropriate. It is certainly the right time to reaffirm our hope—the hope found only in our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and His soon return.

This is the reason why we exist as God's people with a last-day message. It is our purpose to connect people to this hope. I love that wonderful hymn sung by Seventh-day Adventists across the globe, "We Have This Hope." Over time it has become the Adventist Church anthem and rally cry. I pray that its words ring true in this critical time in Earth's history and reaffirmed for each of us during this convocation:

*We have this hope that burns within our hearts,
Hope in the coming of the Lord.
We have this faith that Christ alone imparts,
Faith in the promise of His Word.
We believe the time is here
When the nations far and near
Shall awake, and shout and sing
Hallelujah Christ is King!*

With many blessings,

Dr. Marc K. Woodson

President

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CONFERENCE



It is my joy and privilege to welcome you, members, and friends to the 46th Convocation of the African American churches of the Northern California Conference.

The African American Ministries Department is committed to providing resources to pastors and churches to aid in the mission of connecting people to the abundant life in Christ and getting them ready for his soon return.

In keeping with our theme for this year, "Reaffirming the hope" we have solicited the help of gifted speakers and singers to challenge and encourage us as we seek to remain connected and help others connect to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

My prayer for this convocation is that we grow in our faith and commitment to Christ.

Dr. Rudolph "Rudy" Peters

Coordinator, African American Ministries

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CONFERENCE



Greeting friends! Welcome to the 2023 Northern California Conference African American Ministry Convocation. As we gather this weekend, we are keenly aware that we are nearing our heavenly home. The events in the local, national, and international news are a constant reminder of sins impact on the earth. Yet we remain undaunted and encouraged.

Why? Because we have made the Jesus and His Word our guide.

The Bible reminds us that:” ... We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; Persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed; Always bearing about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our body...” (II Corinthians 4:8-19, KJV)

Thus, in spite of the difficulties we sometimes encounter on this journey, we cherish these moments. We cherish these annual gatherings. We cherish the times when we can come together and greet one another and worship God together in the beauty of holiness.

On behalf of the Pacific Union Conference officers: Dr. Bradford Newton, President; Dr. Sandra Roberts, Executive Secretary, Stephen Mayer, Treasurer, the entire Pacific Union family, and Julie and me we bring you greetings and love on this very special day.

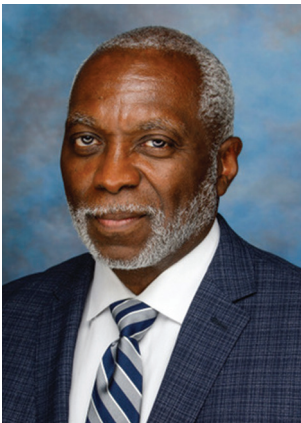
I pray that God will bless you and your family as we gather together in 2023. Please cherish these moments and our time together.

In Christ,

Dr. Leon B. Brown Sr.

Executive Vice President

PACIFIC UNION CONFERENCE



On behalf of the Pacific Union Conference, we wish to congratulate the Northern California African American Ministries Department on its 46 years of coming together in ministry to the church and the community. We know that God is going to continue to bless the work to survive and thrive as you reaffirm the hope that is in Jesus.

I've been thinking about the word “yet” this morning. The word yet appears in the Bible approximately 395 times.

Habakkuk 3:17-19 NIV: “Though the fig tree does not bud and there are no grapes on the vines, though the olive crop fails, and the fields produce no food, though there are no sheep in the pen and no cattle in the stalls, yet I will rejoice in the Lord, I will be joyful in God my Savior.”

Yet usually connects something negative with something positive, something painful with something comforting. “Yet” often brings together in one thought or sentence both the dark clouds and the silver lining.”

“Yet” can be a powerful word of “**HOPE**” and encouragement!

Our limited sinful perspective does not always allow us to readily see the details of what God is doing in our favor. However, my prayer is that this weekend of praise and worship will reinforce the undeniably proven truth that every promise God has given us in His word will certainly come to pass. May the abiding presence and the sweet communion of the Holy Spirit fill you during this time of “Reaffirming the Hope”.

Elder Virgil S. Childs

Vice President, Black Ministries

PACIFIC UNION CONFERENCE



Welcome to the 46th Annual African American Convocation. This is a special time for believers to celebrate God’s goodness, to encourage one another in Christ, and to celebrate the great things God has done for His people in Northern California.

This year’s theme is Reaffirming the Hope! This is a timely and relevant theme for the times in which we are living in earth’s history. It is our prayer that each attendee will experience a “new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead” (1 Peter 1:3) and renew their commitment to expand the Kingdom of God by connecting people to an abundant life in Jesus Christ and preparing them for the second coming.

We want to express our thanks and appreciation to Dr. Rudy Peters, African American Coordinator, and to Yolanda Frazier, Administrative Assistant to African American Ministries, for organizing this inspiring and Spirit-led Convocation.

