

RIISING UP AGAINST RACISM

Looking Back at 1964's
Summer of Decision



A Gloucester County Historical Society Commemoration of a
Historic Year in America's Civil Rights Struggle

An Evening of History and Music



Tuesday, October 8, 2024

6:30 - 8:30 PM

Mount Calvary Baptist Church

44 High Street, Mullica, NJ

Speakers and Performers



Rev. Atiba N. Rose Sr., Pastor, Mount Calvary Baptist Church.



Dr. Lourin Plant, is an Assistant Professor in the College of Performing Arts at Rowan University, historian, choir director, and producer of stage performances that combine spirituals and slave narratives to tell the story of African American history.



Loretta Winters is the President of the New Jersey Gloucester County NAACP, former 2nd Vice President for the NAACP NJ State Conference, and Board Chair of First Harvest Federal Credit Union.



Dr. James Elton Johnson, historian, Independent Scholar, community activist in Camden and Gloucester Counties, and author of the forthcoming "Black Biographies of the Lower Delaware Valley: Antebellum to Great Migration," Afrojourney Publications.



Musicians: Dr. Alexander Timofeev, piano; Andrew Moorer, tenor; Amber Miller, soprano; Moses Possible, baritone.

This program was made possible by



Governor Phil Murphy
Lt. Governor Tahesha Way

NEW JERSEY
Martin Luther King, Jr.
Commission

The Gloucester County Historical Society

Agenda

Welcome and Invocation

Rev. Atiba N. Rose, Sr.

Music

No More Auction Block For Me, by James W. Johnson (Dr. Plant, baritone)

Deep River, by Henry T. Burleigh (Amber Miller, soprano)

Lift Every Voice and Sing, by James Weldon Johnson and John Rosamond Johnson
(ensemble) Dr. Alexander Timofeev, piano

Summer of Action Presentation

Dr. Lourin Plant

Music

My God is So High, by Hall Johnson (Andrew Moorner, baritenor)

Witness, by Hall Johnson (Moses Possible, baritone) Dr. Alexander Timofeev, piano

Life & Legacy of Irene Hill-Smith

Loretta Winters

Music

What's Goin' On? by Marvin Gaye (Andrew Moorner, baritenor)

Woke Up This Morning With My Mind Stayed on Freedom, (ensemble)

Dr. Alexander Timofeev, piano

Late '60s Turmoil in Camden

Dr. James Elton Johnson

Music

Redemption Song, by Bob Marley (Moses Possible, baritone)

Talkin' Bout a Revolution, by Traci Chapman (Amber Miller w/Andrew Moorner, guitar)

We Shall Overcome (ensemble) Dr. Timofeev, piano

Audience Questions and Exchange with Panelists

Closing Remarks

Dr. Lourin Plant



July 2, 1964 - US President Lyndon B. Johnson hands a pen to the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., after signing the historic Civil Rights Act.

1964 was a pivotal year for the U.S. Civil Rights Movement as organizations including the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) and the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE) launched a massive voter registration drive known as Freedom Summer in Mississippi—a campaign aimed to increase voter registration among African Americans in the South, where they were largely disenfranchised by racist laws and practices. The campaign drew national attention, especially after the murders of three civil rights workers—James Chaney, Andrew Goodman, and Michael Schwerner—by members of the Ku Klux Klan.

The events of 1964, including the signing of the Civil Rights Act and Freedom Summer, further propelled the Civil Rights Movement into the national spotlight. Media coverage of violence against activists, particularly in the South, and the moral urgency of the movement brought increasing public support and federal action.

The year also witnessed a major shift in the political landscape, particularly in the South. The Civil Rights Act led to a realignment of political parties, with many Southern white voters beginning to move away from the Democratic Party, which had championed the Act, and toward the Republican Party.

In December of 1964, Dr. King was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. This international recognition highlighted the global significance of the struggle for civil rights in the United States, and further solidified King's role as a leader of nonviolent resistance.

Sixty years later, at this 2024 Gloucester County Historical Society event, we look back on those developments that made 1964 such a watershed in the history of the U.S. Civil Rights Movement, setting the stage for subsequent progress in the battle for racial equality and justice that continues today.