Elder Jose Marin
Executive Secretary
 NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CONFERENCE



Thank you for attending the 46th annual Northern California Conference African American Convocation, Reaffirming the Hope. We Pray that each person attending this year will be richly blessed.

Elder John Rasmussen
Treasurer
 NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CONFERENCE



On behalf of the NCC Ministerial Department, I extend my greetings to the gathered Saints during this 46th convocation! This past March, the NCC took 93 pastors and spouses in the footsteps of Paul’s second missionary journey through Turkey and Greece. This year’s convocation theme, Re-Affirming Our Hope, would have been very dear to the Apostle Paul as he encouraged believers to stay faithful, prayerful, and hopeful in challenging circumstances.

Our NCC group was able to walk through the ruins of Corinth, where Paul penned these words for the believers in Rome—and for us today: “May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit” (Romans 15:13).

This is my prayer for this convocation.

Dr. James D. Lorenz II
Ministerial Director
 NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CONFERENCE



Yolanda Frazier
Administrative Assistant, African American Ministries
 NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CONFERENCE

Schedule

Friday Evening Service Market Street SDA Church

7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.

Coordinator: Pastor Edwin Brown

Welcome	Elder H. Larry Elam III, Esq.
Announcements	Pastor Edwin Brown
Opening prayer	Elder Busayo Alabi
Praise & Worship	Praise Team
Offering	Elder Anthony Holness
Scripture Reading	Elder Storm Lee
Introduction of speaker	Paula K. Brown
Special Music	Dr. Shirley-Ann Thomas
Sermon	Dr. Lola Moore Johnston
Song of Response	Dr. Shirley-Ann Thomas
Benediction	Elder Robert Chiles

Sabbath Prayer & Praise

9:00 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.

Sister Betty Glenn, President, Bible Instructors Guild (BIG)
Praise & Worship BIG
Season of Prayer BIG

Sabbath School Program

The Inter-Stake Center

9:45 a.m.-10:35 a.m.

Coordinator: Pastor Mickel Jenkins

Welcome	Pastor Mickel Jenkins
Opening Prayer	Pastor Edner Eloi
Sabbath School Lesson	Dr. Ricardo and Audrey Graham



Children's Sabbath School

9:45 a.m.-10:35 a.m.

Coordinator: Maikapoe Tarpeh

Personal Ministry Moment

The Inter-Stake Center

10:35 a.m.-10:50 a.m.

Video presentation of ministry in our churches and NCC office

Sabbath Divine Hour Program

The Inter-Stake Center

11:00 a.m.-1 p.m.

Coordinator: Pastor Damon Washington

Praise & Worship	Praise Team
Welcome	Dr. Rudy Peters
Greetings	Dr. Marc Woodson, Dr. Jim Lorenz, Elder Virgil Childs, Dr. Leon Brown
Honoring Retirees	Dr. Rudy Peters Elder Trevor D. Barnes Sr. Bernadette Johnson
Announcements	Dr. Rudy Peters
Hymn of the Morning	Dr. Jason Bulgin
Call to Worship	Pastor Kietrich Germany
Invocation	Pastor George Jackson
Praise & Worship	Praise Team
Pastoral Prayer	Pastor Dr. Jason Bulgin
Special Music	Dr. Shirley-Ann Thomas
Offering	Pastor David Woolcock
Scripture Reading	Pastor Roger Williams
Introduction of speaker	Pastor Gregory Johnson
Song of meditation	Dr. Shirley-Ann Thomas
Sermon	Dr. Lola Moore Johnston
Song of Response	Dr. Shirley-Ann Thomas
Benediction	Pastor Damon Washington

Youth Program: Small Gym

Children's Program: Room's 202-205

Adult's Program: Auditorium

A graduate of La Sierra University, CA (BA), The Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary at Andrews University, MI (M.Div.) and the Payne Theological Seminary, OH (D. Min.) Dr. Johnston has taken the call to lead men and women to Christ as a call to prepare rigorously.

No stranger to being the “first” in many of her endeavors, she shouldered the responsibility of breaking glass ceilings as a female Chaplain and Pastor of churches and universities around the country. After a decade of pastoral ministry, she is pleased to serve as the Senior Pastor of the Restoration Praise Center in Bowie, Maryland. She dons the distinction of serving as the first female Senior Pastor (i.e. Pastor with a Pastoral Staff) in the Potomac Conference of Seventh-day Adventists’ nearly 100-year history.

A consummate speaker and author, she’s been featured at numerous global conferences carrying out her personal call and mission to lead others to draw closer to Christ and to remove the mental and experiential obstacles that keep them from building on their dreams and thriving in their destinies.

Dr. Johnston’s desire to encourage other women to shed their self-doubt and negative beliefs ignited the passion that founded “The Bloom Society,” an international community of women thriving in their unique brilliance.

While bountifully blessed to enjoy success personally and professionally, God saw fit to bless her even more! Pastor Johnston married her friend and partner in life, Keith Johnston in November of 2016. A spirit-filled educator, and the number one supporter for our speaker, today, “Mr. Johnston” shapes the hearts and minds of next-generation leaders in his classroom, daily.

Please pray that the Holy Spirit delivers exactly what you need to hear through today’s servant-speaker, Dr. Lola Johnston.

**Dr. Lola
JOHNSTON**



Lunch

1:00 p.m.-2:30 p.m.

Soul Food Lunch provided by
Chef G.W. Chew, Entrepreneur, Better Chew™ Kitchen
1745 Sonoma Blvd., Vallejo CA

Bible Trivia

2:30 p.m.-4:00 p.m.

Coordinator: Dr. Rudy Peters

Lunch: Large Gym

Bible Trivia: Auditorium

Evening Social: Large Gym

Evening Concert

4:00 p.m.-5:30 p.m.

Coordinator: Dr. Jason Bulgin

Dr. Shirley-Ann Thomas

NCC African American Churches Music Ministries

Movie Hour

5:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m.

Coordinator: Dr. Rudy Peters

Hero

Evening Social

7:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m.

Youth Program

9:45 a.m.-10:35 a.m.

Welcome	Pastor Kai'Simone Hodges
	Ice Breaker Activity
Sermon	Jeremiah Douglas
Opening Prayer	Capitol City SDA Church
Praise & Worship	Sam Baker
Prayer Activity	Beacon Light SDA Church
	Testimonies
Believer's Creed	Niara Jumal
Special Music	Sam Baker
Benediction	Jeremiah Douglas

Jeremiah DOUGLAS

Theology Student,
Pacific Union College



In CONCERT

Dr. Shirley-Ann Thomas is a lover of God and a mother of two sons - a high school senior and a college student. She has been an educator for over 20 years and has worked for several years within the Greater New York Conference of Seventh-day Adventists as a teacher and an elementary school principal. Dr. Thomas lived and worked in Southern California where she also completed a Ph.D. in Instructional Leadership at La Sierra University. In August 2022, Dr. Thomas accepted a new ministry assignment at Oakwood University in Huntsville, Alabama, and currently serves as Assistant Professor of Education at Oakwood University. Prior to that appointment, she served as the Director of the Center for Student Success at Oakwood University.

Dr. Thomas's ministry through music has taken her to Europe, South America, North America, and the Caribbean. She has also completed a recording project and has been featured on 3ABN. Whether Dr. Thomas is speaking or singing, her prayer is always that messages in spoken word and song will inspire hearts to seek God personally and love God more deeply, with the Blessed Hope of seeing Him face to face.

Dr. Shirley-Ann THOMAS



Honorees



Elder Trevor D. Barnes Sr.

Retired Pastor
Union City SDA
Company
33 years of service in the
Northern California
Conference



Bernadette Johnson

Retired Administrative
Assistant, Ministerial and
Evangelism Departments
17 ½ years of service in
the Northern California
Conference

Children's Sabbath School

Hooked on Jesus!

Hey friends! Have you ever had a Morning Party? Well, you are invited to join us in Sabbath school, where we will celebrate the joy & peace that comes from having Jesus as our friend and protector. It is going to be fun! We will meet you there, friends!

Sabbath School Cradle Roll to grade 5

9:30 a.m.-11:00 a.m.

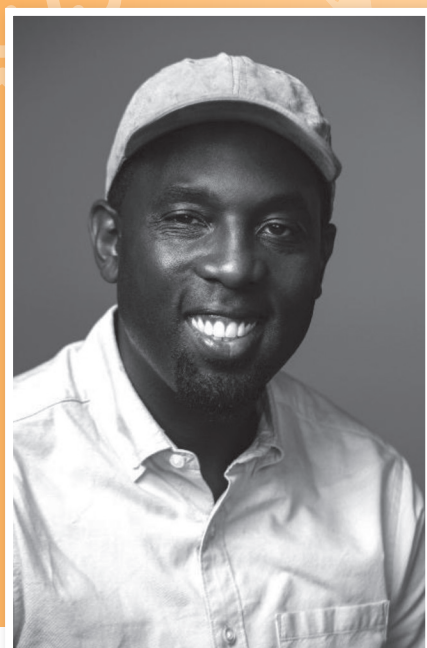
(Cradle Roll children welcome with parent)



Maikapoe

TARPEH

Sacramento
Capitol City SDA
Children's Ministry
Leader



Growing up in rural Southern Maryland to a family of devoted carnivores, our founder, Chef GW Chew, experienced the tragedy of losing close relatives due to diet-related diseases (diabetes, cancer, and other illnesses linked to poor diet and over consumption of animal meat products). In 2001, at the age of 18, he made the decision to go vegan in pursuit of a healthier lifestyle, but found that many plant-based foods at the time were less than palatable.

With a relentless passion, Chef Chew sought to understand why our bodies crave meat, and over the course of nearly 15 years experimenting with literally thousands of ingredients and cooking techniques, he found the secret to the most authentic plant-based versions of his favorite ethnic and comfort foods. Better Chew was born!



SATURDAY NIGHT FAMILY SOCIAL

7:00 p.m.

Coordinator, Pastor Kai'Simone, Market Street SDA Church Youth & Associate Pastor

Free Throw Contest
1st & 2nd Prizes
Basketball Games
& Tabletop Games

INTER-STAKE CENTER
LARGE GYM



Sponsored by NCC African American Ministries

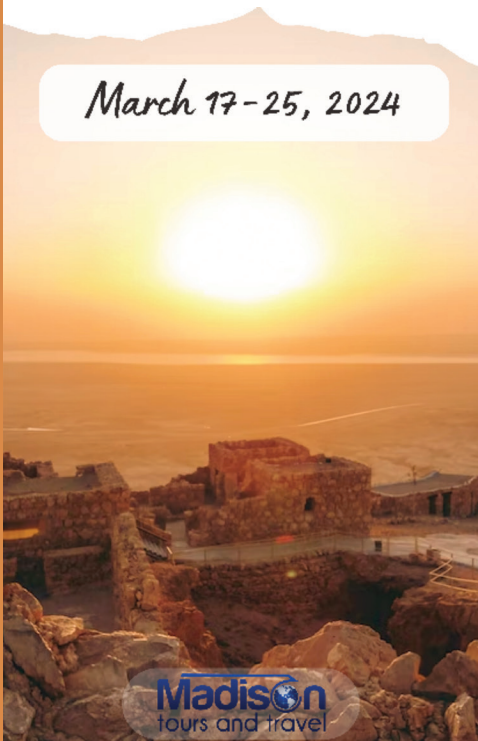
2024

African American Ministries
Holy Land Tour

9-DAY JOURNEY TO ISRAEL

HOSTED BY:
DIRECTOR RUDY PETERS
AFRICAN AMERICAN MINISTRIES
NCCSDA

March 17-25, 2024



www.madisontravel.com/peters-2024/

THANK YOU TO:

Lay Advisory Committee,
and all Volunteers.

OAKWOOD
UNIVERSITY
BeHere.

www2.oakwood.edu/BeHere



The Oakland Market Street
Seventh-day Adventists Church
Centennial Year!

100th
YEAR
ANNIVERSARY
CELEBRATION

November 1-4 2023

African American Churches in the Northern California Conference



**Novato Horeb
Haitian Company**
1473 S. Novato Blvd.
Novato, CA 94947
Edner Eloi (Ketly)



Sacramento Capitol City Church
6701 Lemon Hill Ave.
Sacramento, CA 95824
Damian Chandler (Tanzy)
Jason Bulgin,
Associate Pastor (Jessica)



Oakland Elmhurst Church
9658 Thermal St.
Oakland, CA 94605
George E. Jackson, (Karyn) Interim



**Sacramento Southgate Church
(district with Valley
Community, Stockton)**
2299 Meadowview Rd.
Sacramento, CA 95832
Gregory Johnson (Ayanna)



**Oakland Immanuel Temple
Church (district with Pittsburg)**
55th Ave.
Oakland, CA 94605
Damon Washington
(Jeanice Warden-Washington)



**Stockton Mayfair Church
(district with Rancho Cordova)**
6940 N. El Dorado St.
Stockton, CA 95207
Keitrich Germany (Teairra)



Oakland Market Street Church
900 34th St.
Oakland, CA 94608
Edwin Brown (Paula)
Kai'Simone
*Hodges, Youth &
Associate Pastor*



Union City Company
606 H St.
Union City, CA 94587
Mickel Jenkins



**Pittsburg Church
(district with Oakland
Immanuel Temple)**
900 Los Medanos St.
Pittsburg, CA 94565
Damon Washington
(Jeanice Warden-Washington)



Vallejo Berea Church
833 Louisiana St.
Vallejo, CA 94590
Roger Williams (Kim)



Richmond Beacon Light Church
607 S 19th St.
Richmond, CA 94804
David A. Woolcock (Marlin)



**Valley Community Church
(district with
Sacramento Southgate)**
2929 S. B St.
Stockton, CA 95206
Gregory Johnson (Ayanna)

Make plans
FOR NEXT YEAR'S
CONVOCATION!



OCTOBER 11 & 12, 2024

Our 2024 speaker will be

Dr. Marc K. Woodson

PRESIDENT

Northern California Conference of Seventh-day Adventists